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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 28/11/94

1 PRESENT

Charles Allan, Pat Booth (chair), Mark Brown, Monty Coward, John Davison, Chris Forder, Steve Kleyn Richard Sessions.

2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Cliff Turk

3 MINUTES The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Agreed that the matter of the letter from Rhodes re a telescope be dropped.

4.2 Chris Forder's telescope making class - eight names have been received. The course will be held on the third wednesday of each month beginning on 15/02/95.

4.3 MC received a sponsorship of R100 for advertising in the Cape Observer. This should offset some of the cost of photocopying.

4.4 Formal invitation to annual social was faxed to SAAO by JD.

4.5 CT to be council representative.

5 CORRESPONDENCE - no correspondence was received.

6 NEW MATTERS ARISING

6.1 Steve Kleyn to be co-opted on to the committee.

6.2 FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS - 25/1 CA, 1/2 PB, 8/2 Janet Mattei of AAVSO, 15/2 CF, 22/2 MB, 1/3 MC, 8/3 Brian Warner?, 15/3 CF, 22/3 JD, 29/3 SK, 5/4 RS, 12/4 Formal, 19/4 CF, 26/4 CT.

6.3 WASHING UP ROSTER - 8/2 SK + RS, 8/3 CT + CA, 12/4 PB + MB.

6.4 ANNUAL SOCIAL - SK to organise drinks, PB to provide tubs for cooling drinks.

6.5 KEYS - CT to get 3 keys cut ASAP.

6.6 FINANCE - 62 members have paid subs, 11 are non-paying members and there are 36 outstanding, making 109 total. No details were available but the Centre is well and truly solvent.

6.7 FIELD TRIP TO SUTHERLAND - CA to approach Bob Stobie re March.

6.8 STAR PARTY - RS to look at the options.

6.9 PUBLICITY - eg radio talks / Leslie Makenzie to be investigated by MC.

7 NEXT MEETING - 27/2/95 at SAAO at 20h00

J Davison (Sec)..... P Booth (Chair).....

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 22/5/95

- 1 PRESENT Charles Allan, Pat Booth (chair), Mark Brown, John Davison, Chris Forder, Steve Kleyn , Richard Sessions, Cliff Turk.
- 2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Monty Coward.
- 3 MINUTES The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
 - 4.1 A report on the Cederberg Observatory was faxed to the editor of the Cape Observer. RS did a write-up on the star party but it was mislaid. He will do it again and submit it for publication.
- 5 CORRESPONDENCE - Newsletter and Observer returned from Lance Scoble. Has his address changed?
- 6 NEW MATTERS ARISING
 - 6.1 FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS - 24/5 PB, 31/5 MB, 7/6 MC, 14/6 Formal - Dave Laney has been approached - CA to confirm and inform SK by the end of the week, 21/6 CF, 28/6 JD, 5/7 SK, 12/7 Formal - CA to ask CS, 19/7 CF, 26/7 RS, 2/8 AGM, 9/8 public holiday, 16/8 CF, 23/8 CT, 30/8 CA. JD to approach Prof A. Fairall re Sept 13 formal.
 - 6.2 WASHING UP ROSTER - 14/6 CF & SK, 12/7 RS & CT, 2/8 CA & PB. The washing up teams also to organise the tea and biscuits.
 - 6.3 KEYS - CF had three keys cut. Only member present without a key was RS. Four members have paid their R10 deposit.
 - 6.4 FINANCE - The auction realised R177 and the mirror course will bring in R160. An operating profit of R800 - R900 is forecast for the year which means that the Centre is more profitable at present than it has been for several years despite the cost of the monthly newsletter and postage.
 - 6.5 FIELD TRIP TO SUTHERLAND - CA to approach Bob Stobie re a visit on the weekend of 20/21/22/October. Attendance to be strictly by invitation only, gatecrashers may be forcibly ejected. A notice to this effect to be published in the newsletter.
 - 6.6 STAR PARTY - V&A waterfront are interested, but only after the world cup. RS to propose to them that we will try the following dates, weather permitting: Fri 4/8, Sat 2/9, Sun 1/10.
- 7 NEXT MEETING - 17/7/95 at SAAO at 20h00

P Booth (Chair).....

J Davison (Sec).....

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 17/7/95

- 1 PRESENT Charles Allan, Pat Booth (chair), Mark Brown, John Davison, Chris Forder, Steve Kleyn.
- 2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Monty Coward, Richard Sessions, Cliff Turk.
- 3 MINUTES The minutes were taken as read.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (but not on current agenda). Nothing.
- 5 CORRESPONDENCE - A new address has been received for Lance Scoble.
- 6 NEW MATTERS ARISING
 - 6.1 FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS - JD to approach Prof A. Fairall re Sept 13 formal meeting. The AGM to be re-scheduled to 16/8/95 in order to give more notice of the meeting. ATM now to be on 2/8/95. INFORMAL MEETINGS - 6/9 - PB, 20/9 - CF, 27/9 - MB.
 - 6.2 WASHING UP ROSTER - 16/8 CA & SK, 13/9 SK & PB, 2/8 CA & PB. The washing up teams also to organise the tea and biscuits.
 - 6.3 PUBLICITY - JD to take on this function.
 - 6.4 FINANCE - The Centre made an operating profit of R956 this year. Subs will therefore remain the same.
 - 6.5 FIELD TRIP TO SUTHERLAND - A letter has been received from Dr. Bob Stobie agreeing to our Sutherland visit on 20/10/95 - 22/10/95. SK to publish an invitation to members in the next newsletter.
 - 6.6 STAR PARTY - V&A Waterfront are interested for October or November. RS to arrange.
 - 6.7 NEWSLETTER - text could be made smaller in order to get more in.
 - 6.8 DE KOCK AWARD - No nominations received.
 - 6.9 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - drafted with the assistance of all present.
 - 6.10 NEW COMMITTEE - Daline and Gordon Bosch to be approached to join.
- 7 NEXT MEETING - 28/8/95 at SAAO at 20h00

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 17/7/95

- 1 PRESENT Charles Allan, Pat Booth (chair), Mark Brown, John Davison, Chris Forder, Steve Kleyn. *CS*
- 2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Monty Coward, Richard Sessions, Cliff Turk.
- 3 MINUTES The minutes were taken as read.
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- 5 CORRESPONDENCE - A new address has been received for Lance Scoble.
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 28/8/95

- 1 PRESENT Charles Allan, Pat Booth, Mark Brown, John Davison, Chris Forder, Cliff Turk (chair). *BS*
- 2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Monty Coward, Richard Sessions. *SK*
- 3 MINUTES The typed minutes were not available due to a problem with the secretary's printer. The secretary's handwritten notes were used and the minutes were taken as read.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (but not on current agenda). Nothing.
- 6 NEW MATTERS ARISING
- 6.1 SIDEWALK ASTRONOMY - The best date is 30/9/95.
- 6.2 SUTHERLAND TRIP - Applications have been received from Abe Mohammed, Edgar Moolman, Keith Gotschalk and friend, Hans Schermacher, Charles Allen (if he can get a lift) and John Davison (business commitments permitting). SAAO to be informed of the names beforehand, permits to be issued the Wednesday before the trip. Ron Atkins telescope to be made available. If too few people apply then we should visit the Cederberg Observatory instead. In that case we could also visit Aurora.
- 6.3 FORTHCOMING MEETINGS - 6/9 MB, 13/9 Prof A Fairall, 20/9 CF (ATM), 27/9 GB, 4/10 MC (DV), 11/10 Formal, 18/10 CF (ATM), 25/10 JD, 1/11 SK, 8/11 Formal, 15/11 RS, 22/11 BS, 29/11 CT, 6/12 CA, 13/12 Annual Social. Suggestions were made re Michael Feast and/or someone from Dept of Oceanography. CT to contact Cynthia Strydom.
- 6.4 CAPE OBSERVER - It is the Editor's duty to edit, not contribute therefore more contributors are needed. It must be published regularly and ideally completed two weeks before issue. Should it be smaller?
- 6.5 INSTRUMENTS - Report required on their whereabouts and condition. RS to produce an inventory.
- 6.6 WASHING UP ROSTER - 13/9 SK & PB, 11/10 GB & MC, 8/11 JD & CF. The washing up teams also to organise the tea and biscuits.
- 6.7 POSSIBLE OTHER ACTIVITIES - Visit the time ball - CT, Venus transit site at Touws River on way back from Sutherland. CT to provide the details, BS to organise. Hermanus Magnetic Observatory, Dr Nothnagel - CA. Planetarium - CF
- 7 NEXT MEETING - To be arranged.

ORG Turk (Chair).....

J Davison (Sec).....

Welcome

Apologies.

Minutes of Previous AGM.

Matters arising from the minutes

Election of office - beans

Chairman step down.

New Chairman takes over.

Chairmans address.

* FORMAL MEETING. 13/9/95 - Prof. A. FAIRALL.

Closing.

Treasurers report.

Chairmans report.

CCASSA Trust report.

cc/wp/157/cc/MIN

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 28/8/95

- 1 PRESENT Charles Allan, Pat Booth, Mark Brown, John Davison, Chris Forder, Cliff Turk (chair). *BLINN SKINNER*
- 2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Monty Coward, Richard Sessions.
- 3 MINUTES The typed minutes were not available due to a problem with the secretary's printer. The secretary's handwritten notes were used and the minutes were taken as read.
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- 7 NEXT MEETING - To be arranged.

CRG Turk (Chair)..... *Cliff Turk* J Davison (Sec).....

Committee Meeting of Cape Centre ASSA On 27 Nov 1995

A G E N D A

1. Apologies (if any)
2. Minutes of last Committee meeting
3. Treasurer's report
4. Matters arising *Xmas Social*
(a) Report back on ~~Sidewalk Astronomy~~ *Missing S+?*
(b) Report back on ~~Sutherland trip and alternative Cederberg venue~~
(c) Cape Observer and contributions thereto
(d) Curator of Instruments report on whereabouts and condition of instruments *Revenue from Am Atlas*
(e) Report back re "Other Activities" from last Min
5. ~~Arrangements for Xmas Social~~
6. Future Meetings:

13 Dec	Annual Social	28 Feb	CF
10 Jan		6 Mar	SK
17 Jan	PB	13 Mar	? D. CA. HROMNIK?
24 Jan	CB	20 Mar	RS
31 Jan	MB	27 Mar	BS
7 Feb	m.c.	3 Apr	CT
14 Feb	Prof F Shillington	10 Apr	PETER MARTINEZ?
21 Feb	JD	17 Apr	CA
7. Washing-up Roster:

13 Dec	ALL	13 Mar	RS BS
14 Feb	JD/SK	10 Apr	CT CA
8. Any other urgent business
9. Date of next meeting

Committee Meeting of Cape Centre ASSA On 27 Nov 1995

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3. Treasurer's report
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 - (b) Report back on Sutherland trip and alternative Cederberg venue
 - (c) Cape Observer and contributions thereto
 - (d) Curator of Instruments report on whereabouts and condition of instruments
 - (e) Report back re "Other Activities" from last Min
5. Arrangements for Xmas Social
6. Future Meetings:

13 Dec	Annual Social	28 Feb	C.F.
10 Jan		6 Mar	S.K.
17 Jan	P.B.	13 Mar	Formal. Prof. B. de Gey.
24 Jan	G.B.	20 Mar	R.S.
31 Jan	M.B.	27 Mar	B.S.
7 Feb	M.C.	3 Apr	C.T.
14 Feb	Prof F Shillington Oceonography.	10 Apr	Formal.
21 Feb	J.D. Video.	17 Apr	C.A.
7. Washing-up Roster:

13 Dec	all committee.	13 Mar	RS + BS.
14 Feb	J.D., S.K.	10 Apr	CT + CA.
8. Any other urgent business
9. Date of next meeting = 1st April.

Check photo slot paper prices at Office Mart
Waltons.

Drinks etc for Social - 13th.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCASSA COMMITTEE 27/11/95

- 1 PRESENT Charles Allan, Pat Booth, Mark Brown, Monty Coward, Richard Sessions, John Davison, Steve Kleyn, Cliff Turk, Brian Skinner, Gordon Bosch.
- 2 APOLOGIES / ABSENCE Chris Forder,
- 3 MINUTES The minutes were taken as read, with the addition of Richard Sessions to those present.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES
- 4a Sidewalk Astronomy was attended by ^{CT} CF, BS, G&DB, ^{MC} AR&HS. The public were very interested, there were many foreign tourists and the weather was good. There was some interference from security lighting. A letter of thanks was received from the V&A authorities.
- 4b Field trip feedback. Sutherland was under-subscribed and abandoned. BS visited Cederberg.
- 4c Cape Observer. JD having problems with printing and the task should be shared from a master prepared by JD. BS supplied a report which he had also distributed on the Internet.
- 4d Instruments - RS to report back at the next meeting.
- 4e Other activities. Another public viewing evening ASAP, action RS.
- 5 Annual social to be held on 13/12/95. CB to bring his PC and "slide show", JD to bring Tom Lehrer tape. Chairs to be re-positioned. Invitations to Director and staff, Cynthia Strydom, Ethleen Lastovica, Tony Fairall, Penny Dobby. SK to arrange drinks.
- 6 Future meetings 17/1/96 PB, 24/1 CB, 31/1 MB, 7/2 MC, 14/2 Prof Shillington, 21/2 JD, 28/2 CF, 6/3 SK, 13/3 Dr CA Hromnik?, 20/3 RS, 27/3 BS, 3/4 CT, 10/4 Peter Martinez?, 17/4 CA.
- 7 WASHING UP ROSTER - 13/12 All, 14/2 JD & SK, 13/3 RS & BS, 10/4 CT & CA.
- 8 Next meeting April 1.

CRG Turk (Chair)..... J Davison (Sec).....

Committee Meeting of Cape Centre ASSA on 27 February 1996

A G E N D A

1. Apologies (if any)
2. Minutes of last Committee meeting on 27 Nov 95
3. Treasurer's report
4. Matters arising
(a) Report back on Annual Social
5. Missing Volumes of Sky & Telescope
6. Instruments - Report from Curator on whereabouts and condition
- Revenue from hire of Ron Atkins and other telescopes
7. Cape Observer - contributions thereto
- feedback from questionnaire
- future
8. Future Activities - Waterfront Timeball
- Magnetic Observatory
- Sidewalk Astronomy
9. De Kock Award
10. Future Meetings:

3 Apr	Cliff	5 Jun	J.D.
10 Apr		12 Jun	Fom
17 Apr	Charles	19 Jun	C.F.
24 Apr	P. Bost + R.	26 Jun	SK.
1 May	(PH).	3 Jul	R.S.
8 May	Fomd.	10 Jul	Fom.
15 May	G. M. B. B. B.	17 Jul	B. S. K.
22 May	M. B. B. B.	24 Jul	C. Turk
29 May	Monty? C.	31 Jul	C. Allen.
11. Washing-up Roster:

10 Apr	CT & CA	12 Jun	Mare & Monty.
8 May	P. B. & G. B.	10 Jul	J.D. + C.F.
12. Any other urgent business - April Newsletter - SK.
13. Date of next meeting 14th May

CAPE CENTRE A.S.S.A.

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 27 Feb 1996

=====

1 PRESENT:

C.Turk, CD Allen, P Booth, S Kleyn, B Skinner, G Bosch,
C Forder.

2 APOLOGIES: J Davison.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Read and accepted.

4 MATTERS ARISING:

4.1 A donation was made to the Centre on behalf of Danie Rosseau in lieu of payment for mirrors he was to aluminise.

4.2 Annual Social; report back: Less was spent than the previous year, yet a good time was had by all who attended.

4.3 Missing Sky & Telescope volumes: CD Allen has new leads and is hot on the trail.

4.4 Instruments: R Sessions has a list of the instruments and their whereabouts. Hire of R.A.T. to be collected from A Slotegraaf and C de Coning.

5 CAPE OBSERVER:

After much discussion it was decided that there will in future be two issues annually; these will be published on the equinoxes.

6 FIELD TRIPS PLANNED:

<u>Venue</u>	<u>Contact person</u>
Waterfront Time Ball	Prof B Warner
Hermanus Magnetic Observatory	CD Allen & C Turk
Sidewalk Astronomy (27/4/96)	R Sessions

7 DE KOCK AWARD:

Written nominations are due before May 1st.

8 FUTURE MEETINGS:

3 Apr	C Turk	5 Jun	J Davison
10 Apr	Prof Hromnik	12 Jun	
17 Apr	CD Allen	19 Jun	C Forder
24 Apr	P Booth	26 Jun	S Kleyn
1 May	P/Holiday	3 Jul	R Sessions
8 May		10 Jul	
15 May	M Brown	17 Jul	B Skinner
22 May	G Bosch	24 Jul	C Turk
29 May	M Coward	31 Jul	CD Allen

9 WASHING UP ROSTER:

10 Apr	CT & CA	12 Jun	MB & MC
8 May	PB & GB	10 Jul	JD & CF

10 GENERAL:

10.1 Cape Centre Cupboard: The lock had to be broken at the last formal meeting. The lock is to be replaced and a spare key to be given to the Chairman.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 14 MAY

Wed. May 29th David Clarke. Astronomy. 1st floor. Idoroid. glasses.

CAPE CENTRE A.S.S.A.

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 14 May 1996

- =====
1. PRESENT:
G. Bosch, M. Brown, R. Sessions, B. Skinner, C. Turk
 2. APOLOGIES:
C. Allen, J. Davison
 3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Read and accepted subject to names of M. Brown and R. Sessions being added to those present.
 4. MATTERS ARISING:
 - (a) Missing S & T volumes - referred to next meeting
 - (b) Sidewalk Astronomy. Richard reported a successful evening and a thanks letter from the Waterfront who would like another in about 4 months. The Chairman congratulated and thanked Richard for his efforts.
 - (c) Rupert Hurly now has a short radio broadcast at 5.30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of every month.
 - (d) Distribution of cupboard keys still outstanding.
 5. INSTRUMENTS:
Availability of instruments for members to borrow to be advertised on notice board. Long loans to be for 6 mths at a time. Ron Atkins telescope to remain short period loan only.
 6. CAPE OBSERVER:
Chairman was requested to write to the Editor to ask for details of the questionnaire results and for the return of any unpublished contributions so they may be taken over by a new editor. Steve Kleyn had agreed to become editor to produce a bi-annual booklet on the equinoxes. The Curator of Instruments asked if the Chairman would ask the Rev Coward about the Larmuth telescope at the same time.
 7. FUTURE ACTIVITIES:
 - (a) Waterfront Timeball - waiting contact with Prof Warner
 - (b) Magnetic Observatory - waiting better weather
 8. DE KOCK AWARD: No nomination received
 9. FUTURE MEETINGS:

15 May	M. Brown	17 Jul	B. Skinner
22 May	G. Bosch	24 Jul	C. Turk
29 May	Dr. David Clark	31 Jul	C. Allen
5 Jun	J. Davison	7 Aug	Miss P. Booth
12 Jun	Dr. P. Martinez	14 Aug	AGM - G. Turk <i>alboon / P. Clark</i>
19 Jun	C Forder	21 Aug	M. Brown
26 Jun	S. Kleyn	28 Aug	G. Bosch
3 Jul	R. Sessions	4 Sep	J. Davison
10 Jul		11 Sep	

10. WASHING UP ROSTER:

29 May	CT & GB	10 Jul	SK & RS
12 Jun	JD & CF	14 Aug	BS & CT

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

There was a short discussion regarding nominations for the committee for next year and a number of likely candidates were suggested who will be approached in the coming weeks.

A check will also be made to see who, if any, of the present committee cannot stand again under the 5 year rule.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 19 or 26 August 1996

NB. Since the committee meeting, John Davison has indicated he will probably not be available to continue as Secretary for family health reasons. We wish him and his family well and hope to see him as often as possible.

A.S.S.A. CAPE CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 10 July 1996 at the S.A.A.O.

PRESENT:

23 members and 3 visitors.

APOLOGIES:

J. Davison, H.Sessions, R.Noack, W.Hollenbach

MINUTES OF THE 1995 A.G.M.:

Taken as read in abstentia.

Proposed: M.A.Gray Seconded: C.D.Allen

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

The Chairman, Mr Clif Turk presented a report similar to the one he presented 20 years ago.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chris Forder reported that until the AGM there was a deficit of R35.00 but David van Heerden made a donation to make the books balance. Thank you David. The report is to be published in the Cape Observer.

TRUST REPORT:

Cliff Turk presented the report after explaining the reason for the existence of the Trust. There is now R6 224 invested and a distributable reserve of R7 512 which is available to the Cape Centre.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

CHAIRMAN : Gordon Bosch
VICE CHAIRMAN : Steve Kleyn
SECRETARY : Chris Forder
TREASURER : Chris Forder
COUNCIL REP : Andrew Gray
MEMBERS : Pat Booth
Joe Joubert
Richard Sessions
Abe Mahommed
Cliff Turk
Brian Skinner

Proposed: D van Heerden Seconded: A Joubert

ELECTION OF HON AUDITOR:

Mr C. Turk
Proposed: B Skinner Seconded: C Forder

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS:

Cliff Turk spoke on the subject of light pollution and how effective outside lighting can be achieved without spoiling the night sky.

GENERAL:

The new Chairman stated his ambition to get the Centre more active in practical astronomy.

SIGNED:

DATE:

A.S.S.A. CAPE CENTRE

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23 members and 3 visitors.

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Joe Joubert
Richard Sessions
Abe Mahommed
Cliff Turk
Brian Skinner

Proposed: D van Heerden Seconded: A Joubert

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Mr C. Turk
Proposed: B Skinner Seconded: C Forder

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Cliff Turk spoke on the subject of light pollution and how effective outside lighting can be achieved without spoiling the night sky.

GENERAL:

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SIGNED:

DATE:

↑ pres. not made

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Seconded: A Joubert

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Cliff Turk spoke on the subject of light pollution and how effective outside lighting can be achieved without spoiling the night sky.

GENERAL:

The new Chairman stated his ambition to get the Centre more active in practical astronomy.

SIGNED: .. *G Bosch*

DATE: *13 August 1997*

A.S.S.A. CAPE CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 10 July 1996 at the S.A.A.O.

PRESENT:

23 members and 3 visitors.

APOLOGIES:

J. Davison, H.Sessions, R.Noack, W.Hollenbach

MINUTES OF THE 1995 A.G.M.:

Taken as read in abstentia.

Proposed: M.A.Gray Seconded: C.D.Allen

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

The Chairman, Mr Clif Turk presented a report similar to the one he presented 20 years ago.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chris Forder reported that until the AGM there was a deficit of R35.00 but David van Heerden made a donation to make the books balance. Thank you David. The report is to be published in the Cape Observer.

TRUST REPORT:

Cliff Turk presented the report after explaining the reason for the existence of the Trust. There is now R6 224 invested and a distributable reserve of R7 512 which is available to the Cape Centre.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

CHAIRMAN : Gordon Bosch
VICE CHAIRMAN : Steve Kleyn
SECRETARY : Chris Forder
TREASURER : Chris Forder
COUNCIL REP : Andrew Gray
MEMBERS : Pat Booth
Joe Joubert
Richard Sessions
Abe Mahommed
Cliff Turk
Brian Skinner

Proposed: D van Heerden Seconded: A Joubert

ELECTION OF HON AUDITOR:

Mr C. Turk
Proposed: B Skinner Seconded: C Forder

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS:

Cliff Turk spoke on the subject of light pollution and how effective outside lighting can be achieved without spoiling the night sky.

GENERAL:

The new Chairman stated his ambition to get the Centre more active in practical astronomy.

SIGNED:

DATE:

CAPE CENTRE - ASSA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 10 JULY 1996

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last AGM
(i) Matters arising if any
3. Chairman's Report Cliff Turk
4. Treasurer's Report Chris Forder
5. Trust Report Cliff Turk
6. Election of Officers and Committee members
NB John Davison has advised he can no longer be
Secretary due to other pressures

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Hon Secretary

Hon Treasurer

Members (Not less than 3, Not more than 7)

NB Nominees must have been members of a Centre of
ASSA for at least 1 year.

Other appointments to be filled include:
Centre Rep on ASSA Council (Full member of ASSA)
Editor of Cape Observer
Editor of Newsletter

7. Chairman's Address

Committee Meeting of the Cape Centre ASSA

6 August 1996

AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of committee^e meeting held on 14 May 1996

Minutes of AGM held on 10 July 1996

Treasurers report

Matters arising

Cupboard keys

Newsletter

Editor

Interest questionnaire

Library

Librarian

Suggestions for New books

Inventory

Missing Sky & Telescope Volumes

Opening Times

Members Observing Evenings

Appoint Coodinator *Drinks: arranged*

Possible Venue's *George's*

Schedule - September: Occultation Sat 21st

October: Deep Sky Sat 12th *7*

November: Hale-Bopp Sat 9th *(public) Deepsky*

December: Geminids Sat 14th (schools)

Public Outreach

Next Sidewalk astronomy evening

Schools evenings

Hale-Bopp

Another monthly radio program?

Advertising

Light Pollution representative and action

C. C. Telescopes

Larmouth telescope
Loan period
Technical experts to assist new users

Astrophoto Contest

Douglas Arnold as Judge
Decide on Date *7th Nov. (with 23 Oct.)*
Categories
Prizes
Entrance fee?

Field Trips Magnetic Observatory
 Time Ball
 Cederberg
 Sutherland

New members Introductory guide and star maps

Future meetings

Sep 4	Andrew Gray	Oct 30	Cliff Turk
Sep 11	Formal	Nov 6	Pat Booth
Sep 18	Joe Joubert	Nov 13	Formal
Sep 25	Steve Kleyn	Nov 20	Gordon Bosch
Oct 2	Abe Mohamed	Nov 27	Chris Forder
Oct 9	Formal	Dec 4	Andrew Gray
Oct 16	Richard Sessions	Dec 11	Annual Social
Oct 23	Brian Skinner		

T-Duty

Sep 11	Pat Booth and Gordon Bosch
Oct 9	Chris Forder and Andrew Gray
Nov	Joe Joubert and Steve Kleyn

Any Other Urgent Business

Date of Next Meeting *22nd Oct. (Tues)*

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6 August 1976

=====

- 1 PRESENT:
F.Booth, G.Bosch, C.Forder, A.Gray, J.Joubert,
S.Kleyn, A.Mohamed, R.Sessions & B.Skinner
- 2 APOLOGIES:
C.Turk
- 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (10 Jul 1976): Read and
accepted.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING:
Nil
- 5 TREASURER'S REPORT:
Financial Statements circulated. Resolved that members
who had subs due for 1974/5 be dropped from the
mailing list.

Members more than 6 months on arrears may be dropped
from future mailing lists.
- 6 KEYS:
5 Kitchen cupboard & 1 x Front door keys to be cut.
- 7 NEWSLETTER/CAPE OBSERVER:
Try to find an editor from amongst the members.
Joe Joubert to assist with C/Observer.
Next C/Observer to have interest questionnaire.
- 8 LIBRARY:
Possibility of C.Allen becoming Librarian. Abe Mohamed
volunteered to assist.
Many new books suggested including:
Companion to the Cosmos
Star Atlases & Planispheres
Star atlas disks for P.C's
Binocular Observing
Steve Kleyn is to give a coffee table book on
astronomy to the library on a permanent loan basis.
Library to be open at 19:45 on informal meetings. On
formal meetings the library will be opened on
request.
First opening 21.8.76
- 9 OBSERVING EVENINGS:
The Committee agreed to hold regular observing
meetings.

Brian Skinner to co-ordinate Wednesday evening observing sessions.

There is an Occultation 12 Sep.

We must try and find an external venue. Gordon will approach Visanterkraal.

Sat 12 Oct Observing to be coupled with Hale Bopp.

The public to be invited.

A session during the Gemenids will be arranged for Dec 14.

Nov 9th deep sky observing session for members, Gordon & Steve will co-ordinate initial sessions.

10 PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Abe Mohamed to communicate meetings, speakers and subjects to the media. (Argus, Local papers, FMR and RGH).

Richard Sessions to arrange and notify the date of the next Waterfront Astronomy evening.

SCHOOLS OUTREACH:

Alan Gray to approach Kirstenhof junior school in two months time.

RADIO:

Leave to Rupert Hurly.

BROCHURES:

Brian Skinner to fill up the brochure bins at the Planetarium and find out the cost of printing another 1000 brochures

11 CENTRE TELESCOPES:

Gordon to recover Larmuth 6" telescope from Monty Coward.

12 ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION:

To be held Thurs 7 Nov 1996.

To be Judged by Douglas Arnold.

Closing Date 23 Oct 1996.

Slides and CCD images to be converted into prints.

Exhibits will be numbered for judging.

13 FIELD TRIPS:

Magnetic Observatory - C Turk

Cederberg Observatory/Sutherland - postpone to early 1997.

Time Ball - G Bosch to investigate.

14 NEW MEMBERS: Brian Skinner & Gordon Bosch to compile introductory material aimed at new members.

Brian Skinner/Gordon Bosch.

Approach visitors and prospective new members - all members of the committee.

15 MEETINGS;

Aug 7	F Booth	Oct 16	R Sessions
Aug 14	Allbrow & Pollard (Astron. in NZ)	Oct 23	B Skinner
Aug 21	C Forder	Oct 30	C Turk
		Nov 7	Thursday D Arnold (Astrophotos)
Aug 28	G Bosch		
Sep 4	A Gray	Nov 13	B Skinner
Sep 11	Formal	Nov 20	G Bosch
Sep 18	J Joubert	Nov 27	C forder
Sep 25	S Kleyn	Dec 4	A Gray
Oct 2	A Mohamed	Dec 11	Annual Social
Oct 9	Formal		

16 TEA DUTY:

Aug 14 Brian Skinner/Cliff Turk
Sep 11 Pat Booth/Gordon Bosch
Oct 9 Chris Forder/Joe Joubert
Nov 7 Andre Gray/Steve Kleyn

17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

When introducing guest speakers give full details of who he is, where he works and any other salient facts. Overhead projector to be organised/recovered.

18 NEXT MEETING: Oct 22 1986.

The Meeting closed at 22:40

CHAIRMAN.....

Committee Meeting of the Cape Centre ASSA

22 October 1996

AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of committee meeting held on 6 August 1996

Treasurers report

Library

- Feedback
- New books?
- Inventory & missing S&T volumes

Waterfront Astronomy

Nov 16th

Centre Telescopes

Observing Evenings

- Feedback
- Future evenings
9 Nov. - *Pharyng site*
14 Dec. - *Genecida*
8 Feb. -

Field Trips

- A convenor please
- Magnetic Observatory / Time Ball / Cederberg / Sutherland

School Outreach

Kirstenhof

Astrophoto Contest

- Thank you gift for Douglas
- Prizes / trust money / donations
- Display arrangements
- Catering arrangements

Wednesday evening meetings

Oct 23 :	C. Turk	Dec 11 :	Annual Social
Nov 7 :	Astrophoto Contest	Jan 29 :	J. Joubert
Nov 13 :	B. Skinner ?	Feb 5 :	S. Kleyn
Nov 20 :	G. Bosch	Feb 12 :	Formal
Nov 27 :	C. Forder	Feb 19 :	A. Mohamed
Dec 4 :	A. Gray	Feb 26 :	R. Sessions

Formal T Duties

- Nov 7 : A. Gray / S. Kleyn
- Dec 12 : (A. Mohamed / R. Sessions) *Committee*
- Feb 12 : (C. Turk / B. Skinner)

Month 8

Other business

- Coffee mugs ?

