A.S.S.A. Historical Section 2020 Year Report

Introduction:

During the past year (Calendar Year 2020) the following has happened concerning the History of Astronomy.

Website:

Due to Covid-19 Lockdown there were lots of time available to do things that otherwise would escape attention. A concerted effort was made to update the website. Selected sections of the website was updated. All the Handbooks of ASSA to 2003 were digitized and are now available on the web. In 2004 the format was changed and the name changed to Skyguide. Due to the agreement that we have with publisher we may not make digital copies available online. https://assa.saao.ac.za/sections/history/assa-archive/publications-of-the-astronomical-society-of-southern-africa/

Archive:

The Material of the Digital Part of the Archive was properly archived.

Symposium:

The Bi-Annual ASSA symposium was hosted in Cape Town as part of the Second Centenary Celebrations of the SAAO. I would like to thank the SAAO, especially Petri Vaisanen and Daniel Cunnama for their sensitivity to Historical Matters.

MNASSA:

Publications:

Individuals in their private capacities wrote articles with historical content. Please note my appreciation to the following people:

• Glass, I: Radio Astronomy in South Africa, MNASSA, Vol 79 Nos 11 - 12, Dec 2020.

I would like to make a special mention of the work done Willie Koorts. He has created a number of video's that is available on YouTube relating to the SAAO and telescopes at Sutherland as well as a series of videos on African Starlore. These videos contain excellent Historical content! Copies of the video's have been saved in the Archive.

Chris de Coning

Archivist and Director Historical Section of ASSA