

Canterbury Astronomical Society AGM 2020  
7:30pm, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020  
Room ER225  
University of Canterbury  
Ilam Christchurch

**Meeting Chair:**

Euan Mason welcomed all to the meeting.

**Attendance:**

27as signed in the Attendance Book

**Apologies:**

Lionel Hussey  
Gary Steel  
Terry Richardson  
Jan & Colin Fortune  
Huia Parker  
Mak Matthews  
Char Diver  
Ashely Marles

**2019 AGM Minutes:**

Euan read in full the minutes from 2019 AGM and with some spelling corrections these will be signed at the next full committee meeting.

**Motion regarding changes to the Society's Constitution:**

**Change to section 10: to add the following**

**10.1**

The Society's observatory and equipment are intended to further the Society's objects as set out in section 2

They will not be used for the purposes of generating profits for any person or other organisation

Then re-number all the other clauses in section10 by adding 0.1 to the labels etc

*Euan Mason moved the motion to the room, a voice vote was given, all in favour, Carried*

**By-Laws: To add the following By-Law**

**Laser use**

Current members who have legally obtained ~~red~~ lasers may use them at the observatory

Users of lasers at the Observatory must observe the code of practice at all times (Published at the observatory)

Unsafe use observed by any committee member (or reported to) will result in a warning and advice regarding safe use.

Continued unsafe use will result in a written warning from the committee

If a person continues to use a laser in an unsafe manner after a written warning, the committee has the right to ban that person from using a laser at the observatory.

CAS does not take any responsibility for members or past members who use lasers

Laser users are personally responsible for their behaviour

Moved by Terry Richardson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dale Kershaw

Following a discussion of the members present the following was moved

- Remove the word GREEN, Moved Marc Buynan 2<sup>nd</sup> David Hill
- Following the words committee member in line4 add or reported to. Moved Raewyn Marles 2<sup>nd</sup> Carol McAlavey.

With the above changes it was Moved by Euan Mason to accept the “Motion regarding these changes”, All in Favour (By Voice) Carried

### **Office Holders Reports:**

#### **Presidents Report:**

Euan Mason read his report

2019/20 has been a superb year for CAS, owing to the spirit, dedication and hard work of our great members.

Our speaking programme was again very engaging.

We enjoyed the following:

“A tour of the solar system” – Prof Euan Mason

“The diffuse universe” – Prof Phillip Richter

“Dark skies – in the shadow of planet Earth” – Steve Butler

“Science and adventure on the ice” – Dr Orlon Petterson

“Adventures of a travelling astronomer in Central and Far East Asia: in the footsteps of Marco Polo and Ulugh Beg” – Prof John Hearnshaw

“Messier Madness: My quest to observe all the Messier Objects” – Rob Glassey

“E.E. Barnard, a 19th Century astrophotographer whose photos still 'wow' us” – John Drummond

“Howling at the Moon” – Simon Lewis

Thanks to **Malcolm Carr** for sorting the supper each night, and also a special thanks to **Carol McAlavey** for organising and presenting such a great programme. In addition we enjoyed mid-summer and mid-winter barbecues.

Many thanks to **Terry Richardson** for another excellent year as observatory director, and also to members who attended working bees. It is good to see the C11 operational in its new dome, and also the new plantings in the corner where we had such fun felling those nasty trees last year.

CAS’s accounts are in fine shape, and so thanks to **David Brian** for his dedication as treasurer.

Thanks to **Simon Lewis** for sorting our membership records. We have around 135 members.

CASMAG is a vital medium and so another heartfelt thanks to **Dale Kershaw**. Dale also served as committee secretary, which in my view went beyond the call of duty.

**Colin Fortune** continued sterling service as librarian, despite being under the weather of late. Our records and books are well organised and up to date.

CAS’s website has gone from strength to strength, and so many thanks to

**Simon Lewis & Marc Bunyan**.

Stardate at Staveley was exceptionally well attended.

