

IMPROVING ROUTINE COMMUNICATION WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS.

At present Herschel Society Members receive their copies of our Journal by the method (hard or soft copy) stipulated by their type of membership every 6 months, in the Spring and Autumn. The Spring Journal includes the planned agenda of the upcoming AGM held in March, and a full set of documents for that meeting is distributed electronically in advance. Members who have signed up the relevant mailing list (and most have) also receive regular email communications about our lecture programme.

But beyond that, communications to all members are relatively few, and we would like to discuss ways of increasing them where members would find it helpful, without adding significantly to the workload of those of us responsible for managing the Society.

Part of this relates to wider societies that we are collectively or individually associated with. In particular:

- As a Society, we are members of the Federation of Astronomical Societies, mainly because we can thereby get public liability insurance at an attractive rate. The FAS has a monthly electronic Newsletter, mainly about other Societies' activities. We could circulate them to our membership, but don't as they are purely astronomical. **Should we?**
- I am a member of the Society for the History of Astronomy, and go to their meetings if I can. They, too, have a regular electronic newsletter. I think it would be of interest to many of our members. **I therefore propose to pass it on to all members from now on.**
- I am also a Fellow of the RAS, and receive their monthly electronic Newsletter. This is mainly for current astronomers, but sometimes the content may be of interest to our members, so **I propose to pass it on or not on a case-by-case basis.**

More generally, we receive news or suggestions of interest from time to time that I tend to share with my Committee, but some may well be of interest to Members, and I propose again on a **case-by- case basis to copy more broadly to our membership.**

Finally, our Committee meets every two months, and I produce a short Action Note shortly afterwards which currently goes to the Committee. It generally doesn't include anything confidential, but does try to summarise progress on things we are involved with. **I therefore propose to copy it from now on to the membership.**

These are all proposals for discussion at the AGM.