

# EIGHTH ASSA SYMPOSIUM

Dates: 7-9 August 2008

Venue: Durban Country Club

## Delegates Programme (30min slots including question time)

Thursday 7 August 2008

|            |                     |   |
|------------|---------------------|---|
| 0800-0900  | <b>Registration</b> |   |
| 0900-0910  | Welcome             | Mr. Mike Reid, Chairman of Organising Committee |
| 0910- 0930 | Official Opening    | Outgoing President: Mrs. Magda Streicher        |

Session 1 Chair: Mr Mike Reid

|           |                 |   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|
| 0930-1010 | Keynote address | Prof. Phil Charles: <i>SALT: Since the Inauguration</i> |
| 1010-1040 | Dr.Ian Glass    | <i>Galileo</i>  |
| 1040-1110 | <b>Tea</b>      |   |

Session 2 Chair: Mr Roger Bond

|           |                           |  |
|-----------|---------------------------|--|
| 1110-1140 | Mr. Auke Slotegraaf:      | <i>Recent and Ongoing Projects of the Deep Sky Observing Section</i> |
| 1140-1210 | Mrs. Magda.Streicher      | <i>Study and Report on Elusive Faint Deep Sky Objects</i>            |
| 1210-1240 | Mr. Christopher Middleton | <i>W Ursae Majoris Stars</i>   |

1240-1340 **Lunch**

Session 3 Chair: Mr. Brian Fraser

|           |                      |   |
|-----------|----------------------|---|
| 1340-1410 | Ms. Patricia Skelton | <i>Modelling of W UMA-Type Variable Stars</i> |
| 1410-1440 | Dr. Ian Glass        | <i>Semi-regular Variables</i>                 |
| 1440-1510 | Mr. Michael Poll     | <i>Astronomy in Cartoons</i>                  |
| 1510-1540 | <b>Tea</b>           |   |

Session 4 Chair: Dr. Don Slatter

|           |                          |  |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| 1540-1610 | Mr. Tim Cooper           | <i>Observations of Comet McNaught</i>                  |
| 1610-1640 | Mr. Andrie van der Linde | <i>Optical Coatings for the Amateur Astronomer</i>     |
| 1640-1710 | Mr. Brian Fraser         | <i>Delta Scorpii: Eight Years of Erratic Behaviour</i> |

**Close of first day proceedings**

1900h **Delegates Dinner** (Durban Country Club)

Friday 8 August 2008

Session 5 Chair: Mr Peter Cramb

- 0900-0930 Mrs. Magda Streicher *Sketching*  
0930-1000 Mr. Andrie van der Linde *Laser and Laser Safety for Amateur Astronomers*  
1000-1030 Dr. Antony de Wet *A Possible Explanation of Cirrus Clouds*  
1030-1110 **Tea**

Session 6 Chair: Mrs Magda Streicher

- 1110-1140 Prof. O.de Jager *Composite Supernova Remnants: Multiwavelength Observations and Theoretical Modelling*  
1140-1210 Mr. Ed Reid *Applying Visual Basic and Possibly Autocad to Programming Planetary Orbits as a Test of a Gravitational Hypothesis*  
1210-1240 Ms Lauren Hoyer: *Cracking the Surface of Europa*  
1240-1340 **Lunch**

Session 7 Chair: Mr. Gerritt Penning

- 1340-1410 Keynote Address: Prof. George Ellis *Cosmology Today: Achievements and Questions*  
1410-1440 Mr. Hilton Ratcliffe *Astronomy-Cosmology Interaction: a Review of Anomalous Redshift Data*  
1440-1510 Prof. Derck Smits *The First Stars*  
1510-1540 **Tea**

Session 8 Chair: Mr Logan Govender

- 1540-1610 Mr. Tony Timm *The Facts of Light Under Scrutiny*  
1610-1640 Mr. Frikkie de Bruyn *A Comparative Study of Quark Gluon Fluid in the Cores of Some Neutron Stars and in the Very Early Universe*  
1640-1710 Prof. Michael Watkeys *Why the Earth is Different*

**Mr. Mike Reid: Close of second day proceedings**

1900h **STAR PARTY AND PUBLIC EVENING**  
**Durban Botanic Gardens**

Saturday 9 August 2008 (at Oceanographic Research Institute)

- 0900-0930 Mr. Brian Fraser *A Simple Solar Flare Radio Receiver*  
0930-1015 Ms. Jone Porter (title to be advised)  
1015-1045 **Tea**  
1045-1230 Delegates tour uShaka Marine World