

Risk Assessment – Public Activity

ACTIVITY ASSESSED Telescope Club		ASSESSMENT DATE January 2007 (last reviewed: January 2010 , EJR)	
ACTIVITY LOCATION Wynyard Woodland Park		ASSESSED BY Ed Restall Planetarium Director	
HAZARD	Who's at risk?	PRECAUTIONS	RISK LEVEL
Non-CRB checked members of the public	Children & Vulnerable Adults	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Level: Telescope Club is designed for children and adults to bring their own observing equipment along to be shown how to use it and to fix any faults. The club is run in conjunction with the astronomical society, all assisting members of which have a valid enhanced CRB check (every 3 years) and are registered volunteers with Stockton Borough Council. Telescope Usage: Unlike public observing sessions, people coming along to telescope club do not (and are asked not to) invite other members of the public to observe through their astronomical equipment. It is exclusively for their instruction by experienced and CRB checked astronomers. Volunteer Supervision: In the unlikely event of the planetarium director's absence from the club, all volunteers are CRB-checked astronomers experienced in this activity over many years. They are all made aware of the operating guidelines of the club and should have no problem in providing the service without cancelling the activity. 	Low
Tripping hazard: Telescopes and ancillary equipment	All visitors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Telescopes, tripods, mounts, cameras and electrical/electronic leads can all represent a tripping hazard in the dark. Volunteers are asked to make people aware of the hazards from protruding parts of telescopes. All electrical/electronic leads are routed well away from the areas of public access to telescopes. 	Medium
Red & Green lasers under 50mW (class 2, 3R & 3B)	All visitors plus aircraft	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Only registered volunteers who have signed and understood laser safety guidelines and good practise agreements are allowed to use lasers. A separate risk assessment is carried out for laser usage at school and public events Only lasers of class 3B <50mW or below are allowed. 	Medium
Potential perception of damage to peoples personal equipment	Visitors bringing equipment for repair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Any person attending the club who would like an astronomer to carry out a repair or physical alteration to the telescope are asked to sign a waiver on the understanding that this service is free and only carried out at their request. 	Low