Date of next meeting

Tue 4th Feb 97

SKlyn

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 22 October 1996
=====

1 PRESENT:
P.Booth, G.Bosch, C.Forder, A.Gray, J.Joubert,
S.Kleyn, A.Mohamed, R.Sessions, B.Skinner & C. Turk

2 APOLOGIES:
Nil

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (6 August 1996): Read and
accepted.

4 MATTERS ARISING:
Nil

5 TREASURER'S REPORT:
Defaulters down to 28.

Members more than 6 months on arrears may be dropped
from future mailing lists.

The format of listing digits on arrears statements is
to change to "SUBS DUE" being printed on the label.

It is possible that subs will go up next year,
treasurer to prepare a financial statements to show
need for such an increase. Special meeting required
to ratify such a change.

The annual donation of R300 ex ASSET was discussed as
was assistance for the prizes in the Astrophotography
Competition and once the books are returned to the
treasurer arrangements can be planned.

6 LIBRARY:

Notice required to advertise the library. The keys
are with Charles Allen.

Plan new location. (If necessary buy glass front
cabinet to locate assa library.)

Report back on available books needed.

7 OBSERVING EVENINGS:
Observing evening at the M&R quarry highly successful.
meetings. Next quarry meeting 9 Nov 1996. Such

meetings to be held bi-monthly.

Gordon & Steve to be convener of meetings.
Report to be compiled for A Slotegraf's Deep sky section of MNASSA.

8 FIELD TRIPS:

Richard Session to approach the waterfront re Time Ball session.

Next Waterfront meeting 16 Nov 1996. The new location will be at the pierhead (Penny ferry area) There could be a problem with spot lights encroaching onto the viewing area. Richard to charm them off.

9 CENTRE TELESCOPES:

Larmuth 6" now back from Monty. it has been painted. The Ratkins is with Richard. It will also be used for a period between 9 & 23 Dec at the Cederberg Scout Adventure 1997 either under Cliff or Briski's custody.

The Robilliard telescope is with Briski for renovating.

10 SCHOOLS OUTREACH:

To be postponed due to new headmaster at Kirstenhof School.

11 ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION:

D Arnold to receive a gift of a reproduction of Gill's picture of the Great September Comet Copied and processed by Joe Joubert.

R150 has been donated towards prizes for the winners.

The competition will be held every two years.

There will be a floating trophy for the best entry and up to 8 X R50 vouchers drawn on Noyes and Tothill. Vouchers will be drawn up by Chris. Certificates will be prepared by Delene Bosch.

A cheese & wine function will follow the presentation of prizes. (Steve to arrange).

Approx R30 needed to display the entries.

12 Cliff to approach John Caldwell re the astro light outside the clubhouse.

13 The Natal Centre's Stardust Cross Star Competition is
on the notice board. (R5 entry charge)

14 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 4 Feb 1997

The Meeting closed at 22:40

CHAIRMAN.....

Committee Meeting of the Cape Centre, ASSA
4 February 1997
AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of Committee meeting held 22 Oct. 1997

Treasurer's Report

Subs

Library

New books

Location/Cabinet

Waterfront Astronomy

Next date

March 15 th (.
Suburban ? April 12

Cape Centre Telescope's

Status report

Observing Evenings

Future dates

Feb. 8 th.
Camp 075 1195 (0833756746)
Sat. Min. 8 th. May 3rd. (Hermann?)

Field Trips

Time Ball

Hermanus

Wednesday Evening Meetings:

Feb 5:	S. Kleyn	Apr 2:	P. Booth
Feb 12:	Formal	Apr 9:	Formal
Feb 19:	A. Mohamed	Apr 16:	G. Bosch
Feb 26:	R. Sessions	Apr 23:	C. Forder
Mar 5:	Guest: B. Wagener	Apr 30:	A. Gray
Mar 12:	Formal	May 7:	J. Joubert
Mar 19:	B. Skinner	May 14:	Formal
Mar 26:	C. Turk	May 21:	S. Kleyn
		May 28:	A. Mohamed

Tea Duty:

Feb 12:	A. Mohamed, R. Sessions	Apr 9:	P. Booth, G. Bosch
Mar 12:	B. Skinner, C. Turk	May 14:	C. Forder, A. Gray

Any other urgent business:

Grahamstown Science Festival

Date of next meeting:

May 6 th.

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 4 February 1997
=====

1 PRESENT:

P.Booth, G.Bosch, C.Forder, A.Gray, S.Kleyn, J.Joubert,
A. Mohamed, R.Sessions & B.Skinner.

2 APOLOGIES:

J. Joubert & C.Turk.

3 MINUTES of the last meeting (22 October 1996) read &
accepted

4 MATTERS ARISING: Nil

5 TREASURER'S REPORT:

Defaulters down to 10

It is forecast that the centre will start generating a
loss during the balance of the year due to additional
production expenditure of the newsletter and the Cape
Observer. Postage could rise to R1.00 per std item and
the paper and envelopes are no longer donated. Also we
have to pay copy charges for the printing. It was
resolved to hold a special meeting to request a
subscription increase to R 20 per annum.

6 LIBRARY:

Library cabinet to be obtained. Ask members to donate
books to the library. The librarian may buy a book for
the library, the latest David Levy publication,
Skywatching @ R89.99 was suggested.

Use the newsletter to advertise the library.

Issue copies of Skyglobe (Computerised Sky Atlas) @ R10
per copy. (Skyglobe in its basic form is a shareware
programme)

7 OBSERVING EVENINGS:

Observing evenings to be held monthly during the summer
and every second month during the winter.

Quarry observations- Gordon & Steve to be the contacts.
Next evenings at the quarry, Feb 8 & Mar 8.

We are to try to get locations other than the Waterfront
for public shows. Suggested date Apr 12th.

The next Waterfront evening is scheduled for Mar 15.

8 FIELD TRIPS;

Hermanus Mag Observatory May 3.

Future plans for Time Ball & Faure accelerator.

9 CENTRE TELESCOPES:

- Larmuth 6" f8 not portable
- Crumm Refractor = Cooke eyepiece
- Tasco 60mm f15
- Ron Atkins 10" f4.5 (R1 per day rental)
- 60 mm Meade refractor
- 6" f10 Newtonian (Robilliard)
- 8" & 5" Mirrors?

10 SPEAKERS:

Feb 5	S. Kleyn	Apr 2	P Booth
Feb 12	Peter Martinez	Apr 9	Tim Cooper
	(Boyden Obs)	Apr 16	G Bosch
Feb 19	A Mohamed	Apr 23	C Forder
Feb 26	R Sessions	Apr 30	A Gray
Mar 5	Guest: B Wagener	May 7	J Joubert
Mar 12	Patterson?	May 14	Formal
Mar 26	C Turk	May 21	S Kleyn
		May 28	A Mohamed

11 TEA DUTIES:

Feb 12	A Mohamed/R Sessions	Apr 9	P Booth/G Bosch
Mar 12	B Skinner/C turk	May 14	C Forder/A Gray

12 MUGS: There are 5 mugs left.

13 THANKS:

Council thanks the centre & members for making pictures from the Astrophotography competition available to display at a science festival in Grahamstown. Brian Skinner to hand the pics to Rupert Hurley who will take them to the festival.

Abe sent thank you letters to the institutions who help advertise the Centre's meetings.

14 NEXT MEETING:

May 6th 8:00pm

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

CHAIRMAN.....

Committee Meeting of the Cape Centre, ASSA
6 May 1997
AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of Committee Meeting Held 4 February 1997

Treasurer's Report

Matters Arising - Subs will be subsidised by C.C. Trust.

Library .

Instruments .

Public Astronomy

Waterfront venue .

Public star-parties .

Const Party. ??

Observing Evenings

Const Party - Quesada

Field Trips .

Wednesday Evening Meetings:

May 7:	J. Joubert	Jul 16:	G. Bosch
May 14:	Formal: SUNSAT program (SU)	Jul 23:	C. Forder
May 21:	S. Kleyn	Jul 30:	A. Gray
May 28:	A. Mohamed	Aug 6:	J. Joubert
June 4:	R. Sessions	Aug 13:	Formal: AGM
June 11:	Formal: Prof. Feast (UCT)	Aug 20:	S. Kleyn
	"The Hipparcos Satellite Mission and the	Aug 27:	A. Mohamed
	Age of the Oldest Stars and of the	Sep 3:	R. Sessions
	Universe"	Sep 10:	Formal
June 18:	B. Skinner		
June 25:	C. Turk		
July 2:	P. Booth		
Jul 9:	Formal: Prof. George Ellis (UCT)		
	Cosmology - where do we stand?		

Tea Duty:

May 14:	C. Forder, A. Gray	Jul 9:	A. Mohamed, R. Sessions
Jun 11:	J. Joubert, S. Kleyn	Aug 13:	B. Skinner, C. Turk

Any Other Urgent Business:

Cape Centre mugs

Reginald De Kock award?

Nominations for 97/98 committee

Portfolio=s: librarian, public relations, instruments, newsletter, Cape Observer, public observing, observing evenings, field trips

Date of Next Meeting: *AGM Aug 13 1997.*

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6 May 1997

=====

- 1 PRESENT:
P.Booth, G.Bosch, C.Forder, A.Gray, J.Joubert,
S.Kleyn, A.Mohamed, R.Sessions, B.Skinner.
APOLOGIES:
C Turk.
- 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (4 February 1997): Read
and accepted.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING:
Nil
- 5 TREASURER'S REPORT:
Although we will show a loss this year, we will be
subsidised by the Trust. The amount of loss would be
in the order of R600. Tony to put a subscription
reminder into the May newsletter.
The 50 new mugs will be carried on the balance sheet
at a value of R370.50
- 6 LIBRARY:

We are looking for a cabinet in which to house the
library. New book purchased and ATM 1,2 & 3 donated to
the library.
- 7 OBSERVING EVENINGS:
Next observing evening at the M&R quarry end of May.
- 8 FIELD TRIPS:
It was agreed that the waterfront was not an ideal
location for star parties and it was agreed to try
other smaller locations in future.
The field trip to the magnetic observatory at Hermanus
was attended by 8 members. Six attended the braai and
four slept over.
The next field trip is to be to Rainer Noack's
Tableview Observatory on Saturday 5 July 1997.
- 9 CENTRE TELESCOPES:
No change. One of the instruments requires
collimation. The Robilliard telescope requires work
before we bring it into our books.

10 SCHOOLS OUTREACH:
To be postponed due to new headmaster at Kirstenhof School.

14 Speakers:

Aug 20th	S Kleyn
Aug 27th	A Mohamed
Sept 3rd	R Sessions
Sep 10th	Formal (try Tony Fairall?)

15 The next meeting will be the A.G.M on Aug 13 1997.

The Meeting closed at 22:40

CHAIRMAN.....

Notes on possible committee structure:

Chairman	A Mohamed
Vice Chair	A Gray
Secretary	S Kleyn
Treasurer	C Forder
Members	P Booth
	G Bosch
	B Skinner
	R Sessions

Consider	D Dore
	S Britz
	B Wagenaar
	J Kotze

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 13 AUGUST 1997

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of AGM held on 10 July 1996
 - Matters arising, if any
3. Chairman's Report *Gordon Bosch*
4. Treasurer's Report *Chris Forder*
5. Trust Report *Cliff Turk*
6. Any other urgent business
7. Election of Officers and Committee members:
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Hon. Secretary
 - Hon. Treasurer
 - Members (Not less than 3, not more than 7)
NB. A member of the Centre is eligible for election to the Committee after having been a fully paid-up member for at least one year.
 - Hon. Auditor
 - Other appointments to be made are:
 - Centre Rep. on ASSA Council
 - Editor of "Cape Observer" newsletter
8. Welcome from new chairman
9. Outgoing chairman's address *Gordon Bosch*

Astronomical Society of Southern Africa Cape Centre

P O Box 13018
Mowbray, 7705
Cape Town

Home Phone (Secretary) (021) 64-2401

17 August 1997

The Honorary Secretary
ASSA
P O Box 9
OBSERVATORY 7935.

re. Cape Centre, New committee.

Dear Sir,

At their Annual General Meeting which took place on 13th August 1997, a new Committee was elected as follows:

Chairman;	A B Mohammed. 6
Vice Chairman;	A Gray 4
Honorary Secretary;	S J Kleyn 5
Honorary Treasurer;	C Forder 3
Council Representative;	P Booth 1
Committee Members;	
	G Bosch 2
	R Sessions 8
	B Wagner 9
	J Kotze
	G Quick 7

A Jones has been re-appointed as Editor of the Cape Centre Newsletter, (which now incorporates the Cape Observer).

Yours sincerely,

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 13 AUGUST 1997

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of AGM held on 10 July 1996
 - Matters arising, if any
3. Chairman's Report *Gordon Bosch*
4. Treasurer's Report *Chris Forder*
5. Trust Report *Cliff Turk*
6. Any other urgent business
7. Election of Officers and Committee members:
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Hon. Secretary
 - Hon. Treasurer
 - Members (Not less than 3, not more than 7)
NB. A member of the Centre is eligible for election to the Committee after having been a fully paid-up member for at least one year.
 - Hon. Auditor
 - Other appointments to be made are:
 - Centre Rep. on ASSA Council
 - Editor of "Cape Observer" newsletter
8. Welcome from new chairman
9. Outgoing chairman's address *Gordon Bosch*

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

Report to the Annual General Meeting for the year 1996/97

MEETINGS

Ten formal meetings were held during the year, plus the annual social function in December. The formal meetings were addressed by the following speakers:

1996	August	K. Pollard and M. Albrow	Astronomy in New Zealand.
	September	Dr. P. Whitelock	A Galaxy Collides With the Milky Way.
	October	Dr F. Bash, Mr T. Sebring and Dr Larry Ramsey	A 10 metre class spectroscopic telescope for South Africa?
	November	Douglas and Audrey Arnold	Astrophotography Contest. Display of Entries and Prize Giving.
1997	February	Dr. P. Martinez	Update on the Boyden Observatory.
	March	Dr J. Patterson	The golden age of binary stars.
	April	Mr T. Cooper	Meteor showers and the collection of data.
	May	Prof. H. Stein and Mr P. Oosthuizen	The SUNSAT satellite program of Stellenbosch University.
	June	Prof. Feast	The Hipparcos satellite mission and the age of the oldest stars and of the universe.
	July	Prof. G. Ellis	Cosmology - where do we stand?

The average attendance according to the book signatures was 31 members and guests. Total membership of the Centre currently stands at 129.

Committee members continued to hold informal meetings on all the remaining Wednesday nights. These kept us entertained and informed about a broad range of subject matter, such as observing (artificial satellites as well as the comets Hale-Bopp and Encke); the practical amateur (the manufacture and use of home-made CCD camera's, telescopes, theodolites, sundials, and various items to assist with observing); the theoretical (near earth asteroids, the asteroid belt, origins of life on earth, the human eye, general relativity and the formation of the elements); historical (astronomy at the Cape, Bernard Schmidt, the Palomar giant, and Egypt at the time of comet Hale-Bopp's last visit); members own photographs; updates on digital cameras and film formats; astronomical sites observed while travelling abroad; and evenings to bring one's own equipment to the Centre to talk to others about. In addition, Bernard Wagener, a member, demonstrated his computer planetarium program, which he wrote himself.

Both formal and informal speakers were well advertised through the local media, which I feel sure was at least partly responsible for the small but steady stream of new faces seen on Wednesday nights.

Astrophotography Contest

A members astrophotography contest was held on the 7th November. A total of 51 entries were submitted by 15 members, and an additional 25 photographs were submitted for display only. Entries were judged by Douglas Arnold, the British author and astrophotographer. Prizes were awarded by Audrey Arnold at a cheese and wine social evening. Douglas then captivated the audience with his review of the prize-winning entries, after which he received his thank-you gift with enthusiasm - a reproduction of the photograph of the Great Comet of September, 1882, taken by David Gill from the Cape Observatory on the 7th November of that year, and capably reproduced for the occasion by Joe Joubert. Awards were given in several categories, both for first place and for highly commended, divided further into beginner and advanced. The prize for the best overall photograph went to Joe Joubert for his entry of Maclear's Western Beacon, and the prize for best achievement by a beginner went to Jaco Eygelaar for his entry of a lunar eclipse.

OBSERVING

Star parties for members have been held approximately once a month during the summer months and every second month during winter, at a quarry located a few kilometers north of Cape Town; notably in October, November and December of 1996, and February, March and May of 1997. These have proved popular with both beginners and seasoned observers alike, as well as with friends and family, and have normally attracted 15-20 people and a range of telescopic equipment. We were extremely fortunate in that despite several close calls, only the November meeting was abandoned due to bad weather. During the December party counts were made of the Geminid meteor shower, which were then submitted to the Comet and Meteor Section of the

ASSA. A few members attempted to observe the Centaurid shower during the February party, but unfortunately none were seen. If a few stalwarts can be identified my guess is that it should be Chris Forder, for being the only member to valiantly arrive at the November meeting after it had finally stopped raining rather late in the evening, and Brian Skinner and Pat Booth for persevering in the Centaurid meteor count well into the wee hours.

VISITS

About ten members visited the CSIR's Magnetic Observatory in Hermanus in early May, where they were guided around the facilities by staff member and ASSA colleague Daan Nagtegaal, after which they were treated to a braai at Daan's farm. Some of the members then stayed overnight in Hermanus in order to observe the eta Aquarid meteor shower the following morning, which was unfortunately clouded out. In early July Ryno Noack hosted about twenty members at his private Table View Observatory. The evening began with a braai and ended with observing through the observatories excellent facilities. In July the Centre made a group visit to the planetarium, which was attended by about eight members.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Two "sidewalk astronomy" evenings were planned for the Cape Town waterfront, of which one was cancelled due to cloudy weather. The other attracted the normal large crowds who queued until after midnight for views of the moon, Mars and Alpha Centauri. The waterfront has extended the normal invitation for us to return. However, concerns over the rowdiness of the crowds towards the end of the evening and the safety of members private equipment, as well as other issues, resulted in a decision to hold the public observing evenings at a variety of quieter venues, and to advertise them in advance. Two attempts were made (April and June) to host public evenings at the Alphen Common in Constantia, both of which were cancelled due to poor weather.

Cape Centre members have continued to assist at the SAAO visitors evenings on the second Saturday of each month. A total of 628 visitors were recorded in the visitors book.

LIBRARY

The library has been enthusiastically managed by Charles Allen and Abe Mohamed, and has been open most Wednesday evenings from 7.45pm, with the exception of the formal lecture evening. Several volumes of old magazines were laboriously catalogued during the year. Pat Booth provided satellite tracking software for Mir and Hubble which is sold at R5 per disk to cover costs, and a copy of "Skywatching" by David Levy was purchased. The library is currently trying to obtain a glass fronted bookcase so as to make the collection more visible to members. The following material was very kindly donated to the library during the course of the year:

- Video of the 40th anniversary of Patrick Moore's "The Sky at Night" by Gordana Bischof (ASSA).
- Photostats of missing Telescope Making volumes were privately donated by Chris Stewart of the Johannesburg section.
- Several books by Cape Centre members.
- Scientific American (10 years), donated by Brian Redmile, a non member.

NEWSLETTER

The editorship of the newsletter was taken over at the start of the year by Tony Jones, who has punctually brought to us a more community orientated version. The biannual "Cape Observer" has been discontinued due to a lack of articles being submitted by the members, with a resultant heavy load on the editor. The name has been taken over by the monthly newsletter.

EQUIPMENT

The late Frank Robilliard's telescope was donated by his daughter. It is currently being repaired, and the mirror is awaiting aluminising by the SAAO.

PRIVATE ACTIVITIES

Several private observing trips were made by members, and are worth noting here for the level of enthusiasm they have generated. Most significant were observations of the September 1996 lunar eclipse, a deep sky and photography session in the Bokkeveld which was attended by about 8 members, a group of about 10 members who observed the South Delta Aquarids in late July from Silvermine, and the small groups who observed Comet Hale-Bopp in May and June from Signal Hill and shared their enthusiasm with the public. Most recently, a group met on the morning of 10 August to observe Hale-Bopp before dawn. This was achieved between bouts of rain. Thanks to Brian Skinner, Richard Sessions and Pat Booth who seemed to be the chief initiators. Well done also to Richard who had several of his astrophotographs published in local newspapers.

THANKS

On behalf of the Cape Centre I would like to extend our thanks to the Director of the SAAO for the use of various facilities throughout the year. Our thanks are also extended to both our formal and informal speakers who, without exception, delivered excellent presentations. The astrophotography contest would not have taken place without so much help from those who gave of their time, and if I may single out some individuals, special thanks should go to the SAAO librarian, Ethleen Lastovica, for her help with obtaining the original old photographs of the Great Comet of September 1882; to Douglas and Audrey Arnold for the judging and awarding of prizes; to Steve Kleyn and Joe Joubert for having put in so many hours, and to all those who made donations towards the prizes. This includes Kodak, and XVXVCX for having silvered the winners trophy. The Centre's thanks are also recorded to Caspir of Plantflow Engineering for permission to use their quarry for our star parties. Site visits were made particularly pleasant thanks to the efforts of Jeff Groom who permitted members to use his personal accommodation in Hermanus, and of Ryno and Vicki Noack, and Daan and Mikki Nagtegaal who made our members so welcome in their homes by their exceptional hospitality. Thanks also to Ryno, and to Daan and the CSIR's Magnetic Observatory for sharing their facilities with our members.

My personal thanks as chairman go to all the committee members for their support of our activities during the year. My thanks would not be complete without including my wife, Delene, for all her encouragement and support. And finally, should I have omitted anyone, please know that it is unintentional, and that everyone's contributions have been important.

Before ending, I would like to take this opportunity to propose to the new committee that the roles of Field Trip Coordinator and Public Outreach Coordinator be recognised as portfolio's, with a committee member assigned to those tasks for the year.

Gordon Bosch
Chairman
13 August 1997

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

1997 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the S.A.A.O. in Observatory Cape, on 1997
August 13.

1. Welcome

Gordon Bosch welcomed 34 members and 5 visitors and declared the proceedings open at 20h05.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from R Noack, MA Gray and A & J Joubert

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM were published in the Cape Observer, and taken as read. The above was proposed by D Duprez and seconded by S Kleyn.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. Chairman's Report for 1996 - 1997

See attached sheet.

6. Treasurer's Report

The financial report was read by Chris Forder. The Centre is financially stable and will be able to maintain subscriptions at the same cost (R12.00 per annum) for another year. A member who wishes to remain anonymous donated R1000 towards the running of the Centre during 1997. The Members recorded their sincere appreciation for this generous gesture.

The acceptance of the report was proposed by S Kleyn and seconded by B Skinner.

7. Report of the Cape Centre Endowment Trust

This report was read out by the Trust Secretary, Cliff Turk.

The acceptance of the report was proposed by B Skinner and seconded by CD Allen.

8. Election of new Committee Office bearers

Chairman	: Dr Abe Mahomed
Vice Chairman	: Mr M Andrew Gray
Secretary	: Mr Steve Kleyn
Treasurer	: Mr Chris Forder
Members	: Mr Gordon Bosch
	: Ms Pat Booth
	: Mr Richard Sessions
	: Mr Bernard Wagener
	: Ms Gwynneth Quick
Honorary Auditor	: Mr Cliff Turk
Centre Representative on ASSA Council	: Ms Pat Booth

The above were proposed by B Skinner and seconded by R Hurly.

9. Chairman's Address:

The outgoing Chairman, Gordon Bosch gave an illustrated talk on the geological composition of the rocks on the Earth and their counterparts on the planet Mars.

10. General

Rupert Hurly, on behalf of all the members, proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman Gordon Bosch and his Committee for their sterling work during his term of office. This was adopted unanimously.

10. Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 22h06 for refreshments.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 13 AUGUST 1997

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of AGM held on 10 July 1996
 - Matters arising, if any
3. Chairman's Report Gordon Bosch
4. Treasurer's Report Chris Forder
5. Trust Report Cliff Turk
6. Any other urgent business
7. Election of Officers and Committee members:
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Hon. Secretary
 - Hon. Treasurer
 - Members (Not less than 3, not more than 7)
NB. A member of the Centre is eligible for election to the Committee after having been a fully paid-up member for at least one year.
 - Hon. Auditor
 - Other appointments to be made are:
 - Centre Rep. on ASSA Council
 - Editor of "Cape Observer" newsletter
8. Welcome from new chairman
9. Outgoing chairman's address Gordon Bosch

Chairman - Abe McDonald.
Vice. - Andrew Lopez.
Secy - Self
Treas. - Chris.
Comm. - Pat Booth. - Council Rep.
Gordon Bosch
Richard Serrano
Bernard Wegner
John Kety.
Lyngnet & Quirk

observing evening sat 8/8
Lunar eclipse Thu 16/8
Secretary tonight.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 13 AUGUST 1997
AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence *Andrew Gray.*
2. Minutes of AGM held on 10 July 1996
 - Matters arising, if any
3. Chairman's Report *Gordon Bosch*
4. Treasurer's Report *Chris Forder*
5. Trust Report *Cliff Turk*
6. Any other urgent business
7. Election of Officers and Committee members:
 - Chairman *6. Abe Mohamed.*
 - Vice Chairman *4. Andrew Gray.*
 - Hon. Secretary *5. Steve Klein.*
 - Hon. Treasurer *3. Chris Forder.*
 - Members (Not less than 3, not more than 7)
 NB. A member of the Centre is eligible for election to the Committee after having been a fully paid-up member for at least one year.
 - 1. Paul Booth.*
 - 2. Richard Seaton.*
 - 3. Gordon Bosch.*
 - 4. Bernard Wagnier.*
 - 5. Paul.*
 - 6. Paul.*
 - 7. Paul.*
 - Hon. Auditor
 - Other appointments to be made are:
 - Centre Rep. on ASSA Council
 - Editor of "Cape Observer" newsletter
8. Welcome from new chairman
9. Outgoing chairman's address *Gordon Bosch*

*Booth
Bosch
Forder
Gray
Klein
Klein
Seaton
Wagnier*

AGENDA
CAPE CENTRE COMMITTEE MEETING 19th AUGUST 1997.

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of Committee Meeting, 6th May 1997.
3. Matters Arising.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Librarian's Report.
6. Ratify Portfolios of: Council Rep.
Librarian
Curator of Instruments
P R O/Media Liaison
Public Observing
Field Trips
Editor of Cape Observer-News
Letter
7. Speakers for forthcoming Wed. meetings.
September: 3rd. Pat Booth, 10th. (formal) Rupert Hurly
- "40th
Anniversary of Sputnik", 17th. Gordon Bosch, 24th.
Chris Forder.
October 1st, Andrew Gray.
8. Forthcoming "Dark Sky" outings to Durbanville Quarry?
9. Next Committee Meeting. October Tues.14th/18th?

CAPE CENTRE

ASSA

Minutes of the Committee meeting on 19th August 1997.

1. PRESENT:

P Booth, G Bosch, C Forder, A Gray, S Kleyn, A Mahomed (Chairman), G Quick, R Sessions, B Wagener.

2. APOLOGIES: Nil.

3. CHAIRMANS WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed the new committee which was elected at the AGM on 19th August 1997. He also advised that he had contacted Johan Kotze who had been nominated as a committee member at the AGM although not present. Johan has declined the nomination and has therefore been excluded from election.

4. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 6th MAY 1997:

The Minutes were taken as read and accepted. (Proposed A Gray, seconded G Bosch).

5. MATTERS ARISING:

Library: Abe Mahomed reported that a glass fronted Bookcase was available for R395 from a second-hand dealer. There was unanimous agreement to make this purchase, and Chris Forder approved the funding.

Schools Outreach: Andrew Gray reported that he had been able to hold an introductory "Space" lecture at the Kirstenhof Primary School which was enthusiastically received.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chris Forder reported that there was an error of R74.00 in the accounts which were presented at the AGM. This amount was "missing" due to his computer having "crashed". The amount cannot be traced and the accounts will be accordingly adjusted.

Donations continue to be very exceptional (including one anonymous one of R1000.) This, plus R600 from the Trust Fund would ensure the Centre would remain "solvent".

7. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:

The purchase of a bookcase has been approved (see 5. above).

The newsletter is to be used to request all members to scour their bookshelves for any books, charts etc. which could be donated to the library.

8. PORTFOLIOS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Council Representative; P Booth.

Librarian;

C Allen assisted by A Mahomed.

Curator of Instruments; R Sessions.
PRO/Media Liaison.; A Mahomed assisted by G Quick.
Public Observing; R Sessions.
Field Trips; G Bosch assisted by S Kleyn.
Observation Reports; B Wagener.
Newsletter Editor; A Jones. (Non comm).
Observing Guide/Advisor; C Turk. (Non comm).

9. FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS:

Sept 3rd; R Sessions - "Astro Slides"
10th; Formal. R Hurly - "40th Anniversary of Sputnik".
17th; Gordon Bosch - "Space Shuttle Discovery. Mission STS 51". (Video).
24th; Chris Forder - " Types of Telescopes and their Attributes".
Oct. 1st; Andrew Gray - "To Parabolise or not??"
8th; Formal.
15th; Steve Kleyn - "How High the Power?".
22nd; Abe Mahomed - TBA
29th; Gwynneth Quick - TBA
Nov. 5th; R Sessions - TBA
12th; Formal.
19th; Bernard Wagener - TBA.
26th; Gordon Bosch - TBA
Dec. 3rd; Chris Forder - TBA
10th; Annual Social.

10. TEA DUTIES:

Sept 10th, Gordon/Chris. Oct 8th, Bernard/Andrew.
Nov 12th, Steve/Gwynneth.

11. OBSERVING OUTINGS:

Sat 6th Sept - Quarry. Tues 16th Sept - Total Lunar Eclipse.
Proposed meeting at the car park at the top of Ou Kaapse Weg,
Silvermine at 18h30 for a picnic supper.
Dates will be decided for Oct, (if either of Sep's are clouded
out), Nov and Dec. Gordon to post timely notices at weekly
meetings.

12. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

Tues October 21st, 20h00, usual venue.

Mahomed
Forder
Sessions
Kleyn

CAPE CENTRE
COMMITTEE MEETING 21ST OCT. 1997

AGENDA.

