



Webmaster's Focus

September 2024



Starting Out In Amateur Astronomy

Two of the things the Society prides itself on are its public outreach and its assistance to beginners. Sometimes its the former which sparks enthusiasm for the latter.

Since the pandemic eased, MAS astronomers attended one major public night and a number of smaller private events at schools, libraries and other local institutions. We are hoping to return to holding public nights at the Campbelltown Rotary Observatory but management of the Observatory is under review following the death of its Director, Dr Ragbir Bhathal and there are some issues to be worked through. With Daylight Saving approaching, it looks like we have to be patient and wait until next Autumn.

We sometimes hold public nights at The Oaks but with construction work under way there, we will also have to wait until it is safe.

For new members who are starting out in astronomy, we try to hold three or four [beginners workshops](#) each year at our observing field at The Oaks. These are for new members to bring their gear along and be assisted and encouraged to learn how to use their instruments, learn about the night sky and perhaps pick up some other “tricks of the trade” that come with experience.

Any questions about how to set up and use your gear can be submitted by e-mailing contact@macastro.org.au and a committee member or another experienced member will try to assist. New members can also borrow one of our [loan telescopes](#).

Two of our Forums this year have been dedicated to amateur astronomy and the second will be held [this month](#). Don't miss it!

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