

Thursday morning for tea and cake. He was an extremely erudite man and for nearly 13 years regaled me with his vast knowledge on many different aspects of complicated scientific and personal facts with a quite dry sense of British humor.

He spoke how he had first gotten to know Patrick Moore while serving as a pilot in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War and again when being on the board of the Armagh University when Moore was appointed planetarium direc-

tor. He told of his experiences observing total eclipses from Peru, Australia, Hong Kong and the Himalayas.

One of the saddest moments he recalled, with tears in his eyes, was when overseas funding dried up for Boyden, the place was dismantled. In November, on the Prof's last visit here, we went online and I showed him what the Friends of Boyden have accomplished – he beamed!

May his stars shine brightly! ☆

David Andre Erasmus (1955 - 2007)

We regret to announce the death on 11 March 2007, of Dr David Andre Erasmus, a well-known consulting meteorologist who supplied meteorological site characterization and comparison studies for many of the world's largest telescopes, including SALT. For the last few years he worked from an office on the SAAO campus in Cape Town.

Dr Erasmus was born in South Africa on 15 October 1955. He attended Rondebosch Boys' High School and later UCT, where he obtained his BSc (hons) in 1977 and MSc (cum laude) in 1980. At one time he was imprisoned for not doing military service. He earned his PhD at the University of Hawaii in meteorology in 1984, where he met his wife, Camilla. He returned to South Africa



in 1987 and worked with his wife for 18 months at a deaf community in the Transkei. He was author or co-author of over 40 publications and made presentations at many international conferences.

Dr Erasmus died from pneumonia, following a long period of suffering from motor neuron disease. His funeral took place on 12 March at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Diep River. ☆