Dale Kershaw and I organised it. This year we hosted Alan Gilmore and Pam Kilmartin as our special guests. The programme of Staveley speakers was exceptional, and we also enjoyed a clear early morning of brilliant observing. Dale Kershaw has taken over as camp mother, and I’ll continue to serve as camp child & entertainment coordinator.

Thanks to all members of CAS’s committee for their hard work.

**Tracey Richards** deserves a special mention for her sterling design of our new logo and flags.

Public outreach remains a high-profile activity for the society. Thanks to all volunteers, and in particular to **Rob Glassey and Simon Lewis** for coordinating the outreach programme.

This is the end of my third term as president (my other periods in office were 2001-2005 & 2011-2015). 10 years with the same president is the maximum that should be endured.

I was a committee member for several years on prior to serving as president and between the last two terms. I abdicate knowing that our excellent committee will ensure that CAS continues to prosper.

Many, many thanks to all committee members and active society members who have made my times as president and on committee so enjoyable.

#### **Euan Mason**

*Euan Mason put forth the motion to accept the Presidents Report, all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

#### **Treasurers Report:**

The accounts for CAS are in good strong shape. The society has been going from strength to strength as membership continues to grow and membership renewals are high.

With membership subs bringing in \$6,889.39

Public outreach open nights breaching capacity to what the lodge can hold, having a dedicated membership that continue to assist in coordinating and assisting at the CAS open nights is the back bone to the ongoing success and public popularity of these events.

Public open nights and kids fest manged a staggering \$17,612.51

With donations and grants also being a key to increasing the society's financial stability.

CAS gratefully received a donation of \$1,900.00 that was granted to the society for the purposes of using for increasing the societies outreach capabilities. These funds have been invested a modern portable telescope mount for members old and new to learn the night sky, the mount can be used by accredited members to use their own instruments and portable enough to take off sight for public outreach events.

CAS has Steve Johnson to thank for this generous donation. Thank you very much Steve for thinking of CAS as a benefactor.

In addition to several grants to host out of town speakers and the RASNZ conference profits being allocated, CAS received \$2,459.72 in grants and donations. These funds were put to good use in increasing our presence at meetings in the purchase of flags and banners.

This year also saw the reintroduction of some CAS branded merchandise, stickers, cups and pens. This coming year is looking likely we will see a few additional initiatives along this vein. Keep an eye out.

With total income for the society budgeted for \$25,000 – that figure was blown out of the park with a total of \$31,102.49.

The out goings for the society are creeping up, as with all organisations.

A few new initiatives to bring CAS out of the stone-age like having Wi-fi out at the observatory to run the all new Graeme Kershaw Sky Camera.

All office holders were well behaved with their expenditure and are always looking at ways to be the most efficient that they can be.

Observatory special projects included, finishing off the retaining wall from 2018, a few special wiring projects for the domes, a new i-optron mount with thanks form Steve Johnson, and the installation of the Graeme Kershaw Sky Camera.

With total expenditures budgeted to be \$19,558.12 meeting an actual expenditure of \$23,169.83

Higher than originally budgeted for but when we take into account the unexpected bequests that funded the majority of special projects our actual expenditure was less than predicted across the office holders and committee expenses.

Each year CAS has its accounts independently audited, who has signed off the accounts with a big seal of approval.

And with that I wish to thank all the members of CAS for being part of this organisation, for being passionate about astronomy and giving your time and dedication to this society.

David Brian also Presented the full Audited report, **Copy attached**

There were some questions from a member present re the replacement values for insurance purposes and David explained the reasoning to how much and why that amount was selected when the committee discussed the policy and updates

*Euan Mason put forth the motion to accept the treasurer's report, all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

### **Observatory Director's Report:**

Euan Mason read the Observatory report on behalf of Terry Richardson,

The Observatory precinct has gradually come into shape with some willing workers and work parties.

The trees on the road boundary are mostly cleared now apart from some large logs which will eventually rot.

