

John Frederick Pedler, 1932–2012

We were saddened to hear that on 2012 July 13, John Pedler passed away at the age of 80. He was born on 1932 July 3.

John joined the Association on 1969 November 26, becoming an active member, Assistant Director of the Lunar Section and editor of the Lunar Section Circular.

As an observer he was a careful and meticulous recorder not only of the lunar landscape with the complex and ever changing appearance of features from one lunation to another, but also of the planets. He also carried out a great deal of Solar observing. His many log books testify to his splendid draughtsmanship, work which is to be added to the BAA archive.

John joined the Bristol Astronomical Society in the mid-1950s, and was later on the committee during the building of the society's observatory at Failand, south of Bristol, negotiating with the landowner concerning the



site, building of the observatory and installation of the 12-inch reflecting telescope. Around that time John's lunar work was becoming quite well known and greatly admired. He served as Chairman of the BAS from 1975–'76 and again from 1988–'91.

John was a generous and kind man, always willing to give advice and help in practical astronomy matters. Whilst in charge of the South Western Electricity Board meter reading organisation, it was not

unknown for him to cover the account personally of someone who due to straitened circumstances was unable to meet the cost. At his funeral service his two sons paid tribute to their father as a father, in his work with SWEB and in his astronomical interests. The BAA was represented by Dr Richard Miles, with Tricia Brown and John Meacham from the Bristol Astronomical Society.

John Meacham