

Cleveland and Darlington Astronomical Society
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Friday 10 June 2011 at 1930hrs
in Wynyard Woodland Park Planetarium

The Chairman welcomed 60 members and visitors to the meeting on a rather wet night.

Ed made an announcement to the effect that the Planetarium is now operating on reduced hours and that telescope nights will only take place on Planetarium Programme nights.

Neil reminded members that this was the last meeting of this session. He couldn't say who our speaker was in September, as he is in the process of finalising the programme.

He then welcomed our speaker, Professor Christine Done of Durham University, who spoke on 'The Dark Side of the Universe'. Christine took us on a trip from our immediate neighbourhood to the edge of the universe, with particular emphasis on the various methods of distance finding. She then pointed out inconsistencies between classical physics and various observations, which necessitated the introduction of Dark Matter and Dark Energy to save the theory. This is still a matter of research and debate.

At the end of the talk she fielded the various questions from the members very well and this part of the evening would have gone on for quite some time had not the chairman brought it to a conclusion. He thanked the speaker and reminded members that the next meeting was in September.

AM