1. Apologies:
2. Minutes of Committee Meeting, 19th Aug. 1997:
3. Matters Arising:
4. Treasurers Report:
5. Librarians Report:
6. Instruments:
7. Public Astronomy:
8. Field Trips/Observing Evenings:
9. Wednesday Meetings:
 - Oct. 29th; Gwynneth Quick - TBA
 - Nov. 5th; R Sessions - TBA
 - 12th; Formal.
 - 19th; Bernard Wagener - TBA.
 - 26th; Gordon Bosch - TBA
 - Dec. 3rd; Chris Forder - TBA
 - 10th; Annual Social.
 - Jan. 1998; 14th ? Formal
 - 21st; Andrew Gray.
 - 28th; Steve Kleyn.
 - Feb. 4th; Abe Mahomed.
 - 11th; Formal.
 - 18th; Gwynneth Quick.
 - 25th; Richard Sessions.
 - Mar. 4th; Bernard Wagener.
 - 11th; Formal.
 - 18th; Pat Booth.
 - 25th; Gordon Bosch.
10. Tea Duties:
 - Nov 12th, Steve/Gwynneth. Dec 10th- Social- All.
 - Feb 11th, Richard/Bernard. Mar 11th, Pat/Gordon.
11. Xmas Social; Organiser: (S. Kleyn will not be available).
12. Any Other Business:
13. Date of Next Meeting:

1. Present :
- A. Mahomed (Chair)
 - G. Quick
 - C. Forder
 - P. Booth
 - A. Gray
 - B. Wagener
 - R. Sessions
 - G. Bosch.

2. Apologies :
- S. Kleyn

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 19/08/1997 were taken as read, and accepted. They were proposed by A. Gray and seconded by B. Wagener.

4. Matters Arising

- The "loss" of R74.00 was clarified. It had not been lost but was there all the time and was re-discovered.
- A. Gray gave 3 lectures at schools with much success.
- A. Mahomed spoke to Greenfields School re lunar eclipses prior to the one on 16/09/97.

5. Treasurer's Report

C. Forder reported that there were 32 members who had not paid their subs. He had contacted most who promised they would pay soon. It was suggested that those people who had not paid would be suspended and that they would not receive the "Cape Observer" until subs had been paid. He said that the Society was working on a profit of R2,600.00 but that R1,000.00 of that would be put into the Trust. The amount of R228.00 had been harvested from the "Library / Donation Box".

Nearly R400.00 of subscriptions have already been paid in. However, last year, R390.00 had been paid. A. Gray suggested an increase in sub's. However, C. Forder reported that income was satisfactory due to savings, interest, the Trust, and donations. G. Bosch referred to six months ago when the option to increase sub's was nullified. C. Forder will look at the books and the situation will be reviewed next meeting.

b. Librarian's Report

A bookcase had been purchased. People are using the library, but not as well as had been hoped. C. Forder suggested to see what books are available and then to decide which ones to get. Members will look in the December issue of "Sky and Telescope" which advertises books as well as to consult the Willman-Bell catalogue. G. Bosch will E-mail W-B.

7. Instruments

R. Sessions reported that Marlon la Grange was working on the "blue thing" - the one donated by Frank Robilliard.

8. Public Astronomy

This would be resumed from around the end of the first week of November - 08/11/97. R. Sessions will contact Constantia Village Centre Parking management re maybe using this site as a venue. He will also investigate the possibility of using the old constantia village courtyard. This site was suggested by B. Wacener. G. Bosch made the suggestion of using Constantia Common.

9. Field Trips

The Committee was reminded re the Cedars weekend. It was decided that in summer, trips would be held once a month. The 29/11/97 was suggested as a possible date. The Southern suburbs was one option suggested. It was reported that a Peter van Blomenstein had contacted Tony Jones, and that he would help organise an evening at a school next to his house in Simonstown. Tony & Gordon will go and

assess the school and if found suitable will contact P. van Blomenstein who will then contact the authorities. The January date will be either the 24th or the 31st - depends on the weather. The site will be the Centerman's Kloof Quarry. In February, Peter Schönau, a new member will host the Society at his home in Paarl. He stays close to the Nature Reserve in Paarl. This trip will take the same form as that hosted by Ryan in Milnerton where a barbeque was held.

10. Wednesday Meethings

Names as per agenda will be moved one week downwards

November	Peter Marbree	Robotic Telescopes
February	Roberts (Paleontologist)	Footprints in Langebaan (Dinosaurs)
March	Peter Linder	Floral Evidence for Gondwanaland.

G. Bosch proposed a "Beginner's Programme" and sky talk. C. Turk had given such lectures in the past. Members had spoken to G. Bosch re basic astronomy and had requested such talks be included. A. Gray suggested giving five minute basic talks at the start of each evening. A. Mohamed said that members' opinions should be sought. A. Gray suggested that as a trial, from February 1998, one Wednesday a month on the first Wednesday a Beginner's talk will be given. This will be advertised on Radio, the Press and in the Newsletter. This was agreed upon by the Committee. A subcommittee consisting of G. Bosch, A. Gray and G. Quick will be formed. Their function will be to do the talks and draw up a syllabus.

11. Christmas Social

S. Kleyn will not be available and so G. Bosch assisted by A. Mohamed will do the organising. Both will have with Steve.

12. Other Business

G. Quick suggested live radio interviews to advertise the Society and get some publicity. This will be on KFM and FMR. The committee approved unanimously. R. Sessions suggested investigating AM 567 as well.

B. Wagener has completed coding his system.

It was also suggested to G. Quirk that she request the public (via Radio) to report on observations.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 20/01/98 20h00 Same Venue.

CAPE CENTRE
COMMITTEE MEETING 20TH JAN. 1998.

AGENDA.

1. Apologies:
2. Minutes of Committee Meeting, 21st Oct. 1997.
3. Matters Arising.
4. Treasurers Report.
5. Librarians Report.
6. Instruments.
7. Public Astronomy.
8. Field Trips/Observing Evenings.
9. Wednesday Meetings:
 - Jan. 28th; Steve Kleyn. *A.G.*
 - Feb. 4th; Abe Mahomed. *S.K.*
 - 11th; FORMAL. Roberts. "Footprints at Langebaan".
 - 18th; Gwyneth Quick. *A.M.*
 - 25th; Richard Sessions. *G.Q.*
 - March. 4th; Bernard Wagener. *R.S.*
 - 11th; FORMAL. Peter Linder. "Floral Evidence for Gondwanaland".
 - 18th; Pat Booth. *B.W.*
 - 25th; Gordon Bosch. *P.B.*
 - April. 1st; Chris Forder. *C.B.*
 - 8th; FORMAL. TBA.
 - 15th; Andrew Gray. *A.F.*
 - 22nd; Abe Mahomed. *A.G.*
 - 29th; Gwyneth Quick. *A.M.*
 - May. 6th; Richard Sessions. *G.Q.*
 - 13th; FORMAL. TBA.
 - 20th; Bernard Wagener. *R.S.*
 - 27th; Pat Booth. *B.W.*
10. Tea Duties; Feb 11th, Richard/Bernard. March 11th, Pat/Gordon. April 18th, Chris/Andrew. May 13th, Abe/Gwyneth.
11. Any Other Business. Beginners Course.
12. Date of next Meeting.

A S S A
CAPE CENTRE.

Minutes of the Committee meeting on 20th Jan. 1998.

1. Abe Mahomed welcomed all to the first meeting of 1998.
2. The full committee was present. No apologies.
3. The minutes of the meeting of 21st. Oct. 1997 were proposed and accepted as read.
4. Treasurers Report: Chris Forder confirmed that the decision last year not to increase subs but to request donations in lieu thereof, had worked well. The Centre stood at present with a "profit" of R600. There were only 9 defaulters on subs, R1858 had been collected from donations which with a further grant from the Trust fund brought in R2450. It was proposed and accepted that the same procedure be again adopted for the coming year. The editor of the Newsletter must be requested to make this announcement in forthcoming issues.
5. Librarians Report: Abe Mahomed had not made any particular choices of books to be obtained and requested all members to search sources such as Willman bell and S&T catalogues for material. Bernard Wagener said he had found some real bargains at the "Kilo Shop" in Tyger Valley. These shops are at several places and everyone who has the opportunity should try and do some browsing.
6. Instruments. Richard sessions said that there was no change to the status quo and Martin Legrange was still busy with restoring. It was proposed that the Centre obtain a low cost VCR and Monitor. This is to be held over for further discussion at a later date.
7. Public Astronomy: The V&A Waterfront has approached Richard Sessions to request that we stage a Star Party on St. Valentine's day (14th Feb). They are prepared to pay for two extra security guards to be attached specifically to our area, and are also prepared to give us our choice of site and parking! (They obviously have come to realise the attraction of our previous outings). The date however is co-incident with full moon and Richard will make a proposal for Feb. 7th. Pick 'n Pay, Constantia Village are interested and will be further sounded. The Council open area adjacent to the Shopping centre also has potential and will be further investigated.
8. Field Trips. Gordon Bosch has put forward a schedule for alternate monthly outings to the Quarry and to Paarl, with "backup" dates to accommodate weather washouts. The first is the Quarry, 24th Jan, alt. 31st. He has also requested the Cederberg Observatory to host the Centre on Sat. 24th. April.
9. The roster of speakers for the informal evenings proposed in the Agenda must be shifted forward by one week and now as follows:
Jan.8th; Andrew Gray.
Feb. 4th. Steve Kleyn.

- Feb. 11th. FORMAL. Roberts, "Footprints at Langebaan".
 18th. Abe Mahomed.
 25th. Gwyneth Quick.
- Mar. 4th. Richard Sessions.
 11th. FORMAL. Peter Linder, "Floral evidence for Gondwanaland".
 18th. Bernard Wagener.
 25th. Pat Booth.
- Apr. 1st. Gordon Bosch.
 8th. FORMAL. TBA.
 15th. Chris Forder.
 22nd. Andrew Gray.
 29th. Abe Mahomed.
- May. 6th. Gwyneth Quick.
 13th. FORMAL. TBA.
 20th. Richard Sessions.
 27th. Bernard Wagener.

10. The roster for tea duties was approved.

11. Other Business. A roster of Subjects for the proposed Beginners Courses has been prepared by Andrew Gray and was enthusiastically received. Presenters for each session are to be decided and it was agreed that these should be aimed at 10 minutes for presentation and

say 5 minutes for direct questions arising, further questions being handled during/after the rest of the evenings scheduled talk.

Andrew is to be congratulated for this very special effort. The Beginners Courses are to be given on the 1st. and 3rd. Wed. of each month and the Newsletter must publish details

Steve Kleyn gave formal notice that as he is soon moving to Hermanus he has to resign as Secretary, but will be maintaining membership of the Cape Centre. Gwyneth Quick was proposed and accepted to take over the portfolio.

As there is already one short on the Committee it was proposed that Martin Legrange be co-opted onto the Committee.

12. Special Business. Dr. Ian Glass joined the meeting for a short while to discuss the Centre's participation in the planning of the forthcoming Physics conference. He requested Treasury assistance. Chris Forder volunteered his help with setting up a Data Base to keep track of delegates names and details, fees paid/unpaid etc. he will liase directly with Dr. Glass on this. Dr. Glass will prepare an enrolment form and deal with the arranging of time-tables etc. The Centre will assist with staffing of reception tables and the hosting of an informal "Braai" for delegates. Abe Mahomed will maintain contact with Dr. Glass to make arrangements for further assistance as and when required.

13. Date of next meeting: Tues. March 24th.

CAPE CENTRE

COMMITTEE MEETING 24TH MARCH 1998

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Committee meeting held on 20th January 1998
3. Matters arising
4. Treasurer's report
5. Librarian's report
6. Instruments
7. Public Astronomy
8. Field trips and observing evenings
9. Wednesday meetings:

April

- 1st Gordon Bosch
- 8th Professor Brian Warner – **“Planets around other stars”**
- 15th Chris Forder
- 22nd Andrew Gray
- 29th Abe Mahomed

May

- 6th Gwynnèth Quick – **“From one extreme to the other”**
- 13th Professor Don Kurtz – **“UFO's and life in the Universe”**
- 20th Richard Sessions
- 27th Bernard Wagener

June

- 3rd Pat Booth
- 10th Formal – TBA
- 17th Gordon Bosch
- 24th Chris Forder

10. Tea duties:

- April - Chris and Andrew
May - Gwynnèth and Abe
June - Richard and Bernard

11. Beginners Course:

- April 1st Gwynnèth Quick - **“Looking at stars is looking back in time and history”**
- April 15th Gordon Bosch - **“Motion of inner and outer planets (Evening and Morning Star)”**
- April 29th Andrew Gray - **“Shooting Stars – Meteors and Meeteorites”**
- May 6th Gwynnèth Quick - **“Distance measurements – Astromical units. Light years and parsecs”**
- May 20th Gordon Bosch - **“The Milky Way – appearance changes throughout the year”**

12. Any other business
13. Date and venue of next meeting

File

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 1998

1. Members

1.1 *Apologies* - C. Forder

1.2 *Present*

- P. Booth
- G. Bosch
- A. Gray
- A. Mahomed (Chairman)
- G. Quick
- R. Sessions
- B. Wagener

1.2 *Absent without apology* - M. la Grange.

A quorum being present, the meeting was convened.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 1998

These were taken as read and were proposed by A. Gray and seconded by B. Wagener.

3. Matters arising:

Nil.

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer being at the Cedarberg, no report was given.

5. Librarian's Report

It was noted that the library was not being used as much as was anticipated, and thus it was suggested that the library be more actively marketed to people. Abe looked at books and reported that the **Oxford Dictionary of Astronomy** was available at Rondebosch Book Warehouse for R76.96. Books were generally highly priced, probably due to the monetary exchange rate. However, G. Bosch saw at Exclusive Books, "**Observing with Binoculars**" at a reasonable price, and it was suggested to Abe that he purchase it. The treasurer would be consulted about funds if further books are to be purchased. R Sessions reported that Technical Books puts out a rather good catalogue.

6. Instruments

Torben Martens is renovating the Larmouth Telescope.

Martin La Grange is still working on the blue tube telescope whose primary mirror has been aluminized.

7. Public Astronomy

A number of attempts have been made, but nothing got off the ground due to weather or other reasons. A tentative date of venue was suggested for **Friday 03 April 1998 at Constantia Village**. It all depends on how many telescopes are available. R. Sessions was to obtain permission and then report back to the Committee.

8. Field trips

As per list on notice board, Brian Skinner will coordinate the Eta aquarid meteor shower in May. Gordon Bosch is negotiating with the National Accelerator Centre for a society field trip. He said he wanted the Cedarberg Observatory to become a regular observing site for at least twice a year. He also suggested that the society make a Sutherland trip in September on Open Night. Richard Sessions suggested asking Sutherland for permission to use the site for two nights.

9. Wednesday nights

As per agenda.

10. Tea duties

As per agenda.

11. Beginners' Course

Going well.

12. Other business

- 12.1 ASSA Council has cancelled the symposium due to insufficient time to finalize arrangements. A letter has been sent from Brian Skinner to Gordon Bosch.
- 12.2 The ASSA AGM will be held on the **22nd July 1998** at the **SAAO**. The Cape Centre is to host the event. Thus, the informal meeting will be cancelled for that evening.
- 12.3 Abe said that the speaker giving the informal talks should shorten the talk to a maximum of half an hour on the nights when the beginners talks and sky talks are given.
- 12.4 Abe also said that Charles Allen should be acknowledged by perhaps making him an honorary member as per Section 10 of the Constitution. This was proposed by Andrew Gray and seconded by both Bernard Wagener and Pat Booth. Gordon Bosch is to design and make the certificate and Tony Jones will be consulted about the logo for said document. A date for the presentation was suggested as being **8 April 1998**.
- 12.5 The radio interview on FMR was discussed at length. Abe Mahomed and Gordon Bosch were both ~~strongly~~ opposed. Pat Booth ~~strongly~~ supported the venture. It was finally decided that **Gwynneth Quick** go ahead with the interview on **Thursday the 26th March** as has been arranged with FMR.

13. Date and venue of next meeting

Tuesday the 26th May 1998 at 20:00.
SAAO.

W.E. Mahomed

CAPE CENTRE
COMMITTEE MEETING 26TH MAY 1998

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Committee meeting held on 24th March 1998
3. Matters arising
4. Treasurer's report
5. Librarian's report
6. Instruments
7. Public Astronomy
8. Field trips and observing evenings
9. Wednesday meetings:

June

- 3rd Prof A P Fairall **Structures in the Universe**
(N.B. Venue: Education Building at UCT)
- 10th Dr Chris Koen **Discovery of a New Class of Pulsations**
- 17th Gordon Bosch **The Planet Hunters – BBC Horizon**
Video
- 24th Chris Forder **Catch that comet**

July

- 1st Andrew Gray **TBA**
- 8th Mr Geoff Evans **Some Aspects of Time**
- 15th Abe Mahomed **TBA**
- 22nd ASSA AGM hosted by the CC
- 29th Gwynneth Quick **Designs in the Heavens – Part II**

August

- 5th Richard Sessions
- 12th CC AGM

New Committee

10. **Tea duties:**
June - Richard and Gwynneth
July - Pat and Gordon
August - Chris and Andrew
11. **Beginners Course:**
 - June 17th Andrew Gray - **Why the moon stays "up". Artificial Satellites and the importance of them**
 - July 1st Gwynneth Quick - **Types of Stars – their sizes, colours and temperatures**
 - July 15th Gordon Bosch - **Globular Clusters, Nebulae and ~~Clusters~~ Galaxies**
 - July 29th Andrew Gray - **The magnitude scale – point and diffuse light sources**
12. Any other business
13. Date and venue of next meeting

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 1998

1. Members

- 1.1 *Apologies* - G Bosch
- 1.2 *Present* - P. Booth
 - C Forder
 - A. Gray
 - M La Grange
 - A. Mahomed (Chairman)
 - G. Quick
 - R. Sessions
 - B. Wagener

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 1998

These were taken as read and were proposed by A. Gray and seconded by C Forder.

3. Matters arising:

Amendments to item 12.5 of the 24th March 1998 were made and signed by the Secretary. The word "strongly" was deleted.

4. Treasurer's Report

It was noted that the Society would end up with a nett profit of around **R2 800,00** this year. There were losses for other years. There was **R2 070,00** in donations from members and **R600,00** from the endowment Trust. The new Treasurer will take over with a bank account of **R 2 400,00**. By keeping the Trust refilled, an income of around **R3 000,00** or **R4 000,00** a year would be possible. It was proposed to keep subscriptions to **R12,00** and **R6,00** a year. In the following year the Society will receive **R300,00** from the Trust, causing the Society to be around **R 1000,00** more even than last year. It was suggested that the Centre start planning the Photographic Competition for this November 1998. It was suggested that the Committee ask companies like Kodak for support. The competition shall be for Cape Centre members

only. Two judges should be seconded; one chief one and one on standby in case the chief one can't do it. It was suggested that Joe Joubert who won in 1996 have his plaque engraved and debit the expenses to the Society. The photographic competition shall constitute a separate item on the next agenda.

5. Librarian's Report

A Mahomed has purchased "**Exploring the Night Sky with Binoculars**" by Patrick Moore for R134,00 from Exclusive Books. The request for this has been noted in the previous minutes. A Gray donated "**From the Areatus Globe to the Zeiss Planetarium**" by H Werner. M La Grange suggested going to Cafda in Claremont which were reasonably priced. These books, however, are old but he said that he would go and investigate. It was reported that people are using the library.

6. Instruments

The 6 inch Robillard telescope is to be taken home by M La Grange and worked on during his winter vacation. The mirror is now aluminised and on its mount and is covered. M La Grange hopes to have it functional by the end of this year or early in the new year. Otherwise the instrument *status quo* is as before.

7. Public Astronomy

R Sessions reported back on the Constantia Village venture held on the 3rd April. The skies were good and the lights not obstructive. The venue was a reasonable one. There were small groups of people who were enthusiastic and who came and looked. He further reported that the security factor was not really good especially if there had been thugs around. Abe had contacted the authorities at Kenilworth Centre who seemed keen. However, C Forder who used to work there, said that it was not such a good idea. A Gray suggested perhaps a wine farm like Groot Constantia, whereupon C Forder suggested Spier and Oude Libertas. These ventures are weather-dependent and this is to be emphasised to the venue managers. On the 18th June, A Gray is to talk to Kirstenhof Primary School during school hours.

8. Field trips and observing evenings

As per notice board.

Quarry trip on **27th June** or **4th July**

Quarry trip on **22nd August** or **29th August**

There may be a Sutherland trip in November. This has still to be arranged. G Bosch is still not sure about the proposed trip to the Acceleration Centre.

9. Wednesday meetings

As per agenda list.

M La Grange has requested that he be not rostered for talks during the University terms. He may give a talk on the 1st July in case A Gray is unable to do his.

It was noted that the formal talk in June by Chris Koen is to be more on variable stars than pulsations.

10. Tea duties

- 10th June - Richard and Gwynnèth
 8th July - Pat and Gordon
 22nd July - Chris and Andrew
 12th August - Richard and Bernard

11. Beginners' Course

As per Agenda.

12. Any other business

- 12.1 Honorary memberships are to be awarded each year at the Cape Centre AGM. G Bosch has drawn up a sample of the certificate which was approved by the Committee. The nominees to be accoladed at the 1998 AGM are: **Path Booth, Cliff Turk, Rupert Hurley and Charles Allen.** **Allen Cameron** was mentioned, but he shall be considered at a later stage. B Wagener suggested that someone be accoladed each year at the AGM.
- 12.2 V Everett is to deliver a "brainteaser" problem before the main feature on the last Wednesday of each month. Said "brainteaser" shall involve Astronomy or Mathematics or Physics.
- 12.3 Two current members fall away in terms of the Constitution. They are: **C Forder** and **R Sessions.** Members to remain on the Committee are: **P Booth, G Bosch, A Gray, A Mahomed, G Quick, B Wagener** and **M la Grange.**

Nominees who shall be approached by the Secretary are: **R Bauer, B Skinner, A and V McConnell, M Christenson and C Turk. M Kruger** has already been approached and is to replace **C Forder** as Treasurer. ^{if elected.} Portfolios shall be drawn up once nominees have accepted their nominations.

13. Next meeting

Tuesday, 21st July 1998 at 20:00 at the SAAO.

A. J. Mahomed

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

1. **Members**

All Committee members being present, the Chairperson convened the meeting.

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 1998**

These were taken as read and were proposed by A. Gray and seconded by B. Wagener.

3. **Matters arising**

Item 12.3 was discussed and it was clarified that M. Kruger would assume the office of treasurer should she be elected to the Committee.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

There was a R1 400.00 profit. However, part of this profit would have to finance the photographic competition which could cost around R600.00. C Forder assured the Committee that the account books would be in order before the AGM next month. He reported that the Centre was R662.00 less in the previous financial year, and that donations have been good during the current financial year – hence the boost to the profits.

5. **Librarian's Report**

Nil of note.

6. **Instruments**

Status quo as before. ^{Martin} M la Grange reported that he will not complete restoration to the Robilliard telescope due to his scholastic commitments. Anyone who was keen to take over this task would be welcome.

7. Public Astronomy

It was decided that Kenilworth Centre was not a good venue due to security reasons. Martin suggested the Paul Roos High School grounds at Stellenbosch. They have a 12½ inch Newtonian telescope there of their own. He said he would get back to the Committee with more details. Much discussion ensued. Martin said he would arrange the venture. Andrew suggested rather to let the school arrange the venture and Bernard concurred with this. It was more sensible that the Centre only support the venture. Abe said that schools in the Cape Town Peninsula area be supported as well. Andrew said that if the Stellenbosch venture was successful, there would be a "ripple effect" and schools in Cape Town would get to hear about it. The best place for public/sidewalk astronomy is the Waterfront. Spier Wine Estate sounded good. It was emphasized that it was better to go someplace where people were not anticipating this astronomy. Richard reported that a Mr Theunissen from the Southern Peninsula Parks and Gardens has given the Centre blanket authority to have public astronomy anyplace so long as the person involved is informed.

8. Field trips and observing evenings

15th and 22nd August. Delene will get a cell phone for people to phone to at the observation site. The quarry venue is being re-assessed. Gordon reported that there was a new manager there. Tony had investigated the West Coast Show Ranch up the N7. He reported that it appeared a suitable site and that he would establish contact with the owners of the place. It was suggested that August's observing evenings be held there. Tony and Gordon will go and investigate the place one night soon.

9. Wednesday's Meetings

As per agenda.

10. Tea duties

As per agenda.

11. Beginners Talks

To be decided and reported to Tony.

12. Astrophotography Competition

David Malin is arriving on the 4th or 5th of September. It was re-iterated that he does not have to give a talk *per se* on the evening of the 9th of September, but merely a comment. He will be at Sutherland until the 6th of September. The general consensus is that the whole affair was rather rushed. Richard has contacted some sponsors. Kodak wanted a fax sent to them. He has also contacted Agfa. Martin had said he would do the cheese and wine and had worked out a complete budget for an estimated 50 people. His total was R410.00. Chris reported that this was too highly priced and that the previous cheese and wine cost only R183.00. Martin was given a figure of R250.00 to work with. The gift for David Malin was discussed, and it was suggested to get Joe to copy an historical picture of Omega Centauri which Cliff has and not to frame it since David Malin has to do a lot of travelling. Joe is covering the competition and must be re-imbursed. It was emphasized that D.M. must do the judging before the 9th so that the prizes could be bought/arranged and the certificates printed for the evening of the 9th. Case Rijdsdijk will be cornered on the night of the ASSA AGM and Cliff Turk shall be approached to talk to Case together with Richard. Entry forms will be in the next newsletter. Abe must contact the people on the list that he drew up and which was mentioned in the minutes of the special meeting held on 23 June 1998. Tony will emphasize in the newsletter that all appropriate photographs are welcome, and that the maximum number can be 6 per person. The Committee reserves the right to change the rules and entry specifications. If there are not enough entries by 9th September, then as a last resort, the event would have to be postponed to November. Every Wednesday, the Committee will have spontaneous meetings concerning the competition. We have to move fast!

13. Any other business

The forthcoming Cape Centre AGM was discussed. The agenda would be more or less the same as before. Nominations for office are as follows:

Chairperson	-	Abe Mahomed
Vice	-	Andrew Gray
Secretary	-	Gwynnèth Quick
Treasurer	-	Michelle Kruger

Nominations for other portfolios on the Committee are:

Brian Skinner
Mike Christianson
Andrew McConnell
Gordon Bosch
Pat Booth
Bernard Wagener
Martin la Grange

The Sutherland trip will be discussed once Brian is on the Committee.
He is negotiating with John Caldwell.

14. Date and venue of next meeting

The next Tuesday after the AGM.

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

MINUTES FROM 21/07/98

1. Members

All Committee members being present, the Chairperson convened the meeting.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 1998

These were taken as read and were proposed by A. Gray and seconded by B. Wagener.

3. Matters arising

Item 12.3 was discussed and it was clarified that M. Kruger would assume the office of treasurer should she be elected to the Committee.

4. Treasurer's Report

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9. Wednesday's Meetings

As per agenda.

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As per agenda.

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Pat Booth
Bernard Wagener
Martin la Grange

The Sutherland trip will be discussed once Brian is on the Committee.
He is negotiating with John Caldwell.

14. Date and venue of next meeting

The next Tuesday after the AGM.

R. S. McDonald

REPORT ON THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
OBSERVATORY ON TUESDAY EVENING THE

TO DISCUSS THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION
MEETING HELD AT THE
23/06/98.

AGENDA AS SUPPLIED BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. Preparation

1.1 Sub/Whole committee

- Convenor

1.2 Publicity

- Posters

- Newsletter

- Other means / Telephone

- Entrants

1.3 Miscellaneous

- Entry forms

- Categories

- Preparation of Photographs

- Prizes / Gifts

- Preparation of the Hall

2. Programme for the Night of 09/09/98

2.1 Preview

2.2 Awards

2.3 Talk

2.4 Cheese & Wine

2.5 Press release in Sky & Telescope

2.6 Other



P. T. O.

MINUTES

All committee members were present except for Andrew Cross who had tendered his apology.

1.1 It was resolved that the Committee would work together as a working group to get the Photographic competition under control. It was further resolved to appoint Richard as the Convenor who shall be able to delegate people to carry out various tasks. Richard shall liaise with Gordon who shall be his consultant / advisor.

1.2 Tony shall advertise the competition in the Cape Observer. Gordon shall design and print the poster. About 13 entrants have already been proposed. The Chairman has the 13th. A deadline for entries was settled on to be 26/05/98. Entry shall be free.

1.3 Instead of "Category" to describe the entrants as was on the previous entry form, said form shall have "experience" on it. The rules shall be the same as in 1996. Entry forms shall be distributed in the Cape Observer as well as being available at the Centre. Richard shall choose around four persons to help him with the preparation of the hall as well as passing the photographs onto the boards. It was noted that in 1996, Kodak donated prizes and other articles, and Nover also assisted with the donations. It was resolved that for the 1998, the working group shall get sponsors & donors for prizes and funds. Members of the Cape Centre could be approached & they shall remain anonymous. It was noted that Joe Joubert knows a lady from Kodak. Gordon shall speak to Joe & get her name, whereupon Richard shall speak to her. It was suggested that the working group consider getting a gift for David Malin. Chris Forder shall give a break-down on what was expended in 1996.

3)

2. 2.1 Both Cass Ridsdijk & David Malin shall be contacted, the former to attempt to establish precisely what the latter's itinerary or schedule is for the time he is here. David Malin shall be appraised of what is expected of him. He shall be liaised with in regard to when he shall be available to review the entries. It was suggested he judge the entries 24 hours in advance if possible.
- 2.2 Gordon shall collect the floating trophy award from Joe Joubert & have the plaque engraved.
- 2.3 The talk shall be restricted to around half an hour & the contents are to be the choice of David Malin.
- 2.5 It was suggested that Joe & Audrey Joubert cover the event & jointly send the write-up to Sky & Telescope for publication. Joe was suggested as being the photographer & Audrey as the journalist.
- 2.6 It was emphasised that the competition be restricted to photographs only. I.e., no slides, CCD computers, etc. Gwyneth is to investigate the possibility of citochrome prints being done at BCTO or a similar facility.

Astronomical Society of Southern Africa
Cape Centre
P O Box 13018
MOWBRAY
CAPE TOWN
7705

Telephone (Secretary): (021) 685-6214

16 August 1998

The Honorary Secretary
ASSA
P O Box 9
OBSERVATORY
7935

Dear Sir

CAPE CENTRE - NEW COMMITTEE 1998/1999

At the Annual General Meeting which took place on the 12th August 1998, a new Committee was elected as follows:

Chairman	:	Dr A E Mahomed
Vice Chairman	:	Mr M A Gray
Honorary Secretary	:	Ms G Quick
Honorary Treasurer	:	Ms M Kruger
Council Representative	:	Miss P Booth
Committee Members	:	Mr G Bosch
		Mr M Christianson
		Mr A McConnell
		Mr B Skinner
		Mr B Wagener

Mr A B Jones has been re-appointed as **Editor** of the "Cape Observer" Newsletter.

