

JUNE 2005

VollieNews

NEWSLETTER OF THE POVG (PERTH OBSERVATORY VOLUNTEER GROUP INC).

QUIZ NIGHT WINDUP

G'day. Momentum is gathering for a quiz night windup get-together here at the Observatory on Friday evening, July 15. Latest news is that long-time member Jeanne Bell and her husband Ken have offered to supply the questions and run the show. We welcome constructive suggestions. We also welcome donations of prizes. The food question hasn't been sorted out yet. Watch this space (the news group).
Regards, Greg.

THREE APC DONATED FOR USE IN THE INTERNET TELESCOPE PROJECT.

The "POVG has just received a donation of three refurbished APC BackUPS 600 uninterruptible power supplies (UPS) for use in the Internet telescope project. Our kind benefactor is Dean Elliott, proprietor of Kaejen Services, who provides UPS maintenance services to the place that I work. Basically they are retired UPSes that have been fitted with new batteries to give them a new lease of life and should be good for a few years (no guarantees though).

The UPSes will likely be deployed for use with the satellite internet controller (Vollie PC), cloud detector controller and, well, presumably the scope or something, but I'd guess the final decision on precisely where they will be used will be at Arie's discretion.

Cheers", Bevan.

"Excellent! Just the sort of thing the Vollies were created for! To assist the Observatory. Not sure if any of us could have predicted this specific assistance, but to have access to such equipment at the Observatory, considering the actual power supply infrastructure, could be a real boon. Well done.

I am pleased that Jamie has already acknowledged your message of advice. Again, excellent.

I presume that a formal letter of thanks from the Vollies to Dean at Kaejen could be in order? Have you raised the point with Jamie about one also from the Observatory? Would you provide a mail address please? I will phone you about the letter idea". Mike Freeman

Mike et al,

"I think a formal letter would be appropriate even though Dean was happy to assist and wasn't seeking the recognition. I think an acknowledgement on the portal site for the scope(s) was also mentioned at some time (is that correct Jamie?). I've Dean's details at work, so I'll have me jog my memory to pass them on.

The UPSes are now at my place now, so I'll schlep them up the hill at some opportune time. Cheers". Bevan

Bevan

"The Observatory likes to recognise all

who positively contribute to its activities. A letter of thanks will be forthcoming (details required please), and a link off our new website is appropriate.

Thanks again for facilitating this donation". Regards Jamie Biggs.

STOLEN METEORITE WARNING
"Some low type cut the chain holding our "touch and feel" fragment of Boxhole meteorite and absconded with it. Just in case they approach one of you in the hope of selling it, here's a description:

The fragment is adult-fist-sized, say 12cm, very roughly scone-shaped, with the usual rusty, baked and pitted meteorite exterior. Weight is around a kilogram (we never actually weighed it). The distinguishing feature is the threaded hole for the bolt which attached the chain; very few meteorites come with this.

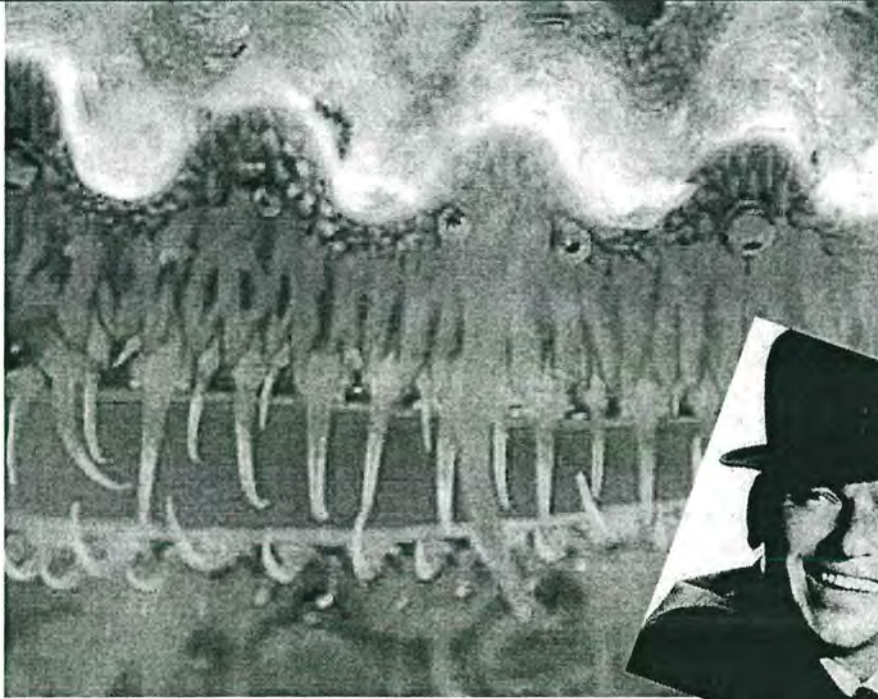
If you are offered this specimen, please take it for inspection and hold it for us to collect, get the details of the vendor if possible and let us know.

