

CARDIFF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

HANDBOOK 1990-91

Introduction	1
Committee 1990-91	2
Programme 1990-91	3
Library	4-6
Constitution	7-8
Rules	8-9
Standing Orders	9

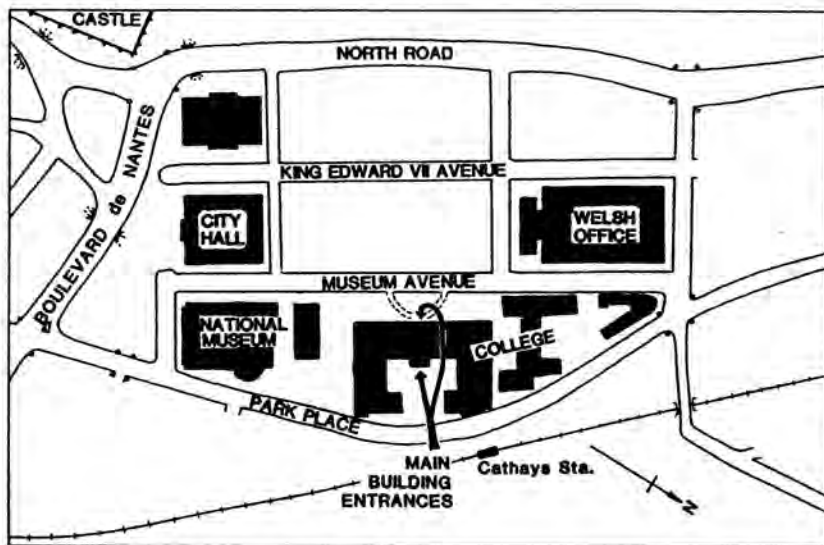
INTRODUCTION

Cardiff Astronomical Society was founded in July 1975, and was originally based at the old Penylan Observatory. Unfortunately, due to years of neglect by the City Council, exacerbated by vandalism, the observatory had to be closed down early in 1979, and the Society moved its headquarters to University College. Meetings are held fortnightly, on alternate Thursdays between September and July in the Large Shandon Lecture Theatre, Main Building, University of Wales College of Cardiff (see map). They commence at 7.30 pm and finish shortly after 9.00 pm. The programme comprises lectures, short talks, quizzes etc., and we try and cater for all interests at whatever level, whether beginner or more advanced. Besides the indoor meetings, informal observing sessions are arranged from time to time by our Director of Observations, and notice of these is given at the indoor meetings, or via the *Newsletter*.

The Society owns several portable instruments: a 10-inch Dobsonian reflector and a 6-inch Newtonian reflector are available for members to loan. They can be borrowed at meetings, or by arrangement with the Director of Observations (address overleaf). Additional instruments, a 3½-inch refractor and a 6-inch rich-field telescope are being renovated and should be available soon. A Society observatory that will house a 20-inch reflector is being planned, and is to be erected on Norman Jenkins' land near Peterston-super-Ely. Members will be advised of progress at meetings, or via the *Newsletter*.

A comprehensive library is available for use at meetings, and a list of holdings is given elsewhere in this *Handbook*. The Society publishes a regular *Newsletter* that gives information on forthcoming activities, current phenomena in the sky etc. Any member is invited to contribute. In conjunction with the Federation of Astronomical Societies we publish an *Astrocalendar* that gives details of planetary phenomena, eclipses, meteor showers etc. for the forthcoming year.

Subscriptions: Adults £9.50 per annum, Juniors £2.50 per annum.
Due September 1 1990 for 1990-91 session. Prompt payment appreciated!



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1990		
September 13	Novae and Supernovae	M. Griffiths, Bridgend A.S.
September 27	Amateur Astronomy and Observatories: west coast of USA.	M. Chick, Cardiff A.S.
October 11	Update on Trelech Observatory	J. Powell, Usk A.S.
October 25	Professional Observatories: western USA	P. Chick, Cardiff A.S.
November 8	First results from the Hubble Space Telescope	Dr J.Davies, U.W.C., Cardiff
November 22	History of the Old Royal Observatory, Greenwich	Prof. S. Malin, President, J.A.S.
December 7	Astro Quiz	N.L. Jenkins, Cardiff A.S.

