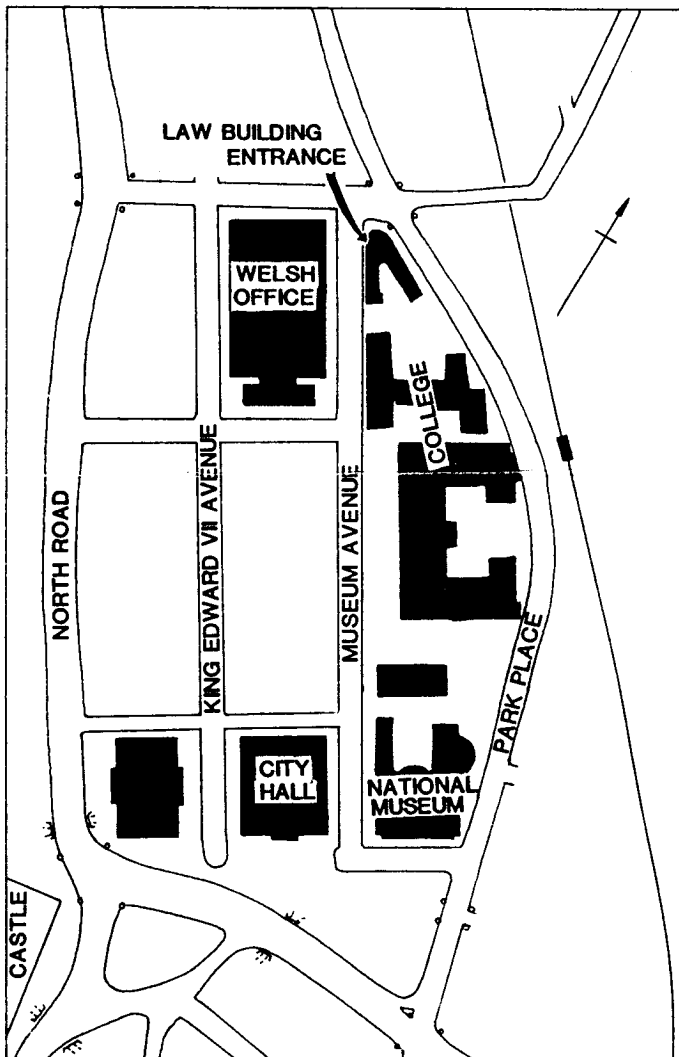


CARDIFF  
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

**HANDBOOK**  
1986-87

Introduction	1
Committee 1986-87	2
Programme 1986-87	3
Library	4-5
Constitution	6-7
Rules	7-8
Standing Orders	8



## 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 the present room in University College, kindly made available through the good offices of Dr Mike Edmunds of the Department of Applied Mathematics and Astronomy.

Meetings are held fortnightly, on alternate Thursdays between September and July in Room 230, Department of Law, University College, Cardiff (see map opposite). They commence at 7.30pm 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 a number of small, portable instruments including a 150mm Newtonian reflector and two small refractors; these are available for members to loan, via the Director of Observations. We propose to add further instruments in the near future, as soon as funds allow.

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

Subscriptions: Adults £6.00 per annum, Juniors £2.00 per annum. Due September 1 1986 for 1986-87 session. Prompt payment appreciated.

## COMMITTEE 1986-87

PRESIDENT

Professor M.J. Disney, FRAS,  
 Professor of Observational Astronomy,  
 Department of Applied Mathematics and Astronomy,  
 University College,  
 Cardiff.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Ron Lane,  
 53 Romilly Road,  
 Canton,  
 Cardiff.  
 Interests: cosmology and deep-sky objects

CHAIRMAN

Peter Bennett,  
 6 Church Close,  
 Llantwit Fardre,  
 Mid Glamorgan.  
 Interests: instrument and telescope  
 making; deep-sky objects

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Gerry Dolan,  
 9 Hendy Street,  
 Roath Park,  
 Cardiff.  
 Interests: stellar evolution

SECRETARY

Dave Powell,  
 1 Tal y Bont Road,  
 Ely,  
 Cardiff CF5 5EU.  
 Tel. Cardiff 551704  
 Interests: variable stars; nova patrols;  
 stellar evolution; deep-sky  
 objects; meteors

TREASURER

Norman Jenkins,  
 34 St Margaret's Road,  
 Whitchurch,  
 Cardiff CF4 7AB.  
 Interests: astronomical instruments  
 and their construction;  
 deep-sky objects;  
 planetary observation

