

ICU AstroSoc – Summer Tour Budget Proposal

Background: AstroSoc is Imperial College's society for amateur astronomy and astronomy enthusiasts. As per our constitution, our society's aims are:

1. To organize a variety of astronomy-related events, including but not limited to:
 - i) Regular informal night sky observations ("star parties").
 - ii) Trips to observatories, planetariums, and other relevant locations, as well as group excursions to museums, conferences, external stargazing events, and lectures.
 - iii) Guest lectures by scientists involved in astronomy and astrophysics.
 - iv) Social get-togethers, like pub nights and mingles.
2. To acquire and maintain optical instruments and accessories for the general use and benefit of society members during observations.
3. To create an active online presence using social media tools to broadcast information about the society's activities and interests.
4. To raise awareness of AstroSoc, and to promote the hobby of amateur astronomy to as wide an audience as possible.
5. To ensure a lasting, sustained presence for amateur astronomy in Imperial College London.

AstroSoc has thus far seen a fantastic year in terms of activity and membership – for us a society trip during the summer vacation represents another step forward in the direction we want AstroSoc to take over the long term, and we hope to be able to offer this opportunity to our members.

Trip: A weekend trip to Imperial College's mountain hut in Snowdonia National Park, preferably in mid-August. The dark sky conditions will allow members to gain a view of the night sky that is unavailable in London due to the heavy light pollution.

Costs: Rent costs for a 15-seat ICU minibus over 3 days, fuel, and rent costs for the Snowdonia mountain hut.

Minibus: £290

Fuel: £50*

Hut Rent: £50

Total: £390

*Assuming a mileage of 36.2 mpg, a distance of 252 miles, and a fuel price of £6.36 per gallon of diesel.

Requested Funding: In order to reduce the strain on AstroSoc's modest finances and on members, we would ask for maximum subvention (40%) on all stated costs, i.e. £156.