1991

January 10	Women in Astronomy - 'ladies of the night'	Dr A Smith, Leicester A.S.
January 24	Spaceflight	C. Hancock, Cardiff A.S.
February 7	An Observer's life	Dr R.Smith, U.W.C., Cardiff
February 21	The nuclei of galaxies	Dr B.Villier, U.W.C., Cardiff
March 7	Mercury and Venus	Dr R.M.Owens, Cardiff A.S.
March 21	The Sky-voyagers: the first proposal for a voyage to the Moon in 1640	Dr A.Chapman, University of Oxford
April 4	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
April 18	Planetary atmospheres - greenhouse effects, ozone layer etc.	C. Goodman, Leicester A.S.
May 2	Visual Supernova patrols	S.J.Lubbock, Cardiff A.S.
May 16	Light Pollution	T. Higgins, Leeds A.S.
May 30	Do we live in an elliptical galaxy?	Dr M.Edmunds, U.W.C., Cardiff
June 13	Lunar Topography	H. Davies, Swansea A.S.
June 27	Sounds like a Meteor	D.W.S. Powell, Cardiff A.S.
July 11	Three short talks	Cardiff A.S. Members

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Federation of Astronomical Societies' Annual Convention will take place for the second year in succession at Cardiff on **Saturday September 29**. Venue: Law Building, opposite Welsh Office on Museum Avenue. All members are warmly invited to attend: tickets for the whole day are £3.00.

1. Morning Programme, 10.45 - 12.30 pm (coffee from 9.30 am):

Giant Voids in the Universe Dr P. Walters, University College, Swansea
Einstein and the theory of relativity Dr R. Hillier, University of Bristol

2. Lunch, 12.30 pm - 2.15 pm (own arrangements)

Afternoon programme, 2.15 pm - 5.00 pm (with tea breaks):

Trying to see the faces of the stars Dr M. Edmunds, University College, Cardiff
Low Surface Brightness Galaxies Dr J. Davies, University College, Cardiff

3. Evening meal 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm (see below)

Evening lecture, 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm:

The Hubble Space Telescope Prof. M. Disney, University College, Cardiff

The evening meal is available at £5.80 per head. Tickets must be booked in advance from Ken Marcus, 5 Cedars Gardens, Brighton BN1 6YD (Meeting tickets can be purchased in advance with meal tickets, or at the door on the day). Other events include a 'bring and buy' stand, visits to Astrolab, the University telescope and planetarium shows.

National Astronomy Week, November 17-24: A Celebration of British Astronomy

Arranged to celebrate the bi-centenary of Armagh Observatory, and the centenary of the British Astronomical Association. The object is to promote astronomy to the general public, and besides the normal Thursday meeting on November 22, other events including lectures and observing sessions for the public will be arranged. The committee hope that as many members as possible will want to participate, and will welcome any ideas for special activities.

(A) GENERAL

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| Abel G.D. | Astronomy for Everybody |
| Ball R.S. | The Story of the Heavens |
| Bracewell R.N. | The Galactic Club |
| Brandt J.C. & Mason S.P. | New Astronomy and Space Science Reader |
| Brandt J.C. & Mason S.P. | New Horizons in Astronomy |
| Brown P.L. | Astronomy in Colour |
| Cambridge Encyclopedia of Astronomy | |
| Couper H. & Henbest N. | Space Frontiers |
| Evans D.S. | Teach Yourself Astronomy |
| Ferris C. | The Red Limit |
| Gribbin J. | The Amateur Astronomer |
| Hamlyn Guide to Astronomy | |
| Hinks A.R. | Astronomy |
| Hinks A.R. | A-Z of Astronomy |
| Horizon: At the Edge of the Universe | |
| Hyde F.W. | Radio Astronomy |
| McAleer N. | Cosmic Mind - Boggling Book |
| Marx & Pfan | Observations of the World |
| Moore P.A. | Beginners Book of Astronomy |
| Moore P.A. | Challenge of the Stars |
| Moore P.A. | Countdown |
| Moore P.A. | Exploring the Galaxies |
| Moore P.A. | Guide to the Stars |
| Moore P.A. | Observers Book of Astronomy |
| Moore P.A. | Story of Astronomy |
| Moore P.A. | The Stars Above |
| Nicholson I. | Astronomy |
| Ridpath I. | Stars and Planets |
| Ronan C.A. | Deep Space |
| Satterwaite G.E. | Encyclopedia of Astronomy |
| Scientific American New Frontiers in Astronomy | |
| Sidgwick J.B. | Introducing Astronomy |
| Smart W.M. | Textbook on Spherical Astronomy |
| Stoy R.H. | Everyman's Astronomy |
| Struve O. | Elementary Astronomy |
| Thompson | Astronomy |
| Waterfield R.L. | The Revolving Heavens |
| Worvill R. | The Stars and Their Legends |
| Zukov G. | The Dancing Wu Li Masters |

