

Ned Pastor

1951 - 2020



*I wrote an obituary for Ned, which appeared on the home page of our website for several weeks after his death. Unfortunately I lost the original text of that obituary but he deserves to be remembered here on our website as one of our leading members. So, two years on, here are some brief details about Ned with some photographs. **EDIT** (2023-03-01): Ned's age corrected.*

Nicholas (Ned) Pastor will be remembered as an outstanding observational amateur astronomer. He joined MAS in 2001.

He was a regular attendee at our monthly New Moon Weekend observing sessions at Belanglo Forest. Ned often took the responsibility for picking up the cabin keys from Sydney University on a Friday and was first on site to open up before the others arrived, before returning the keys on Monday.

He travelled on several MAS astro-tours, including to China, Hawaii and Siding Spring.

My personal memories of Ned include observing his friendliness to everyone at our Forums, where he always made a point of greeting everyone.

I recall he travelled with us on the bus to Siding Spring Observatory in 2010. On the way back, we stopped off at a remote service station for refreshments. Back on the bus, we were ready to go but where the hell was Ned? He'd gone missing. After a concerning ten minute wait he turned up. While we were all tucking in, he'd gone off exploring the countryside!

In the earlier years of the Society, I recall him contributing a couple of humorous short talks at our meetings.

Ned was a strong supporter of MAS and a great friend to many of us but I know nothing about his personal life. MAS records indicate that he was a horticulturist and that he lived in Ingleburn with his wife Gai.

Ned died at the age of sixty-eight on 13th April 2020 after nineteen years as a member of Macarthur Astronomical Society. He is deeply missed by his family and all of us at MAS who knew him.

In Memory of Ned Pastor



On the mountain in Hawaii.



Waiting for sunset at The Forest cabin.



Ned (far left) with MAS members outside the AAT at Siding Spring in 2010.



Ned (third from right) with MAS on tour at the FAST radio telescope in China.



Ned (far right) with NASA astronaut Greg Chamitoff at Macarthur Astronomy Forum.

