



## 2013 Report

### Australasian Society for General Relativity and Gravitation

#### Office bearers

<b>President</b>	Leo Brewin (Monash)
<b>Secretary</b>	Malcolm Anderson (Brunei)
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Steele (UNSW)
<b>Ordinary members</b>	Susan Scott, David Wiltshire, Paul Lasky and Bram Slagmolen

#### Activities

##### ACGRG7 and AGM

The Society's biennial conference and AGM was held at Hamilton Island over three days, 8-11 Dec 2013. The conference was organised by Professor Daniel Shaddock (ANU) with support from Professor Susan Scott (ANU). This is our Society's principal activity and it caters for all aspects of General Relativity and Gravitation, in particular experimental and theoretical developments in the field. There were no poster sessions and, as is our practise, all postgraduate students were given a chance to present a paper.

There were 34 papers presented at the conference, including 6 plenary speakers,

<b>David Parkinson (Queensland)</b>	<i>Watching galaxies fall: structure formation in the universe as a probe of gravity.</i>
<b>Rana Adhikari (Caltech)</b>	<i>Wideband, next-generation, gravitational-wave antenna.</i>
<b>Sheila Rowan (Glasgow)</b>	<i>Status and plans for advanced gravitational wave detectors.</i>
<b>Edward Teo (Singapore)</b>	<i>The Plebanski-Demianski solution: space-time prototype D.</i>
<b>Manuel Tiglio (Maryland)</b>	<i>Reduced Order Modelling in General Relativity.</i>
<b>Ryan Shannon (CSIRO)</b>	<i>Characterising the Supermassive Black Hole Population with Gravitational Waves and Pulsar Timing Arrays.</i>

and 5 invited talks

<b>Kazuaki Kuroda (Tokyo)</b>	<i>KAGRA Status.</i>
<b>Krzysztof Bolejko (Sydney)</b>	<i>Curvature of the Universe.</i>
<b>Stefan Danilishin (UWA)</b>	<i>Need for speed: shall the 3rd generation gravitational wave interferometer be a speedometer and if so, which species of it?</i>
<b>David Ottaway (Adelaide)</b>	<i>New Cavity Topologies for Beating Thermal Noise in Third Generation GW Detectors.</i>
<b>Matt Visser (Wellington)</b>	<i>Classical and quantum flux energy conditions.</i>

The next conference will be hosted by Monash University in Melbourne 2015.

## **The Kerr Prize**

This prize is awarded to the best talk by a postgraduate student during our biennial conference. This year the award was shared by two students,

**Valentina Bacetti** (Wellington)  
**Andrew Wade** (ANU)

## **The Centenary of General Relativity**

In Dec 2015 the General Theory of Relativity will score its first century. This will be an important moment and our Society has begun plans to mark the occasion with a number of professional and community events. The exact details are yet to be decided.

## **Membership**

Membership of the society remains steady at 62 members (comprised of 48 life members, 11 ordinary members and 3 student members).