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Please note that there will be no Vollie meeting on the 4th July

In this issue:
Astro News
POVG's May Meeting Minutes
Phases of the Moon for June
Vollie Training and Meeting Nights - Dates & Times for 2005 & 2006

What do 'Cranky Frankie'
and a Scallop have in common?



To find out the answer plus many other amazing & fascinating facts
come along to the annual

Vollie' Wind-up Quiz Night

to be held at the Observatory on

Friday July 15th, 2005.

6.30 for 7pm Start

Tables of 6 are limited to 10 so book now by calling
Janet on 9293 8255 or email Greg: gregl@calm.wa.gov.au

Supper and refreshments provided
Open to all Vollie group members and guest, and Observatory staff.

PERTH OBSERVATORY VOLUNTEER GROUP INC.

Minutes of Meeting; May 30th. 2005

Present.

L.Martin. J.Biggs. J.Morris. L.Robinson.
M.Emmons. G.Coletti. I.Behan. E.Walker.
G.Lowe. J.Milner. M.Haslam. N.Townsend.
R.Boelin. B.Harris. V.Semmler. T.Beston.
D.Alderson.
Apologies.
J.Alcroft. M.Zengerer. M.Freeman. K.Ford.

Confirmation of Minutes.

Moved T.Beston, seconded N.Townsend.

Business Arising.

Following on from discussion at the previous meeting, N.Townsend tabled a Document entitled 'Suggested Marketing Plan 2005/2006'. The document listed ideas and suggestions to increase attendances on the tours and to raise income for the Observatory. After prolonged discussion of these possibilities it was agreed that the Observatory Web Site should be upgraded, the visit of staff from Community Newspapers should be scheduled for next season, and the possibility of a Corporate Sponsorship night to be arranged in November. N.Townsend tabled a list of names of possible attendees. J.Biggs expressed his thanks and appreciation for the effort and work volunteered by N.Townsend and promised to follow up on

the suggestions discussed.

J.Morris reported on his investigations to produce a car rear window sticker to encourage people to visit the Observatory, Professionally done, they would be too expensive to be cost effective, but he showed an example of one he had produced on the computer using clear Contact for his own vehicle stating "Get Starry Eyed visit Perth Observatory". L.Martin said that he had a contact in the Printing Business and that he thought he could probably get something done more economically and would report back to the next meeting.

The Lotteries Commission seemed a likely source for funds, but we need to decide on a Project, for which we needed the money, it was agreed that this matter be held over until M.Freeman returned from holiday.

G.Coletti said that he was able to arrange publication of Observatory promotional material within the University Campus's Treasurer's Report.

B.Harris reported that the financial situation was unchanged from the previous meeting.

General Business.

J.Biggs asked for the names of all Volunteers who required Name Badges.

Professor D.Dolan had offered to give a talk to the Volunteers entitled 'Percival Lowell and his Mars Studies', a date in July/August was suggested as being suitable.

J.Biggs pointed out that in the event that we are able to take advantage of the services offered by the West Australian Community Foundation we would need to form a group of preferably well known personality's prepared to sit on an Advisory Committee to supervise the disbursement of funds.

B.Harris reported that having a contact with the owner of a Company that produced U.P.S machines {Uninterrupted Power Supply} he had been able to have 3 of the machines provided to the Observatory at no cost.

Volunteer wind-up night'. After discussion it was agreed that this would take the form of a Quiz night at the Observatory in July, food to be catered for.

