

SIDEWALK ASTRONOMY

Hello to all members

I wish to congratulate all those members who have actively supported the concept of "Sidewalk Astronomy" Most of you would have realized that the name has been appropriated from a program on SBS of the same name featuring John Dobson.

Ideas and concept only work if there is genuine effort put in by the club and its members. I am happy to report that the above concept of bringing astronomy to the public seems to be paying off. Yesterdays viewing at Bar beach was a great hit by the passing public. There were inquiries as to when the next show is on!

We now had three sessions in the last two weeks. My reason in moving quickly is to get our group noticed, and to gauge the interest. There appears to be a need for this sort of public participation.

Our first Sidewalk Astronomy outing was the at Horseshoe beach. As we were packing up, a young journalist notice our group and came across for a chat. This fortunate encounter resulted in my giving the journalist a phone interview the next day. An article on Sidewalk Astronomy was published on Monday 4th August. Since then we had a number of email asking for details for future viewing. Hunter tourism sent an email asking for dates for their tourist calender.

My thinking on the frequency of Sidewalk Astronomy is to suggest a fortnightly outing. Once we have a core group of members committed to this enterprise it can be run very effectively without causing too much strain on participating members. I will keep you posted with the future development.

Our next show is scheduled for Sunday 17th Aug at Bar beach.

Hope many of you can come.

Thankyou

Kind regards

Ghul Hussain

President NAS