Yours faithfully



G QUICK
HONORARY SECRETARY

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12th August 1998

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

GENERAL REMARKS

There has been growth and development of the Cape Centre over the past year. This has been largely due to team work by the Committee and some of the members. We have a talented team which not only showed enthusiasm but could also be relied on to do tasks given to them. Thanks also to those who regularly attend our meetings.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS

This has been our main activity.

There were 9 FORMAL MEETINGS. Topics varied from aspects of our Home Planet to planets around other stars. We also had talks on the 40th Anniversary of Sputnik, Our Cosmic Connection, Robotic Telescopes, Fibre Optics at the SAAO, Clouds of Small Dust Grains, variable stars, UFO's and Life in the Universe. These meetings were usually well attended and on a few occasions we had full houses.

The INFORMAL MEETINGS were reasonably well attended with an average of about 30 people. Topics varied from The History of Astronomy to improving your own Astronomy, from Mythology to debunking of Myths. Interesting video and audio tapes dealing with astronomy were also presented.

OTHER LECTURES

Our members attended lectures by VISITING LECTURERS.-

Sir Martin Rees, Prof. Gibor Basri, and a person from the Dark Sky Association.

We also attended the memorable Inaugural Lecture of Prof. A.P. Fairall.

BEGINNER'S COURSE

Special mention must be made of this Course which started at the beginning of this year. Well designed and well presented by the trio of Andrew Gray Gordon Bosch and Gwynneth Quick. Unfortunately not enough beginners attended these talks. However, it is always worthwhile going Back to Basics.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

FIELD TRIPS

We had 5 successful Star Parties . Two additional ones were cancelled due to bad weather.

Most of these were held at the Conteman's Kloof Quarry . Unfortunately this venue is no longer suitable and our scouts are busy looking for another venue .

Our trips to the Cederberg Obsevatory at the end of Oct. '97 and April this year were very successful and indeed memorable . It gave members an insight into what some of our members have been doing to advance Astronomy .

We were also invited to our members' residences e.g. at Peter and Jutta Schonau's place in Paarl .

Other activities under this heading the following can be mentioned :-

The Total Lunar Eclipse on the 16th Sept. '97 . at Silvermine was watched by about a dozen members and the general public

Planetary Occultation 14th Feb. '98 at Paarl ,

Lunar " 30th May at Observatory .

In addition some members arranged outings to do Meteor Counts and to view Comet SOHO .

PUBLIC VIEWING

We consider this as an important interface with the Public . Since finding the Waterfront unsatisfactory we have been looking for other suitable venues but without success . Maybe we should we re-visit the Waterfront . We welcome suggestions by our members to the new Committee .

The "CAPE OBSERVER"

As you know Tony Jones is not on the Committee but has regularly produced the excellent Newsletter. In addition has been a star at the Star Parties together with others and has on a number of occasions demonstrated the Night Sky to our members just outside this venue. Thank you. Discontinued *

The LIBRARY

After we acquired a bookcase our Library was moved out of the kitchen to where everybody can see it . We have bought a number of books and members have also

made generous donations of books and monies . Thank you .

The library is not been used by members to the extent it should .

OPEN NIGHTS AT SAAO

These are held on the 2nd Sat. of each month .
Our members help in exposure of the general public to astronomy . A total of 533 persons attended from Sept. 1997 till Aug. 1998

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

On behalf of the Society I wish to thank the outgoing Committee and specifically Chris Forder and Richard Sessions for their valuable contribution. The two will not be eligible for re-election , but I am quite sure they will continue to help as ordinary members . We urge ordinary members to take a greater part in the activities of the Centre .

**ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
(CAPE CENTRE)**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 12TH AUGUST 1998

1. Apologies

The Chairman welcomed 26 members to the AGM at 20h05. Apologies were tendered by :
Thomas Turner,
Martin La Grange,
Rupert Hurley, and
Maciej Soltynski.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on the 12th of August 1998

The minutes were read out by the Secretary, and were proposed as accepted by Mr M.A. Gray and seconded by Mr A.B. Jones. There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman commented on the growth and development of the Cape Centre over the previous year. He said that the Committee had worked together enthusiastically as a team. There were nine formal meetings which were well attended. The informal meetings had also been well attended by an average of 30 people. He mentioned that the Beginner's Course had been good and that it had been good to get back to basics. He also mentioned the five successful field trips which had been enjoyed by those present. Two such trips had been cancelled due to inclement weather. He said that the Cederberg weekends had been greatly appreciated, and thanked those people associated with the Observatory. He made mention of various other astronomical events attended by interested members of the Centre; planetary occultations, the total lunar eclipse, and comet observations. The Chairman thanked Mr Jones for his outstanding production of the "Cape Observer". He further thanked the Committee for their invaluable support during the year of his Chairmanship.

4. Treasurer's Report

Mr Forder reported that the profit for 1998 was R1,274 and this was reflected on the balance sheet as an increase in savings accounts balance. This was even after giving R1,000.00 back to the Trust. He said that the donation of R1,000.00 given during 1997 was given directly to the Trust. The suggestion was made that the subscription fees be maintained at their current rate. He made mention that the interest gained on monies banked had not been as high as would be expected due to a general decrease in interest rates. The expenditure on gifts for guest speakers was lower this financial year since the price for each coffee cup was lower – R7.50. Mr Forder emphasised that the forthcoming Astrophotography Competition would consume some extra funds. He further reported that the total assets for this financial year had come up from R8,421.07 at the end of the previous financial year to R9,811.25. The funds from the voluntary box had increased from R288.62 to R767.28, even though two books had been bought. Mr M.A. Gray congratulated Mr Forder for a very well-presented Statement. Mr C. Turk proposed that the report be accepted and Mr V. Everett seconded the motion.

5. Trust Report

Mr C, Turk reported that the *status quo* was essentially the same as the previous year. He said that monies had come in reasonably well. The Capital, which cannot be spent, had stayed the same. The distributable reserve had increased rather well – R10,525.46. He reported that there was a good reserve in the fund. He suggested that if any member of the Cape Centre required a part of the fund as a donation for a project they were involved in, they could submit an application for funds to the Trustees. Said application should be submitted from the Committee or from the Centre as a whole. The Trustees would then assess the request. Mr Turk gave a brief history of how the Trust was originated.

The report was proposed as accepted by Mr C. Forder and seconded by Mr M.A. Gray.

6. Honorary Member's Awards

The following members were made Honorary Members:

Charles Allen

Pat Booth

Rupert Hurley (*in absentia*)

Clifford Turk

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Election of Officers

Chairman	Dr A.E. Mahomed
Vice-Chairman	Mr M.A. Gray
Secretary	Mz G. Quick
Treasurer	Miss M. Kruger
Committee	Mr. G. Bosch
	Miss P. Booth
	Mr M. Christianson
	Mr A. McConnell
	Mr B. Skinner
	Mr B. Wagener

The above persons were unanimously accepted by the floor and were duly elected.

9. Chairman's Address

The Chairman spoke about the Golden Age of Cosmology using Peter Coles as his reference. He emphasised how technology has allowed us to reach depths and precision hitherto unimaginable.

Astronomy has played an important role in the following:

- The Hubble Space Telescope launched in 1990 and repaired in 1993
- Discovery of new planets
- The missions and probes sent out to explore new territories
- The development of CCD cameras and robotics
- The idea that the neutrino has mass
- The development and building of SALT
- Globalisation and information technology.

He said that we are very fortunate to be living in this age.

After thanking the Centre for their confidence in him to elect him for another period of office as Chairman, he welcomed in the new Committee and declared the meeting over at 21h05.

A.E. Mahomed

gm

**CAPE CENTRE
COMMITTEE MEETING - 18TH AUGUST 1998
AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Committee meeting held on 21st July 1998
3. Matters arising
4. Treasurer's report X
5. Librarian's report *Charles Allan / Abe Mahomed*
6. Instruments *Brian / MSC*
7. Public Astronomy *MSC / Brian Skinner* — 28/11/98 SABC grounds
8. Field trips and observing evenings *Gordon Bosch / Andrew McConnell*
9. PRO Abe *Director of Obs - Bernard / Pat*
Wednesday Meetings

September

- 2nd **Christianson** *Maarten Martiniussen 15 min*
- 9th Astrophotography Competition – David Malin
- 16th Prof Maarten de Wit – to be confirmed
- 23rd Gray
- 30th McConnell

Sutherland 21/11/98 (20+21)
Cedarberg - Oct

Orionids Oct 21
Lionids Nov 14-20¹⁷
Geminids 14 Dec

October

- 7th Mahomed
- 14th Prof Eric Harley: **Origins of Life**
- 21st Quick
- 28th Skinner

November

- 4th Wagener
- 11th Prof Alan Morris: **Human Evolution in the Universe**
- 18th Bosch
- 25th **Christianson**

December

- 2nd Gray
- 9th End of year function

10. Tea duties:
 - 16th of September : *Skinner* **Bosch and Christianson***
 - 14th of October : Gray and McConnell
 - 11th of November : Mahomed and Quick

- X 11. Beginners Course — *remain*
12. Astrophotography Competition
13. Any other business
14. Date and time of next meeting — *Oct Tues - 10/11/98*

Oct 13th

— Oct Tues - 10/11/98

ASSA CAPE CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 18 AUGUST 1998

The Chairman welcomed those present to the first Committee Meeting of the new financial year. He especially welcomed the new members

1. Members

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1.1 | <i>Present</i> | - | A Mahomed (Chairman) |
| | | - | G Bosch |
| | | - | M Christianson |
| | | - | A McConnell |
| | | - | G Quick |
| | | - | B Skinner |
| | | - | B Wagener |
| 1.2 | <i>Apologies</i> | - | P Booth |
| | | - | A Gray |
| | | - | M Kruger |

2. Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 21th July 1998

These were read by the Secretary and proposed by B Wagener and seconded by G Bosch. There were no matters arising.

3. Portfolios of Committee Members

G Bosch suggested that we need to have a kind of director of observing to take care of the practical side of observing. This person would instruct people how to determine magnitudes, etc. and demonstrate technique. There was a proposal that others (someone like Tony Jones) help with field trips and special observations. So the portfolios settled on are as follows:

Field trips and observing evenings:	:	G Bosch and A McConnell
Public Astronomy	:	M Christianson and B Skinner
Curator of Instruments	:	B Skinner
Librarians	:	C Allen and A Mahomed
Public Relations Officers	:	A Mahomed and G Quick
Observation Reports	:	B Wagener and P Booth
Special Observations	:	B Skinner and A Jones (<i>ad hoc</i>)

4. Treasurer's Report

Nil of note.

5. Librarian's Report

This was covered by the Chairman in his AGM report.

6. Instruments

M la Grange has to bring back any equipment he has at home. R Sessions has to bring the Ron Atkins telescope back so that it may be used on field trips and observing evenings.

7. Public Astronomy *- Use to advertise 28/11*

The 28th of November was suggested as being a prospective date for this. B Skinner suggested to use the area in Sea Point outside/opposite the SABC studios.

8. Field trips and observing evenings

There will be nothing formal in September. It was suggested by G Bosch that in October, the Centre proceed to a farm in Darling where one of the members lives. This will be further investigated. G Bosch had proposed a Cederberg trip in October but due to the Sutherland trip in November, he thought that two "long distance" trips would be a bit too much. Re the Sutherland trip, B Skinner rejected the original proposal and has since got an updated, more amenable proposal. He is still liaising with the authorities and negotiating with them. He will present a complete report once he has more information. It was agreed upon that all interested Cape Centre people be involved. The Leonids should be observed on the Sutherland trip and the Geminids be observed on a dark sky evening in December up the N7. The visits to Faure and the Met Office will be dealt with next year.

9. Wednesday evenings

Roster as per agenda.

B Skinner suggested that the informal meetings be much less formal with a lot of invited discussion. G Bosch said rather to give the host a free choice. A Mahomed agreed with the idea of much more participation from the audience.

10. Tea duties

As per agenda except that B Skinner is to replace G Bosch.

11. Beginners' talks

G Bosch suggested a more intensive attack, something like a workshop. Something more than ten minutes. The course will be given a break and then re-run. A suggestion was that A Jones take the last Wednesday of the month and do a thorough sky talk.

12. Astrophotography competition

The Convenor (*in absentia*) suggested phoning those people on the list to ascertain who are definitely submitting photographs. The 29th of August was decided upon to mount the photographs and set up the hall. R Sessions is to check that all the necessary equipment is available for the afternoon's work. B Skinner will do the spreadsheets for the competition. G Bosch will prepare the certificates, and assisted by A McConnell, he will cater for the cheese and wine. R Sessions should organise the gift vouchers from Noyes. An animated discussion ensued re the MC for the evening. It was unclear whether David Malin would be arriving with a companion. It was finally agreed upon that the following people would assist with the running of the evenings event:

A Mahomed	:	Host
C Rijdsijk	:	Introduce David Malin
A Gray	:	MC and list reader
G Quick	:	Shuffle prizes and certificates
R Sessions	:	Vote of thanks

13. Any other business

B Skinner said that we should welcome any new members and visitors who we see. We should do it as a Committee. We should make people feel welcome and stimulate their interest. Their level of expertise should be found out. Maybe we should wear identity tags/badges or something. The suggestion was also made to publicise the Centre on open nights at the Observatory. G Bosch said to get a Beginners' Pack distributed to all new, interested people. Re C Turk's suggestion that the Trust can donate funds to people who need it for special projects, G Bosch mentioned the Total solar eclipse in ?2001 and said that the Trust could help with the funding thereof. The optimal place for viewing will be the Kruger Park. Everyone was most zealous.

14. Date and time of next meeting

13th of October at 20:00 at the Observatory

ASSA CAPE CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 18 AUGUST 1998

The Chairman welcomed those present to the first Committee Meeting of the new financial year. He especially welcomed the new members

1. Members

- 1.1 *Present*
- A Mahomed (Chairman)
 - G Bosch
 - M Christianson
 - A McConnell
 - G Quick
 - B Skinner
 - B Wagener
- 1.2 *Apologies*
- P Booth
 - A Gray
 - M Kruger

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4. Treasurer's Report

Nil of note.

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14. Date and time of next meeting

13th of October at 20:00 at the Observatory

A. Mahomed

N.B. ASSA name Tag. For Southland
No lights on bright!

CAPE CENTRE

COMMITTEE MEETING - 13TH OCTOBER 1998

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Committee meeting held on 18th August 1998
3. Matters arising
4. Treasurer's report
5. Librarian's report
6. Instruments
7. Public Astronomy
8. Field trips and observing evenings
9. Wednesday Meetings
qv previous agenda of 18th August 1998
10. Tea duties:
qv previous agenda of 18th August 1998
11. Astrophotography Competition – report back
12. Any other business
13. Date and time of next meeting

20/11 1st formal meeting McConnel
26/11th Committee meeting
27/11-12 2 formal meetings McConnel
2/23/12 Quick

Wine for Xmas party
Beers
Cool drinks
Vote of Thanks

ASSA CAPE CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 13 OCTOBER 1998

1. Apologies

M Kruger. Otherwise everyone else was present.

2. Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 18th August 1998

Taken as read. It was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved and accepted.

3. Matters arising

G Bosch had comments re the workshop and said it should have been discussed elsewhere other than in item 11.0. The beginners' packs mentioned in item 13 were discussed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Nil of note. C Forder should give one of the Committee members the financial "notes" so that that member can appraise the Committee of the *status quo*.

5. Librarian's Report

Nothing much.

6. Instruments

Richard Sessions has the Ron Atkins Telescope. B Skinner said that, if possible, it must go to Sutherland.

7. Public Astronomy

Planned for **Saturday 28 November 1998** from **20:00** onwards. Place: **outside the SABC in Sea Point**. MC had looked at the site and had found it acceptable. AM will advertise the event via radio and the press. It will be the last public astronomy event for the year.

8. Field trips and observing evenings

- 17 October 1998** - **Hermanus**
- End of October** - **UCT – Occultation of Jupiter by the moon.**
- November** - **Sutherland**
- 12 December 1998** - **Dark sky evening – N7 Ostrich Farm**
- Orionids** - **20th to 21st of October.** BS and TJ will co-ordinate this.
- Leonids** - **November.** Tony is trying to get out to ^{Darling} Darnall and he and BS are attempting to arrange a site out there. They'll report back in due course.

It was suggested that everyone be included in meteor shower observations and make the occasion like a field trip.

AM read out the conditions specified by John Caldwell re the Sutherland trip. BS said that there should not be a ban on ASSA-CC people from going into the domes. He verified that it should be possible for ASSA-CC's to go into the domes. Re the Sutherland trip, those going must remain behind after the regular meeting on 18 November 1998 to be briefed. BS is to co-ordinate arrivals and where people will set up camp.

GB spoke re the workshop and has contacted Tim Cooper.

Vanrhynsdorp was discussed - ? next year.

9. Wednesday meetings

As on list. Two formal speakers have been arranged for ^{Feb} January and February 1999.

10. Tea duties

As on list.

11. Astrophotography Competition

This was declared a great success. The certificates are to be handed out at the formal in October. BW suggested that for future such events the names go onto the boards as soon as the judging's done. The photographs must come down as soon as possible and given back to their owners.

12. Other business

TJ has resigned as editor of the "Cape Observer" and thus a new editor must be sought after. The person does not necessarily have to be on the Committee. The vacancy will be advertised at the meetings.

MC said the interactions at the informals should be less like "chit-chat" and that the meeting should be more structured. The environs of the Centre have become rather familiar and respect should be somewhat encouraged.

More "license disc holders" should be made. This was put forward by AG. BS is to speak to Audrey Joubert. Those going to Sutherland will have the logo as their ID. May be put some as ID on the cars.

Clothing was discussed as Cape Centre memorabilia. GQ suggested a windbreaker thing and AMcC suggested a cap. BS liked the idea and spoke re a silk-screening venture.

December social was discussed. Everyone is to bring edibles. MC will arrange the CH₃CH₂OH and AM will arrange the juices and fizzies.

13. Next Year's Meetings

Committee meeting on **26 January 1999**.
Next year's meetings start on **20 January 1999**.

- Prospective list: **20 January 1999** - **AMCC**
- 27 January 1999** - **AM**
- 3 February 1999** - **GQ**
- 10 February 1999** - **Formal**
- 17 February 1999** - **BS**
- 24 February 1999** - **BW**

Booth Bosch etc

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

--- FROM YOUR SECRETARY ---

ASSA CAPE CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 13 OCTOBER 1998

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M Kruger. Otherwise everyone else was present.

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Taken as read. It was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved and accepted.

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- Prospective list: **20 January 1999 - AMCC**
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- 3 February 1999 - GQ**
- 10 February 1999 - Formal**
- 17 February 1999 - BS**
- 24 February 1999 - BW**

☆☆

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

--- FROM YOUR SECRETARY ---

☆☆

A. S. Mohamed

**ASSA CAPE CENTRE
COMMITTEE MEETING - 26th JANUARY 1999**

AGENDA

1. ✓ Apologies ✓ none
2. ✓ Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 13th October 1998
3. ✓ Matters arising ✓
4. ✓ Treasurer's report ✓ Treasurer? split?
5. ✓ Librarian's report ✓
6. ✓ Council Representative's report
7. ✓ Instruments
8. ✓ Public astronomy — 27th Feb. moon + Saturn
 ASAT Symposium
 29th + 30th March
 Tea + eats for Mon 29th 8.00
 8.30
9. ✓ Field trips and observing evenings
 20th Feb ostrich farm
10. ✓ Wednesday meetings - see roster
 20th Mar - 17th → Cedarburg
 15th May
 June x
 10th July
 luncheon 16th Feb
 Tues.
11. ✓ Tea duties - see roster
12. ✓ Any other business - newsletter
13. Date and time of next meeting

Tues 23 March

MINUTES OF THE ASSA-CC MEETING - 26/01/99

1. *Apologies*

None

2. *Minutes of the committee meeting held on 13 10 98*

These were taken as read and were approved and accepted.

3. *Matters arising*

Nil, except for items 9 (Darling instead of Darnall), and 10 (February and March instead of January and February).

4. *Treasurer's Report*

Chris Forder gave the Chairman the current status. See sheet. Michelle Kruger has not been to any meetings and according to the constitution, she then ceases to hold that office. Consequently, she ceases to be a member of the Committee. The CC recognises that a new treasurer need to be appointed since Michelle Kruger has met with unforeseen circumstances. Michelle will be sent a copy of these minutes and her attention shall be drawn to this matter. Andrew McConnell reported that Peter Schonau's wife had experience with accountancy, but it was resolved to rather approach the Centre for a candidate first, and then approach her.

5. *Librarian's Report*

It was agreed that the library and its use should be extended. It was reported that some new books had been donated. Andrew Gray reported that a Sale was going on at Exclusive Books, and that someone should go there and see whether there were any appropriate books.

6. *Council Representative's Report*

Pat Booth reported that the Council Meeting is to be held on the 09/02/99. It was also reported that the ASSA is having a symposium at the SA Museum on the 29th and the 30th of March. Brian Skinner said that there might be a function on the Monday night. Last time there was a barbeque at the SAAO. He suggested to host a tea by the CC to go with a tour of the premises. There should be about 80 people. He said that barbrques are too much work. The Council/Committee is to assess the costs of a tea so that they know what to charge the delegates. The final preparation is to be done at the next CC Committee meeting. The suggestion to host a tea was readily accepted by the Committee. Gordon suggested to have some savory snacks as well as the cakes and sweet things suggested by Brian. He (BS)

will work out the cost.

7. Instruments

The Ron Atkins Telescope needs to be serviced well and rather soon. It was reported that it is not working as well as it could do. The mirror is at fault. Brian said that Cliff Turk has it at the moment and he hoped that Cliff would do the repairs. Gordon reported that a non-member has a telescope that he would like to sell, and would it be OK if said person advertised it at the CC. The Committee said that it would be acceptable to put the notice on the board.

8. Public Astronomy

Mike suggested the 27/02/99 at the same venue in Sea Point as the last time. He reported that the last one in November was a success. Abe will do the advertising.

9. Field Trips and Observing Evenings

Gordon suggested the following dates:

20/02/99 Ostrich Farm
20/03/99 Ostrich Farm
17/04/99 Weekend away at the Cederberg
15/05/99 Ostrich Farm
10/07/99 Ostrich Farm

He reported that the Cederberg weekend was Bill Hollenbach's weekend. He also said that there will be no observing evening in June.

The Annular Solar Eclipse on the 16/02/99 was discussed and it was resolved to go to Rhodes' Memorial to observe it.

10. Wednesday Meetings

The Secretary had drawn up the list until the AGM (Qv). The Chairman reported that the March Formal will be given by Tom Lloyd Evans who will speak about "Star Atlases available to the Amateur". Andrew Gray verified that the April Formal will be given by Ken Peck whose topic will be "Miniaturisation of things used for GPS". Prospective speakers for the ensuing formals were Tony Fairall, David Laney, and someone from Sunsat once it had been launched. Gordon also suggested that we enquire about Astronomers visiting from other countries.

11. Tea Duties

See list drawn up by the Secretary.

12. Any Other Business

Beginner's handouts need to be given out to beginners. Concerning the Newsletter, the Chairman thanked Mike Christianson for taking on the responsibility. He is to be assisted by Tony Jones and Max Maxwell-Hafen. Bernard enquired about Sutherland. Brian said that we were not impressed with what transpired there. He had not heard from John Caldwell until this week. He also said that the Committee should have a meeting with the Powers that Be before this year's Open Night and be involved with the organisation. Bernard remarked about the low cost of the Photographic Competition. Andrew Gray mentioned videos and said that the CC should start a tape library as an extension to the existing library. Gwynneth spoke about getting a monitor and a play-back machine, and suggested that the CC approach the Trust for financial assistance in this respect. Brian accoladed this idea and said that she should write to the CC Trust Secretary with an estimate of cost. Brian also said that visitors should be especially welcomed. Andrew Gray spoke about ID's for the Committee for the purpose of new people being able to see who is whom. Abe will see if he can get ID's made. Visitors should not be neglected, it was emphasised. The Beginner's Talks should be started up again, in conjunction with Tony's sky talks. But each only once a month. Brian said to let people look through the telescopes on the premises. The Beginners Talks are to start in the third week of February, and every third Wednesday of every month. The idea will be thrown open to the floor at the next Wednesday meeting to get some feedback. Gwynneth volunteered to be the co-ordinator.

13. Date and Time of the next Meeting

23/03/99 at the SAAO at 20h00.

INCOME STATEMENT : 01/07/98 to 31/01/99

~~SALES~~
Income

SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,284.00	
STOCK SALES	90.00	
DONATIONS	813.00	2,187.00
<hr/>		
COST OF SALES		
OTHER INCOME		
• Interest Received	278.84	278.84
		<hr/>
		2,465.84
EXPENSES		
ASTRO PHOTO COMTETITION	991.32	
NEWSLETTER	854.90	
BANK CHARGES	19.00	
MEETING EXPENSES	24.98	
SUNDRY EXPENSES	20.00	1,910.20
		<hr/>
NET PROFIT / (LOSS) BEFORE TAX		555.64
NET PROFIT / (LOSS)		<u>555.64</u>



R 556

Profit 17/1/99

Income

books	1200.00	
...	20.00	
* S. ...	120.00	
Don ...	600.00	1975
		<hr/>
		1531

Expenses

* 6 mths ...	1200.00	
Xmas Party	265.43	} 193.00
Raffle	107.00	
	65.00	
Receipt book	30.00	
Meetings	50.00	
Cost of Ads Sold	58.00	
		<hr/>
		1581

Ev Profit for year

R 1581

R 1581

MINUTES OF THE ASSA-CC MEETING - 26/01/99

1. Apologies

None

2. Minutes of the committee meeting held on 13 10 98

These were taken as read and were approved and accepted.

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will work out the cost.

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The Ron Atkins Telescope needs to be serviced well and rather soon. It was reported that it is not working as well as it could do. The mirror is at fault. Brian said that Cliff Turk has it at the moment and he hoped that Cliff would do the repairs. Gordon reported that a non-member has a telescope that he would like to sell, and would it be OK if said person advertised it at the CC. The Committee said that it would be acceptable to put the notice on the board.

8. Public Astronomy

Mike suggested the 27/02/99 at the same venue in Sea Point as the last time. He reported that the last one in November was a success. Abe will do the advertising.

9. Field Trips and Observing Evenings

Gordon suggested the following dates:

20/02/99 Ostrich Farm
20/03/99 Ostrich Farm
17/04/99 Weekend away at the Cederberg
15/05/99 Ostrich Farm
10/07/99 Ostrich Farm

He reported that the Cederberg weekend was Bill Hollenbach's weekend. He also said that there will be no observing evening in June.

The Annular Solar Eclipse on the 16/02/99 was discussed and it was resolved to go to Rhodes' Memorial to observe it.

10. Wednesday Meetings

The Secretary had drawn up the list until the AGM (Qv). The Chairman reported that the March Formal will be given by Tom Lloyd Evans who will speak about "Star Atlases available to the Amateur". Andrew Gray verified that the April Formal will be given by Ken Peck whose topic will be "Miniaturisation of things used for GPS". Prospective speakers for the ensuing formals were Tony Fairall, David Laney, and someone from Sunsat once it had been launched. Gordon also suggested that we enquire about Astronomers visiting from other countries.

11. Tea Duties

See list drawn up by the Secretary.

12. Any Other Business

Beginner's handouts need to be given out to beginners. Concerning the Newsletter, the Chairman thanked Mike Christianson for taking on the responsibility. He is assisted by Tony Jones and Max Maxwell-Hafen. Bernard enquired about Sutherland. Brian said that we were not impressed with what transpired there. He had not heard from John Caldwell until this week. He also said that the Committee should have a meeting with the Powers that Be before this year's Open Night and be involved with the organisation. Bernard remarked about the low cost of the Photographic Competition. Andrew Gray mentioned videos and said that the CC should start a tape library as an extension to the existing library. Gwynneth spoke about getting a monitor and a play-back machine, and suggested that the CC approach the Trust for financial assistance in this respect. Brian accoladed this idea and said that she should write to the CC Trust Secretary with an estimate of cost. Brian also said that visitors should be especially welcomed. Andrew Gray spoke about ID's for the Committee for the purpose of new people being able to see who is whom. Abe will see if he can get ID's made. Visitors should not be neglected, it was emphasised. The Beginner's Talks should be started up again, in conjunction with Tony's sky talks. But each only once a month. Brian said to let people look through the telescopes on the premises. The Beginners Talks are to start in the third week of February, and every thire Wednesday of every month. The idea will be thrown open to the floor at the next Wednesday meeting to get some feedback. Gwynneth volunteered to be the co-ordinator.

13. Date and Time of the next Meeting

23/03/99 at the SAAO at 20h00.

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MINUTES OF THE ASSA-CC MEETING - 26/01/99

1. Apologies

None

2. Minutes of the committee meeting held on 13 10 98

These were taken as read and were approved and accepted.

3. Matters arising

Nil, except for items 9 (Darling instead of Darnall), and 10 (February and March instead of January and February).

4. Treasurer's Report

Chris Forder gave the Chairman the current status. See sheet. Michelle Kruger has not been to any meetings and according to the constitution, she then ceases to hold that office. Consequently, she ceases to be a member of the Committee. The CC recognises that a new treasurer need to be appointed since Michelle Kruger has met with unforeseen circumstances. Michelle will be sent a copy of these minutes and her attention shall be drawn to this matter. Andrew McConnell reported that Peter Schonau's wife had experience with accountancy, but it was resolved to rather approach the Centre for a candidate first, and then approach her.

5. Librarian's Report

It was agreed that the library and its use should be extended. It was reported that some new books had been donated. Andrew Gray reported that a Sale was going on at Exclusive Books, and that someone should go there and see whether there were any appropriate books.

6. Council Representative's Report

Pat Booth reported that the Council Meeting is to be held on the 09/02/99. It was also reported that the ASSA is having a symposium at the SA Museum on the 29th and the 30th of March. Brian Skinner said that there might be a function on the Monday night. Last time there was a barbeque at the SAAO. He suggested to host a tea by the CC to go with a tour of the premises. There should be about 80 people. He said that barbrques are too much work. The Council/Committee is to assess the costs of a tea so that they know what to charge the delegates. The final preparation is to be done at the next CC Committee meeting. The suggestion to host a tea was readily accepted by the Committee. Gordon suggested to have some savory snacks as well as the cakes and sweet things suggested by Brian. He (BS)

will work out the cost

7. Instruments

The Ron Atkins Telescope needs to be serviced well and rather soon. It was reported that it is not working as well as it could do. The mirror is at fault. Brian said that Cliff Turk has it at the moment and he hoped that Cliff would do the repairs. Gordon reported that a non-member has a telescope that he would like to sell, and would it be OK if said person advertised it at the CC. The Committee said that it would be acceptable to put the notice on the board.

8. Public Astronomy

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11. Tea Duties

See list drawn up by the Secretary.

