



RASNZ CONFERENCE 2021

9TH - 11TH JULY 2021

Wharewaka Function Centre
Taranaki Wharf 2 Taranaki Street, Wellington 6011



**HOSTED BY THE WELLINGTON
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**

Promoting astronomy in and around the
Wellington region.

RASNZ CONFERENCE 2021



REGISTRATION

Register Online rasnzconference.org.nz
Registrations Close 27 June 2021

RASNZ & WELLINGTON ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS, HIGH SCHOOL OR TERTIARY STUDENTS

\$275.00

NON-MEMBERS

\$305.00

SATURDAY ONLY

\$155.00

DINNER (PER PERSON)

\$100.00

DARK SKY SYMPOSIUM

\$30.00

PAPER SUBMISSION

The organisers invite and encourage anyone interested in New Zealand astronomy to submit oral or poster papers for the conference programme. Please note that those presenting papers must also register for the conference. An on-line submission form is available at rasnzconference.org.nz. Final date for registering the presenting your paper is 27th June 2021.

RASNZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 98th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society of NZ will be held at 3:30 pm Saturday 10 July 2021 at the Wharewaka Function Centre, Wellington.

RASNZ CONFERENCE CODE OF CONDUCT

Conference is dedicated to providing a harassment-free conference experience for everyone regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age or religion. We do not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form. Sexual language and imagery is not appropriate for any conference venue, including talks. Conference participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference without a refund at the discretion of the conference organisers.

RASNZ CONFERENCE 2021



DAY 1

Friday 9th July

RASNZ COUNCIL MEETING

10:30am - 4:00pm

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES MEETING

4.30pm - 5:30pm

SESSION 1

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Welcome & Official Opening by RASNZ and WAS Presidents
Fellows' Address "Some Pot Got Me into Astronomy" Presented by John Drummond.



John Drummond has been fascinated with astronomy ever since his mother pointed the 'Pot' in Orion out to him when he was ten. John soon developed an interest in photography, and it wasn't long before the two passions were combined into astrophotography. He has been involved in astrophotography for many years and has had photos published in books and magazines around the world - and even on some New Zealand stamps. He has used his telescopes at Possum Observatory, near Gisborne, (E94) to image targets for Ohio State University in order to co-discover exoplanets via the microlensing method. He helped discover one of the first known Earth-massed planets orbiting one member in a binary star system. It was published in Science.

John also does astrometry of newly discovered comets - as well as those of more well-known orbits. John completed his MSc (Astronomy) in 2016 with Swinburne University of Technology. Currently he is doing his PhD with the University of Southern Queensland's (USQ) Centre for Astrophysics. His work is on New Zealand's historical role in the observation and study of comets. He is also heavily involved with the Royal Astronomical Society of New Zealand and was made a Fellow in 2018. He teaches science at high school and runs an astro-tourism business - Gisborne Astro Tours (www.gisborneastrotours.co.nz). He uses a 0.5-m (20") Go to Dobsonian telescope and a 0.4-m (16") Dobsonian telescope for these visual tours of the Universe.

REFRESHMENTS AND SOCIALIZING

9:00pm - late

RASNZ CONFERENCE 2021



DAY 1

Friday 9th July

SWAPA MEETING | SCC MEETING

7:30am - 8:30am

SESSION 2

9:00am - 10:30am

MORNING TEA

10:30am - 11am

SESSION 3

11am - 12:45pm

CONFERENCE PHOTO

12:45pm - 1pm

LUNCH

1pm - 2pm

SESSION 4

2pm - 3:30pm

AFTERNOON TEA

3:30pm - 4pm

RASNZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | MEETING OF SWAPAS AND GUEST SPEAKER

4pm - 5pm

CONFERENCE DINNER

7.30pm - late

Presentations and Awards will be announced during the evening.

- Murray Geddes Prize
- Astrophotography Awards
- After Dinner Speaker

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DAY 3

Sunday 11th July

SESSION 5

9am - 10:30am

MORNING TEA

10:30am - 11am

SESSION 6

11am - 12:30pm

LUNCH

12:30pm - 1:30pm

SESSION 7

1:30pm - 3pm



PUBLIC TALK (FREE)* - PRESENTATION BY DR HELOISE STEVANCE, UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

4pm - 5pm

How Neutrons Stars and Black Holes are born, and the most impactful discoveries of LIGO/VIRGO in the last 5 years.

