



14 April 2017

**President's Report to the 21<sup>st</sup> AGM of the Macarthur Astronomical Society Inc.**

Dear MAS Members

Another year has come around and we are looking to an exciting year ahead. For those of us who like to go out observing the past year has been one of the worst on record and hope the new year will give us much better skies!

I would like to thank your committee members for all their work behind the scenes.

Vice President, Stewart Grainger who also doubles up as Merchandising officer, had to fill in for me at a couple of Forums this year when I was on my travels. He is also rationalising our merchandise range – some specials coming up.

Treasurer, Richard Curley for keeping our accounts fully detailed and up to date. You will hear from him shortly.

Secretary, Jack Goralewski – also our Public Officer dealing with DOFT 's requirements. Jack is stepping down this year and we thank him for his service.

Membership Officer, Henry Swierk, who has continued to maintain excellent records of the comings and goings of our members. A reminder that renewals should be finalised before the end of May or a re-joining fee will apply.

Mike Nicholas, who has been liaising with new members and assisting on the 'Event' sub-committee for August this year. Mike is stepping down from the committee this year but will continue to assist where he can.

Carol McVeigh has been serving on the sub-committee for our August event, her attention to detail has helped us enormously.

As you are all aware, we have non-committee members who do a lot of work behind the scenes to ensure MAS flourishes, they are:

John Rombi, Speaker Liaison – another great year with astronomers old and new visiting us. This year is going to phenomenal with 15 astronomers booked! More new names.

Roger Powell, keeping our material up to date on the website and running our Twitter account. He will be taking over most of the Webmaster functions by the end of May 2017.

Noel Sharpe, Stargard liaison with Wollondilly Council – we have great flexibility with the days we choose to go now.

Chris Malikoff, Webmaster, has been working to hand over most of the position to Roger. He is also looking to get back down to us this year, at least to the Forest!

Graeme Bellamy, another speedy audit of our accounts, ensuring we are complying with our reporting requirements.

Ned Pastor for assisting with the Cabin and International House and Michael Jupe for being on the Observatory sub-committee.

Thanks of course to our amazing astronomers, without whom we could not function. Prof. Bryan Gaensler our Patron; Prof. Annemarie Hennessy, Provost of WSU and of course Dr Ragbir Bhathal, one of our earliest members and our main point of contact with WSU and the Director of the Campbelltown Rotary Observatory.

Thank you all

#### Constitution

This year we have introduced the new joining protocol and Fee structure, this meant changes to a couple of paragraphs in the Constitution. These were passed at our January meeting. These have been submitted to DOFT for ratification.

#### Communications

The website is still under-utilised I believe but we do seem to be getting more enquiries through it. I hope you are all receiving the Newsletter. Our Facebook page is gathering more members, up to 565 at the time of writing this. If you are not on FB and need help to set up (securely) please ask me.

We had a disappointment, we are not able to go to WA this year, unable to get access to ASKAP, Murchison. Looking at going to Brisbane instead for a long weekend.

#### Public Outreach

It has been very pleasing to see some of our newer members coming out to Stargard and our first Public night of our Winter Program. We will also be taking part in Sydney University's event again in early July, Picton IlluminARTE at the end of May. I would encourage all members who have not attended one of our functions to come along and enjoy themselves. If you need any help with purchasing a telescope come out to Stargard and see the range available.

It has been a privilege to be President again this year but would like to close with thanking all of you, the members, because without your support we would not be able have such a successful society

Tony Law

President, Macarthur Astronomical Society Inc

Macarthur Astronomical Society  
Annual General Meeting, 24th April 2017

Treasurer's Report

I'm pleased to present the audited financial statements of the MAS for the period ending 28th February 2017.

Firstly, I would like to thank Graeme Bellamy for once again auditing the societies' accounts in an efficient and professional manner, his time and help has been invaluable to me and is greatly appreciated.

Currently the society remains in a solid position with net member equity increasing to \$28,824.05, an increase over the financial year of \$2,998.32. This is a very good result for the society, being mainly driven by an increase in member numbers and fewer forest observing weekends due to bad weather.

Financial Performance

The main factors affecting the financial performance of 2017 against 2016 are:

- An increase in members joining MAS increase membership fees \$1197.53
- A drop off in Belanglo observing events caused by poor weather, resulting in a net improvement of \$348.18.
- An increase in donations over the year of \$97.95.
- The societies' twentieth birthday celebration one off expense in 2016 of \$848.58
- Coonabarabran trip subsidy one off expense in 2016 of \$602.80.

Financial Statement

The main factors affecting the financial statement of 2017 against 2016 are:

- The increased deposit into the societies' term deposit from \$19,000 to \$21,000.
- The increase of cash at bank by over the previous year of \$2,254.89.
- The write down of old stock by \$191.82.