Trees for Canterbury supplied 87n plants for ground cover on the bank, and southern Woods tree nursery gave a discount for a row of Pittosporums along the fence line. The are now requires weeding to clear the space before winter, A work bee is planned for the next members night at the observatory. Scruffy plants have been removed from the fence-line by the steps and from in front of the upper terrace between the 14 inch and Nankivell domes. The bare retaining wall here has been oiled and stained.

Wiring was done and 230-volt power is now supplied to the Nankivell dome and the fibreglass dome.

These both have 12-volt power supplies for the telescopes and lighting. As part of this job, we now have outside socket mounted on the wall of the 14 inch and by the fibreglass dome. These will be useful for computers, hair dyers etc on the terraces.

The fiberglass dome has been completely set up, A concrete pier was made, and the telescope mounted. This C11 has been polar aligned, Star aligned and training done.

On the social side we have had well attended members nights and working bees. I understand that in my absence, the summer BBQ went down well. I certainly know the Winter Bonfire was well attended and enjoyed.

Also on the social theme, I have installed paper towel dispensers and waste baskets in each of the toilets.

I wish to acknowledge support from committee and members in achieving these goals. I especially want to thank those who did mowing and gardening (and I guess other hidden chores) during my seven-week absence overseas over Christmas and New year.

Jobs for the future

The pressing job is now to replace rotting spars in the 14 inch dome. I was away for half the summer, and then had difficulty contacting the people we needed to asses this job. Sean Mullis, James Moffatt and myself have assessed the problem and come up with a plan. It is not a small job.

A whole panel will have to be removed, timber spars fabricated and replaced, the whole reassembled and them fibreglassed for waterproofness. This will take a concerted effort by a small team over 3 or 4 weekends. Now that we finally have this assessment, there is not enough time before open nights start, (if they do at all). We think it best to not do this in a rush, and plan for early next summer.

The committee had decided to go ahead and get quotes to replace the 12 inch with a Celestron fork mounted CPC11. Quotes were obtained before December but Christmas intervened and the paperwork was not done. This process will be repeated in the near future with new quotes.

*Dale Kershaw put forth the motion to accept the Observatory Directors' report, it was seconded by Simon Lewis, all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

### **Editors Report:**

This past year for Cas and Casmag has been very busy,

I published 11 editions this past year.

In each issue I try to cover event's, past and in the future, notices and information for our members, including Sky Charts, Committee and Observatory news

When published Casmag is then uploaded to our website and our members are notified by email.

The format and content of Casmag is ever evolving with changes made as required.

I continue to send to the other NZ and Australian societies. I also send printed copies to our life members, our members who have requested a printed copy and to the required legal deposit office, and to both Christchurch and The University of Canterbury Libraries.

I have continued in sending new members their 1<sup>st</sup> copy as a welcome with a note advising future issues will be available online via our website, (where possible)

I thank our members who sent items to be included and look forward to these arriving via email and I really do encourage all members to continue to do this in the future.

As part of the Editors job I also receive other New Zealand and several Australian society's including RASNZ, newsletter's and try to include items of interest in our own casmag

I want to thank Carol McAlavey for her continued support and as required assistance with getting the printed copies out in the post.

The Cas Coffee Mugs and pens with our new logo was another job completed,

As I have done the past 3 years as a committee member, I have attended monthly committee meetings, have been involved with open nights, special talks and the other events as often as it has been possible.

Again, this past year I was pleased to organise for 20 of our members to visit the SOFIA plane.

Hopefully SOFIA is back in Christchurch this year and we will be able to visit them (seems this will depend on NASA funding) as well as include them in our meeting/social events if possible

I do look forward to another year as your editor/ committee member if I am re-elected.

