Astronomical Society of Southern Africa



Shallow Sky Section

Summarised Annual Report 2018-2019

Introduction

This summary report covers the period from July 2018-July 2019, and will only highlight the most significant aspects of the year. A more comprehensive report will be circulated for inclusion in MNASSA.

Asteroids and Comets

At time of report writing, awaiting feedback on any activity.

Meteors/Meteorites

Tim Cooper continues to do excellent, professional level work in this field, with administrative and communication support from Kos Coronais, which is acknowledged with appreciation.

Fireballs: Investigated 18 Fireball reports. All reports summarised and published in MNASSA He also observed/reported on a number of the main meteor showers

Lunar

Tim Cooper continued his international collaboration on lunar eclipse observations (Total Lunar Eclipse July 27 2018). Facebook forums showed many good images of the Moon including ongoing interest in the Lunar "X" and "V".

Satellites

Regrettably Greg Roberts' family and health situation have quite seriously affected his work in this field and there is nothing significant to report.

Planetary work

The author has continued his comprehensive planetary imaging work on Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

A number of the highlights from the year:

- a) Coverage of the global dust storm on Mars
- b) Presentation on Mars and its atmospheric phenomena at ScopeX 2018
- c) Presentations at WRAC and Boyden Observatory (ASSA Bloemfontein) on Planetary Imaging.
- d) eNCA live Jane Dutton interview on the Mars Insight landing, 26 Nov 2018
- e) Intensive coverage of the exciting developments around Jupiter's Great Red Spot and the associated flaking activity.
- f) Abstract related to the GRS flaking activity has been submitted and accepted for EPSC 2019 in Geneva.
- g) Interaction with, and support of a number of developing planetary imagers. There was some excellent captures of the Saturn lunar occultations this year as well as observers attempting to image Jupiter and Saturn.
- h) Ongoing Pro-Am interaction and collaboration with various international professional planetary astronomers and scientists.

Clyde Foster

Director: Shallow Sky Section

August 2018