

# HI in the Local Universe II

## Proceedings of a Workshop held in Melbourne on 28–30 September 1998



### Foreword

This edition of *PASA* contains a selection of articles presented at a workshop on ‘HI in the Local Universe’ held in Melbourne from 28–30 September 1998. The workshop followed the very successful one held in Sydney in May 1996 (see *PASA* Volume 14, Number 1, 1997). The focus of the workshop was on new scientific results on the distribution of HI in nearby galaxies, though the distribution of Milky Way High Velocity Clouds and local Lyman- $\alpha$  clouds was also discussed. Part of the motivation for the workshop was to present the first scientific results from the new 21-cm multibeam receiver on the Parkes radio telescope.

The workshop covered a wide range of topics including HI observations in the Zone of Avoidance, mass functions, theoretical models, different galaxy populations especially low surface brightness galaxies, observations at other wavelengths and future observational possibilities.

Participants included astronomers from the USA, Canada, UK, Mexico, The Netherlands, Italy, India and Germany, all of whom made exciting contributions to the workshop. Apart from sampling the local cuisine in Melbourne, participants were also treated to public lectures by Professor Riccardo Giacconi (ESO) on the ‘First Results from the VLT Commissioning’ and Professor Ed Stone (JPL) talking about ‘Mars and the Search for Life Elsewhere’.

All papers in this special issue have been refereed in accordance with the policies of *PASA*. Editors for this issue were Lister Staveley-Smith, Michelle Storey and Rachel Webster.

Rachel Webster

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