

Anglo-Australian Observatory

Annual Report of the Anglo-Australian Telescope Board

1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003



ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN OBSERVATORY

PO Box 296, Epping, NSW 1710, Australia
167 Vimiera Road, Eastwood, NSW 2122, Australia
PH (02) 9372 4800 (international) + 61 2 9372 4800
FAX (02) 9372 4880 (international) + 61 2 9372 4880
e-mail director@aaoepp.aao.gov.au

ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN TELESCOPE BOARD

PO Box 296, Epping, NSW 1710, Australia
167 Vimiera Road, Eastwood, NSW 2122, Australia
PH (02) 9372 4813 (international) + 61 2 9372 4813
FAX (02) 9372 4880 (international) + 61 2 9372 4880
e-mail ljw@aaoepp.aao.gov.au

ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN TELESCOPE/UK SCHMIDT TELESCOPE

Private Bag, Coonabarabran, NSW 2357, Australia
PH (02) 6842 6291 (international) + 61 2 6842 6291
AAT FAX (02) 6884 2298 (international) + 61 2 6884 2298
UKST FAX (02) 6842 2288 (international) + 61 2 6842 2288
WWW <http://www.aao.gov.au/>

© Anglo-Australian Telescope Board 2003
ISSN 1443-8550

COVER: The cover shows a composite colour image from J,H,Ks images of the Trumpler 14 OB association in the Carina Nebula acquired with the IRIS2 wide-field infrared camera.

COVER DESIGN: Ellipse Design

COMPUTER TYPESET: Anglo-Australian Observatory

PICTURE CREDITS: The editors would like to thank Jonathan Pogson, Urs Klauser, Chris McCowage, Andrew McGrath and David Malin for their photographs and images throughout Chapters 1-3.

The Honourable Dr Brendan Nelson, MP,
Minister for Education, Science and Training
Government of the Commonwealth of Australia

The Right Honourable Patricia Hewitt, MP,
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry,
Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

In accordance with Article 8 of the Agreement between the Australian Government and the Government of the United Kingdom to provide for the establishment and operation of an optical telescope at Siding Spring Mountain in the state of New South Wales, I present herewith a report by the Anglo-Australian Telescope Board for the year from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003. The report summarises the operations of the Board for the period under review and includes financial statements and statements of estimated expenditure in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

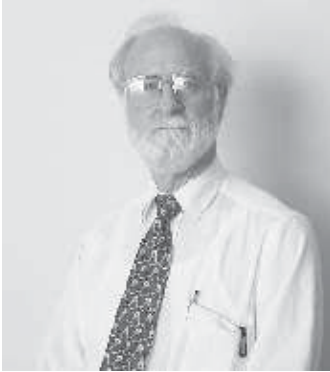


R D Ekers
Chair
Anglo-Australian Telescope Board

Anglo-Australian Telescope Board

30 June 2003

Appointed by the Australian Government



Chair

Prof. R D Ekers Director,
Australia Telescope National
Facility



Prof. K C Freeman
Research School of
Astronomy and
Astrophysics, Australian
National University



Prof L Cram Program
Director, Australian Re-
search Council

Appointed by the UK Government



Deputy Chair

Prof. M Birkinshaw
William P Coldrick
Professor of Cosmology &
Astrophysics, University of
Bristol



Mr G Brooks Head of
Astronomy Division, Particle
Physics and Astronomy
Research Council



Dr P Roche Department of
Astrophysics, Oxford
University

Anglo-Australian Observatory

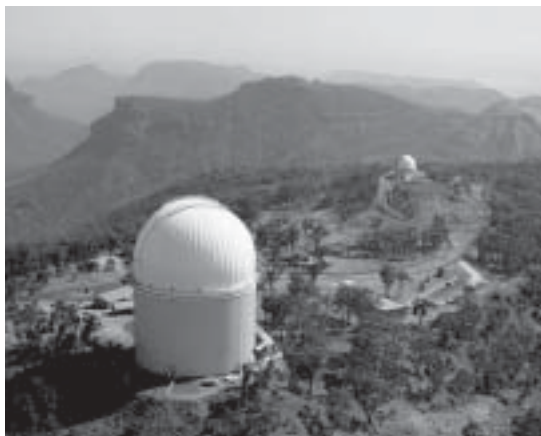


Below: Prof B Boyle
Director, AAO



Above: AAO laboratory building, Epping

Below: The Anglo-Australian Telescope and the UK Schmidt Telescope (background) at Siding Spring Mountain



Contents

Anglo-Australian Telescope Board

1. The Anglo-Australian Observatory

Statement of purpose	1
History and governing legislation	1
Ministers responsible	2
Designated agencies	2
Structure of the AAO	3
Board members	3
Advisory committees	3

2. Scientific Highlights

A close look at young stars	6
Fossil hunting in our Galaxy	8
Three new surveys at the UKST	10
Hot gas above and below the plane	12

3. The year in review

Operational environment	17
Strategic directions	19
Key result area: telescope operations	20
Key result area: research	27
Key result area: instrumentation	32
Key result area: resources	39
Key result area: external communications	42

Appendices

A. Financial statements	47
B. OH&S policy and Client Service Charter	73
C. AAT Board members and committees	77
Abbreviations for institutions	81
Glossary, abbreviations and acronyms	84