

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE HOME OF  
MISS L HEARMON ON 18 AUGUST 1997

PRESENT: R Clifford, K Hampson, P Hawkins, L Hearmon, R Roth, J Watson

APOLOGIES: None

1. J Watson welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 19:45. Minutes of previous meeting read & accepted.
2. Matters Arising  
J Watson presented Mr Ivan Schroeder with his meritorious service award at the last monthly meeting. There was a good turnout at the last meeting.  
J Watson still to get in touch with Wykeham Collegiate.
3. Planning  
The 10th September meeting will be an evening on 'Space Stations, past, present & future'.
  - J Watson will ask Bianca Lawrence to host the evening &/or bring material on the subject, & if any other members have any information/pictures to bring. A Dybwad also has a video to show on Mir.
  - P Hawkins asked if R Roth will highlight the upcoming eclipse in Stardust & perhaps use different print.
  - The October meeting will be held at the University campus, with a talk by Prof. Peter Warren who has a PhD in astronomy.
4. Membership  
1 new member: Mr J Loughlin
  - Dr D Grayson has moved to Pietersberg but would, however, like to stay on as a member.
  - A Stardust is also to be sent to Mr D Gilman.
  - The address of Mr T Anderson has been confirmed by J Watson & back issues of Stardust & his account will be sent to him this month.
  - It was confirmed the news letters were not sent to Harare, Bloemfontien, Cape, Windhoek, Namibia & Rhodes.
  - Mr R Kell has resigned.
5. Correspondence  
Incoming Mail:
  - Letter received from Mr G de Beer from the Ladysmith Astronomical Society with a cheque for R245,39.
  - News letters received from Johannesburg centre & Durban centre.Outgoing Mail:
  - J Watson replied to Mr G de Beer thanking him for the donation & informing him that a complimentary membership has been awarded to him.
6. Treasurers Report

General Fund	R2684,51
Observatory Fund	R 931,71

  - An amount of R245,39 donated from the Ladysmith Astronomical Society is to go into the observatory fund, along with donations received from members in excess of R300.
  - Umgeni Valley Project money to go into observatory fund.
  - R Clifford discussed how the sub committee will obtain their money, either by float or claiming the money afterwards, but this will be discussed at their sub committee meeting.
7. Stardust  
Main article for September will be on Mars.

- An article has also been included by K Hampson on the library.
- R Clifford also has an enclosure to put into Stardust on the progress of the observatory.
- P Hawkins asked R Roth to include a reminder to members to pay their subs.

8. Library

S & T magazines, 1991/92, have been bound & the posters have been laminated.  
The S & T magazines for July & August 1997 have been received.

9. PRO

Rusty Jarman's article to appear in the next issue of Mnassa.

10. Instruments & Observatory

Sub committee was elected at last monthly meeting, it is as follows:

Chris Lake

Roger Clifford

Ivan Schoeder

Lionel Hedder

- Targets will be set at their meeting.
- They will find out how many bricks & cement are needed, so far we have approximately 3000 bricks.
- Water is the problem now & it was dicussed how to overcome this. J Watson will speak to the property owners. C Lake is working on getting drums for water.
- Prison labour was suggested by R Clifford, for clearing of wattles, & he will find out how much this will cost. He will also follow up advice on how to keep wattle growth down.
- R Roth suggested that the wattles are stacked neatly & left to form compost.

11. Education

- J Watson to speak to the University bridging group at the University on 21 August at 19:30, R Roth, K Hampson & R Jarman to attend aswell
- Back to Laddsworth one evening with telescopes, as the first evening was clouded out.

12. General

- Around the middle of next month the society has been invited to Pat Mitchell's home in Pennington to look at some astronomical equipment she has for sale.
- R Clifford brought an ad from Port Edward about an astronomy display, this will go on the notice board.
- Planetarium & the embellishing of the sky maps still to remain on the agenda.

Meeting closed at 21:20. Next committee meeting to be held on 15 September 1997 at the home of L Hearmon.