

# NORMAN LOCKYER OBSERVATORY SOCIETY LIMITED

A company limited by guarantee (No. 3048646) and a Registered Charity (No. 1048807)

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Norman Lockyer Observatory Society Limited will be held in the Donald Barber Lecture Theatre, Norman Lockyer Observatory, Salcombe Hill, Sidmouth on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm for the following purposes:

## AGM AGENDA

1. Welcome & Apologies
2. To approve the Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting
3. To receive the Annual Report from the Chairman
4. To receive the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2016
5. To re-appoint as the Society's auditors Easterbrook Eaton Ltd and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
6. Election of Directors (see personal statements below)
  - a. To appoint **Ken Bailey** as Director
  - b. To appoint **Kathleen Dollery** as Director
  - c. To appoint **David Jones** as Director
  - d. To appoint **Derek Moreton** as Director
7. The Chairman will close the formal proceedings of the AGM and then invite Interest Groups, Sections, Members' Forum & Workgroups to share their achievement of this year.

By Order of the Board  
Richard Crisp  
Secretary

Please find on the following pages:

2 & 3      *Personal prospective Director introductions ( in alphabetical surname order)*

## **Ken Bailey**

Having been a member of the NLO for close on twenty years, when I was asked to accept nomination for the post of director I felt that perhaps it was time I offered whatever it is that I might be able to contribute. Naturally there might be some curiosity as to my career up to this point - I'll try to be as brief as possible. After a short time in the RAF as a ground radio assistant I spent a few years in the domestic radio and TV business. Thanks to a friend at the time, both of us joined the Ministry of Civil Aviation (now the Civil Aviation Authority) as Radio Technicians, the training taking place in Bletchley Park, which at this time was owned by the GPO (when we had a real Post Office). On leaving I was asked if I would be interested in returning to join the instructing staff, should a vacancy arrive. It did and I did, after about three months in the field, subsequently being promoted to TTO III then TTO II. (TTO=Telecomms Technical Officer) During this time I had three awards for a few innovations which I suggested.

Next came a few years in the BBC as a transmitter engineer in the Planning and Installation department - a very interesting period which virtually entailed starting off with a sheet of squared paper and ending up with a working transmitting station (eventually, in some cases). For domestic reasons and somewhat reluctantly I left the BBC and we moved to Edinburgh.

The ten years there were spent with a young but very successful electronics company, latterly as pre-production manager. This section was created to ensure a smooth transition from R&D to production which had not always been the case. Again, for domestic reasons we left and came down here where for the last fifteen years of work I was with the Independent Broadcasting Authority in their training establishment in Seaton. We were responsible for training all of the IBA technical staff, also a number of students from other organisations.

And now? As a number of you reading this will know, my main interest is in Radio Astronomy but I also have a keen interest in visual astronomy which has been with me since childhood. One of the areas in which I would hope to help, if appointed, is the expanding recognition of the observatory, both nationally and internationally, where a very good start has been made already. We also have a very enthusiastic bunch of young astronomers and I would like to see more young people coming into NLO, possibly recruited from visiting school and other interest groups.

As for my current interests, when I'm not tinkering about with the latest electronics project and not necessarily in any particular order, this would be walking, travel, music (listening to rather than performing) and from time to time discovering the best restaurants in the area (particularly the ones where the coffee doesn't taste burned!). In general, enjoying life.

## **Kathleen Dollery**

I have been a member of the society since 1992 and I have been privileged to have been a director of the society since 1995. During my time as a director I have had responsibility for the library and shop and I was instrumental in setting up the Astronomy Fair and the children's group known as the Astroscouts. Although I have responsibility for an interest group, as a director I take an interest in all groups, and their members, and feel that it is important to see the society as a whole and not just a collection of groups. I attend regularly on a Friday night and on the Lecture evenings which occur on the second Monday of the month. I am a regular helper on Front of House at open events. As a director I am also a member of the Management Committee which consists of three NLO directors and four councillors. The councillors are very supportive of the NLO and hold us in high esteem. I would very much like to remain a director of the society and ask for your support so that I can continue to support its members to the best of my ability.

## **David Jones**

Most of you already know me but for those that don't let me introduce myself.

My name is Dave Jones, I am 46, a father of two and live with my partner, Sharon in Chard, Somerset. I work as a Quality Manager and Production Manager in a plastics factory, a job I have held for 27 years. I

am originally from Staffordshire and moved to Somerset in 2000 due to the relocation of the company I worked for.

I have had an interest in astronomy from a young age but only took it up as a real hobby in 2010, which is when I first encountered and visited the NLO. From one visit I was hooked and have been a member of the NLOS for 6 years. In that time, I have been involved in many areas and groups and contributed wherever my skills have been welcomed. My primary interest has always been in the astrophotography group, managing to win the imager of the year award one year. I have also been heavily involved in the Radio Astronomy group that ran meteor detection, magnetometers, solar flare detections to name just a few projects I have been involved with. I also have an interest in meteorology, mainly due to purchasing a home weather station a few years ago. I contributed with maintenance of the grounds for several years, as well as being part of the IT team that oversaw the major upgrade of the NLO computer network and hardware that gave everyone a stable connection to the internet when visiting the NLO. I also helped to ensure we were compliant with the latest legitimate computer operating systems, rather than relying on copied software that ran most of the systems previously.

After several years of benefitting massively from all that the NLO has to offer me as a member I feel that the time is right to put myself forward as a candidate for a director's role in the NLOS. This would allow me to become directly involved in the running of the NLOS, hopefully putting in my time and effort as payment for all of the benefits I have received from being a member for the last six years.

I am passionate and enthusiastic in all I do, and I would use my passion and enthusiasm to play my part in shaping the NLOS for the good of the members, and the visiting public as a whole. My involvement in many areas of the Observatory I believe gives me a well-rounded fundamental understanding of the observatory not only from a member's perspective but also I believe I could help with the "front-facing" part of the NLO (what the public sees, electronic displays, internet output etc.). I believe I could use skills from my work, planning, procedures and project management to assist the directors and the observatory as a whole for any future projects that may arise for the improvement of the NLO and its facilities.

I will work for all members and all groups in a fair and consistent manner and if you gave me your vote I guarantee I would do all I can to ensure the continuation of the excellent work of all directors and members current and previous for future members and visitors to enjoy.

## **Derek Moreton**

I joined the NLOS nearly five years ago on taking retirement from an engineering career/background in the aviation industry and moving down to East Devon. I was elected as a Director three years ago and have been primarily involved in the longer term business planning for the NLOS.

I am actively involved with the maintenance of the planetarium equipment as well as working on various repairs and improvement projects on the historic telescopes and domes. The most recent being to replace the dome door opening mechanism on the Connaught dome and the ongoing work to provide an improved and simple siderostat operation for solar spectrum demonstrations to members and the public.

I am a member of the Observer Group and enjoy simply viewing the night sky and learning to navigate my way around, weather permitting of course. Beyond that I am fascinated by all aspects of astronomy and cosmology.

If elected to Director I will ensure that the Society continues to meet its Aims and Objectives by balancing the requirements and demands made by members and the general public; in particular by supporting the various interest groups and the aspirations of individual members in their pursuit of astronomy and science.