

## Minutes of Committee Meeting

## MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY Inc

The meeting opened at 7.50 pm in Rombi's home

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2004

### Present

Noel Sharp, John Rombi, Ian Cook, Lloyd Wright, Dick Everett, Daniel Ross and Bob Bee

### Reading of Past Minutes

Minutes of meeting in October were read and accepted as true.

### Business Arising From Minutes

#### Rotary Observatory

The Rotary dinner on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov is still on. An invitation for MAS to provide catering for a fee as a fund-raiser was not taken up due to lack of time and expertise. Rotary member numbers may be smaller than usual also. MAS will focus on providing observing opportunities. Rotary as a group are pleased with our demonstrated willingness to cooperate and assist at the Observatory and the improvement in relations with Ragbhir

#### MAS December Social

Will be BBQ on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. at 5-8 pm. Possibly Harrington Park reserve. To be notified.

#### Alternative site -the Oaks:

Several committee members have evaluated the site at night and consider it very suitable. Since then a further site offered at Oakdale has yet to be inspected.

#### Hosting of the Website

Our website has been placed with Domain Name Registration Services for Hosting at a fee of \$218 per year. The prepared content will be uploaded by Lesley Southwell as soon as possible and members will be able to visit by end November. Comments from members are welcome and suggestions for additions. All emails in future will be sent to this address. The site name is: [www.macastro.org.au](http://www.macastro.org.au)

### New Business

#### Public Education:

Despite advertising in papers and on radio the "Macastro Sky Night" scheduled at Dudley Chesham Sportsground The Oaks October 23 was a resounding non-event. Only a handful of public turned up. An excellent turn out of MAS members with scopes deserved better attendance.

#### Speakers

Guides campsite Tara sent a letter of appreciation for our participation. A short video film will be shown at the November meeting. Peter Elston will be the speaker at February meeting 2005

#### Observing Dates:

Published in Prime Focus. Due to uncertainty of access to the Belanglo site all observing through December 04 – February 2005 will be at the Oaks.

#### Astronomy 2005

We have purchased a bulk order of 28 copies and they will be available at the November meeting. \$18.00 a copy to financial members, \$21 to non members.

#### Treasurer Report

All appropriate expenses submitted were approved for payment. A greater than normal number of Prime Focus was mailed last month. The extra \$5 for mailing still covers the cost but only just. Balance at bank stands at \$4876 87

#### MAS Insurance Policy

Our Public Liability insurance will be due next year in March. A discussion was begun about joining with other astronomy groups or to stay with our present insurer. Noel to investigate 2005 premiums with current policy.

#### Library

Old magazines to be given away at November meeting

#### Secretary Report

Various emails and mailbox items were presented. None required follow up.

### NEXT MEETING

Insurance, speakers, Annual meeting agenda, election of officers, Rotary observatory schedule  
Firewood for Belanglo  
7.30 pm February 7<sup>th</sup> 2005 at Daniel and Kate's place.

### Meeting Closed

9.25 pm