12. Any Other Business

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13. Date and Time of the next Meeting

23/03/99 at the SAAG at 20h00.

M. J. Mahomed

MINUTES OF THE ASSA-CC MEETING - 23/03/99

1. *Apologies*

Pat Booth.

The Chairman welcomed the committee to the second meeting of the year and especially Dany Duprez who is the new Treasurer.

2. *Minutes of the committee meeting held on 23/03/99*

These were taken as read and were approved and accepted.

3. *Matters arising*

Nil.

4. *Treasurer's Report*

Dany Duprez said that there is R2,260 in the normal account and R301.70 in the investment account. He further reported that there was R500.00 as cash in hand. He requested that the list of names on the bank statement be shortened and to have only three names. These will be his own, Brian Skinner and Chris Forder. He said that he will give a full report next time. It was suggested that the money in the box be counted.

5. *Librarian's Report*

The library cupboard is filling up, but it could do with more books though. Dany Duprez suggested getting software into the library.

6. *Council Representative's Report and ASSA Symposium*

It was reported that there were 37 definite people. Not all will be at the symposium for the entire two days. Altogether there are 21 delegates. Parking has been arranged at the Museum and around the corner near the NG Synod hall. Brian has reserved the parking. He spoke about having a photograph in the Argus in the Tonight section. The group photograph has yet to be confirmed. Concerning the Monday evening, the room needs a good clean. Brian is to get hold of the SAAO to clean the room since it is their premises. Those people who are bringing photographs for display are to have them in by 24/03/99, and the pictures are to be put up after the meeting on that night. There are a proposed number of 60 people for the Monday night "tea". There will be savouries, biscuits, tea, bush tea, soft drinks, and coffee. Abe, assisted by Gwynneth will do the catering. The Committee is to clean up afterwards.

7. *Instruments*

Nothing much. The RAT needs a service which has not been done yet. Mike said that he and Brian could do the work at his (Mike's) place and work on it together.

8. *Public Astronomy*

Mike suggested the 22/05/99 at the same venue in Sea Point as the last time. The moon will be on First Quarter. The time will be earlier because of Winter. T= 17h30.

9. *Field Trips and Observing Evenings*

Dates have been supplied. *Q.v.* previous minutes. Gordon reported that sometimes the Ostrich Farm is not available, and so the venue must be re-assessed. He asked for ideas from the Committee. Andrew McConnell reported that he knows a person who has a guest house *en route* to Wellington on the otherside of Paarl Mountain. The Committee seemed keen about the idea and Andrew was encouraged to go and scout out this possibility.

10. *Wednesday Meetings*

As per revised schedule - *q.v.*

11. *Tea Duties*

See list drawn up by the Secretary.

12. *Any Other Business*

Gwynnèth reported to the Committee that she had arranged for a sign, "Lecture Room" to be put outside the door of our room. Brian also suggested that she get a banner organised.

Concerning the video/monitor that was discussed before, Gwynnèth reported that she had obtained quotes and had approached the Trust about funding. Cliff Turk came up with the following objections and notes:

1. Infrequent use of the apparatus
2. Where would it be stored securely?
3. The possibility of theft.

Dany was very enthusiastic about the idea of getting a video/monitor and said that if the Trust did want to fund it, there was no reason that the CC should not buy it themselves. Brian said that there is a room near the Museum at the SAAO which is the ASSA's office and that the apparatus could be stored there. Andrew Gray suggested consulting Ken Peck about such videos and where to get them since he is into electronics. The Committee should also look at the newspers for company auctions. Gwynnèth was to see whether she could get cheaper prices.

Abe is to speak to Tony Jones about his sky talks.

Beginners introductory sheets are to be handed out by the secretary and the treasurer.

Abe is to get ID's for the Committee

13. *Date and Time of the next Meeting*

25/05/99 at the SAAO at 20h00.

The meeting closed at 21h13.

A. L. L. L.
25-05-99

File

MINUTES OF THE ASSA-CC MEETING - 25/05/99

1. Apologies

Brian Skinner

2. Minutes of the committee meeting held on 23/03/99

These were taken as read and were approved and accepted. Proposed by A. Gray.
Seconded by D. Duprez .

3. Matters arising

Nil..

4. Treasurer's Report

Dany Duprez reported that he did not know what "varia" was for. Mike Christianson said that it was probably from printing of the Newsletter, etc. Dany said that he needs documentation or invoices for printing so that he has proof of how much money was being given out. He further requested that there be an inventory of goods for sale like the T-shirts, etc. It was suggested that a big stock-taking be done. The Chairman suggested that Dany consult Chris Forder whenever he is in doubt of anything. Dany further reported that there was no shortage of funds and the situation was under control. See attached sheet.

5. Librarian's Report

More people are taking out books. Concerning Dany's suggestion of software, it all depends on whether the Society can get it for free or whether it gets bought. It was emphasised that the Committee be aware of the copyright regarding software.

6. Council Representative's Report and ASSA Symposium

It was reported that there was a loss of around R3,000.00 from the Symposium. Aside from this there was nothing to report. The ASSA AGM will be held in Pretoria on the fourth Wednesday of July. It was clarified that the ASSA-CC AGM will be held in August as per the Rules.

7. *Instruments*

The RAT has been serviced and is in working order. Mike had put a bearing into it to prevent the wobble. Dany reported that mirrors can go to Sutherland for aluminising free of charge.

8. *Public Astronomy*

The last one was rained out, and it was suggested to wait until Spring for the next one.

9. *Field Trips and Observing Evenings*

Gordon said to consult the list he had put up on the board. There is still an idea to look for another venue. Andrew McConnell had not yet evaluated the site mentioned in the previous Minutes (Q.v.). Gordon further spoke about having a theme at the Observing Evenings, but he felt that it was more suitable to let people do their own thing. It was encouraged that people send comet observations to Tim Cooper, especially of the new comet Lee. Bernard Wagener wants to get a full set of Lunar photographs of the Moon's whole cycle. Much discussion ensued.

10. *Wednesday Meetings*

See list as prepared by the Secretary. It was noted that Mike Christianson and Dany Duprez are to swop their evenings in June. Concerning the talk by the Sunsat team, the Secretary was given instructions to "chase them up". Otherwise an alternative must be arranged. The Formal for July could go back to the usual second week. The Chairman reported that there were possibilities of having the following people to give talks later in the year:

Dr. Menzies	-	Planet gravitational microlensing
Cyril Hromnik	-	Astronomy in Africa

11. *Tea Duties*

People from here are to take tea things to the Planetarium next week. The Tea Duty list has been drawn up by the Secretary.

12. *Fees*

It was resolved that the subscription fees be increased. This issue was discussed at great length, mostly by Andrew Gray and Dany Duprez. Pat Booth was opposed to increasing the fees because she said that the Trust Fund was there so that the fees

did not have to be increased. A formal proposition was made that the fees be increased to R20.00 as from the beginning of the new financial year. Students and Pensioners would pay R10.00 and Family Membership would be R30.00. The Rules of the Society were consulted re the matter. A Special General Meeting shall be called on the 23rd of June and notice of this shall be published in an appendix to the June newsletter.

Proposed by Andrew Gray and seconded by Dany Duprez.

13 Correspondence

Only Sunsat stuff. Andrew Gray said to send our newsletter to centres all over the world. The Chairman said to review the other Centre's newsletters and to report to the CC on what they are doing. It was suggested to get all the other Centre's newsletters and to keep them in an appropriate file in the Library.

14 Any Other Matters

The Chairman reported that Tony is prepared to do the sky talks once a month – Maybe the fourth Wednesday of each month, depending on the moon and the weather. The Ids have been made and the Chairman will hand them out before each meeting and collect them at the end of each meeting.

15. Date and time of the next Meeting.

The 27th of July at 20h00 at the Observatory.

The meeting closed at 21h09.

W.S. Lushmore

ASSA CAPE CENTRE

NOTES FROM THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 23/06/99

1. Those present were:

Abe Mahomed (Chair)
Gwynneth Quick (Secretary)
Chris de Coning
Andrew McConnell
Tony Jones
Paul de Villiers
S. Jager
Kasper Jager
Chris Forder
Dany Duprez (Treasurer)
Alison Cameron
Kim Smedley-Williams
Latief Armien
Lorraine and Mike Christianson
Max Maxwell-Hafen
Martin Nichols
Vernon Everett
Bernard Wagener
Pat Booth
Ann and Andrew Gray
Eugene van der Walle
Cliff Turk

2. Apologies were tendered by:

Brian Skinner

3. Matters Arising:

The word "pensioner" was defined as being a person who is 65 years of age and over.

4. Conclusion

After much discussion the proposed new subscription rates were voted in and notices to this effect would be published in the next Newsletter.

A.S. Mahomed

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**ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
(CAPE CENTRE)**

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING - 27/07/99

1. Apologies

These were received from Brian Skinner and Dany Duprez. Andrew Gray reported that Allen Cameron, who had received the Reginald de Cock Award, had died. The Chairman requested a minute's silence be observed.

2. Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 25 05 99

These were taken as read and were proposed as accepted by Andrew Gray and seconded by Mike Christianson.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Treasurer's Report

Dany Duprez was not present. The committee agreed that he needs to provide a full financial statement for the AGM.

5. Librarian's Report

The *status quo* is static. It is worth keeping an eye on Kilo Bookshops for inexpensive books.

6. Council Representative's Report

There was nothing much to report here except that the ASSA AGM will be held on the 28/07/99 in Pretoria.

7. Instruments

Nothing to report.

8. *Public Astronomy*

It was suggested that we wait until Summertime for better weather.

9. *Field Trips and Observing Evenings*

The next Committee will organise these. Gordon Bosch said that he will give the Quarry details to whomever takes over from him. The West Coast Show Ranch is still available, however there are some problems which do arise. It was suggested via Tony Jones that we use the WCSR every alternate month for observing. He reported via Andrew McConnell that he had gone to MacGregor recently and that the skies were good. Andrew said that Tony would do some investigating into this. Gordon said that this site may be a third "away" site. We still need to find a site closer to home.

10. *Wednesday Meetings*

The Secretary will draw up the roster once the new Committee is elected. Abe reported that he had arranged speakers for the formals in September and October. These will be:
September - Dr Cyril Hromnik - Quena Horology
October - Dr John Menzies - "Planet Project"
Both Patricia Whitelock and John Caldwell have promised to give their services next year. The two remaining informals in August will be given by Dany on the 18th, and Bernard on the 25th.

11. *Tea Duties*

The Secretary will draw up this roster once the new Committee is elected. The people catering for the AGM will be Mike and Andrew McConnell.

12. *AGM and Election of the new Committee*

People standing down from the Committee are Pat Booth, Gordon Bosch, Mike Christianson, and Brian Skinner. The following Cape Centre members will be approached to stand for election to the Committee:

Ross Bauer,
Paul de Villiers,
Joanne Willmore, and
Max Maxwell-Hafen.

Others who were named were Des and Val Dore, Richard Sessions, and Latief Amien. Extant Committee members named as Office Bearers were:

Chairman - Andrew Gray
Vice Chairman - Andrew McConnell
Secretary - Gwynneth Quick
Treasurer - Dany Duprez.

Other members standing for ordinary election are Abe Mahomed and Bernard Wagener.

13. Correspondence

Abe Mahomed will make contact with people from Vienna about getting onto their mailing list for information on planetary exploration and astronomy.

14. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

15. Prospective Date and Time of the next Meeting

Probably on the 17/08/99 at 20h00 at the Observatory. The new Chairman will confirm this.

Finally, Mike Christianson proposed a vote of thanks to Abe for his services as Chairman. This was unanimously applauded.



A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date 23/8/99 written below it.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11th August 1999

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

We have had another busy year. Team work played an important role again

Not only the Committee but also general members made contributions.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS

Again this has been our main activity.

FORMAL MEETINGS

There were 9 as follows :-

1998

Sept. Prof. Maarten de Wit	"Early Earth Environment"
Oct. Prof. Eric Harley	"Origins of Life"
Nov. Prof. Alan G. Morris	"Human Evolution in the Universe"

1999

Feb. Prof. David Aschman	"Mass of the Neutrino & Mass of the Universe"
March Dr. Tom Lloyd Evans	"Star Atlases for the Amateur"
May Dr. David Laney	"Ancient Sky-Watchers of the Americas"
June Prof. Tony Fairall	"Astronomy of the Pyramids" (Planetarium)
July Dr. Pierre Oosthuizen	Sunsat

We are indeed fortunate in Cape Town where we have easy access to numerous Specialists in Science in general and Astronomy in particular. Good attendances at these meetings has shown the keen interest of our members and others.

The INFORMAL MEETINGS

These were also reasonably well attended with new faces often seen amongst the regulars. Again there was a great variety with an accent on the History of Astronomy. Interesting video and audio tapes dealing with astronomy were also presented.

OTHER LECTURES

Our members also attended talks by VISITING LECTURERS .-
Prof. Roger Penrose , Prof. John Barrow , Astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman
David Malin and Carolyn Shoemaker .

OTHER ACTIVITIES :-

BEGINNER'S COURSE

This has been reduced to once a month .

FIELD TRIPS

Star Parties . We have had several successful ones at the Ostrich Farm or
Conteman's Kloof Quarry .

Hermanus . Thanks to our former Committe Member , Steve Kleyn , we had
a fruitful week-end in October .

Annular Solar Eclipse on the 16th Feb. was watched by several members
from Rhodes Memorial .

Meteor Showers and Occultations was observed by some .

Members have drawn attention to the need to be security conscious in the
light of increased levels of crime . The safety of our members is paramount !

VISITS

CEDERBERG

Our trips to the Cederberg Observatory in Oct. last year and April this year
were again very successful and indeed memorable . Thanks to those who
arranged it and looked after us .

SUTHERLAND

In Nov. Despite problems , it was wonderful visit.

PLANETARIUM

Despite it being a holiday and Election Day , Prof. Tony Fairall made it
worthwhile .

PUBLIC VIEWING

We have found a venue in Sea Point . This activity is still too infrequent
and needs further attention .

The LIBRARY

The Library is being used more and more .

THE ASTROPHOTO COMPETITION

Getting world famous David Malin to judge our competition was certainly
one of the highlights of the past year . We must thank everybody who
helped to make it a successful evening . We will certainly remember it for a
long time to come !

WORKSHOP ON METEOR SHOWERS

This was conducted by Tim Cooper in Nov. Members found this very useful.

ASSA SYMPOSIUM

Hosted by us in April, gave us an opportunity not only to increase our knowledge but also to meet astronomers from other parts of Southern Africa

THE NIGHT SKY

Demonstration of the Night Sky by Tony Jones have been found useful.

OPEN NIGHTS AT SAAO

These are held on the 2nd Sat. of each month. Our members help in exposure of the general public to Astronomy.

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

THE "CAPE OBSERVER". Tony Jones, who had done a splendid job as Editor for some time, needed a break. Fortunately Mike Christianson helped out by volunteering to fill the vacancy, assisted by Tony Jones and Max Maxwell - Hafen.

THE TREASURER. Due to ill-health the person elected to this position was unable to attend. We were fortunate in getting the services of Dany Du Prez. We must also thank Chris Forder for continuing to help when we were without a Treasurer.

FUTURE CHALLENGES

We must aim at continuing the growth and development of the Cape Centre as part of ASSA.

We should increase our liaison with the general public.

Maths and Science tend to be neglected in South Africa. It bears repeating that the fascination of Astronomy could be used to arouse interest in these subjects as well.

THANKS

To the outgoing Committee and other Members for their contribution to the success of the past year.

There has been an increase in the Subscriptions. However this has been a modest increase, thanks to :-

The SAAO for this rent-free venue and

Cliff Turk, who played a major role in the formation of The Trust.

CAPE CENTRE A.S.S.A.**INCOME & EXPENDITURE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30 1999****INCOME**

SUBSCRIPTIONS	1476 00
DONATIONS	1034 00
POORBOX	1063 40
STOCK SALES	60 00
INTEREST	648 50

TOTAL INCOME	4281.90
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EXPENSES

ASTROPHOTO COMP	991 32
NEWSLETTER(INCL POST)	2248 39
PHOTOCOPIES ETC	261 70
MEETINGS	56 54
SPEAKERS	59 28
XMAS PARTY	237 43
INSURANCE	60 00
BANK CHARGES	42 98
COST OF SOLD STOCK	42 99

TOTALEXPENSES	4000.63
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INCOME OVER EXPENSES	281.27
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56'121
 29'41
 66'971

CAPE CENTRE A.S.S.A.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30/06/1999

ASSETS

F/DEPOSIT
SAVINGS A/C
STOCK TSHIRTS
STOCK MUGS
STOCK STICKERS
EQUIPMENT RON ATKINS
EQUIPMENT EYEPIECES
EQUIPMENT LARMUTH
EQUIPMENT PROJECTOR
LIBRARY CABINET

TOTAL

LIABILITIES

KEY DEPOSITS
VOLUNTARY BOX
GENERAL FUND

TOTAL

1999

3500 00

2156 43

315 26

244 53

38 00

2000 00

500 00

100 00

300 00

350 00

9504.22

50 00

1063 40

8390 82

9504.22

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

P.O. Box 13018
Mowbray 7705
Tel. 6385191

CAPE CENTRE



4 Hawthorne Place
Hazelwood Park
Fish Hoek
7975

Telephone/Facsimile - (021-) 785-5568

CIRCULAR TO ALL CAPETOWN & DISTRICT MEMBERS

14th December 1999

Dear Member,

With the New Year approaching us and the "uninitiated" being determined to treat the first day of January 2000 as the first day of the New Millennium and Century, as Chairman of your Centre, may I wish every one of you a Peaceful and Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Successful New Year. For those of the Muslim Faith, may you faithfully maintain the holy month of Ramadan and enjoy the Festival of Eid. Likewise, we wish any readers of the Jewish Faith a peaceful period during these coming weeks.

The main purpose of this letter is that I wish to place a proposition before you - one which could well affect the immediate future of our Centre.

I, and some members of the Committee, are really not quite certain what it is that you, the Member, really want from the Society. For this reason I wish to invite any Member who is sufficiently interested to do so, to come along to a special "THINK TANK" meeting at our usual venue on Wednesday 12th January 2000 at 8 p.m. This also applies to every member of the existing Committee as well ! If you can come, please bring paper and pen with you. We'll organise tea and coffee

If you are still on leave or recovering from the New Year festivities and cannot come but wish to place ideas on the table for us to study, please feel free to drop a line to me (incognito if you wish) at my home address above. *Any and ALL ideas will be welcome, however silly they may seem.*

For example : More serious lectures/Less serious lectures, more practical astronomy, resume the beginner's courses, start a telescope making class, create sub-Committees to follow up on ideas, get the Chairman to be more pro-active, improve the Newsletter, etc., etc.,

In the meantime, please put on your thinking caps and come up with ideas which can create a more dynamic Centre and one which can catch the imagination of our own members and the vast crowd of members of the public who normally cannot think past the cost of living or what is on the "TV".

My Christmas and New Year message is simply this. Every member has a part to play in the future and the running of our Centre - however small that contribution may be - and if this suggested meeting proves a success, we will enter the new "Century and Millennium???" with a bright future. I am sure that you would like to be a part of it. If so, you are more than welcome

Yours sincerely, clear skies and good viewing,

ANDREW GRAY - CHAIRMAN

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S. AFRICA

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE :

As a direct result of the extreme interest shown at the recent "THINK TANK" Meeting, it has been decided to follow up on some of the numerous suggestions that were made. Hence :

Please be advised that the next **TWO COMMITTEE MEETINGS** will be held at the close of the Informal Meetings at the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. in Cape Town on the following days and dates :

Wednesday, 26th January 2000

Wednesday, 2nd February 2000

THE AGENDA :

- 1) To Open the Meeting and record Apologies
- 2) To read and confirm the Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting
- 3) To deal with any Matters Arising therefrom
- 4) To discuss and deal with any new Applications for Membership
- 5) Correspondence
- 6) To discuss matters arranged at the previous meeting concerning THINK TANK decisions and to report on progress.
- 7) GENERAL
- 8) To close the Meeting. **NB** : Before the close of the meeting on 2nd February, a date, time and place to be set for the next meeting of the Committee.

M A Gray - Chairman (Tel/Fax : 785-5568)

**A.S.S.A. (CAPE CENTRE) - "THINK TANK" MEETING
WEDNESDAY 12th JANUARY 2000
SUMMARY OF IDEAS - AS PER THE FOREGOING LISTS**

The previous two pages are hereby summarised in shortened form :

ATTENTION TO NEW MEMBERS AND BEGINNERS :

- 1) Committee members should wear "Committee tags" so that they can be identified by beginners
- 2) All new members should be spoken to and given encouragement
- 3) They SHOULD be handed a copy of the Rules of the Centre when admitted
- 4) Involve them in actual viewing of the night sky
- 5) Start up the beginners Courses again but dedicate one evening per month to this
- 6) Ensure that "lecture notes" are available for beginners on these evenings

OUT OF DOOR ACTIVITIES :

- 1) Open up the telescope next door after each meeting, weather permitting
- 2) Form interested sub-groups for double stars, meteor observing etc. and encourage
- 3) Increase the "side-walk" astronomy viewing - find separate venues for this if poss.
- 4) Tony Jones to be encouraged to give a weekly/monthly "What's Up" again in open
- 5) Encourage members to give talks to their children's schools
- 6) Encourage more "hands on" practical; astronomy and viewing

PUBLICITY ASPECTS :

- 1) Better contact with radio and the news-media (papers etc.)
- 2) Set up a Web page on someone's computer system
- 3) Create suitable flyers for handing out at any outdoor publicised activity
- 4) Ensure better publicity at the Planetarium - flyers again?

ADMINISTRATION ASPECTS :

- 1) Up date and revamp the membership list, circulate to all members with telephone numbers etc
- 2) Re-design the Centre Logo - submit designs for approval and action ?
- 3) Create a "hot line" list of telephone numbers and contactees
- 4) Clean up the Notice Board and make better use of it
- 5) Actively promote the library, revue some books therein and publish revue
- 6) Have a stock-take of saleable assets and actively sell these items
- 7) As and when new logo accepted, have car stickers produced for sale to members (or before)
- 8) Revamp the membership application form - include question as to particular interest
- 9) Try to involve the Committee members (INCLUDING CHAIRMAN!) more in out of doors activities

PRACTICAL WORK SUGGESTED :

- 1) Organise a work party (Saturday a.m.) to clean up McClean telescope fittings if required
- 2) Start up a telescope making class - mirror grinding etc. Where is glass etc. available today?

SOCIAL EVENTS :

- 1) Hold a "Bring and Braai" viewing social evening in Summer and in Winter
- 2) Continue the end of year social as before.
- 3) Encourage any ideas for other social events - good for meeting each other and "mixing"

A.S.S.A. (CAPE CENTRE) - "THINK TANK" MEETING
WEDNESDAY 12th JANUARY 2000
LIST OF IDEAS SUBMITTED AT AND BEFORE MEETING

BEGINNERS : COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS re :

- Beginners' course to be a full evening per month
- Notes to be made available for beginners' course subjects
- Start up the Beginners' Course again
- Keep an eye on new members and keep them interested in returning
- Discuss like and dislikes with new members
- Keep in touch with new members
- Teach new members the Constellations and planet positions
- One evening a month dedicated to beginners and a sky tour
- Continue observing evenings and INVOLVE beginners
- Dedicate one meeting per month to beginners
- Monitor and assist new members

OUT OF DOORS ACTIVITIES :

- Practical astronomy to be increased (use experienced observers)
- Chairman to be more involved - especially with outdoor activities
- Form internal groups interested in Meteors, Double Stars etc.
- Train observers in making and recording observations
- Start or encourage further Sidewalk Astronomy
- "What's Up" in the sky each normal meeting (Tony Jones)
- More practical astronomy - more "hands on" experience
- Take Astronomy to the Townships
- Encourage Radio Astronomy
- Make telescope available out of doors after meetings
- Set up fixed viewing evenings
- Encourage observational astronomy
- Continue organised outings
- Try to find better viewing site/s
- Give more talks to schools

MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION :

- Change meetings from Wednesdays to Fridays for school goers
- Check, revamp and publish the address list to all members
- More radio and newspaper publicity
- Re-introduce advertising on FMR
- Set up a Web page
- Create "Flyers" for any out of doors events
- Actively promote the Library
- Improve the Centre Logo
- Create a "hot line" telephone network
- Tidy up and more use of the Notice Board
- Update notices on the board
- Membership form to include note on personal astronomical interest
- Committee and/or members to wear name tags
- Hand membership cards to all members & new members
- Do a stock take of saleable items and advertise
- Better contact with other Centres/Societies
- Create a "promotion kit" with sample slides?
- Get coverage from the Cape Argus
- Advertise the Centre in the Planetarium

A.S.S.A. (CAPE CENTRE) - "THINK TANK" MEETING
WEDNESDAY 12th JANUARY 2000
LIST OF IDEAS SUBMITTED AT AND BEFORE MEETING

PRACTICAL WORK :

- Organise a work party to clean McLean telescope fittings
- Start a group telescope making class

GENERAL COMMENTS :

- More commitment from event organisers (BE ON TIME!)
- Weekly meetings becoming too technical
- Have a quiz now and then
- Have a braai on a Saturday evening - plus viewing
- More "social" events such as a braai
- Visit and publicise the Planetarium
- More discussion at our normal meetings
- Review books in our library and publish in Newsletter
- Keep ALL talks to Astronomy or closely related subjects
- Another Astrophoto contest
- Talks to be on a practical, first hand experience
- Set contents standards for the talks
- Must informal meetings always be talks?
- Have dark sky viewing coupled with social
- Have an occasional "Hard Science" evening
- Workshops by experts on specialised subjects
- Have a summer and a winter braaivleis

Following the individual ideas, a short discussion then took place, a summary of this appears hereunder :

- 1) Create a roster for opening the next door telescope for after meeting viewing
- 2) Let Committee members act as "Chairman" for the informal meetings
- 3) Get out of door activities up and moving
- 4) Suggested change of meeting to Fridays NOT a good idea
- 5) Concentrate more on media advertising
- 6) McClean to be "cleaned up" permission must be obtained. Plenty of work already done
- 7) Rupert Hurly : Advertising on Muizenberg Radio, Cape Talk, FMR, Radio Oudtshoorn, Cape Flats Radio
- 8) Contact Dr R "Mqezi" at Robben Island for possible monetary assistance !!
- 9) Involve astronomy students at UCT (Most are studying technical aspects - not interested?)
- 10) Get more members to become involved with school talks
- 11) A "National Pool" of slides is available at the SAAO for use in school talks - contact the Educational Office for more information
- 12) The idea of a summer and winter "Braai" with viewing is a good one

Those present were : Dudley Field, Andrew Gray (Chairman), Val McConnell, Ann Gray, Andrew McConnell, Delene Bosch, Gordon Bosch, Chris Forder, L Isaacson, Cliff Turk, Paul de Villiers, Joanne Willmore, Paul Dugan, Richard Sessions, Heather Sessions, Richard Hayes, Bill Hollenbach, Pat Booth, Rupert Hurly. Total present : nineteen

Apologies received from : Apologies received from : Dany Duprez, Abe Mahomed, Max Maxwell-hafen, Mike Christianson, Tony Jones, Bernard Wagner and Brian Skinner.

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S. AFRICA

**AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 18th
JANUARY 2000 AT 8 P.M. AT THE LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O., CAPE TOWN :**

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open at 20h00 SAST
- 2) In Terms of Centre Rule 4 requiring seven days notice of calling a meeting of the Committee, to approve the short notice of only six days given by telephone.
- 3) To record apologies for non-attendance
- 4) If the Centre Secretary is not present, to appoint a temporary Assistant Secretary for the meeting. (N.B. The Secretary has advised that she will not be present)
- 5) If available, to read and confirm the Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting. If these minutes are not available, to agree that they will be attended to at the next meeting of the Committee.
- 6) Treasurer's Report and explanation of the deletion of forty or so members from the address list. (NB the Rules do NOT state any given time for deletion of members)
- 7) To deal with Correspondence other than that referred to under Item 10 hereunder
- 8) To approve any new Applications for Membership
- 9) To discuss BRIEFLY, the results of the recent "Think Tank" Meeting and take action where possible at this stage.
- 10) **ITEM :** To discuss the recent developments concerning the Centre Honorary Secretary and Council Representative. Note that Centre Rule No 13 (Suspension and Exclusion) reads as follows :

The committee may suspend or exclude any member either for infringement of these Rules or for misconduct reported to the Committee in writing provided that the member so suspended or excluded shall have the right of appeal to the Committee whose decision shall be final.

N.B. A recent written and a number of verbal complaints have been received by the Chairman during the last three months.

- 11) To set the date, time and place for the next meeting of the Committee*
- 12) To close the Meeting.

M A Gray
Chairman

*N.B. Rule 4 states (*inter alia*) that "any member of the Committee absenting himself without leave of the Committee from three successive meetings shall forfeit his seat". Presumably the masculine also refer to the feminine gender.

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON TUESDAY 18th JANUARY 2000**

PRESENT : Messrs. M A Gray, A McCONNELL, D Duprez, P De Villiers, A Mahomed, M Christianson (Ex-Officio) and Miss J Willmore.

- 1) **OPENING** : The Chairman, M A Gray welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at 20h08.
- 2) **NOTICE** : On a Proposition, duly seconded, it was agreed that the six days' telephonic Notice of the Meeting be approved. (Rules state Seven days.) Approved unanimously.
- 3) **APOLOGIES** : Both Mr Ross Bauer and Max Maxwell- Hafen are on leave and Apologies Recorded. Mr B Wagner is recovering from sickness and his apologies were recorded. Miss G Quick has stated that she will not attend. Recorded as Absent without apology.
- 4) **SECRETARY** : In the absence of the Secretary, there being no volunteers, the Chairman acted as "Acting Secretary" for the evening.
- 5) **MINUTES** : As no copies of the Minutes of the December Committee Meeting were available, it was agreed *nem. con.* that these would be "put on hold" until they were available and would be attended to at the first opportunity.
- 6) **TREASURER** : The Treasurer reported that no major changes had taken place since the last Meeting. Certain outstanding subscriptions had been received. The Vice-Chairman advised that he had paid for and renewed the Post Box and that the lock had been changed. He is to be reimbursed for this. One key is kept by the Chairman and the other by the Vice-Chairman. The Chairman then referred to the forty or so deletions from the address list during the period July to October 1999 and questioned the large numbers involved. The Treasurer reported that at a previous Committee Meeting, it had been agreed that any member whose subscription was outstanding for three or more months be taken off the address list. The Chairman then read out the deletions list and asked for comments. As a result of recent payments it was decided to re-instate the following :

Miss E Blomkamp, Mz W Blomkamp, Mr & Mrs G Bosch, Mr H H Cleenwerck, Mnr R B Malherbe, Mr N Sessions, Mr C P Stevenson, Mr H A Thiele and Mr F Vergeest.