There being no further General Business the Meeting Closed at 8.25pm

JOIN THE POVG NEWS GROUP

If you've got any news, information or pics post them on the newsgroup. To join simply send your email address to Bevan Harris at: ngc2070@bigpond.com

To unsubscribe send an email to: perthobsvollies-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

To modify your subscription, visit the group website at: <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/mygroups>

PHASES OF THE MOON FOR 2005

New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter
			Jan 4 01:45
Jan 10 20:03	Jan 17 14:57	Jan 25 18:32	Feb 2 15:27
Feb 9 06:28	Feb 16 08:16	Feb 24 12:54	Mar 4 01:36
Mar 10 17:10	Mar 18 03:19	Mar 26 04:58	Apr 2 08:50
Apr 9 04:32	Apr 16 22:37	Apr 24 18:06	May 1 14:24
May 8 16:45	May 16 16:56	May 24 04:18	May 30 19:47
Jun 7 05:55	Jun 15 09:22	Jun 22 12:14	Jun 29 02:23
Jul 6 20:02	Jul 14 23:20	Jul 21 18:60	Jul 28 11:19
Aug 5 11:05	Aug 13 10:38	Aug 20 01:53	Aug 26 23:18
Sep 4 02:45	Sep 11 19:36	Sep 18 10:01	Sep 25 14:41
Oct 3 18:28	Oct 11 03:01	Oct 17 20:13	Oct 25 09:17
Nov 2 09:24	Nov 9 09:57	Nov 16 08:57	Nov 24 06:11
Dec 1 23:01	Dec 8 17:36	Dec 16 00:15	Dec 24 03:36
Dec 31 11:12			

<http://www.wa.gov.au/perthobs/hpc5mn03.htm>

PERTH OBSERVATORY VOLUNTEERS' GROUP

PERTH OBSERVATORY STAFF

DR JAMIE BIGGS	DIRECTOR AND GOVT ASTRONOMER
PETER BIRCH	ASTRONOMER
RALPH MARTIN	ASTRONOMER
DR ANDREW WILLIAMS	ASTRONOMER
RICK TONELLO	ASTRONOMER ASSISTANT
GREG LOWE	ASTRONOMER ASSISTANT
JANET BELL	ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
DI JOHNS	CLERICAL OFFICER
ARIE VERVEER	TECHNICAL MANAGER
JOHN PEARCE	MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN
MARC APPELHOF	MAINTENANCE PERSON/CLEANER

POVG VOLUNTEERS

MIKE FREEMAN	CHAIRPERSON
ELAINE WALKER	VICE CHAIRPERSON
JOHN MORRIS	SECRETARY
BEVAN HARRIS	TREASURER AND NEWSGROUP MODERATOR (CONTACT: NGC2070@BIGPOND.COM)
JEFF ALCROFT	NEWSLETTER EDITOR (CONTACT: CALLIDES@INET.NET.AU)

OBSERVATORY'S VOLUNTEER LIST

JEFF ALCROFT	DAVID EMRICH	ANDREW MACNAUGHTAN
DICK ALDERSON	MARK EMMONS	LEN MARTIN
TREVOR BEARDSMORE	KEITH FORD	JACQUIE MILNER
LYALL BELL	MIKE FREEMAN	JOHN MORRIS
FRANK BILKI	LYNDA FREWER	LLOYD ROBINSON
TONY BESTON	BEVAN HARRIS	ELAINE WALKER
RIC BOELEN	MARK HASLAM	MATTHEW ZENGERER
GARRY BOYD	KAREN KOTZE	
GIUSEPPE COLETTI	ROB LONEY	

PROBATIONARY VOLUNTEERS

ASHER ABRAHAM	TIM ROBERTS	ARCHIVING
IRENEUSZ BARAN	VAL SEMMLER	SALLY CULVER
JOHN BROOKE	DAVID SHEARER	
GARTH BROOKS	NOREEN TOWNSEND	



PERTH OBSERVATORY
537 Walnut Road, Bickley WA 6076
<http://www.wa.gov.au/perthobs>



Perth Observatory Volunteers Group

2005/06 Volunteer Training & Meeting Nights

Below are listed the training nights scheduled for 2005/2006.

Training is important for our volunteers, they enjoy it, and we need to support these staff members in return for the assistance they render.

All staff are directed NOT to ROSTER ANY ACTIVITY THAT WILL INTERFERE WITH TRAINING night attendees access to the lecture theatre and the VOF (and associated telescopes). Generally (but not necessarily depending on Public Holidays etc), these training nights are scheduled for 7pm the Monday after the week of Last Quarter. This list is also displayed on the volunteer notice board.

Also, could you please bring the details of this message to the attention of all staff under your direct supervision. Your co-operation is appreciated. Jamie Biggs.

2005

~~4 Jul (cancelled)~~
1 Aug
29 Aug
19 Sep
24 Oct
28 Nov

2006

23 Jan
27 Feb
27 Mar
18 Apr: (NOTE: this is a
Tuesday)
22 May
19 Jun
17 Jul
21 Aug