This financial year has seen some changes for MAS, we had a modest membership fee rise to cover the increase in fees generated by our members taking advantage of MAS's credit card facilities for all types of payments. The committee is re-evaluating our fundraising as our returns are slightly diminishing due to increased costs.

The society still maintains a fixed term deposit which was increased to \$21,000.00 during the financial year. The intent is that this deposit will be maintained and increased over the next financial year to provide a strong base for future plans of the society.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow committee members and the society's members in general for your patience and support during this past year.

Richard Curley

Honorary Treasurer, Macarthur Astronomical Society.

**Macarthur Astronomical Society**  
**Stock Reconciliation**  
**For year ended 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2017**

Opening Stock at 1 <sup>st</sup> March, 2016	\$ 1,057.38
Add: Purchases	\$ 1,303.60
	\$ 2,360.98
Less: Closing Stock	\$ <u>947.80</u>
Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 1,413.18
Net Cost of Sales	\$ <u><u>1,413.18</u></u>

Sales	\$ 1,165.58	
Less: Cost of sales	\$ <u>1,413.18</u>	
Loss on Sales	(\$ <u>247.60</u> )	Speakers Gifts

**Bank Reconciliation**  
**As at 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2017**

Balance as per Statement 28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2017	\$ 4,964.07 Cr
Add: Outstanding Deposits	\$
Balance as per Cash Book 28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2017	\$ 4,964.07 Cr

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**  
**Statement of Financial Performance**  
**Year ended 28th February, 2017**

	2017	2016	VAR
<b>Income</b>			
Membership Fees	\$5,260.85	\$4,063.32	\$1197.53
Donations	\$635.40	\$537.45	\$97.95
Interest	\$439.03	\$592.62	-\$153.59
Sale of Merchandise	\$1,165.58	\$1,222.60	-\$57.02
Grounds (Bellangalo Forest)	\$329.18	\$481.00	-\$151.82
Bunnings Fund Raiser	\$2,158.00	\$2,564.90	-406.90
coonabarabran		\$7,301.60	-\$7301.50
Sydney Observatory	\$1,076.81		\$1076.81
	<u>\$11,064.85</u>	<u>\$16,763.39</u>	<u>-\$5698.54</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Filing Fees	\$80.00		-\$80.00
Insurance	\$784.38	\$773.38	-\$11.00
Miscellaneous Expenses (Bequeath)		\$195.61	\$195.61
Postage, Printing & Stationery	\$414.77		-\$414.77
PO Box Rental	\$126.00	\$115.00	-\$11.00
Cost of Goods Sold	\$1,413.18	\$1,663.93	\$250.75
Domain Registration / Web	\$193.60	\$110.67	-\$82.93
Belangalo/Starguard	\$825.00	\$1,325.00	\$500.00
Dinners (Members and Speakers incl Gifts)	\$1,530.81	\$1,429.12	-\$101.69
Bunnings Expenses	\$1,127.84	\$1,123.25	-\$4.59
Members 20th birthday expenses		\$848.58	\$848.58
Depreciation	\$443.40	\$443.40	
coonabarabran expenses		\$7,904.30	\$7904.30
Sydney Observatory Expenses	\$1,127.55		-\$1127.55
	<u>\$ 8,066.53</u>	<u>\$15,932.24</u>	<u>\$7865.71</u>
Operating Profit/(Loss) for year	<u>\$2,998.32</u>	<u>\$831.15</u>	<u>\$2,191.17</u>

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**  
**Financial Statement**  
**Year ended 28th February 2017**

**BALANCE SHEET**

	2017	2016	Movement
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Funds at beginning of year	\$25,825.73	\$24,994.58	\$831.15
Asset Replacement Reserve			
Profit/(Loss) for the year	<u>\$2,998.32</u>	<u>\$831.15</u>	<u>\$2,167.17</u>
	<u><u>\$ 28,824.05</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 25,825.73</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,998.32</u></u>
Represented by:			
Current Assets (Stock)	\$947.80	\$1,057.38	-\$109.58
Cash at bank (trading account)	\$4,964.07	\$2,709.18	\$2,254.89
Fixed Term Deposit	\$21,000.00	\$19,000.00	\$2,000.00
Pre Paid Insurance	\$784.38	\$784.38	
Petty Cash Advances	\$190.00	\$190.00	
Pay Pal Account		\$313.30	-\$313.30
cash on hand		\$419.80	-\$419.80
Chilli Deposit Account	\$0.90	\$0.89	\$0.01
Interest Receivable	\$494	\$464.00	\$29.50
	<u><u>\$ 28,380.65</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 24,938.93</u></u>	<u><u>\$3,441.72</u></u>
<b>Non - Current Assets</b>			
Plant & Equipment (Cost) *see note 2	\$6,016.23	\$6,016.23	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-\$5,572.83</u>	<u>-\$5,129.43</u>	<u>-\$443.40</u>
	<u><u>\$ 443.40</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 886.80</u></u>	<u><u>-\$443.40</u></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Total Assets (net members equity)	<u><u>\$28,824.05</u></u>	<u><u>\$25,825.73</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,998.32</u></u>

**Independent Audit Report**

I have audited the financial statements, being the statement of financial position and statement of financial performance. The Astronomical Society Committee is responsible for the financial statements. The Audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. My procedures including examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Astronomical Society's financial position and the results of its operation. The Audit opinion expressed has been formed on the above basis.