Originally born and raised in France, I moved to the UK to study Physics and Astronomy at the University of Sheffield. After working as a support astronomer at the Isaac Newton Group in La Palma for a year, I obtained my Master of Physics in 2015. I subsequently started a PhD studying the 3D shape of Core Collapse Supernovae and earned my title in Spring 2019. In July of that year, I joined the University of Auckland as a Research Fellow to research the evolution of massive stars to better understand how they die and produce Supernovae and Kilonovae. I also started my public outreach work during my doctorate studies, in early 2016, and I have not stopped since.

**Suitable for people from all walks of life from children to seasoned amateur astronomers.*

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DAY 4

Monday 12th July

DARK SKY WORKSHOP

9am - 12:30pm

Te Wāhanga Atawhai Mercy Conference Centre
15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington

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TRANSPORT



TAXI

Taxi ranks are directly outside the baggage claim area on the ground floor of the main terminal. \$30-40 to/from CBD



RIDE SHARE

Exit the terminal and follow the signs to the app-based pickup zone, which is located near the car rental zone. Follow the yellow pedestrian path through the rental car parking area to the pickup zone.



AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Exit the terminal from the baggage claim and the shuttle pickup zone is immediately over the road from the taxi ranks. Fares into the CBD are about \$15. You can reserve seats from SuperShuttle at 04-3878787



METLINK BUS & TRAIN - GET THE APP & GET READY TO TRAVEL!

Greater Wellington Region Council, under the brand name Metlink, brings a public bus, rail and ferry transport network to the wider Wellington region, including Wellington City, Hutt Valley, Porirua, Kāpiti Coast and the Wairarapa.



APP STORE



GOOGLE PLAY



EAST BY WEST HARBOUR FERRY

Discover new places and local attractions on Wellington's unique harbour ferry eastbywest.co.nz/

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ACCOMMODATION

Here's a sample of accommodation options near the Conference Venue (not endorsed by the Conference Committee, just handy). See more options including private providers, online.

HOTELS



WEST PLAZA HOTEL

11 Wakefield St, 400 m from conference venue
Reservations +64 4 473 1440
Email : information@westplaza.co.nz



BAY PLAZA

40 Oriental Parade, 700 m from conference venue
Reservations +64 4 385 7799
Email : reservations@bayplaza.co.nz



JAMES COOK HOTEL

147 The Terrace
Reservations +64 (4) 499 9500
Email: reservations@jamescookhotel.co.nz



CQ HOTEL

213-223 Cuba Street, 850 m from conference venue
Reservations +64 4 385 2153
Email : info.nsw@naumihotels.com

MOTELS



HARBOUR CITY MOTOR INN

92-96 Webb St, 1.4 km from conference venue
Reservations +64 4 384 9809
Email : harbourcitymotorinn@extra.co.nz



VICTORIA COURT MOTOR LODGE

2 Victoria St, 1 km from conference venue
Email : reception@victoriacourt.co.nz

BACKPACKERS



THE MARION

13 Marion St, 650 m from conference venue
Reservations +64 27 284 3887
Email : themarionhostel@gmail.com



YHA WELLINGTON

292 Wakefield St, 700 m from conference venue
Reservations +64 4 801 7280
Email : wellington@yha.co.nz



The Wellington Astronomical Society is an incorporated society for anyone who is interested in stars, planets, space or any other topic related to astronomy.

Members include experienced and distinguished astronomers, but we also cater for the interest of beginners who come from a diverse range of age groups and professions.

The aim is to let people enjoy astronomy through a friendly and helpful atmosphere.

We have regular meetings, with talks on astronomy topics. The talks are suitable for all audiences.

Observation evenings are held once a month at Tawa college. Both members, non members are welcome to attend. Children are welcome. At these evenings there will be a number of different telescopes available to try.

Our newsletter is full of articles by members, and developing news about the society and astronomy. Find out more at was.org.nz



**The organisers gratefully acknowledge the assistance
of the following Conference Partner**



Astronz supports the New Zealand astronomical community, providing quality equipment at affordable prices. Our team of experienced astronomers provides advice and support, furthering astronomy and science education.

- High quality telescopes, including; Newtonian, Schmidt, Cassegrain & Ritchey-Chretien
- Equatorial, Alt-Az and automatic "Go-To" and tracking mounts for telescopes
- Camera and binocular tripods
- Wide range of astrophotography accessories and tracking mounts for DSLR cameras
- See our range of well priced products for beginners

Drop by our display at the Conference venue to try out our demo equipment and find out about our special Conference Deals.



WWW.ASTRONZ.NZ