EDITOR

Bob Owens,  
 3 Duxford Close,  
 Llandaff,  
 Cardiff CF5 2PR.  
 Interests: planetary observation; comets;  
 meteors; photography; history  
 of astronomy in Wales

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUMENTS/  
OBSERVATIONS

Martin Chick,  
 25 Calderton Road,  
 Gwaun Miskin,  
 nr Pontypridd,  
 Mid Glamorgan.  
 Tel. Newtown Llantwit 206594 (home)  
 Cardiff 44111 x 30266 (work)  
 Interests: planetary observation;  
 photography

LIBRARIAN

Bob Minton,  
 5 Windsor Crescent,  
 Radyr,  
 Cardiff.  
 Interests: deep-sky objects; photography

JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE

Richard Osbourne,  
 50 Heol Briwnant,  
 Rhiwbina,  
 Cardiff CF4 6QH.  
 Interests: binary stars;  
 astronautics

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Pam Cowburn,  
 79 Hollybush Road,  
 Cyncoed,  
 Cardiff.  
 Interests: cosmology; planets

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Stephen Lubbock,  
 9 Meadow Court,  
 St Bride's Major,  
 Mid Glamorgan.  
 Interests: variable stars; nova  
 and supernova patrols;  
 deep-sky objects

## PROGRAMME 1986-87

1986		
September 4	Report on visit to La Palma.	M.E.J. Chick, P.J. Chick and R.M. Owens (CAS)
September 18	Theories of cometary origins	Dr M.M. Bailey, Department of Astronomy, University of Manchester
October 2	Who was the first astrophotographer? (Aspects of early astronomy in Wales).	G.P. Lacey, Swansea Astronomical Society.
October 16	Three short talks by CAS members: Pegasus and Andromeda Parallax Jupiter	D.W.S. Powell G.P. Dolan R.M. Owens
October 30	Eclipse chasing.	M. de F. Maunder, FRAS, Pyrford, Surrey.
November 13	The Holy Universe	Dr A. Whitworth, University College, Cardiff.
November 27	The relationship between comets and meteors.	A. Markham, Meteor Section Director, 'The Astronomer'
December 11	Astronomical Quiz	
1987		
✓ January 8	Active galaxies	W.E. Sutherland (CAS)
January 22	Spacecraft of the future	R. Osbourne (CAS)
February 5	The winter sky	R.H. Lang (CAS)
February 19	Nebulae of the night sky	M. Griffiths, Bridgend A.S.
✓ March 5	Cosmic Rays	Dr A. Nelson, University College, Cardiff.
March 19	The Spring sky	S.J. Lubbock (CAS and Bridgend A.S.)
April 2	Annual General Meeting	
April 16	Planets	V. Sage (Bristol A.S.)
April 30	What sort of telescope shall I make?	Dr G. Jenkins (Swansea A.S.)
May 14	Star Clusters	D.W.S. Powell (CAS)
May 28	Two short talks by CAS members: 'O' Level astronomy for the over-16s The aurora	P.J. Chick R.H. Lang
June 11	Uranus, Neptune and Pluto	G. Smye-Runsby (Orpington A.S.)
June 25	A rare object: the Sun	M.E.J. Chick (CAS)
July 9	Venus	R.M. Owens (CAS)

