



COFFS HARBOUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED

MINUTES AND NOTICE OF MEETING

MINUTES OF AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING INCORPORATING 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING HELD AT BOAMBEE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE,
MONDAY 4th of AUGUST, 2014.

PRESENT: 12 members and 3 guests.

MEETING OPENED: 7:04pm with President, Win Howard in the chair.

APOLOGIES: Roger Cooper, Rita Mann & Michael Worraker

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Adopted as circulated by e-mail

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE:

IN: Quasar Publishing – Updated details of society for 2015 edition

OUT: Treasurer's Report to AGM August 2014 and Income & Expenses for 2013-14
circulated to members via email 3 August 2014

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **AGM** – Treasurer's Report and Income & Expenses tabled, with thanks to Gerjo Van Rhijn & Helen Squires. Adopted in full as moved by Gerjo Van Rhijn and seconded by Camilla Whitiri
- **AGM** – All Society positions declared vacant with expressions of interest taken and voted on with the following appointments:
 - President* Win Howard (Nominated by Michael Hope)
 - Vice President* Chris Wilson (Nominated by Peter Black)
 - Secretary* Roberto Cornale (Nominated by Gerjo Van Rhijn)
 - Treasurer* Gerjo Van Rhijn (Nominated by Camilla Whitiri)
 - Auditor* Helen Squires (Nominated by Gerjo Van Rhijn)
- Gerjo reported that with current meeting and membership fee structures, a membership of 15 is required to maintain our current financial position, so as not to draw on the society's savings. Further to this Peter suggested an informal membership drive by all current members to attract new members to our meetings, and so increase our membership numbers.

THE TOPIC: Nil

TOPIC FOR NEXT MEETING: Open... Everyone is welcome to give a brief presentation on any topic(s) that they may have found of interest lately.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS:

- Michael Hope reported his viewings of the International Space Station; For interested people the Heavens Above website allows you to enter your location and then provides viewing times and instructions for not only the ISS but many other artificial satellites as well as other natural astronomical bodies <http://www.heavens-above.com/>
- Terry recounted his recent pleasant and helpful customer experience with Sirius Optics in Queensland; He also advised that they were now unable to sell astronomical lasers. <http://www.sirius-optics.com.au/>
- Win spoke of his viewing of NGC 6752, a globular cluster in constellation Pavo



<http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap130705.html>

- Win also advised that he would be attending the 2014 CAASTRO Annual Scientific Conference from August 11-15, 2014 at Opal Cove, Coffs Harbour. The conference “*will explore all the rich information that nearby supernovae now provide, and will discuss ways in which the new generation of wide-field surveys can further add to this harvest.*” It will host delegates from around the world.

REPORTS FROM THE PRESIDENT: *(this material is collected from the internet each month and presented in an edited form).*

1. Earth’s Pull Melts Layer Around Moon’s Core
<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2014/07/28/4053888.htm>
2. Rain of Asteroids Melted Early Earth, Boiled its Oceans
<http://www.smh.com.au/world/rain-of-asteroids-melted-early-earth-boiled-its-oceans-20140731-zyuw7.html>
3. NASA’s Fermi Space Telescope Reveals New Source of Gamma Rays
<http://www.nasa.gov/press/2014/july/nasas-fermi-space-telescope-reveals-new-source-of-gamma-rays/#.VALuiPmSySo>
4. Famous “Dish” Telescope to be Emptied in Budget Crisis: CSIRO
http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/07/28/dish_to_be_emptied_in_budget_crisis_csiro/

5. "Pushed Back to the Stone Age": Massive Solar Storm Missed Earth by Just One Week
<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/pushed-back-to-the-stone-age-massive-solar-storm-missed-earth-by-just-one-week-20140725-zwo0c.html>
6. Sunspot Number Drops to Zero
<http://spaceweather.com/archive.php?view=1&day=18&month=07&year=2014>
7. Hubble Traces the Halo of a Galaxy More Accurately Than Ever Before
<http://www.spacetelescope.org/news/heic1415/>
8. Europa Caught Red-Banded
<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2014/07/18/4048110.htm>
9. The Most Precise Measurement of an Alien World's Size
<http://www.nasa.gov/jpl/spitzer/kepler/precise-measurement-alien-world-20140723/#.VALvgmSySo>
10. Rosetta's Target is a "Double" Comet
<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-27110882>
11. Confirmed: Voyager 1 in Interstellar Space
<http://www.space.com/26462- voyager-1-interstellar-space-confirmed.html>
12. How the Faintest Galaxies Illuminated the Early Universe
<http://phys.org/news/2014-07-faintest-galaxies-illuminated-early-universe.html>
13. The Most Distant Milky Way Stars
<http://www.space.com/26483-milky-way-most-distant-stars.html>
14. Astronomers Bring the Third Dimension to a Doomed Star's Outburst
<http://www.nasa.gov/content/goddard/astronomers-bring-the-third-dimension-to-a-doomed-stars-outburst/>
15. A Source of the Most Powerful Cosmic Rays?
http://unews.utah.edu/news_releases/a-hotspot-for-powerful-cosmic-rays/
16. Brief Pulse Detected by Arecibo Telescope Appears to Come From Far Beyond Our Galaxy
<http://www.astronomy.com/news/2014/07/brief-pulse-detected-by-arecibo-telescope-appears-to-come-from-far-beyond-our-galaxy>

CLOSURE AND FUTURE MEETING TIMES:

Following our meeting and AGM, we had the rare opportunity to view an Occultation of Saturn by the Moon just after 9pm...Everyone stayed to enjoy the spectacle.



Basic astrophotography 101--- An iPhone image taken by holding it against a telescope eyepiece on the night!

The next monthly meeting will be Monday 1st of September, 2014, at our new venue, **Boambee East Community Centre, Bruce King Drive** at 7:00pm, all members and interested persons are encouraged to attend.

CHAS TELESCOPE: Roberto

Roberto Cornale
Secretary