

Cleveland and Darlington Astronomical Society

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held on Friday, June 13th, 2014 at 19:30
at the Hamilton Russell Pub in Thorpe Thewles

Present were Jürgen Schmoll, Chairman
Neil Haggath, Programme Secretary
Sue Barnes, Treasurer
Julie McBride, General Secretary
Rod Cuff, Information and Communications Secretary
David Lewis, Instrument Curator
Peter Hannah, general member
Ian Morris, general member
Ian Riach, general member
Malcolm Bannister, general member

and about 38 other members.

1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19:37 and welcomed members to the 2014 AGM, thanked them for their attendance and showed the meeting agenda..

2. Apologies

The members Ray Brown and the Critchley family sent their apologies for the night.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2013 AGM

Minutes of the last AGM had been circulated to all members by email. The chairman went through the minutes again and they were therefore formally adopted afterwards.

4. Chairman's Report

The chairman summarised the period between the last and the current AGM which spanned over 16 months as the AGM date had been changed from February to June. Apart from 13 ordinary meetings at the planetarium, there were two EGMs (2013 July 01, 2014 March 10) about the CaDAS involvement in the new TASC organisation that takes over the Wynyard Planetarium. Eight committee meetings had been held during this period, mostly dealing with setting up the TASC charity to safeguard the planetarium.

Various other activities have been remembered, as the Kielder Observatory field trip on 2013 March 09, the steering group meeting at the planetarium of 2014 January 09, and various steps on the planetarium takeover side.

The chairman also appealed to the members to fill a questionnaire he prepared for this evening, and to come forward to become involved in a more active society. He announced that a successor has

been found for Rod Cuff to take over the information secretary office from him. Rod Cuff was thanked for years of hard work for CaDAS and offered a little present.

5. General Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report has been read out by Julia McBride and accepted by the members. The secretary remembered the various contributions of speakers to the ordinary meetings:

2013:

Feb 08: Last AGM (minutes to be read and accepted now)

Mar 08: "Twinkle, twinkle little star", Johanna Jarvis (Astronomy Tuition) replaced last minute by "Tackling the turbulence", Jürgen Schmoll (CaDAS)

Apr 12: "Presidential Address: David Sinden – a life in optics", Jack Youdale FRAS (CaDAS president)

May 10: "The ALMA telescope – a new window to the universe", Mark Swinbank (Durham Uni and CaDAS honorary member)

Jun 14: "An astronomer's view of the eye", Dr John Lockett (York AS)

Sep 13: "The sun and global warming", John McCue (CaDAS honorary member)

Oct 11: "Thomas Wright Trophy Quiz" at Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles

Nov 8: "Massive Stars: Can they explode more than once?", Prof Rene Oudmaijer (Astrophysics group, Leeds University)

Dec 13: "Astronomy at the end of the rainbow", Paula Chadwick (Durham)

2014:

Jan 10: "Your first telescope", Jürgen Schmoll (CaDAS)

Feb 14: "A year with a large-aperture Dob", Ian Morris (CaDAS)

Mar 14: "The battle for galaxies", Rod Hine (Bradford AS)

Apr 11: "Astro-Imaging: An introduction including historical and practical aspects", Jürgen Schmoll (CaDAS)

May 09: "Presidential Address: Great comets of the last century", Jack Youdale FRAS (CaDAS president)

Two EGMs have been held (2013 July 01, 2014 March 10) at the Wynyard Walkway Planetarium.

There were eight committee meetings: 2013 April 11, 2013 June 12, 2013 July 17, 2013 December 12, 2014 Jan 23, 2014 March 12, 2014 March 27, 2014 May 14. All committee meetings took place at the chairman's house in West Cornforth.

6. Treasurer's Report and Financial statement

Sue Barnes summarized the current financial situation of CaDAS:

CLEVELAND & DARLINGTON ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

2014 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Balance</u>
012 Opening Balance	2013 Jan 01		2302.71
Room Hire SBC	300.00		
Room hire village hall	30.00		
Speaker Expenses	90.00		
Website Hosting	71.28		
Membership fee FAS	48.00		
Postal cost refund	58.64		
Total Expenditure	597.92		
Subscriptions for 2013		847.00 (incl. £240 collected 2012)	
Entry Fees		95.00	
Donation		500.00	
Total Income		1442.00	
2013 Closing Balance (Dec 31)		3166.79	
Overall increase		844.08	

The CaDAS membership numbers are stable, with a small decline from 2012 to 2013. The total member count went from 98 to 94. Currently the CaDAS membership consists of 53 adults, 15 families (39 individuals) and 2 honorary members.

The Treasurer presented a diagram illustrating the geographical distribution of CaDAS members.

7. Election of Officers

Elections were required for the Information and Communications Secretary, as Rod Cuff intended to step down in this office.

The result of the votings are:

Chairman:	Jürgen Schmoll re-elected unopposed
Treasurer:	Sue Barnes re-elected unopposed
Programme Secretary:	Neil Haggath re-elected unopposed
Information and Communications Secretary:	Rod Cuff stepped down Jon Mathieson got proposed and seconded by IM. Jon got elected unopposed.
General Secretary:	Julia McBride re-elected unopposed.
General Members:	Peter Hanna re-elected unopposed. Ian Riach elected unopposed. Ian Morris elected unopposed. Malcolm Banister elected unopposed.

8. Membership Fees

It was decided that the general fees remained unchanged. There was no opposition against this decision.

9. Any Other Business

Julia Goudge proposed to aim for a larger astronomy convention organized by CaDAS, once the planetarium is safe. Such regional conferences have been organized years ago and they were successful.

10 Chairman's Closing Remarks and Closure of Annual General meeting

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the AGM at 20:06. The AGM was followed by a social event for the membership.

signed	General Secretary
.....	Chairman