A/N/

## LIBRARY

(A) GENERAL

Abell, G.O.	Astronomy for everybody
Asimov, I.	The Universe
Avenel, A.	The view from Orbit II
Ball, R.S.	The story of the heavens
Brandt, J.C. & Maran, S.P.	New astronomy and space science reader
Brown, P.L.	Astronomy in colour
Brown, P.L.	Comets, meteorites and men
Brown, P.L.	Star and planet spotting
Calder, N.	The restless Earth
Calder, N.	The violent Universe
Cleator, P.E.	Into space
Couper, H. & Henbest, N.	Space frontiers
Davies, R.D. & Palmer, H.P.	Radio studies of the Universe
Duffet-Smith, P.	Practical astronomy with your calculator
Evans, I.O.	The Earth
Evans, D.S.	Teach yourself astronomy
Frank, C.	Frank's book of the telescope
Gallant, R.	Bombarded Earth
Gatland, K.	Robot explorers
Goodavage, J.F.	The comet Kohoutek
Goodavage, J.F.	Storm on the Sun
Hebwyrd, J.D.	The living Universe
Hendrickson, W.	Reach for the Moon
Hickley, J.C.	Introducing the Universe
Hill, D.	The Comet
Hinks, A.R.	Astronomy
Holmes, D.C.	The search for life on other worlds
Hyde, F.W.	Radio astronomy
Keyhoe, D.E.	Flying saucers from outer space
Lytleton, R.A.	The modern universe (2 copies)
Lovell, B. & Lovell, J.	Discovering the Universe
Mallas, J.H. & Kreimer, E.	The Messier Album
Moore, P.A.	The A-Z of astronomy
Moore, P.A.	The boys book of space
Moore, P.A.	Challenge of the stars
Moore, P.A.	Exploring other planets
Moore, P.A.	Exploring the galaxies
Moore, P.A.	Guide to the Moon
Moore, P.A.	Guide to the planets
Moore, P.A.	Guide to the stars
Moore, P.A.	Practical amateur astronomy
Moore, P.A.	The stars above
Newton, J.	Deep sky objects
Newton, J.	Sky shooting
Nicholson, J.	Exploring the planets
Peck, W.	The constellations and how to find them
Poocey, S.	Exploring the Solar System
Richardson, R.S.	Man and the planets
Ridpath, I.	Signs of life
Ronan, C.A.	Man probes the Universe
Ronan, C.A.	The practical amateur astronomer
Roth, G.A.	The amateur astronomer and his telescope
Roth, G.A.	Handbook for planet observers
Ryan, P.	Invasion of the Moon, 1969
Sawyer, W.W.	Mathematicians delight
Sidgwick, J.B.	Introducing astronomy
Smart, W.M.	The riddle of the Universe
Smith, A.	A key to worlds beyond

Spry, R.	Make your own telescope
Stoneley, J.	Is anyone out there?
Taylor, J.	Black Holes
Thackeray, A.D.	Astronomical spectroscopy
Vallee, J. & Vallee, J.	The UFO enigma
Washburn, M.	Mars at last!
Waterfield, R.L.	The revolving heavens
Webb, T.W.	Celestial objects for common telescopes.
	Vol. 1. The Solar System
Weinburg, S.	The first three minutes
Whipple, F.	Earth, Moon and planets
Wilson, D.	Our mysterious spaceship Moon
Worvill, R.	Exploring space (2 copies)
Worvill, R.	The stars and their legends

#### (B) YEARBOOKS ETC.

Moore, P.A. (Ed.) Yearbook of Astronomy (1975, 1977, 1978 and 1979 editions)  
 The Times 'Night Sky' (1961, 1963 and 1976 editions)

#### (C) OBSERVATIONAL GUIDES AND STAR ATLASES

Philips Signpost to the stars  
 Philips Stars at a glance  
 Popular star atlas  
 Norton's star atlas  
 Skalnate Pleso Atlas of the heavens (Bečvar)  
 An easy guide to the constellations (Inglis)

#### (D) EQUIPMENT

Various catalogues

#### (E) GUIDES

Various guides to places of astronomical interest

#### (F) MISCELLANEOUS

About telescopes Project Book 118  
 The young space traveller Project Book 168  
 TASC0 telescope manual for beginners  
 Astronauts book  
 Whitakers Almanac  
 Moon, Mars and Meteorites (Geological Museum)  
 The Moon - a brief four-language survey  
 Flying saucers bulletin. April 1977

#### (G) PERIODICALS

Federation of Astronomical Societies newsletters  
 Stars and Space '77  
 BAA New South Wales Branch, Bulletins 579-85, 590-2, 595-9  
 The Astronomer: various issues from 1977, 1978 and 1981  
 Spectrum No.5, November 1976  
 Sky & Telescope. Large number of issues from early 1960s onwards  
 Circulars and newsletters from Swansea, Shropshire and York astronomical societies

#### (H) CAS PUBLICATIONS

Committee minutes, newsletters, handbooks and Astrocalendars

## CARDIFF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY 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 £2.00 per annum; adults £6.00 per annum. Subscriptions shall become due on September 1 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 1.

### 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  
 Treasurer  
 Editor  
 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 six 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.



Constitution, cont.

8. HEADQUARTERS

The Headquarters of the Society shall be at University College, 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 meeting 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, Treasurer, Editor, 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 or 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.

## Rules, cont.

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 that 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 meeting 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.