Finally, I would like to thank all the committee and my fellow cas members (My Cas Family) for all the support, they given to me personally this past year,

Dale Kershaw 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

*Euan Mason put forth the motion to accept the Editor's Report, all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

### **Webmasters Report:**

## No copy of report received

*put forth the motion to accept the Webmaster's Report, it was 2nd by , all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

**Membership Secretary's Report:**

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## No copy of report received

*put forth the motion to accept the Membership Secretary's Report, it was 2<sup>nd</sup>, all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

**Librarian Report:**

Euan mason read the library report on behalf of Colin Fortune

I apologise for my lack of activity due to my chronic illness.

Jan and myself have almost finished checking stock against the original catalogue which I located online.

We will work with the new librarian to finish this job.

I was contacted by a past Cas member James(Jim) Coxen and picked up a box of books from him for CAS.

He has more books which he is keen to donate along with some colour slides.

Thank you.

Colin Fortune

*Euan Mason put forth the motion to accept the Librarians Report, all members present voted in favour, motion carried.*

**Committee Nominations:**

**President:**

Simon Lewis was nominated for president by Dale Kershaw and 2nd by Marc Bunyan.  
Rob Glassey was nominated for president by Euan Mason and 2nd by Cameron McEwing.  
Vote was taken of members present excluding Simon and Rob. Voting by a show of hands  
*Rob Glassey was elected President. Rob Glassey accepted the position*

**The new president Rob Glassey then took over the meeting chair**

**Vice President:**

Simon Lewis was nominated for vice president by Dale Kershaw and 2nd by David Hill.  
*Simon Lewis accepted the*

**Secretary:**

David Hill was nominated for secretary by Simon Lewis and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Catherine May.  
*David Hill accepted the Position.*

**Treasurer:**

David Brian was nominated for treasurer by Carol McAlavey and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rob Glassey.  
*David Brian accepted the Position.*

**Observatory Director:**

Terry Richardson was nominated for position of webmaster by Rob Glassey and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Simon Lewis  
*Terry Richardson accepted the Position.*

**Editor:**

Dale Kershaw was nominated for Editor by Simon Lewis and 2nd by Karen Wills.  
*Dale Kershaw accepted the Position.*

**Membership Secretary:**

Marc Bunyan was nominated for membership secretary by Euan Mason and 2nd by Dave Hill.  
*Marc Bunyan accepted the Position.*

**Webmaster:**

Marc Bunyan was nominated for position of webmaster by Dale Kershaw and 2nd by Simon Lewis.  
*Marc Bunyan accepted the Position.*

**Librarian:**

Sasha Crawford was nominated for Librarian by Catherine May and seconded by Simon Lewis.  
*Sasha Crawford accepted the Position.*

**Additional committee members: 4 Spaces available**

Carol McAlavey was nominated by Dale Kershaw and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Euan Mason.  
*Carol McAlavey accepted the Position.*

Raewyn Marles was nominated by David Brian and 2nd by Carol McAlavey,  
*Raewyn Marles accepted the Position.*

Orlon Petterson was nominated but declined nomination

Kieren Eden was nominated by Simon Lewis and 2nd by Dale Kershaw.  
*Kieren Eden accepted the Position*

Mak Matthews was nominated by Dale Kershaw, 2nd by Simon Lewis.  
*Mak Matthews accepted the position.*

All present voted in favour, motion carried

**Bank Signatories:**

To remove Euan mason from all bank forms

Euan Mason nominated the following and it was 2nd by Dale Kershaw

David Brian, Rob Glassey and Simon Lewis

***All present voted in favour, motion carried***

**Bank Trustees:**

Bank trustees are to be the same as above:

David Brian, Rob Glassey, Simon Lewis

***All present voted in favour, motion carried***

Dave Brian nominated that our ***Solicitor*** T S Dacon and ***Auditor*** Roland Chisholm remain the same.

Motion was seconded by Dale Kershaw,

***All present voted in favour, motion carried.***

**General Business:**

Malcom Flain advised those members present he had a small portable scope for sale.

There being no other business, Rob Glassey called the meeting to a close at 10pm