**Note 1 - Accounting principles and methods adopted in accounts**

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, and in accordance with applicable statements of accounting concepts and accounting standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB). They have also been prepared on the basis of historical costs. The accounting policies have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

**Note 2 - Non-Current Assets**

Non-Current assets are included at cost or at independent valuation. All non-current assets are depreciated over their estimated useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

**Audit Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial statement of Macarthur Astronomical Society present fairly in accordance with applicable accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements to reflect the financial position of Macarthur Astronomical Society as at the 28th February 2017 and the results of its operations for the year ended.

**Graeme David Bellamy**

138 Ashford Avenue, Milperra, 2214

dated this 10th April, 2017



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW

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## MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MINUTES FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015/16

Held at  
WSU Campbelltown  
Building 30, Main Lecture Theatre  
Monday 16th May 2016 at 7.30pm

### **1. OPENING OF MEETING, WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

The Annual General Meeting opened at 7.35pm. Present were all members noted in the attendance register. The Retiring President, Tony Law, chaired the meeting and the Retiring Secretary, Jack Goralewski, was appointed to take the minutes. Apologies were received from Frank Lauterbach

### **2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 20th APRIL 2015**

The minutes were distributed to all members three weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. A show of hands by members' present indicated that an overwhelming majority had read the minutes. A Motion: "That the minutes be taken as read and accepted as an accurate record of the 2015 Annual General Meeting," was moved by Tony Law, seconded by Stewart Grainger, and carried unanimously. The President ordered that the minutes be filed in the Secretary's formal records.

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

### **4. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2015-2016**

The 2015-2016 Annual Report was distributed to the members prior to the meeting. Tony Law read the President's Annual Report. He thanked the Committee and members who had contributed during the year, attending meetings, observing sessions, fundraising events and assisted with public outreach.

Tony gave a special thank you to Rhonda Griffiths and staff at WSU, for the continual support of the MAS. As a mark of appreciation, these members were given associate memberships to MAS.

The Annual Financial Reports by the Treasurer and Auditor were taken as read. Graeme Bellamy's audit report showed that the Society is in good shape with total assets of \$25825.73, compared with \$24994.58 twelve months ago.

A Motion: "That the Annual Reports presented by the President, Treasurer and Auditor be accepted," was moved Tony Law, seconded by Robert Bee, carried unanimously.

There was no business arising from the reports. The President ordered that the 2015-2016 Annual Report be filed in the Secretary's formal records. The Annual Report will also form part of these minutes.

### **5. PRESENTATION OF MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

Tony Law presented the following membership awards:

Five year awards: Jack Goralewski; Anthony & Robyn Jelich; Rahmi Jackson; Bruce Butters; Allan Hobbs; Luke Williams

Ten year awards: David Jones

Fifteen year awards: Michael Wells; Nicholas Pastor

Twenty year awards: Philip Ainsworth; Noel Sharpe; Ragbir Bhathal; Robert Bee; Ian Cook; Roger Powell

## **6. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER**

John Rombi was endorsed by the meeting as Returning Officer and Tony Law vacated the chair.

## **7. ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2015-2016**

John Rombi declared all positions vacant and advised that nominations closed on the 1st of May and only one nomination was received for each position. Accordingly, the following were each duly declared elected and the meeting endorsed each by acclamation:

President: Tony Law;

Vice-President: Stewart Grainger;

Secretary: Jack Goralewski;

Treasurer: Richard Curley;

Committee Members: Henry Swierk, Mike Nichols, Carol McVeigh.

On behalf of the members, John Rombi congratulated the new committee and wished them well for the coming year. He then vacated the chair for the incoming President, Tony Law.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business directly relating to the Annual General Meeting

## **9. CLOSE OF MEETING**

Tony Law took the chair and thanked the members for their support. He congratulated the new committee and assured the members that the new committee will continue with their best efforts on behalf of the Society. He thanked the members for attending.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 8:00pm.

Members reconvened as a General Monthly Meeting, with a Q&A Session hosted by Tony Law

*Jack Goralewski*  
Secretary

16th May 2016

*Tony Law*  
President

16th May 2016