

NEWCASTLE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY INC

MINUTES

28 September 2007

MEETING OPENED: 7.35 pm with 28 members and guests present.

CHAIRMAN: Mr Ghul Hussain.

MINUTES: The minutes for August 2007 could not be found.

APOLOGIES: Graeme Johnson, Patrick Barry, David Hough.

GENERAL:

- Inwards correspondence included a flyer from Macquarie University advertising an open night on 20th October 2007. The University of Western Sydney will be holding a Seminar on Astronomy Education on Saturday 8th December 2007 at the UWS observatory. Registration forms are available from the NAS secretary and the cost is \$80.
- Prof Colin Keay is a member of the Royal Astronomical Society and receives a diary annually. Ghul auctioned this year's diary and the bidding reached \$15. Ken Hargraves offered a 6" telescope tube and tripod for auction and this sold for \$5. Proceeds went to the Society - thanks to the donors.
- Ghul gave a slide presentation and talk on his trip to Alice Springs and surrounds.
- A video of the SBS documentary "Moon For Sale" was screened. It was an investigation of the resources available on the moon that may be exploited to make future lunar expeditions and colonisation viable. Of particular interest is the abundance of He³ that may be useful as a non-polluting fusion fuel for power generation. Claims are that there is enough He³ to supply humanity's needs for hundreds of years. Someone is also selling off real estate on the moon to people with too much money. He relieves them of millions of dollars every year.
- There will be a viewing night tomorrow the 29th September 2007. There will be a further viewing on the 13th of October.
- The next meeting will be 26 October 2007 starting 7.30 pm.
- The meeting closed at 9.10 pm and a light supper was served.