After discussion, the Chairman offered to create an address label list on his own PC and to try to keep this up-to date.
- 7) **CORRESPONDENCE** : There was no correspondence to be dealt with.
- 8) **APPLICATIONS** : None were to hand
- 9) **THINK TANK** : The Chairman circulated copies of all the suggestions (74) that had been made at the recent meeting and also by post, plus a summarised version of these ideas. He then requested that each member take this home, study it and come up with suggestions at the next Committee Meeting. It was agreed that the Think Tank meeting had been a great success with twenty members participating.

10) SECRETARIAL : Having received a written complaint from a senior or long standing member, about the behaviour and state of health of the Secretary, plus a number of verbal complaints, the Chairman had contacted all members available by telephone and had, as a result, sent Miss Quick a carefully worded letter, emphasising her deteriorating health and requesting that, in order to assist her to control her health more effectively, she should tender her resignation as Secretary and Centre Representative. She was requested to reply by return. Nothing was heard from her. On telephoning her on 13th January to advise her of the Committee Meeting on the 18th January, her verbal reaction was quite specific. Threatening to go to law, demanding an unconditional apology etc., etc. She point blank refuses to resign and refuses to part with the Secretary's brief case which is Centre property.

A lengthy discussion then took place, during which copies of Miss Quick's reply, the text of the written complaint, notes of the verbal complaints etc., were circulated as "Private and Confidential".

The Chairman then announced that the Committee would meet after the close of the informal meetings on Wednesday 26th January and Wednesday 2nd February 2000, basically to discuss progress on the Think Tank deliberations.

As a result of this, after further discussion, it was agreed to let the matter ride for the next two weeks and see what transpires.

- 11) GENERAL : a) Suggested that a further "Think Tank" be held as the first meeting after the Annual General Meeting each year or as decided.
b) Progress on the "hand-over" of the Newsletter was discussed. Both M Christianson and P De Villiers are collaborating with Tony Jones and others to ensure smooth transition.
c) P De Villiers stated that the mirror of the 6 inch Newtonian was in poor condition. He was advised to contact the SAAO to arrange for re-aluminising.
d) Miss Willmore requested that we arrange the social "Bring and Braai" as soon as possible as this will bring members together very quickly.
d) Dany Duprez advised that he wishes to resign as Treasurer at the August Annual General Meeting, owing to business and private pressures.
- 12) NEXT MEETING : This will be held at the same venue after the close of the Informal Meeting on Wednesday 26th January 2000.
- 13) CLOSURE : The Chairman offered his sincere thanks to all present for their contributions to the evening and declared the meeting closed at 21h22.

Dated 2000

Signed
Chairman

NOTES RE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH GWYNNETH QUICK

THURSDAY 13TH JANUARY 2000 AT 09H10.

On being advised by me that there is a Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday 18th at 20h00 at the Observatory, her reaction was as follows :

- 1) She has referred the matter of my letter to her Attorneys
- 2) She has sent the "Hate" fax that was sent to her some time ago to forensic experts
- 3) She refuses to resign as Centre Secretary or Council Representatives
- 4) She maintains that her health has nothing to do with the Centre
- 5) Her Attorneys have advised her that we (I?) Have acted totally against the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa by discriminating against her
- 6) She will not attend the Committee Meeting
- 7) She demands an unconditional letter of apology from the Centre
- 8) All or any further correspondence from the Centre concerning this matter will immediately be handed to her Attorneys
- 9) If anyone should be blamed for the situation, it is Andrew McConnell who has "taken her for a ride and 'stuffed' up her life".
- 10) The whole matter is totally against the Rules of the Centre and A.S.S.A.
- 11) We are taking away her sole reason for living
- 12) She will not be present at any meeting without her Attorney being present.

Where do we go from here ??

An "Assistant Secretary" must now be appointed by the Committee to attend to the day to day affairs of the Centre, otherwise everything will just grind to a halt.....

ADDITIONAL NOTES RE SECRETARIAL PROBLEM :

The text of the written complaint is as follows :

“One of my prime concerns is that of Gwynneth Quick. She is without doubt mentally unstable and one of the prime reasons for the low attendance at functions, because people are fed up with her behaviour. It is for this reason that I believe she should not be on the committee nor should she be allowed to represent the Cape Centre on the Council. If she will not resign after being asked to do so, then the Committee should have no other choice than to vote her out, if only on medical reasons, for it would appear that she has every ailment known to man. I do not wish to be unkind towards Gwynneth, but she is a major problem within the Centre and the cause of the dwindling attendance of the more senior members.”

ILLNESSES MENTIONED BY MISS G QUICK :

- 1) Full-Blown AIDS (At Christmas time) (To Chairman) (To his wife “Slight”)
- 2) Heart attack requiring hospitalising for a short time (New Year) (To Val McConnell)
- 3) Deep depression, for which she is taking drugs (To anyone who will listen)
- 4) Leukemia (To many members of the Centre)
- 5) Bone marrow disease requiring transplants (To several people)
- 6) Low blood pressure and blood disorders (To several people)
- 7) Anaemia (To many members of the Centre)
- 8) Breast cancer (turned out to be a small “lumpectomy)
- 9) Possibly others which cannot be remembered

VERBAL COMPLAINTS FROM THE FOLLOWING :

- 1) Heather Sessions - harassment of husband
- 2) Delene Bosch - harassment of husband
- 3) Tony Jones - general harassment
- 4) Dudley Field - slight harassment
- 5) Mike & Lorraine Christianson (visited him in ICU posing as a “qualified Doctor)
- 6) Val McConnell - alienation of husband’s affections (Caused temporary separation)
- 7) Cliff Turk - uneasy about her behaviour at Centre meetings
- 8) Richard Sessions - uneasy about her behaviour at Centre meetings
- 9) Chairman - disturbed about the effect this is all having on the Centre.

GENERAL ATTITUDE :

“If anyone doesn’t like what I’m doing, that is tough luck. If they stay away as a result, it is their loss, not mine. I’m a ‘go-getter’ and I get what I want”

SERIOUS PRIVATE MISDEMEANOURS :

- 1) Posing as a qualified Doctor when visiting Mike Christianson while in ICU
- 2) Informing people that she is a qualified Pilot
- 3) Informing Val (?) That she “lied about her health” when filling in the medical forms for the Pilot’s license.

The above appears to support the feeling that we have a case of mental disturbance here.

Paul de Villiers : 981-0431 (H)
506-6082 (W)

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON WEDNESDAY 27th JANUARY 2000 @ 21h00**

**PRESENT : Messrs. M A Gray, A McConnell, P De Villiers, A Mahomed, R Bauer
and P De Villiers.**

- 1) **OPENING** : The Chairman, M A Gray welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at approximately 21h00.
- 2) **APOLOGIES** : Received from D Duprez J Willmore M Christianson and B Wagner. Absent without apology was Miss G Quick. Mr M Maxwell-Hafen had resigned as a Committee member (See Correspondence). The Chairman acted as Secretary for the Meeting
- 3) **MINUTES** : The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 18th January 2000, having been circulated to all members of the Committee, were taken as read, confirmed and signed..
- 4) **ARISING** : The only Matters Arising would be dealt with under the heading of "GENERAL"
- 5) **APPLICATIONS** : Although there were several Visitors at the meeting, there were no Application Forms available as the Secretary has these in her possession.
- 6) **CORRESPONDENCE** : Circulars had been received from the Pretoria & Garden Route Centres. Mr Max Maxwell-Hafen had written a personal letter to the Chairman tendering his immediate resignation from the Committee owing to increased business commitments. This will be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee
- 7) **APPLICATIONS** : None were to hand
- 8) **THINK TANK** : The Chairman has drawn up the complete address list. No doubt there will be a number of corrections and additions. In due course, this will be circulated to all members. It was requested that the "Beginners' Talks" be re-instated as soon as possible. Volunteers from the members will be called for. A small "action group" should be created for the idea of cleaning up the telescope in the adjacent dome but permission from the SAAO will have to be given before this can be started.
- 9) **GENERAL** : Dr A Mahomed reported that the Guest Speakers for February and March would be Dr John Caldwell (Feb.) And Cliff Turn (March), the latter speaking on "Star Week 2000" which runs from 5th to 12th March and for which we must all stand by to give talks to public bodies such as schools, church groups etc. Chairman to design new Application Forms to "tide over".
- 10) **CLOSURE** : With a reminder that the next Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd February, the Chairman thanked all present for their input and declared the meeting closed at about 21h30.

Dated 2000

Signed
Chairman

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON WEDNESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2000 @ 21h00**

**PRESENT : Messrs. M A Gray, A McConnell, D Duprez, R Bauer, P De Villiers,
A Mahomed. J Willmore and M Christianson (Ex-Officio)**

- 1) **OPENING** : The Chairman, M A Gray welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at approximately 20h55.
- 2) **APOLOGIES** : Received from B Wagner (ill). Absent without apology was Miss G Quick. Mr M Maxwell-Hafen had resigned as a Committee member (See Correspondence). The Chairman acted as Secretary for the Meeting
- 3) **MINUTES** : The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 26th January 2000, having been circulated to all members of the Committee, were taken as read, confirmed and signed..
- 4) **ARISING** : The only Matters Arising would be dealt with under the heading of "GENERAL"
- 5) **APPLICATIONS** : There were several Visitors at the meeting, some of these had completed the new Application forms and these would be attended to at the next Committee Meeting.
- 6) **CORRESPONDENCE** : Some correspondence had been received and this would be attended to by the Chairman. There had been no "takers" for the vacancy on the Committee caused by the resignation of Mr Maxwell-Hafen.
- 7) **THINK TANK** : Several matters were about to be addressed but details would emerge at the next Committee Meeting. Tentative approval had been received from Mr Case Rijdsduyk for a "work party". He would report back later.
- 8) **SECRETARY** : The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that Miss G Quick, Centre Secretary and Representative on Council had been absent without apology for three successive Committee meetings, notice for all of which had been given to her. In terms of part of Rule No 4, she has therefore lost her position on the Committee and as a result cannot remain as Secretary or Centre Representative. After a very brief discussion, it was agreed without dissent, that the Chairman send her a Registered letter the next morning, advising her of these facts and demanding the return of the Centre property, that is, the brief case, all Centre documents and the set of keys. (NB Done and sent "door to door delivery" at 11h00 on 3rd February 2000.
- 9) **GENERAL** : Dr A Mahomed reported that the Guest Speakers for February and March would be Dr John Caldwell (Feb.), and Cliff Turk (March), the latter speaking on "Star Week 2000" which runs from 5th to 12th March and for which we must all stand by to give talks to public bodies such as schools, church groups etc.
- 10) **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** : This will take place at the Lecture Hall of the S A A O on *Thursday, 17th February 2000 commencing at 20h00.*
- 11) **CLOSURE** : There being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present for their participation and declared the Meeting closed at 21h05.

Dated 2000

Signed
Chairman

**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE**

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING on Thursday 17th February 2000 to be held at the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open at 20h00 and welcome all present, especially Mr Cliff Turk, who has been co-opted onto the Committee for the evening. The Chairman to act as Secretary for the evening.
- 2) To record apologies and Absentees.
- 3) The Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, having been circulated, to be taken as read and, if correct, to be signed by the Chairman.
- 4) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes (apart from Item 9 hereunder).
- 5) Correspondence
- 6) Treasurer's Report
- 7) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 8) THINK TANK MATTERS :
 - a) Publication of the updated Membership and Address list.
 - b) Printing of copies of the Centre Rules and distribution of same.
 - c) Social Events - Braaivleis ? (Who has braai facilities/ skottel braais etc.,)
 - d) Beginners' talks (Circulate list of subject matter)
 - e) Viewing after informal evenings at Observatory?
 - f) Improvements to the Notice Board
 - g) Possibility of creating Membership Cards
 - h) Progress on designs for the Centre "Logo".
 - i) Any other matters with reference to the "Think Tank"
- 9) Speakers arranged for future formal evenings. (Possible visit to Planetarium?) NOTE : Those responsible for tea duty are reminded that they MUST arrive in good time and also that they are responsible for washing up afterwards !
- 10) To summarise, discuss and finalise matters affecting the position of Secretary and Centre Representative on Council.
- 11) GENERAL
- 12) To agree the time, place and date for the next meeting of the Committee 4/4/00
- 13) To declare meeting closed.

NB: Tues 14/3/00 Regier's talk

M A Gray - Chairman
Acting Secretary

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON THURSDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2000 @ 20h00**

PRESENT : Messrs. M A Gray, A McConnell, p De Villiers, A Mahomed, B Wagener, J Willmore, M Christianson & by invitation : A Jones and C Turk.

- 1) **OPENING** : The Chairman, M A Gray welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at approximately 20h00.
- 2) **APOLOGIES** : Received from R Bauer (Wedding Anniversary) and D Duprez (Income Tax problems). The Chairman acted as Secretary for the Meeting
- 3) **MINUTES** : The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 2nd February 2000, having been circulated to all members of the Committee, were taken as read, confirmed and signed..
- 4) **ARISING** : The only Matters Arising would be dealt with under the appropriate headings.
- 5) **CORRESPONDENCE** : There was no correspondence inwards or outwards to hand.
- 6) **TREASURER** : In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman reported that there was approximately R 3 600 in cash in hand and that income over expenditure stood at net R 1 500 to the good. Mr Turk advised that the Centre could receive about R 450 (January) and a further R 400 (February & March) from the "Starwalk" evenings at Kirstenbosch.
- 7) **APPLICATIONS** : There were several Applications completed but the Treasurer had these in his possession. They could not be dealt with. It was suggested that Applicants should be screened before being approved. It was also suggested that a Visitor's Register be kept at each meeting.
- 8) **THINK TANK MATTERS** : These were discussed at fair length, the results being as follows :
 - a) Membership List to be published on at least an Annual basis
 - b) Agreed to have 500 copies of the Rules printed by Zip Print (Fish Hoek) in A5 format at an estimated cost of + R 700. (*Actual cost is R 573.42*). Mr Turk suggested that the Centre approach the ASSET Trust for financial assistance. (Done)
 - c) A "Bring and Braai" evening is (subject to permission from the SAAO) to be held on Saturday 1st April 2000, the venue being the old tennis court at the rear of the Lecture Hall. Good publicity to be given. Messrs. Jones, Turk and De Villiers can supply the drums for the fires.
 - d) Emphasis on practical astronomy is to be given to the Beginners' Talks, talks in Hall to be at least 20 minutes each followed by open air viewing. A Sub-Committee to be set up to deal with details. ALL Committee members who are interested to attend on Tuesday 14th March 2000.
 - e) Viewing after meetings - dealt with under (d) above.
 - f) Miss J Willmore was sincerely thanked for the improvements to the Notice Board. Items should in future be DATED before placing on the Board.
 - g) Miss Willmore also presented a very nice design for a Membership Card. It was decided to put this one on "hold" until closer to the A.G.M. and was thanked for her efforts.

h) Logo designs were still in hand. However, Miss Willmore presented a design for a new "Flier" which was highly commended. Permission granted to run off 1000 of these on A4 format cut into three per page.

i) There were no further items raised under this heading.

9) SPEAKERS : A Mahomed advised that C Turk will speak on 8th March, April is "blank", Dr Patricia Whitelock will speak in May, Prof. Brian Warner in June. July is at present vacant but he will contact Prof E Foster of Stellenbosch & John Richards of the SABC. Chairman to contact Tony Fairall at the Planetarium with a view to a visit there.

10) SECRETARY : Mr Ross Bauer had managed to retrieve the Secretary's brief case and contents, and this is now back in the Centre's possession. The problems of the Secretary's position have now been solved and the matter is regarded as closed. However, this leaves the Centre without an official Secretary. The Chairman called for nominations to this position and as there were no nominees, he offered to continue as official Secretary and Centre Representative on Council until the August Annual General Meeting or earlier if a volunteer could be found. Approved

11) GENERAL : It was agreed that the Beginners' Talks subcommittee should meet on Tuesday 14th March 2000

Dr A Mahomed reported that Mr C Turk had been awarded the Long Service Award by Council (Applause).

B Wagner offered his assistance as a "stand by" for the Kirstenbosch evenings. Tony Jones noted this.

M Christianson advised that he and his wife are leaving for overseas on 25th March until end of May. He was wished a very pleasant voyage and safe return.

A Gray suggested that a letter of thanks for his efforts be sent to Ross Bauer. Agreed.

12) NEXT MEETING : It was decided that the next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th April 2000 at the same venue and at 20h00.

13) CLOSURE : There being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present for their participation and valuable input, and declared the Meeting closed at 21h23.

Dated 2000

Signed
Chairman

PRECIS OF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - CAPE CENTRE

Our membership has grown by about 35% from 93 to 132 during the last twelve months, despite the unfortunate deaths of three of our long standing members namely Dr Alan Cousins, Mr Harold Krumm and Mr G Malherbe. We remember them in a moment's silence.

The increase in numbers attending caused some parking problems but these have now been solved with the kind assistance of Dr R Stobie, Director of the S.A.A.O. On a few occasions, the numbers present at meetings have reached "standing room only" levels which is most gratifying.

Apart from our normal Wednesday evening meetings each week, our formal meetings on the second Wednesday of each month have been addressed by some excellent Guest Speakers and we thank them for their time and effort to be with us. On average there were at least thirty six members and guests present at these meetings and on one occasion we counted well over fifty present.

Outside activities include several Dark Sky evenings, members assisting at the S.A.A.O. on Public Open Nights, trips to the Cedarberg Observatory and several evenings assisting at the world renowned Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens. Members were also heavily involved both in Zambia and Cape Town with the 21st June solar eclipse and some excellent photographs were taken by those who had travelled North to witness totality.

Our bi-annual Photographic Competition was well supported and we thank Dr Patricia Whitelock by gracing us with her presence in presenting the prizes to the winners of each section.

The members of the Committee have worked hard and diligently to keep all aspects of the Centre running smoothly and I thank each and every one of them for their invaluable support during the year.

We all offer our sincere thanks to the S.A.A.O. for the free use of the lecture hall - without which we would find ourselves in a somewhat parlous condition! Their generosity is very greatly appreciated.

As Chairman, I thank every one of you, the Members, for your enthusiasm and support during the year. Astronomy is a serious subject, but if we can enjoy it with a bit of fun thrown in as well, so much the better. May my successor in office enjoy his Chairmanship as much as I have done during the past two years that I have held that position.

It has been a privilege to serve you. Thank you.

Andrew Gray, Chairman -2000/ 2001

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA
(CAPE CENTRE) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26th JULY 2000 IN THE LECTURE HALL
S.A.A.O., OBSERVATORY, CAPE TOWN.

- 1) **Opening** : The Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting open at 20h03 and welcomed all present, requesting that the Attendance Register be signed. As a mark of respect and in memory of the late Mr Charles Allen, the assembly rose and maintained a minute's silence.
- 2) **APOLOGIES** were recorded from the following Members : Mr T Lloyd-Evans, Mr P Van Blommenstein and Mr M Saltinsky
- 3) **The Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th August 1999, having been circulated to all Members, it was proposed and seconded that these be confirmed and signed. Carried.
- 4) **MATTERS ARISING** : There were no Matters arising
- 5) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** : The Chairman then presented his Report for the period August 1999 to July 2000, a copy of which has been entered in the Minute Book.
- 6) **TREASURER'S REPORT** : Mr D Duprez presented his Report (copy attached to these Minutes) which indicated that Subscription income had increased but donations had decreased. Total income was R 3 465.96 (R 4 281.90). Expenses had dropped from R 4000.63 to R 2 442.44 for the year. Income over expenditure showed R 1023.50 as opposed to R 281.30 the previous year. The balance in the Bank Account was R 3 352.77. The Report was approved and the Chairman Proposed (duly seconded) that an amount of R 500.00 be donated to the Centre Trust. Approved.
- 7) **CENTRE TRUST** : Mr Cliff Turk advised that as at December 1999, the capital stood at R 7 228 which earns interest which can be disbursed. The Trust stood at R 13 061 but an amount of R 1 391.96 had had to be paid to the Receiver of Revenue as tax over some five years. He noted that no donations had been received from the Centre during the last two years. He then presented the Chairman with a cheque for R 600.00 being a grant-in-aid for the Centre for two years. He was warmly thanked for this.
- 8a) **LIBRARIAN'S REPORT** : Dr Abe Mahomed reported that there had been an increase in the use of the Library. Thanks to members' donations, the library had acquired more books. A new book had recently been purchased and funds were available for further purchases. However, there is now a lack of space and the incoming Committee will have to look into this, especially if more books are donated. Dr Mahomed was thanked for his report.
- 8b) **CURATOR OF INSTRUMENTS** : Mr Paul De Villiers advised that all the Centre's instruments have now been traced. One mirror has been re-aluminised. The "Ron Atkins" telescope is in need of repair. Some components have already been purchased for this.
- 9) **HONORARY MEMBERS' AWARDS & SPECIAL AWARDS** : The Chairman then presented Mr Cliff Turk with a Certificate of Meritorious Service from the A.S.S.A. Council and a special book. (Applause), and he in turn presented Mr Gray with a certificate of Honorary Membership of A.S.S.A. as a result of his involvement in the Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg and Cape Centres over the years. (Applause)..
- 10) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (GENERAL)** : The Chairman displayed the proposed new Centre Logo and thanked Miss Joanne Willmore for her hard work and artistic talents. Mr Graeme Rogers of the "Third Age" (Retired persons) advised that meetings take place in the SAAO lecture hall on Thursdays at 14h00 and suggested that some members may care to join these meetings. His telephone number is 712-7807.
- 11) **ELECTIONS** : The following were duly Proposed and Seconded as members of the incoming Committee :
CHAIRMAN ----- Mr M A Gray
VICE-CHAIRMAN --- Mr A McConnell
TREASURER ----- Mr A Jones
SECRETARY ----- Mr M Christianson
COMMITTEE ----- Messrs. Dr A Mahomed, P De Villiers, B Wagener, D Field, Miss J Willmore with a possibility of Mr R Bauer being co-opted

Noted with thanks that Mesdames Val McConnell and Lorraine Christianson will offer their assistance in arranging teas for the future formal meetings.

Mr C Turk was re-elected as Honorary Auditor and Mr P de Villiers as a the Editor of the Newsletter, the "*Cape Observer*".
- 12) **INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME** : The Chairman, having been re-elected as such once again welcomed all present.
- 13) **ADDRESS TO CENTRE** : The Chairman then presented his Address which was titled "*Nostradamus and other Prophets of Doom*" and started by reading the "Stars Foretell" from the morning and evening papers, each of which was diametrically opposed to the other. He stated that the numerous predictions of major disasters resulting from planetary alignments etc., had never taken place but felt that in the distant past, any disasters were essentially man made. A major calamity is supposedly due on 23rd December 2012 as a result of the "end" of the Mayan Calendar but felt that this is highly unlikely. If such a disaster doe take place, 2012 will be a most interesting year.
- 14) **CLOSURE** : With sincere thanks to all present for their attendance, there being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting closed at 21h10 and requested that the Committee meet for a few moments immediately after the closure..

Dated 11-7-01.....

Signed  Chairman

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the above Centre will take place at 20h00 (8 p.m.) on WEDNESDAY 11TH DAY OF JULY 2001 at the Lecture Hall of the South African Astronomical Observatory, Observatory, Cape Town.

THE AGENDA :

- ✓ 1. To declare the Meeting open at 20h00 and record the name of those attending
- ✓ 2. To record Apologies
- ✓ 3. To approve, confirm and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 26th July 2000, a copy of which appears on the reverse of this Notice.
- ✓ 4. To discuss any Matters arising therefrom
- ✓ 5. To receive the Chairman's Report (Andrew Gray)
- ✓ 6. To receive the Treasurer's Report (Tony Jones)
- ✓ 7. To receive the Report of the Centre Trust (Cliff Turk)
- ✓ 8. To receive reports from the Librarian and the Curator of Instruments (A. Mahomed & P. de Villiers) ✓ *D. Field - DARK SKIES* ✓ *FR!*
- ✓ 9. Honorary Members' Awards and Special Award
- ✓ 10. Revision of the 2002/2003 subscriptions from R20-00 to R30-00 p.a.
- ✓ 11. Any other business
12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS :
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice-Chairman
 - c. Honorary Secretary
 - d. Honorary Treasurer
 - e. Committee Members (Minimum 3, maximum 7) NB : A member of the Centre is eligible for election to the Committee after having been a fully paid up member for at least one year.
 - ✓ f. Honorary Auditor
 - ✓ g. Centre Representative to serve on A.S.S.A. Council
 - ✓ h. Editor of the "Cape Observer" Newsletter
13. Welcome from incoming Chairman
14. Retiring Chairman's Address to the Centre (Andrew Gray)
15. To close the Annual General Meeting

M J Christianson

Secretary

Tel/Fax : (021-) 531 1100

19th June 2001

PLEASE BRING THIS NOTICE WITH YOU TO THE A.G.M. !!!

Thank you.

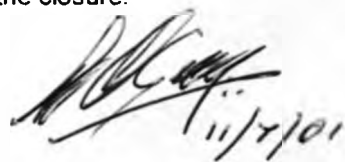
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (CAPE CENTRE) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26th JULY 2000 IN THE LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O., OBSERVATORY, CAPE TOWN.

1. Opening : The Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting open at 20h03 and welcomed all present, requesting that the Attendance Register be signed. As a mark of respect and in memory of the late Mr Charles Allen, the assembly rose and maintained a minute's silence.
2. APOLOGIES were recorded from the following Members : Mr T Lloyd-Evans, Mr P Van Blommenstein and Mr M Saltinsky.
3. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th August 1999, having been circulated to all Members, it was proposed and seconded that these be confirmed and signed. Carried out.

4. **MATTERS ARISING** : There were no Matters arising.
5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** : The Chairman then presented his Report for the period August 1999 to July 2000, a copy of which has been entered in the Minute Book.
6. **TREASURER'S REPORT** : Mr D Duprez presented his Report (copy attached to these Minutes) which indicated that Subscription income had increased but donations had decreased. Total income was R 3 465.96 (R 4 281.90). Expenses had dropped from R 4000.63 to R 2 442.44 for the year. Income over expenditure showed R 1023.50 as opposed to R 281.30 the previous year. The balance in the Bank Account was R 3 352.77. The Report was approved and the Chairman Proposed (duly seconded) that an amount of R 500.00 be donated to the Centre Trust. Approved.
7. **CENTRE TRUST** : Mr Cliff Turk advised that as at December 1999, the capital stood at R 7 228 which earns interest which can be disbursed. The Trust stood at R 13 061 but an amount of R 1 391.96 had had to be paid to the Receiver of Revenue as tax over some five years. He noted that no donations had been received from the Centre during the last two years. He then presented the Chairman with a cheque for R 600.00 being a grant-in-aid for the Centre for two years. He was warmly thanked for this.
8. **LIBRARIAN'S REPORT** : Dr Abe Mahomed reported that there had been an increase in the use of the Library. Thanks to members' donations, the library had acquired more books. A new book had recently been purchased and funds were available for further purchases. However, there is now a lack of space and the incoming Committee will have to look into this, especially if more books are donated. Dr Mahomed was thanked for his report.
9. **CURATOR OF INSTRUMENTS** : Mr Paul De Villiers advised that all the Centre's instruments have now been traced. One mirror has been re-aluminised. The "Ron Atkins" telescope is in need of repair. Some components have already been purchased for this.
10. **HONORARY MEMBERS' AWARDS & SPECIAL AWARDS** : The Chairman then presented Mr Cliff Turk with a Certificate of Meritorious Service from the A.S.S.A. Council and a special book. (Applause), and he in turn presented Mr Gray with a certificate of Honorary Membership of A.S.S.A. as a result of his involvement in the Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg and Cape Centres over the years. (Applause).
11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (GENERAL)** : The Chairman displayed the proposed new Centre Logo and thanked Miss Joanne Willmore for her hard work and artistic talents. Mr Graeme Rogers of the "Third Age" (Retired persons) advised that meetings take place in the SAAO lecture hall on Thursdays at 14h00 and suggested that some members may care to join these meetings. His telephone number is 712-7807.
12. **ELECTIONS** : The following were duly Proposed and Seconded as members of the incoming Committee :

CHAIRMAN	Mr M A Gray
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Mr A McConnell
TREASURER	Mr A Jones
SECRETARY	Mr M Christianson
COMMITTEE	Messrs. Dr A Mahomed, P De Villiers, B Wagener, D Field, Miss J Willmore with a possibility of Mr R Bauer being co-opted

Noted with thanks that Mesdames Val McConnell and Lorraine Christianson will offer their assistance in arranging teas for the future formal meetings.
Mr C Turk was re-elected as Honorary Auditor and Mr P de Villiers as a the Editor of the Newsletter, the "Cape Observer".
13. **INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME** : The Chairman, having been re-elected as such once again welcomed all present.
14. **ADDRESS TO CENTRE** : The Chairman then presented his Address which was titled "Nostradamus and other Prophets of Doom" and started by reading the "Stars Foretell" from the morning and evening papers, each of which was diametrically opposed to the other. He stated that the numerous predictions of major disasters resulting from planetary alignments etc., had never taken place but felt that in the distant past, any disasters were essentially man made. A major calamity is supposedly due on 23rd December 2012 as a result of the "end" of the Mayan Calendar but felt that this is highly unlikely. If such a disaster doe take place, 2012 will be a most interesting year.
15. **CLOSURE** : With sincere thanks to all present for their attendance, there being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting closed at 21h10 and requested that the Committee meet for a few moments immediately after the closure.



11/12/01

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on 15th MAY 2001
in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.

- ✓ 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- ✓ 2) Present *A. Gray, McConnel, A. Jones, James, Paul, Nico + Cliff Turf*
- ✓ 3) Apologies *None*
- ✓ 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- ✓ 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- ✓ 6) Correspondence
- ✓ 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
Subs for full year: met 2001/2
- ✓ 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 9) THINK TANK MATTERS: *- Solar eclipse day - telescope to shopping centre 21/6/01 - 11h17⁴⁵ - 13h17⁴⁵ - 15h49*
- ✓ 10) Photo Competition *- 30/5/01. = meet on 29/5/01 to put up photos*
- ✓ 11) Library - *NIL*
- 12) General A.G.M. *- Dinner 19.00 6/6/01; Banner - go ahead; mugs - rec'd; Dark Sky Sat 11/6/01 at Zoo. confirm 2nd Wed 11th July - 25/7/01 ASS & AGM.*
- 13) Date of the next meeting *- Tues 19/6/01.*
- 14) To declare the meeting closed.
2/11/06
*membership cards proposed
Bria Shine proposed
for de Kock Strand
Duly approved.*

Remove G.S. - Medherbe deceased.
Add Turbators

David Miller sale
The Lock shop
Bloum St.

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON TUESDAY 15TH ~~APRIL~~ ^{MAY} 2001.

PRESENT: Messrs, A Gray, A McConnell, A Jones, J Willmore, P De Villiers, M.Christianson and C Turk.

1) OPENING: The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.