(B) THE UNIVERSE AND COSMOLOGY

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Asimov I. | The Collapsing Universe |
| Calder N. | The Violent Universe |
| Davies P. | The Edge of Infinity |
| Davies R.D. & Palmer H.P. | Radio Studies of the Universe |
| Disney M.J. | The Hidden Universe |
| Einstein A. | The Meaning of Relativity |
| Gribbin J. | White Holes |
| Hebwyrd J.D. | The Living Universe |
| Hoyle F. | Astronomy and Cosmology |
| Kaufmann W.J. | Black Holes and Warped Spacetime |
| Lovell B. & Lovell J. | Discovering the Universe |
| Motz L. | The Universe - Its Beginning and End |
| Shkrovskii I. & Sagan C. | Intelligent Life in the Universe |
| Silk J. | The Big Bang |

Smart W.M.
Taylor J.
Unsold A.
Whipple F.

The Riddle of the Universe
Black Holes
The New Cosmos
The First Three Minutes

(C) SOLAR SYSTEM

Brown P.L.	Comets, Meteorites and Men
Calder N.	The Restless Earth
Cross C.A. & Moore P.A.	The Atlas of Mercury
Doherty P.	Atlas of the Planets
Gallant R.	Bombarded Earth
Guest J.E. & Greeley R.	Geology on the Moon
Hendrickson W.	Reach for the Moon
Menzel H.	Our Sun
Moon, Mars and Meteorites (Geological Museum)	
Moore P.A.	Exploring other Planets
Moore P.A.	Guide to the Moon
Moore P.A.	Guide to the Planets
Nicholson I.	Exploring the Planets
Poocey S.	Exploring the Solar System
Richardson R.S.	Man and the Planets
Scientific American: the Solar System	
The Moon - A Brief Four Language Survey	
Smith A.	A Key to Worlds Beyond
Washburn M.	Mars at Last!
Whipple F.	Earth, Moon and Planets

(D) OBSERVATIONAL GUIDES ETC

Brown P.L.	Star and Planet Spotting
Cherrington E.	Exploring the Moon Through Binoculars
Inglis	An Easy Guide to the Constellations
Mallas J.H. & Kreimer E.	The Messier Album
Moore P.A. (Editor)	Practical Amateur Astronomy
Newton J.	Deep Sky Objects
Peck W.	The Constellations and How to Find Them
Ronan C.A.	The Practical Amateur Astronomer
Roth G.A.	Handbook for Planet Observers
Roth G.A.	The Amateur Astronomer and his Telescope
Thackeray A.D.	Astronomical Spectroscopy
Webb T.W.	Celestial Objects for Common Telescopes Volume 1. The Solar System

(E) ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY

Newton J.	Skys shooting
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(F) ATLASES ETC

Becvar	Skalnate Pleso Atlas of the Heavens
Norton's Star Atlas	
Moore P.A.	The Atlas of the Universe
Philips	Signpost to the Stars
Philips	Stars at a Glance

(G) MATHEMATICAL ASTRONOMY/CALCULATIONS

Duffet-Smith P.	Practical Astronomy with your Calculator
Sawyer W.W.	Mathematician's Delight

(H) TELESCOPE MAKING ETC

Frank C.	Frank's Book of the Telescope
Howard	Telescope Making
Spry R.	Make your own Telescope
TASCO	Telescope Manual for Beginners

(I) SPACE EXPLORATION

Avenel A.	The View from Orbit II
Clarke A.C.	The Promise of Space
Feldman A.	Secrets of Space
Gardner M.	Space Puzzles
Hoyle F. & Wickramasinghe N.C.	Space Travellers
Ryan P.	Invasion of the Moon 1969
The Young Space Traveller :	Project Book 168
Von Braun W.	Space Frontier
Worvill R.	Exploring Space

(J) 'UFO'S'

UFO - UK	
Vallee J. & Vallee J.	The UFO Enigma

(K) PERIODICALS ETC

The Astronomer Various issues from 1977, 1978 and 1981; B.A.A. New South Wales Branch: *Bulletins* 579-85, 590-2, 595-9; F.A.S. *Newsletters*.

Sky & Telescope Unbound issues from 1970; bound volumes 1978-84 inclusive

Astronomy Various issues from 1970's and 1980's

(L) C.A.S. PUBLICATIONS ETC.

Newsletters; Astrocalendars; Committee Minutes

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The Society shall be named the Cardiff Astronomical Society.

2. AIMS

The Society shall be an organisation to stimulate public interest in the science of astronomy; to further the knowledge of its members and to promote and conduct research and observations.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all persons interested in astronomy.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscription rates for membership shall be as follows, Juniors under 16 years of age on date of joining £2.50 per annum; Adults £9.50 per annum. Subscriptions shall become due on September 1st each year. A member whose subscription remains over three months in arrears will be suspended until it is paid.

5. FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year of the Society shall commence on September 1st.

6. MEETINGS

a) An annual General Meeting shall be held in the Spring of each year. Such meetings will be devoted primarily to the reports of Officers and the election of Officers for the next session.

b) Ordinary meetings shall take place once per fortnight at the Society's Headquarters unless the Committee should decide otherwise.

7. COMMITTEE

a) The Committee shall be as follows:-

President
 Vice-President
 Chairman
 Vice-Chairman
 Secretary
 Assistant Secretary
 Treasurer
 Deputy Treasurer
 Editor
 Publicity Officer/Librarian
 Director of Instruments/Observations
 Junior Representative
 Two ordinary members

b) All Officers shall be elected for the ensuing year at the Annual General Meeting.

- c) A quorum shall consist of seven members for a Committee Meeting.
- d) The President and Vice President are ex Officio members of the Committee.
- e) The Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.
- f) The Committee shall be the administrative body of the Society and shall be responsible for its activities.
- g) Committee members for election shall be proposed and seconded by a Society member.
- h) No person shall stand for election without his or her prior consent.

8. HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of the Society shall be University of Wales College of Cardiff.

RULES

1. The Society shall be called the Cardiff Astronomical Society.
2. The objects of the Society shall be to stimulate public interest in the science of astronomy, to further the knowledge of its members, and to promote and conduct research and observations.
3. The Society shall consist of ORDINARY, HONORARY and JUNIOR members. ORDINARY and HONORARY members shall have the right of attending and voting at all meetings of the Society, of proposing candidates for election to the Committee, of serving if elected on the Committee or in any office of the Society. All members have the right of receiving Newsletters and notices issued during their membership.
4. ORDINARY and JUNIOR members shall pay an annual subscription. This shall become due on the first day of September in each year. Members whose subscriptions are in arrears by over three months may be considered for removal from the Society at the discretion of the Committee.
5. The management of the Society shall be vested in a Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Editor, Publicity Officer/Librarian, Director of Instruments/ Observations. The Chairman elected to serve for one year, with the option of standing for a second; the Chairman will stand down following his/her period of office; the Secretary and Treasurer not subject to re-election unless desired by the Membership, Committee or the Incumbent; all other posts to come up for re-election annually, but the Incumbent may be re-elected for as many years as the Membership, Committee of the Incumbent desires; in addition there shall be two ordinary members who may stand for one year only, after which they must stand down; one year must elapse before they are eligible for re-election; the above members to be elected at appropriate Annual General Meetings; the Committee has the right to co-opt members for a specific purpose. The Committee shall fill any vacancies that may arise until the next Annual General Meeting. The President and Vice-President are honorary posts, not subject to elections. They may change from time to time at the discretion of the Committee, or when the Incumbent wishes to be relieved of the post.

6. Before each Annual General Meeting there shall be issued to each ORDINARY and HONORARY member of the Society a circular which shall contain the names of such members as may be nominated by the Committee to serve on the Committee during the following year. Additional nominations may be made by ORDINARY members provided that the candidate is supported by not less than two ORDINARY members, and that such nominations are received by the Secretary not less than one week before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
7. Minutes shall be kept of the Annual and Special General Meetings of the Society.
8. The Committee shall, upon a requisition signed by not less than ten ORDINARY members of the Society, convene a Special General Meeting of the Society. A notice of the date and object of such a Special General Meeting shall be sent to each member of the Society not less than seven days before such a meeting, and no business shall be considered other than for which it was convened.
9. The accounts of the Society shall be made up to the last day of February in each year and audited by two members of the Society not at the time members of the Committee, and shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.
10. In the event of dissolution of the Society such property or effects shall be disposed of by gift. Such gift shall be for the benefit of astronomy and not for the benefit of any individual. The disposal shall be determined by the vote of a Special General Meeting.
11. No rule shall be altered except by a majority vote of the ordinary members present at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose.
12. A copy of these rules shall be sent to each ORDINARY member upon election.

STANDING ORDERS

1. The composition of the Committee shall be as laid down in the Rules of the Society.
2. The Committee shall meet not less than four times during the year.
3. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman the Committee shall be chaired by an Officer elected by the Committee.
4. For each Committee meeting there shall be a quorum which shall not be less than one half of the Committee membership.
5. Minutes of each Committee meeting shall be kept.
6. Special meetings of the Committee shall be called by not less than three Committee members whose names shall appear on the summoning notice, together with the stated reason for the meeting.
7. No minutes shall be read at a special meeting and no business other than that stated on the Agenda shall be transacted.