2) APOLOGIES: None.

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: These were approved.

4) MATTERS ARISING: Matters arising were discussed under the separate headings below.

5) CORRESPONDENCE:

The usual circulars and newsletters. E-mails sent to all ASSA Section Directors. Replies from only two. Three to be contacted again. Letter from J Neethling wishes to join. Letter from R B Malherbe re death of his brother.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT:

Financial report for the period ending 15th May 2001.

Bank balance and cash R2639.51

Income R6138.45

Expenses R5218.81

Profit 1/7/2000 to 30/1/01 R 919.74

Honorary and paid up members 129

Sales

T-shirts sold R2000.00

Mugs R 10.00

Stickers R 3.00

Equipment R 200.00

Estimated expenses to end June 2001:

News Letters R220 x 4 R 220,00

Photographic competition R 300,00

Tea and biscuits R 20.00

Total R 540.00

Subscriptions: It was agreed that raised subscriptions would be proposed at the AGM as follows:

Members: R30; Family: R40 and Students: R15. This to take effect from 2001/2002.

7) NEW MEMBERS: The following new member was approved:

M/s R Stephens and Dr and Mrs P Tarboton.

8) THINK TANK MATTERS:

The think tank held on the 10th April had been analysed and categorised and Committee members were asked to prioritise these before finalisation could be made.

Solar Eclipse on 21 June: members to be asked to have telescopes available for public in shopping centres.

Internet list of overseas Astronomical Societies in English speaking countries to be obtained.

9) Photographic Competition:

Sub committee to meet on 29 ~~June~~ ^{May} to arrange submitted Photos.

10) LIBRARY: 2 more keys were required for the library cupboard.

11) GENERAL: Imax changed to 6th June members to be phoned. Banner nearly complete. Mugs now received. Dark Sky: Saturday 18th ~~June~~ ^{July} at zoo parking area. AGM to go ahead on 11th July. Cape Centre to host ASSA AGM on 25th July. It was proposed that Brian Skinner be given the De Kock Award, this was duly approved.

12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: At the usual venue on TUESDAY 19th June 2001.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21h06.

Dated.....2001.

Signed.....

Chairman.

CAPE CENTRE - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DUTIES

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (In alphabetical order):

CHRISTIANSON Mike, De VILLIERS Paul, FIELD Dudley, GRAY Andrew, JONES Tony, McCONNELL Andrew, MAHOMED Abe, WAGENER Bernard, WILLMORE Joanne.

Telephone numbers :

M Christianson 531-1100 P de Villiers 981-0431 D Field 557-6561
A Gray 785-5568 A Jones 558-5738 A Mahomed 696-5657
A McConnell 58-5204 B Wagener 644-947 J Willmore 712-6929

MEETING DATE IN/FORMAL SPEAKER

2 nd May	Informal	D Field
9 th May	FORMAL	IMAX
16 th May	Informal	A Gray
23 rd May	Informal	A Jones
30 th May	PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION	
6 th June	Informal	A Mahomed
13 th June	FORMAL	ECLIPSES Cliff Turk
20 th June	Informal	A McConnel
27 th June	Informal	B Wagener
4 th July	Informal	J Willmore
11 th July	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	

CAPE CENTRE - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DUTIES

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (In alphabetical order):

CHRISTIANSON Mike, De VILLIERS Paul, DOGAN Paul, FIELD Dudley, JONES Tony, KOCH Karin, McCONNELL Andrew, WAGENER Bernard, WILLMORE Joanne, WOLF Leslie.

Telephone numbers :

M Christianson 531-1100 P de Villiers 981-0431 P Dogan 5072493
 D Field 557-6561 A Jones 558-5738 K Koch 558 0778
 A McConnell ~~08-3785 749~~ B Wagener 644-947 J Willmore 712-6929
 L Wolf 7946354.

MEETING DATE	IN/FORMAL	SPEAKER
*****	*****	*****
18 th July	FORMAL	Prof. Tourag
25 th July	FORMAL	ASSA AGM
1 ST August	Informal	M Christianson
8 th August	FORMAL	Prof. M Feast
15 th August	Informal	P de Villiers
22 nd August	Informal	P Dogan
29 th August	Informal	D Field
5 th September	Informal	A Jones
12 th Sept	FORMAL	Prof. De Witt
19 th Sept	Informal	K Koch/ Jwillmore
26 th Sept	Informal	A McConnell
3 rd October	Informal	B Wagener
10 th October	FORMAL	Prof Harley
17 th October	Informal	L Wolf

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE

Mon

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on 19th JUNE 2001
in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present. ✓
- 2) Present A Gray, Alie, Paul, Barrade, Andrew, Dudley, Mike, Joanne
- 3) Apologies Tony Jones,
- ✓ 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved ✓
- ✓ 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- ✓ 6) Correspondence 6 letters of thanks, 5 e-mails to Directors of Sect, and 1 UK letter
- ✓ 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- ✓ 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre. 3 new
- 9) THINK TANK MATTERS :
- 10) Photo Competition - letters to ^{sponsors.} donors.
- 11) Library - Books reqd to be purchased.
- 12) General. - Mugs, Banner, Membership cards, ^{letter to Lia.} Briski certif.,
A.G.M. - Committee minutes reqd., Sect reports, ASSA AGM,
- 13) Speakers. - Feast 8/8/01; deWitt & Harley (proofs both)
- 14) Date of the next meeting - After AGM.
- 14) To declare the meeting closed. ✓ 8 20h39.

129 members 15/5
- 32 new members
93 at start!
- 3 deceased.

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON MONDAY 18TH JUNE 2001.**

PRESENT: Messrs, A Gray, A McConnel, J Willmore, P De Villiers, D Field, B Wagener, M.Christianson
and Dr. A Mahomed

1) OPENING: The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.

2) APOLOGIES: Tony Jones.

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: These were approved.

4) MATTERS ARISING: Matters arising were discussed under the separate headings below.

5) CORRESPONDENCE:

The usual circulars and newsletters. E-mails sent to all ASSA Section Directors. Replies from all except Jan Hers, referring to their web sites. Letters of thanks sent to all sponsors of the Photographic competition. Addresses of Astronomical Societies in UK and Australia obtained.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT:

Financial report not available due to the absence of Tony Jones.

7) NEW MEMBERS: The following new members were approved:
M/s J Powis, Mr JN J Deetlefs, Mr. H Brunner.

8) THINK TANK MATTERS:

Think Tank list to be categorised by Committee Members.

Solar Eclipse on 21 June: members to be asked to have telescopes available for public in shopping centres.
Internet list of overseas Astronomical Societies in English speaking countries have been obtained.

9) LIBRARY: 2 more keys were required for the library cupboard.

10) GENERAL: Banner complete and Mugs also. Dark Sky: Saturday 23rd June at new venue. AGM to go ahead on 11th July. Cape Centre to host ASSA AGM on 25th July. Brian Skinner be given a long service Award certificate at the AGM. Membership cards now produced to identify members and for use in library book control. Thanks to Lia Labuschagne.

11) SPEAKERS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Prof. Feast to speak in August and Profs. De Witt and Harley in September and October respectively.

12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: At the usual venue on 11th July 2001 after the AGM.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20h39.

Dated.....2001.

Signed.....
Chairman.

**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE**

**AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Wednesday
11th JULY 2001, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.**

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- 2) Present
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 9) THINK TANK MATTERS :
- 10) Library
- 11) General.
- 12) Date of the next meeting
- 13) To declare the meeting closed.

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR PERIOD 1st JULY 2000 TO 30th JUNE 2001

This second year of my Chairmanship has flown by all too quickly and for this, I have to thank all members of the Committee and the members of the Centre for having made it so enjoyable.

Unfortunately I have to record the sad death of three of our members during the year. They were Mr G Malherbe, Mr Harold Krumm and our old friend and colleague, Dr Alan J Cousins. Please will, you rise and maintain a moment's silence in memory of these stalwarts. Thank you.

Otherwise, the most important thing which I have noticed is the gradual and steady increase in numbers of members and Guests present at our meetings. We started off the year with 93 paid up members and close today with no less than 132 - an increase of about 35%. I can only hope that this trend will continue during the coming year. The increase caused some difficulties with the parking arrangements and with the most kind co-operation of Dr "Bob" Stobie (Director of the SAAO) this has now been solved and parking of cars is under far better control.

In brief, our "Formal Meetings" held on the second Wednesday of each month, have been addressed by some eminent speakers and have been extremely well attended.

July 2000	Dr R Stobie (Director of SAAO)	"The South African Large Telescope"
August	Mr John Richards (SABC)	"Our Environment - the Universe"
September	Dr Peter Martinez	"The Robotic Telescope at Sutherland"
October	Mr Edward Foster (Dept. Biochemistry)	"The Origin of Life"
November	Dr Patrick Woudt	"The Search for the Great Attractor"
December	Centre's Christmas Party	(13 th December)
January 2001	IN RECESS	-----
February	Professor Cleymans (UCT)	"The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider - USA"
March	Professor G Ellis	"A Flat Universe?"
April	Centre's "Think Tank"	Well over sixty ideas resulted from this
May	Mr Rupert Hurly	"The Abbe La Caille"
June	Mr Cliff Turk	"The forthcoming Solar Eclipse"

At these meetings, the attendance ranged from 23 to 36 with a maximum of 42, but as several people present failed to sign the register, the figures were actually somewhat higher. An average of five visitors attended each of these. For arranging these lectures, we owe sincere thanks to Abe Mahomed for arranging them while having his hands full as our P.R.O., and also acting as Membership Secretary of A.S.S.A. - A job extremely well done.

At the informal meetings, held on the remaining Wednesdays, attendances have been extremely good, occasionally being "standing room only" and I thank those members of the Committee who prepared and delivered their less formal but highly interesting talks.

Outside activities included several "Dark Sky" evenings where the really keen amateurs disappear into the countryside and spend most of the night studying the stars in almost perfect conditions. These evenings were generally arranged by Dudley Field. Otherwise, a number of members supported special evenings with telescopes and binoculars at Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens - all well supported by the public at large.

A number of members assisted at the S.A.A.O. on Saturday "open nights" when there were many

Chairman's Report - page 2 :

visitors on each occasion.

The Centre "Braaiivleis"- accompanied by a brisk South-Easter and held on 17th March - was somewhat poorly attended but those who were there thoroughly enjoyed the more social side of our membership. This kind of activity deserves better support.

An excellent photographic competition was held on 30th May and we were honoured by having Dr Patricia Whitelock present to hand out the prizes. How the Judges managed to make their final decisions, we will never know for the standard shown was first class in all categories.

Many Centre members attended a showing of the "Solar Max" film at the Imax Theatre on 6th June this year and enjoyed the film, even if it was somewhat aimed at the public rather than astronomers - professional or amateur.

Quite a number of our Members both here and in Lusaka were involved with the Solar Eclipse on June 21st. In Cape Town, telescopes and other equipment were set up at shopping Centres, Schools, the Planetarium, the Waterfront and of course at the Observatory itself. Some excellent photographs of totality were taken in Zambia.

Our "Logo" has been redesigned and modernised. Coffee mugs and Tee shirts bear this new logo and a superb new banner has just been completed for use at public gatherings. A considerable number of publicity "fliers" has also been produced and for all of these and the artwork involved, we must thank Miss Joanne Willmore for her fine and artistic efforts.

Now to the general "Thanks" part of this Report.

Firstly to the Director and Staff of the S.A.A.O. for their continuing kind assistance and for allowing us the use of the Lecture Hall at no cost.

Secondly to those two stalwarts without whom no organisation can function properly, namely Mike Christianson as Secretary and Tony Jones as Treasurer.

I also wish to thank all the other members of the Committee for their enthusiasm and dedication, whatever their various portfolios might have been. Their support to me as Chairman has been invaluable.

My personal thanks to Andrew McConnell, our Vice-Chairman for holding the fort whenever I have been unable to be present at a meeting.

The ladies who put themselves out so magnificently by providing tea, coffee and biscuits at our formal and special meetings. Thank you ladies!

Finally, to every one of you, the Members for your support and interest in this, our Science and Hobby. To some, Astronomy is a most serious business - and so it is - but when we can enjoy it and have a bit of fun with it as well, then, all to the good.

I wish my successor in office and his or her Committee every success for the forthcoming year May the Centre go from strength to strength. It has been a privilege to serve you.

Thank you.

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

ASSETS	2001	2000
Cash	1081.57	145.65
Savings A/c	2163.69	3352.77
Fixed Deposit	3500.00	3500.00
Sundry Debtors	32.40	0.00
	6777.66	6998.42
Stock - Other	0.00	0.00
Stock - T Shirts	1387.14	57.32
Stock - Stickers	23.00	24.50
Stock - Mugs	454.18	66.89
	1864.32	148.51
Eqpt - Ron Atkins	2000.00	2000.00
Eqpt - Eyepieces	500.00	500.00
Eqpt - Larmuth	100.00	100.00
Eqpt - Projector	300.00	300.00
Library Cabinet	1150.00	350.00
Tea Urn	400	
	4450.00	3250.00
TOTAL ASSETS	13091.98	10396.93
LIABILITIES		
Key Deposits	50.00	50.00
Due to CC Trust	0.00	0.00
Subs Pd In Advance	1477.60	0.00
Sundry Cr	82.17	72.17
	1609.77	122.17
General Fund	11482.21	10274.76
TOTAL LIABILITIES	13091.98	10396.93

In my opinion the above Balance Sheet and accompanying Income & Expenditure statement give a true and fair view of the financial state of the affairs of the Cape Centre ASSA as at 30 June 2001

.....Hon Auditor

CAPE CENTRE ASSA

Income & Expenditure 2000 / 2001

	2001	2000
INCOME		
Subscriptions	2360.00	1938.00
Donations	2663.73	749.00
Sale of Stock	2113.00	252.00
Sale of Handbooks	300.00	0.00
Interest Received	369.30	526.96
Sale of Eqpt	200.00	0.00
Total	8006.03	3465.96
C/Observer	2649.40	1631.92
Meeting Exps	269.26	0.00
Admin - Keys	80.00	509.39
Post & Phone	140.00	0.00
Stationery	450.65	0.00
Library	75.00	0.00
Speaker's Gifts	68.74	0.00
Other Gifts	28.60	0.00
Bank Charges	134.38	0.00
Xmas Party	249.13	241.13
Cost Of Stock Sold	1759.95	0.00
Other Expenses	259.29	0.00
Photo Competition	634.18	0.00
Insurance	0.00	60.00
Total	6798.58	2442.44
Income Over Exp	1207.45	1023.52

.....Hon Auditor

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA (CAPE CENTRE) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th JULY 2001 IN THE LECTURE HALL
S.A.A.O., OBSERVATORY, CAPE TOWN.**

- 1) **Opening :** The Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting open and welcomed all present, requesting that the Attendance Register be signed. As a mark of respect and in memory of those members who died during the year, the assembly rose and maintained a minute's silence.
- 2) **APOLOGIES** were recorded from the following Members : Mr T Lloyd-Evans, Mr P Van Blommenstein, Mr A Jones, Mr R Hurly, Mr C Rijdsdijk, Miss K Smedley-Williams, Mrs W Blomkamp, Mr Du Plessis and Mr M Soltynski
- 3) The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th July 2000, having been circulated to all Members, it was proposed and seconded that these be confirmed and signed. Carried.
- 4) **MATTERS ARISING :** Mr M Soltynski's name was spelt incorrectly. The proposal that R500 be donated to the Centre Trust had not taken place and Mr Forder was asked to rectify this.
- 5) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT :** The Chairman then presented his Report for the period July 2000 to June 2001, a copy of which has been entered in the Minute Book.
- 6) **TREASURER'S REPORT :** Mr C Forder presented the Report (copy attached to these Minutes) on behalf of Mr A Jones, which indicated that Subscription income and donations had increased. Total income was R 8006.03 (R 3465.96). Expenses had also increased to R 6798.58 from R 2 442.44 for the year. Income over expenditure showed R 1207.45 as opposed to R 1023.52 the previous year. The balance in the Bank Account was R 2163.69. The Report was approved.
- 7) **CENTRE TRUST :** Mr Cliff Turk advised that as at December 2000, the capital stood at R 7 228 which earns interest which can be disbursed. The Trust stood at R14 000 plus available for disbursement. He was thanked for his report.
- 8a) **LIBRARIAN'S REPORT :** Dr Abe Mahomed thanked the Bauer family for the library cabinet which they had donated and the numerous people who had donated books. There had been a variable usage of the library during the year and there was room for improvement. He recommended that the Librarian should only do library duties and that there should be more books catering for newcomers. It was also recommended that be better control of and fines should be levied for overdue books and that a bigger video library should be built up. Dr Mahomed was thanked for his report.
- 8b) **CURATOR OF INSTRUMENTS :** Mr Paul De Villiers advised that all the Centre's instruments are now in working order and that the "Ron Atkins" telescope had been repaired. repair. A 6 inch telescope had been donated but a finderscope is required.
- 8c) **DARKSKY SECTION:** Mr Dudley Field reported that there had been problems with the venues for darksky viewing and was hopeful that the new Orange-kloof venue would provide the answer. A number of really good viewing evenings had been held with generally good attendances of 6-8 telescopes and 15 observers. The planets had been prominent and the two comets
- 9) **HONORARY MEMBERS' AWARDS & SPECIAL AWARDS :** The Chairman then presented Mr Brian Skinner with the de Kock Award for services to the Centre and ASSA.
- 10) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (GENERAL) :** The Chairman thanked Miss Joanne Willmore for her hard work and artistic talents in designing the Centre Banner and the mug emblem. He also thanked other Committee members for their efforts during the year.
- 11) **ELECTIONS :** The following were duly Proposed and Seconded as members of the incoming Committee :

CHAIRMAN ----- Mr M A McConnell

VICE-CHAIRMAN --- Mr D Field

TREASURER ----- Mr A Jones

SECRETARY ----- Mr M Christianson

COMMITTEE ----- Messrs. P De Villiers, B Wagener, Miss J Willmore, Mrs K Koch, Mr L Wolf and Mr P Dogan.

Noted with thanks that Mesdames Val McConnell, Karin Koch and Lorraine Christianson for their assistance in arranging teas etc for the formal meetings.

Mr C Turk was re-elected as Honorary Auditor and Mr P de Villiers as a the Editor of the Newsletter, the "*Cape Observer*".

- 12) **INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME :** The incoming Chairman, then addressed the meeting.
- 13) **ADDRESS TO CENTRE :** The outgoing Chairman then presented his Address to the meeting.
- 14) **CLOSURE :** With sincere thanks to all present for their attendance, there being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting closed at 21h32 and requested that the Committee meet for a few moments immediately after the closure.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA (CAPE CENTRE) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th JULY 2001 IN THE LECTURE HALL

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 - 3) The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th July 2000, having been circulated to all Members, it was proposed and seconded that these be taken as read, confirmed and signed. Carried.
 - 4) **MATTERS ARISING** : Mr M Soltynski's name was spelt incorrectly. The proposal that R500 be donated to the Centre Trust had not taken place and Mr Forder was asked to rectify this.
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 - 14) **CLOSURE** : With sincere thanks to all present for their attendance, there being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting closed at 21h32 and requested that the Committee meet for a few moments immediately after the closure.

Dated

Signed

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15/07/01
Prof Neil Torack.

22/07/01
ASSA AGM

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the above Centre will take place at 20h00 (8 p.m.) on WEDNESDAY 11TH DAY OF JULY 2001 at the Lecture Hall of the South African Astronomical Observatory, Observatory, Cape Town.

THE AGENDA :

1. To declare the Meeting open at 20h00 and record the name of those attending
2. To record Apologies *Sotilga skai*
3. To approve, confirm and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 26th July 2000, a copy of which appears on the reverse of this Notice.
4. To discuss any Matters arising therefrom
5. To receive the Chairman's Report (Andrew Gray)
6. To receive the Treasurer's Report (Tony Jones)
7. To receive the Report of the Centre Trust (Cliff Turk)
8. To receive reports from the Librarian and the Curator of Instruments (A. Mahomed & P. de Villiers)
9. Honorary Members' Awards and Special Award
10. Revision of the 2002/2003 subscriptions from R20-00 to R30-00 p.a.
11. Any other business
12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS :
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice-Chairman
 - c. Honorary Secretary
 - d. Honorary Treasurer
 - e. Committee Members (Minimum 3, maximum 7) NB : A member of the Centre is eligible for election to the Committee after having been a fully paid up member for at least one year.
 - f. Honorary Auditor
 - g. Centre Representative to serve on A.S.S.A. Council
 - h. Editor of the "Cape Observer" Newsletter
13. Welcome from incoming Chairman
14. Retiring Chairman's Address to the Centre (Andrew Gray)
15. To close the Annual General Meeting

M J Christianson

Secretary

Tel/Fax : (021-) 531 1100

19th June 2001

PLEASE BRING THIS NOTICE WITH YOU TO THE A.G.M. !!!

Thank you.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (CAPE CENTRE) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26th JULY 2000 IN THE LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O., OBSERVATORY, CAPE TOWN.

1. Opening : The Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting open at 20h03 and welcomed all present, requesting that the Attendance Register be signed. As a mark of respect and in memory of the late Mr Charles Allen, the assembly rose and maintained a minute's silence.
2. APOLOGIES were recorded from the following Members : Mr T Lloyd-Evans, Mr P Van Blommenstein and Mr M Saltinsky.
3. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th August 1999, having been circulated to all Members, it was proposed and seconded that these be confirmed and signed. Carried out.

4. **MATTERS ARISING** : There were no Matters arising.
5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** : The Chairman then presented his Report for the period August 1999 to July 2000, a copy of which has been entered in the Minute Book.
6. **TREASURER'S REPORT** : Mr D Duprez presented his Report (copy attached to these Minutes) which indicated that Subscription income had increased but donations had decreased. Total income was R 3 465.96 (R 4 281.90). Expenses had dropped from R 4000.63 to R 2 442.44 for the year. Income over expenditure showed R 1023.50 as opposed to R 281.30 the previous year. The balance in the Bank Account was R 3 352.77. The Report was approved and the Chairman Proposed (duly seconded) that an amount of R 500.00 be donated to the Centre Trust. Approved.
7. **CENTRE TRUST** : Mr Cliff Turk advised that as at December 1999, the capital stood at R 7 228 which earns interest which can be disbursed. The Trust stood at R 13 061 but an amount of R 1 391.96 had had to be paid to the Receiver of Revenue as tax over some five years. He noted that no donations had been received from the Centre during the last two years. He then presented the Chairman with a cheque for R 600.00 being a grant-in-aid for the Centre for two years. He was warmly thanked for this.
8. **LIBRARIAN'S REPORT** : Dr Abe Mahomed reported that there had been an increase in the use of the Library. Thanks to members' donations, the library had acquired more books. A new book had recently been purchased and funds were available for further purchases. However, there is now a lack of space and the incoming Committee will have to look into this, especially if more books are donated. Dr Mahomed was thanked for his report.
9. **CURATOR OF INSTRUMENTS** : Mr Paul De Villiers advised that all the Centre's instruments have now been traced. One mirror has been re-aluminised. The "Ron Atkins" telescope is in need of repair. Some components have already been purchased for this.
10. **HONORARY MEMBERS' AWARDS & SPECIAL AWARDS** : The Chairman then presented Mr Cliff Turk with a Certificate of Meritorious Service from the A.S.S.A. Council and a special book. (Applause), and he in turn presented Mr Gray with a certificate of Honorary Membership of A.S.S.A. as a result of his involvement in the Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg and Cape Centres over the years. (Applause).
11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (GENERAL)** : The Chairman displayed the proposed new Centre Logo and thanked Miss Joanne Willmore for her hard work and artistic talents. Mr Graeme Rogers of the "Third Age" (Retired persons) advised that meetings take place in the SAAO lecture hall on Thursdays at 14h00 and suggested that some members may care to join these meetings. His telephone number is 712-7807.
12. **ELECTIONS** : The following were duly Proposed and Seconded as members of the incoming Committee :

CHAIRMAN	Mr M A Gray
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Mr A McConnell
TREASURER	Mr A Jones
SECRETARY	Mr M Christianson
COMMITTEE	Messrs. Dr A Mahomed, P De Villiers, B Wagener, D Field, Miss J Willmore with a possibility of Mr R Bauer being co-opted

Noted with thanks that Mesdames Val McConnell and Lorraine Christianson will offer their assistance in arranging teas for the future formal meetings.
Mr C Turk was re-elected as Honorary Auditor and Mr P de Villiers as the Editor of the Newsletter, the "Cape Observer".
13. **INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME** : The Chairman, having been re-elected as such once again welcomed all present.
14. **ADDRESS TO CENTRE** : The Chairman then presented his Address which was titled "Nostradamus and other Prophets of Doom" and started by reading the "Stars Foretell" from the morning and evening papers. Each of which was diametrically opposed to the other. He stated that the numerous predictions of major disasters resulting from planetary alignments etc., had never taken place but felt that in the distant past, any disasters were essentially man made. A major calamity is supposedly due on 23rd December 2012 as a result of the "end" of the Mayan Calendar but felt that this is highly unlikely. If such a disaster does take place, 2012 will be a most interesting year.
15. **CLOSURE** : With sincere thanks to all present for their attendance, there being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting closed at 21h10 and requested that the Committee meet for a few moments immediately after the closure.



FEDLIFE

AGM 11/07/01

1. Opening
2. Apologies - Rupert Harley, Kim Smedley Williams, de Plessen & Saltyski, Tony Jones, Keer Rysdijk, Tom Lloyd-Coomes
3. Min: Prof Abe, Second Board
4. Ann: Saltyski's name wrongly spelt.
AGM: Reso to Centre Trust - not passed on - Chris to handle.
5. Chairman's report:
 - Treasurer: Brian, Liz - audit - Cliff
7. Centre Trust:
8. Reports: Abe: Library; Paul: Restaurants; Dudley: Dark Skys
9. Awards: Boiski - de Kock Award:
10. Revising data -

	member	couple	student
20-30		30-45	10-15
Bernard:		30-40	
11. Other business: e-mail will reduce post costs
12. Nom for Chair:
 - Chair: Andrew - Cliff 2nd Amed?
 - Treas: Tony - Chris - Bernard
 - Sec: M.J.C. - Amed - Cliff.
 - Members: Dudley - Cliff - Amed. Centre Rep.
 - Bernard - Amed - Joanne.
 - Lesley Wolf - Andrew - Bernard.
 - Paul Doga - Paul - Cliff
 - Paul De Vill - Dudley - Brian
 - Joanne - Chris - Dudley.
 - Karin - Val - Amed
13. Hon Auditor - Cliff Turk - Amed. &
13. Leaving Chairman
14. Retiring Chair Address:
15. Close 2/4 32

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE CENTRE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR PERIOD 1st JULY 2000 TO 30th JUNE 2001

This second year of my Chairmanship has flown by all too quickly and for this, I have to thank all members of the Committee and the members of the Centre for having made it so enjoyable.

Unfortunately I have to record the sad death of three of our members during the year. They were Mr G Malherbe, Mr Harold Krumm and our old friend and colleague, Dr Alan J Cousins. Please will, you rise and maintain a moment's silence in memory of these stalwarts. Thank you.

Otherwise, the most important thing which I have noticed is the gradual and steady increase in numbers of members and Guests present at our meetings. We started off the year with 93 paid up members and close today with no less than 132 - an increase of about 35%. I can only hope that this trend will continue during the coming year. The increase caused some difficulties with the parking arrangements and with the most kind co-operation of Dr "Bob" Stobie (Director of the SAAO) this has now been solved and parking of cars is under far better control.

In brief, our "Formal Meetings" held on the second Wednesday of each month, have been addressed by some eminent speakers and have been extremely well attended.

July 2000	Dr R Stobie (Director of SAAO)	"The South African Large Telescope"
August	Mr John Richards (SABC)	"Our Environment - the Universe"
September	Dr Peter Martinez	"The Robotic Telescope at Sutherland"
October	Mr Edward Foster (Dept. Biochemistry)	"The Origin of Life"
November	Dr Patrick Woudt	"The Search for the Great Attractor"
December	Centre's Christmas Party	(13 th December)
January 2001	IN RECESS	-----
February	Professor Cleymans (UCT)	"The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider - USA)
March	Professor G Ellis	"A Flat Universe?"
April	Centre's "Think Tank"	Well over sixty ideas resulted from this
May	Mr Rupert Hurly	"The Abbe La Caille"
June	Mr Cliff Turk	"The forthcoming Solar Eclipse"

At these meetings, the attendance ranged from 23 to 36 with a maximum of 42, but as several people present failed to sign the register, the figures were actually somewhat higher. An average of five visitors attended each of these. For arranging these lectures, we owe sincere thanks to Abe Mahomed for arranging them while having his hands full as our P.R.O., and also acting as Membership Secretary of A.S.S.A. - A job extremely well done.

At the informal meetings, held on the remaining Wednesdays, attendances have been extremely good, occasionally being "standing room only" and I thank those members of the Committee who prepared and delivered their less formal but highly interesting talks.

Outside activities included several "Dark Sky" evenings where the really keen amateurs disappear into the countryside and spend most of the night studying the stars in almost perfect conditions. These evenings were generally arranged by Dudley Field. Otherwise, a number of members supported special evenings with telescopes and binoculars at Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens - all well supported by the public at large.

Chairman's Report - Page 2 :

Our Centre "Braaivleis"- accompanied by a brisk South-Easter and held on 17th March - was somewhat poorly attended but those who were there thoroughly enjoyed the more social side of our membership. This kind of activity deserves better support.

An excellent photographic competition was held on 30th May and we were honoured by having Dr Patricia Whitelock present to hand out the prizes. How the Judges managed to make their final decisions, we will never know for the standard shown was first class in all categories.

Many Centre members attended a showing of the "Solar Max" film at the Imax Theatre on 6th June this year and enjoyed the film, even if it was somewhat aimed at the public rather than astronomers - professional or amateur.

Quite a number of our Members both here and in Lusaka were involved with the Solar Eclipse on June 21st. In Cape Town, telescopes and other equipment were set up at shopping Centres, Schools, the Planetarium, the Waterfront and of course at the Observatory itself. Some excellent photographs of totality were taken in Zambia.

Our "Logo" has been redesigned and modernised. Coffee mugs and Tee shirts bear this new logo and a superb new banner has just been completed for use at public gatherings. A considerable number of publicity "fliers" has also been produced and for all of these and the artwork involved, we must thank Miss Joanne Willmore for her fine and artistic efforts.

Now to the general "Thanks" part of this Report.

Firstly to the Director and Staff of the S.A.A.O. for their continuing kind assistance and for allowing us the use of the Lecture Hall at no cost.

Secondly to those two stalwarts without whom no organisation can function properly, namely Mike Christianson as Secretary and Tony Jones as Treasurer.

I also wish to thank all the other members of the Committee for their enthusiasm and dedication, whatever their various portfolios might have been. Their support to me as Chairman has been invaluable.

My personal thanks to Andrew McConnell, our Vice-Chairman for holding the fort whenever I have been unable to be present at a meeting.

The ladies who put themselves out so magnificently by providing tea, coffee and biscuits at our formal and special meetings. Thank you ladies!

Finally, to every one of you, the Members for your support and interest in this, our Science and Hobby. To some, Astronomy is a most serious business - and so it is - but when we can enjoy it and have a bit of fun with it as well, then, all to the good.

I wish my successor in office and his or her Committee every success for the forthcoming year May the Centre go from strength to strength. It has been a privilege to serve you.

Thank you.

M A Gray
Chairman - 2000/2001

11th July 2001

Chairman's Report - Page 2 :

Our Centre "Braaivleis"- accompanied by a brisk South-Easter and held on 17th March - was somewhat poorly attended but those who were there thoroughly enjoyed the more social side of our membership. This kind of activity deserves better support.

An excellent photographic competition was held on 30th May and we were honoured by having Dr Patricia Whitelock present to hand out the prizes. How the Judges managed to make their final decisions, we will never know for the standard shown was first class in all categories.

Many Centre members attended a showing of the "Solar Max" film at the Imax Theatre on 6th June this year and enjoyed the film, even if it was somewhat aimed at the public rather than astronomers - professional or amateur.

Quite a number of our Members both here and in Lusaka were involved with the Solar Eclipse on June 21st. In Cape Town, telescopes and other equipment were set up at shopping Centres, Schools, the Planetarium, the Waterfront and of course at the Observatory itself. Some excellent photographs of totality were taken in Zambia.

Our "Logo" has been redesigned and modernised. Coffee mugs and Tee shirts bear this new logo and a superb new banner has just been completed for use at public gatherings. A considerable number of publicity "fliers" has also been produced and for all of these and the artwork involved, we must thank Miss Joanne Willmore for her fine and artistic efforts.

Now to the general "Thanks" part of this Report.

Firstly to the Director and Staff of the S.A.A.O. for their continuing kind assistance and for allowing us the use of the Lecture Hall at no cost.

Secondly to those two stalwarts without whom no organisation can function properly, namely Mike Christianson as Secretary and Tony Jones as Treasurer.

I also wish to thank all the other members of the Committee for their enthusiasm and dedication, whatever their various portfolios might have been. Their support to me as Chairman has been invaluable.

My personal thanks to Andrew McConnell, our Vice-Chairman for holding the fort whenever I have been unable to be present at a meeting.

The ladies who put themselves out so magnificently by providing tea, coffee and biscuits at our formal and special meetings. Thank you ladies!

Finally, to every one of you, the Members for your support and interest in this, our Science and Hobby. To some, Astronomy is a most serious business - and so it is - but when we can enjoy it and have a bit of fun with it as well, then, all to the good.

I wish my successor in office and his or her Committee every success for the forthcoming year May the Centre go from strength to strength. It has been a privilege to serve you.

Thank you.

M A Gray
Chairman - 2000/2001

11th July 2001

Darksky Section

The past year has been varied, if nothing else.

In the start of the year we had 'troubles' at the quarry, lights, locked gates, etc which culminated in our being thrown-out at the end of the year. The search was on for a new venue: the Zoo, Agter-Paarl, Orange –Kloof amongst the ones tried. Besides the venue, the weather was always a factor: seems that the weather gremlin is on our mailing list. In an attempt to beat the weather it was decided to include the Friday as back-up, but while this really is a good idea, some folk felt that Fridays, after a long week were not conducive to stargazing.

Despite these drawbacks we had a number of really good darksky evenings. We have been really blessed with some excellent fire-balls. The 2 comets gave a reasonable show with Linear (01) actually breaking up on the night of darksky (didn't look like much but the later news gave the reasons and large telescope photos of the break-up. The planets really spoiled us with their displays. The stars and deepsky have also been really good.

A feature at darksky has been Tony's Beginners Guide. This has caught on in a big way and everyone is now trying it! I am pleased to see more and more beginners at our darksky evenings, keep on coming you are most welcome! Through this and concerted effort amongst the dedicated study'ers the general level of sky orientation has greatly improved. Remember it's only time spent outside that can really get you acquainted with the sky.

Attendance has been generally good, around 6 – 8 telescopes and 15 people with highs of 10 – 12 scopes.

The new Orange-kloof venue which is scheduled for next week should be really good.

THE CAPE CENTRE OF ASSA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11th JULY 2001

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

THANKS TO :-

- (1) The Bauer family for the beautiful cabinet donated to the Cape Centre Library .
- (2) The numerous people who donated books .
- (3) All the Committee Members who helped in sorting , listing , etc. of the library books .

Use of the library during the past year has been variable and there is certainly room for improvement .

RECOMMENDATIONS :-

- (1) The librarian should only do library duties .
- (2) More books catering for newcomers .
- (3) Better control . Fines for overdue books etc. to be used to buy more books .
- (4) Build a bigger video library (a Think Tank suggestion)

Mike Christianson

From: <Paul.de.Villiers@ziton.spx.com>
To: <micjohn@xsinet.co.za>
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2001 2:15 PM
Subject: Report from Curator of Instruments

Hi Mike

Just a short summary of the report:

1. Telescope loan facility:

In the past year, the telescope loan facility was under-utilised with only four members borrowing instruments.

2. New instruments:

We were privileged to have two new telescopes donated to the centre. Dave Coppinger donated a home-built 6" Newtonian with an equatorial mount which is an ideal size for transporting in a car. Paul Dogan donated a brand new 90mm refractor which will be a great instrument once a tripod is found. Many thanks to the donors! We now have six valid telescopes.

3. Refurbishments:

The Ron Atkins telescope has eventually been refurbished bringing all our instruments to a good state of repair. Brian Skinner also returned our long-lost 60mmx700mm refractor.

4. Future plans:

This coming year needs to see better utilisation of our instruments. Additionally, several instruments need to be rendered more user-friendly. Three instruments require finder scopes and two require mounts.

Thank you.

Paul de Villiers
Senior Design Engineer (Hardware)

Ziton (Pty) Ltd
Tel: +27 (0)21 506 6082
Fax: +27 (0)21 506 6060
Email: paul.de.villiers@ziton.spx.com
(* Please note new email address ***)**

If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and

The Planets

You can use SkyGlobe to learn something about the way the planets move around the Sun. The very word 'Planet' is derived from the Greek word for wanderer. The ancients, who spent more time out-of-doors than we do, noticed that a few bright 'stars' seemed to move against the 'fixed' background of the rest of the heavens. (Here I mean fixed with respect to each other; they were acquainted with the slow progression from one season to the next of the whole 'sphere'.) They soon worked out the repetitive patterns the different 'stars' followed. We will learn how to simulate this motion shortly, but first we need to talk about some SkyGlobe features that are relevant.

Although the stars don't really change from one year to the next, the planets do. Notice the year displayed on the Date display in the upper left-hand corner. If this Time and Date are not displayed, press 'F2' to turn this display on. Use 'Y' or 'Sh-Y' to increase or decrease the year. These planetary positions are now calculated on the fly in SkyGlobe 3.0. This is a bit slower than previous versions of SkyGlobe, but the added flexibility of dispensing with the data files is more than worth it. You can use 'F3' to turn on the planet display, and to turn on planet labels. EGA/VGA color users see the planets in more or less appropriate colors. You may need to change the Time or Date to see your favorite planet.

Now that we have seen the planets, let's see how they move. Change the Viewing Direction to South and the Time to 12:00 noon. Turn off Daylight Time by pressing 'V'. Set Auto-Increment Type to Date by pressing 'Alt-A' if needed. Now press 'A' and watch the show. If you want to see how the planets stick near the ecliptic, make sure its display is turned on, by pressing 'F6' if needed. Since your location may not fall exactly on the Standard Time meridian, the Sun may not be due South for you at Civil noon. Also notice how it wanders from side to side throughout the year.

Notice how Mercury and Venus stay close to the Sun. Mars has positively weird behavior, since it is outside the Earth's orbit, but relatively close by. It also has an eccentric orbit. The other outside planets drift more slowly against the background of the stars. You may see more clearly how the moon goes through its phases, being always in New Moon phase when near the Sun. Move to Midnight, and the Moon will be in Full phase when it shows up in the South. Since the orbit of the Moon is inclined at about 5 degrees to the ecliptic, it wanders above and below it each month. This motion, which rotates through an 18 year cycle, accounts for the periodicity of eclipses. SkyGlobe 3.0 uses calculated planetary positions to allow for planet display without the need for data tables. For instance, take a look at the solar eclipse of July 11, 1991. Slowly step through the hours, and watch how the moon gradually overtakes the Sun. Currently the years are limited to the range 1900-2099, but this range will be greatly expanded shortly.

Another interesting way to watch the motion of the planets is with the Sidereal Time mode of the Auto-Increment feature. Find a direction and a time and date that contain some planets, and press 'Shift-R'. The time will begin incrementing by 23 hours 56 minutes, or one sidereal day. The planets, especially the Sun, Moon, and inner planets, will

begin to drift away from the viewing location.

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE

AGENDA FOR THE COAST
11th JULY 2001, in the Lecture Hall

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present
- 2) Present *All. except Tony Dudley vice chair*
- 3) Apologies *- None Tony Jones*
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting *ok*
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes *?*
- 6) Correspondence *- Lia, + AAS*
- 7) Treasurer's Report and *AS per A GM*
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre. *only 1. Abe*
- 9) THINK TANK MATTERS :
- 10) Library *- Karin - copy of "Ideas categorised"*
- 11) General *- Keys - 2 new for door, 2nd Generation Obs guide, Stickers or flyers. reprint 1000*
- 12) Date of the next meeting *- 21/08/01*
- 13) To declare the meeting closed. *22 & 25*

082
Andrew 755 7492

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON WEDNESDAY 11TH JULY 2001.

PRESENT: Messrs, A McConnel, J Willmore, P De Villiers, D Field, B Wagener, M.Christianson, K Koch, P Dogan and L Wolf

- 1) OPENING: The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.
- 2) APOLOGIES: Tony Jones.
- 3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: These were approved.
- 4) MATTERS ARISING: Matters arising from the AGM: Dudley accepted the position as Vice Chairman. Paul de Villiers to continue as editor of the newsletter. Karin Koch to be the Librarian. Paul Dogan to take care of instruments.
- 5) CORRESPONDENCE:
The usual circulars and newsletters. Letter of thanks to Lia Labuschagne and American Astronomical Society.
- 6) TREASURER'S REPORT:
Financial report as for AGM.
- 7) NEW MEMBERS: There were none.
- 8) THINK TANK MATTERS:
Think Tank list to be categorised by Committee Members, new lists to be issued.
- 9) LIBRARY: 2 more keys were required for the library cupboard.
- 10) GENERAL: 2 new door keys to be cut..Observatory guides required so as to create a second generation. Flyers to be reprinted.
- 11) SPEAKERS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Prof. Feast to speak in August and Profs. De Witt and Harley in September and October respectively.
- 12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: At the usual venue on 21st August 2001.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22h25.

Dated.....2001.

Signed.....
Chairman.

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Tuesday
21st August 2001, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.

- ✓ 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- ✓ 2) Present
- ✓ 3) Apologies
- ✓ 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- ✓ 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- ✓ 6) Correspondence
- ✓ 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- ✓ 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- ✓ 9) THINK TANK MATTERS : a) appointment of additional Office Bearers.
b) Formal/Informal Speakers. c) keys.
- ✓ 10) Library - *Books - money avail*
Jony - Graafskraal - Steenbras etc - public viewing
Paarl - suggests book with suggestions for talks etc
- ✓ 11) General.
- ✓ 12) Date of the next meeting - 09/10/2001 @ 20,00H. Next dark sky
- ✓ 13) To declare the meeting closed.

21432

Code for sale:-
26 + month
ie 2608 Aug
~ 2609 Sept.

**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE**

**AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Tuesday
21st August 2001, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.**

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- 2) Present
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 9) THINK TANK MATTERS : a) appointment of additional Office Bearers.
b) Formal/Informal Speakers. c) keys.
- 10) Library
- 11) General.
- 12) Date of the next meeting
- 13) To declare the meeting closed.

CAPE CENTRE - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DUTIES

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (In alphabetical order):

CHRISTIANSON Mike, De VILLIERS Paul, DOGAN Paul, FIELD Dudley, JONES Tony, KOCH Karin, McCONNELL Andrew, WAGENER Bernard, WILLMORE Joanne, WOLF Leslie.

Telephone numbers :

M Christianson 531-1100 P de Villiers 981-0431 P Dogan ~~5072493~~ 4 39 7 640
 D Field 557-6561 A Jones 558-5738 K Koch 558 0778
 A McConnell ~~282 783 7492~~ B Wagener 644-947 J Willmore 712-6929
 L Wolf 7946354.

MEETING DATE *****	IN/FORMAL *****	SPEAKER *****
18 th July	FORMAL	Prof. Tourag
25 th July	FORMAL	ASSA AGM
1 ST August	Informal	M Christianson
8 th August	FORMAL	Prof. M Feast
15 th August	Informal	P de Villiers
22 nd August	Informal	P Dogan
29 th August	Informal	D Field
5 th September	Informal	A Jones
12 th Sept	FORMAL	Prof. De Witt
19 th Sept	Informal	K Koch/ Jwilmore
26 th Sept	Informal	A McConnell
3 rd October	Informal	B Wagener
10 th October	FORMAL	Prof Harley
17 th October	Informal	L Wolf

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST 2001.**

PRESENT: Messrs, A McConnel, P De Villiers, D Field, M.Christianson, K Koch, P Dogan and A.Jones.

- 1) **OPENING:** The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.
- 2) **APOLOGIES:** J. Willmore.
- 3) **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** These were approved.
- 4) **MATTERS ARISING:** Matters arising from the previous meeting to be covered under items below.
- 5) **CORRESPONDENCE:**
The usual circulars and newsletters. E-mails to Prof. Feast, Proof. De Wit and Mr. Le Roux.
- 6) **TREASURER'S REPORT:**
- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Number of members paid up | 97 |
| SALES: | |
| T-shirts | R 40.00 |
| Bank Balance and Cash | R2689.08 |
| Income | R 240.00 |
| Expenses | R 685.15 (includes two months newsletter) |
- 7) **NEW MEMBERS:** Mr.A.Brummer.
- 8) **THINK TANK MATTERS:**
Think Tank list to be categorised by Committee Members.
- 9) **LIBRARY:** Money available for new books.
- 10) **GENERAL:** 2002 Solar Eclipse: 22 members had indicated a desire to go to the Northern Province to witness this event. Consideration to be given to transport to the event once numbers requiring transport were established. The SAAO requires assistance on their Saturday night public evenings, 2 or 3 Committee Members to help out. Notes to assist guides required. Granzkraal and Steenras were suggested as possible venues for Centre weekends away and also public viewing places. A book with suggestions for future talks was mooted.
- 11) **SPEAKERS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:** These have been organised to the end of the year.
- 12) **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** At the usual venue on 9th October 2001.
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 21h32.

Dated.....2001.

Signed.....
Chairman.

Treasurer's Report - Ending 20th August 2001

Number of members	97
<u>Sales :</u>	
T-Shirts	R40.00
Mugs	
Stickers	
Equipment	
Bank Balance and Cash	R2689.08
Income	R240.00
Expenses	R685.15 (includes two months 'Cape Observer')

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON TUESDAY 9th OCTOBER 2001.**

PRESENT: Messrs, A McConnel, D Field, M.Christianson, K Koch, J Willmore, B Wagener, L Wolf and A.Jones.

1) OPENING: The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.

2) APOLOGIES: P de Villiers and P Dogan.

3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: These were approved.

4) MATTERS ARISING: Matters arising from the previous meeting to be covered under items below.

5) CORRESPONDENCE:

The usual circulars and newsletters. E-mails to Prof. Harley, Letter of resignation from Stephanie Steenhuis.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT:

Number of members paid	108.
SALES:	
T-shirts	R 40.00
Mugs	R 45.00
 Bank Balance and Cash	 R 2804.51
 Income	 R 2258.04
Expenses	R 1272.42
Net Profit	R 1056.85

The Auditor requested that the Key deposit be scrapped. Some assets need valuation: Gavel (R150) and Laser Pointer (R100). Insurance has to be part of a Householders policy hence the present arrangement.

7) NEW MEMBERS:

6 new members were approved subsequent to the committee meeting as follows:

M/s B. Coward; M/s J. Johnson; Mr.G. Krall; Mr. X. Nagel; Mr. B.J. Nugent and Mr. P. Prinsloo.

8) THINK TANK MATTERS:

Spring braai planned for 3rd November. To be cleared with Case Rijdsijk.

9) LIBRARY:

New latches had been fitted to the cupboard. A number of books had been donated and also videos. A list of books in the Library to be posted on the wall above the cupboard.

9) GENERAL:

Orange Kloof viewing site: 6 copies of the permit were available to members; The centre must let the Parks Board know the week before of when the viewing evening was to be; We should buy a Padlock for the gate at Orange Kloof: Next dark sky to be on Saturday 20th October; Year end contribution to be made to the Parks Board. The list of new Committee members to be sent to the Parks Board after each AGM; A letter of thanks to be sent to Samantha Wright for her assistance in arranging the venue. Contact to be made with Cape Talk etc before each meeting. A Suggestion Box for suggestions for future talks etc. was mooted.

10) SPEAKERS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: These need to be organised for next year and the calendar also needs to be decided.

11) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: At the usual venue on 27th November 2001.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21h17.

Dated...2001.

Signed.....

Chairman.

**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE**

**AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Tuesday 27th
November 2001, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.**

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- 2) Present
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 9) Think tank Matters.
- 10) Future Meetings Date for starting after recess.
- 11) Library
- 12) General. Christmas Party.
- 13) Date of the next meeting
- 14) To declare the meeting closed.

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON TUESDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2001.**

PRESENT: Messrs, A McConnel, D Field, P Dogan, P de Villiers, A Jones, K Koch, J Willmore, B Wagener and L Wolf.

1) **OPENING:** The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed all present. Also welcome to Val, observer re the Xmas party.

2) **APOLOGIES:** None. (Absent M Christianson)..

3) **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** These were approved.

4) **MATTERS ARISING:** Matters arising from the previous meeting to be covered under items below.

5) **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The usual circulars and newsletters. E-mails to Dave Buckley re talk- update on SALT on 13th February.

6) **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Number of members paid	118.
SALES:	
T-shirts	R 80.00
Mugs	R .00
 Bank Balance and Cash	 R 2488.50
 Income	 R 2726.69
Expenses	R 1958.92
Net Profit	R 767.77

7) **NEW MEMBERS:**

5 new members were approved subsequent to the committee meeting as follows:

Dr. B. Cremin, Mr. F. Franco, Mr & Mrs. B Hochschild, Mr. A. Schrire, and Mrs. I. Van Wyk,

8) **DUTY ROSTER** for the new year:

The first meeting would be held on the 23rd January. The alphabetical sequence would follow thereafter.

The first formal meeting on the 13th February would be Dave Buckley (date to be confirmed). Future informal meetings

To be on practical lines going back to basics. Eg Look at the Moon, discuss features etc. Visual – look through Telescopes. Keep talks simple.

9) **LIBRARY:**

Books to be returned by the Xmas break.

10) **GENERAL:**

Centre outing : To Montague/ at February new moon.

The Suggestion Box to be used at every meeting.

Star line to be used by Christine for Star Walks.

Paul de Villiers not available for duty next year. Lia to be approached re newsletter.

11) **XMAS PARTY.**

Paul de Villiers to arrange drinks and glasses.

Invites to go to Observatory professionals.

Karin and Val to arrange Juice and Cold drinks.

Microwave?

12) **DARK SKY**

The next dark sky to be on the 14th December to co-incide with the Geminids.

13) **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** At the usual venue on 22nd January 2002.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21h18.

Dated... 2001.

Signed.....
Chairman.

Treasurer's Report - Ending 27th November 2001

Number of members July - November	118
<u>Sales :</u>	
T-Shirts	R80.00
Mugs	
Stickers	
Equipment	
Bank Balance and Cash	R2488.50
Income	R2726.69
Expenses	<u>R1958.92</u>
Net Profit	R 767.77

Cape Center meeting 27/11

Present AMcC, B.F, PD, T.J, Karen, PaeV, Joanne, Lesley, Welf
+ B Wageman.

1. Chairman declared meeting open and welcomed all present. - welcome to new - observed Xmas Party.

2. Treasurer report.

118 members.

Bank 2488

Net profit down R 767

41 T Shirts left - need to promote T Shirts.

Need R 700 for newsletters.

T Shirts R 40 Mugs R 15.

3. New members.

Maria not present. - Maria to bring ~~to~~ ops to meeting
28/11 - to be confirmed after meeting.

4. Lesley Roster.

Final meeting 12/12 - Xmas Party.

First meeting 23/1

Jan 23	A mc Carr	13 (F)	May 1
30	B Wagg	20 DF	8
Feb 6	L Wolff	27 AJ	15
13	(F)	APR 3 K + Joanne	22
20	M C	10 (F)	29
27	PaeV	17 A mc	June 5
Mar 6	PD	24 B Wagg	12

talks - Back to basics / Practical

look at the moon = discuss features
 Visual - look through telescopes at earlier moon phases.
 Keep talks simple -

5. Centre activity = Montague / Counter.
 ✓ Feb New moon

6. Think land matters. - no matters.

7. Library - books returned before Xmas break.

8. Star line used by Christine for Star walk.

9. ✓ Suggestion Box - out every night.

10. Xmas party.

- Paul ^{DEV} to arrange booze, + glasses
- Invite to observatory professionals.
 Plates per person
- Hamer + Val - Juice + Cold drinks.
- Microwave.

General

1. Paul DEV + Johanne - note available for Dutin
- Next ~~this~~ year:
2. LH - to be approached re Newsletter.

pg 3

Next meeting. 22 January.

January 14th Gemini's -

Meeting ended 2h 28'

MSC

**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE**

**AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Tuesday 27th
November 2001, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.**

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- 2) Present
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 9) Think tank Matters.
- 10) Future Meetings Date for starting after recess.
- 11) Library
- 12) General. Christmas Party.
- 13) Date of the next meeting
- 14) To declare the meeting closed.

th October 2001.

A. National Parks
Cape Peninsula National Park
Reserves Section
Mossburn Avenue
Cape Town
Attention: Samantha Wright

Dear Samantha,

The members of the Cape Centre of the Astronomical Society wish to thank you for arranging for the use of Orange Kloof as a viewing site for our Centre.

This is a splendid site and we are most grateful for its use and to you for your efforts on our behalf.

We hope that our association will prove to be a long and fruitful one.

Yours Sincerely,

J. Christianson (sec. Cape Centre).

CAPE CENTRE - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DUTIES

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (In alphabetical order):

CHRISTIANSON Mike, De VILLIERS Paul, DOGAN Paul, FIELD Dudley, JONES Tony, KOCH Karin, McCONNELL Andrew, WAGENER Bernard, WILLMORE Joanne, WOLF Leslie.

Telephone numbers :

M Christianson 531-1100 P de Villiers 981-0431 P Dogan 5072493
 D Field 557-6561 A Jones 558-5738 K Koch 558-0778
 A McConnell 5585204 or 082 7857492 B Wagener 674-4947
 J Willmore 712-6929 L Wolf 794-6354.

MEETING DATE *****	IN/FORMAL *****	SPEAKER *****
18 th July	FORMAL	Prof. Lourok
25 th July	FORMAL	ASSA AGM
1 st August	Informal	M Christianson
8 th August	FORMAL	Prof. M Feast
15 th August	Informal	P de Villiers
22 nd August	Informal	P Dogan
29 th August	Informal	D Field
5 th September	Informal	A Jones
12 th Sept	FORMAL	Prof. De Wit
19 th Sept	Informal	K Koch/ JWillmore
26 th Sept	Informal	A McConnel
3 rd October	Informal	B Wagener
10 th October	FORMAL	Prof Harley
17 th October	Informal	L Wolf
24 th October	Informal	M Christianson
31 st October	Informal	P de Villiers
7 th November	Informal	P Dogan
14 th November	FORMAL	Planetarium
21 st November	Informal	D Field
28 th November	Informal	A Jones
5 th December	informal	K Koch/J Willmore
12 th December	CHRISTMAS PARTY.	



FEDLIFE

Attending: Terry, Bernard, Dudley, Karin, Lesly
Andrew, M.C. Joanne

Apologies: Paul x2,

Minutes of prev. meeting - 3 corrections.

Correspondence: Resignation from Stephanie Steenhuis
Usual newsletter incl. Harare; Prof Harley.

Orange Kloof: Bernard - 6 copies of print of entry signed ^{by Parks}

2) Must let them know in week before - reminder to ^{Dr. Samuels}

3) Padlock - we buy - Arbus - as our lock
Buy Lock.

4) Dark sky on Saturday's next on ²⁰ 18th Oct.

5) Yr end contrib to Parks Bd. - next committee
list of names etc reqd.

6) Letter ^{of thanks to} Sumatha Wright - ^{for writing meeting minutes} thanks.

Treasurer 108 members, Bank bal R2804 - inc 2000 etc
(Andrew Gum study dinner so on face outwards)

Key deposit Scrap. assets - value on gabel R150,00

Low points - R100,00; Ins. - has to be on house holdn.

Applications: for new members - 3 for
Leilia Koll.

Think Tank matters:

Spring braai? Nov. on full moon. ~~24~~ 3/11/01

Ask Case - e-mail

Library: New Latches + new books + videos - list of
books to be posted.

General: Back to suggest informal talks: Suggestin Bar;

2002 Sun Eclipse?; Bumper sticker? (Cape Talk ^{etc} - contact? Andrew)

Cederberg? March - Ja - steenbras. Photo of Committee - 10/10/01

Next meeting 27/11/01. Closing 21h17

M/s B. Coward, M/s J. Johnson, Mr G. Keall, Mr. X. Mezel, Mr. B. J.
Nugent, Mr. P. Ponsloo.

Treasurer's Report - Ending 9th October 2001

Number of members

108

Sales :

T-Shirts

R40.00

Mugs

R45.00

Stickers

Equipment

Bank Balance and Cash

~~R2523.63~~ $R2523.63 + 280.88 = 2804.51$

Income

R2258.04

Expenses

R1272.42

Net Profit

R1056.85

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Tuesday 22nd
January 2002, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- 2) Present ^{Dudley, Kevin, Bernard, Robert + Andrew.} P + J - resigned C. Wolff, Tony, Paul Doga
Welcome to Val - observer
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved ✓
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes. ^{Post box reqd.; Tea donation; formal; appeal for funds next year letter, Raffle at formal meetings}
- 6) Correspondence - ^{American Internet Space Co. - main speaker to draw Mrs. Krumm. 97 books donated.}
- 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer ^{- Tony act prompt. See - notes.}
^{Could be R 200 short.}
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre. - ^{1 new applic w. J. Sandison.}
- 9) Think tank Matters. - none
- 10) Duty roster. - ^{Star walks + Talks}
- 11) Library - ^{all books back. Library now organised by Cats. Thanks to Tony + Kevin to assist in library housekeeping}
- 12) General. ^{Newsletter;}
- 13) Dark Sky/ star walks ^{Roster for starwalks sent out - Dark Sky}
- 14) Date of the next meeting. - 19/3/2002
- 15) To declare the meeting closed. - @ 21,28

↓ P. Doga - Montague - site + accommodation good ± R40.00

Steenbras. - Now March or April. (Also Grabouw)

Call for Roger; Parks centre visit to Sutherland. ?

Sutherland - ^{or central coordinator. Kevin}
Newsletter - Editor - share between committee members.

short ^{sub} com meeting at meeting after formal to coord newsletter

Treasurer's Report - as of 22nd January 2002

Number of members July 01 - January 02	123
Sales: December/January	
T-Shirts	
Mugs	R15.00
Stickers	
Equipment	
Bank Balance and Cash	R2116.34
Income	R2922.76
Expenses	<u>R2554.08</u>
Net Profit	R 368.68

The final expense for the Xmas party is not included in the above figures, nor are bank interest or charges for December/January.

We still have 44 T-Shirts in stock. All X large or XX large.

Average monthly expense for Cape Observer is R250. We still have four monthly issues for this year, which means we will need a R1000. We will be in the red by some R700 this year.



**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
CAPE CENTRE**

**AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING to be held on Tuesday 19th
March 2002, in the Lecture Hall of the S.A.A.O. Cape Town at 20h00.**

- 1) Chairman to declare the Meeting open and welcome all present.
- 2) Present
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, to be approved
- 5) To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes.
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Treasurer's Report and hand over any moneys due to Treasurer
- 8) Applications from New Members to be discussed for formal acceptance by the Centre.
- 9) Newsletter.
- 10) Duty roster. Future speakers.
- 11) Library
- 12) General.
- 13) Dark Sky/ star walks
- 14) Date of the next meeting.
- 15) To declare the meeting closed.

Minutes 26/3/02

CAPE CENTRE - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DUTIES

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (In alphabetical order):

CHRISTIANSON Mike, DOGAN Paul, JONES Tony, KOCH Karin,
McCONNELL Andrew, WAGENER Bernard, WOLF Leslie. ~~ABC~~ + Val
Telephone numbers :

Welcome to Val + Thanks to Andrew Gray.

✓ Approval of minutes ✓

✓ Correspondence

NASA, emails + letter to Cliff.

✓ Treasurers Report

137 members etc

✓ New Members. 8 (6 wife)

Gen ✓ Licence discs - each get quotes

→ ✓ Newsletter - Thanks to Karin + Tony.

✓ Duty Roster - Contact Margies - Abie talk Copy of AGM

Gen ✓ Flyers - need update

✓ Library - Donations of ~~books~~ ^{money} - usage regular -

General - Escrow light pollution add. Bernard to write to
all to sign. } + City Elec Eng Edgemoor.
Dark Skys }

✓ Farall - course - newsletter - members no discount
Planetarium - no interest - Cape Centre

→ Suggestion box 3 step ladder - for viewing - 1

x meet - Dark Sky 6/4/02

x Outing - Motague 4/5/02

✓ Next meeting 14/5/02

✓ meeting hired 21240

Mike Christianson

From: Dave Kilkenny <dmk@sao.ac.za>
To: <micjohn@xsinet.co.za>
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2002 10:31 AM
Subject: Re: Talk to the Cape Centre

Dear Mike,

as we discussed on the phone, I'd like to give a talk on "Stellar Pulsation" on the 20th March. I get back to Cape Town (from Sutherland) on the 19th, but this should not be a problem.

Regards, Dave Kilkenny

3/12/02

Treasurer's Report - Ending 26th March 2002

Number of members July - March (includes 9 new members)	137
<u>Sales :</u>	
T-Shirts	R40.00
Mugs	
Stickers	R4.00
Equipment	
Bank Balance and Cash	R2066.84
Income this year	R3847.24
Expenses this year	<u>R3478.06</u>
Net Profit for year ending March	R 369.18