

# DOMEBUDDY GUIDE

## USING THE DOME CONTROLLER

### STARTING UP

1. Open the dome shutter safely.
2. Power up the dome controller on the wall by:
  - a. Switching on the power at the mains socket
  - b. Switching on the black power supply unit
  - c. Switching on the controller box



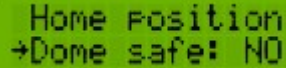
DICK CHAMBERS  
OBSERVATORY

3. When this is displayed:



→Track telescope  
Move dome

use < and > to select “**Dome safe**” and press **OK**:



Home Position  
→Dome safe: NO

4. Answer and take action to all questions by pressing **OK**:
  - Are all straps undone?
  - Are all wedges removed?
  - Is the battery disconnected?
  - All obstructions removed?
  - Is the dome safe to turn?

The display will show “**Dome safe: YES**” when done – the dome will not operate otherwise.

## TRACKING THE TELESCOPE

*For visual use:*

1. Switch on the telescope.
2. Unlock the telescope's declination (DEC) clutch on the side of the fork and manually set the telescope to 0° DEC using the DEC setting circle.
3. Ensure the telescope is pointing due south at the meridian by adjusting its Right Ascension manually (do not use its hand controller).
4. Ensure the "**DomeBuddy**" on the **Dongle Buddy** (fixed to the side of the telescope control panel is on constantly, flashing about once every 3 seconds. If not, ensure the Dome Controller and Dongle are switched on, and the **Dongle's** RS232 cable is plugged into the telescope's RS232 socket on its control panel. Check the **Dongle's** power supply.
5. **WARNING - THE DOME WILL MOVE ON THIS STEP**

On the Dome Controller, use < and > to select "**Track Telescope**" and press **OK**:

```
→Track telescope
Move dome      *
```

```
Awaiting azmth *
Az:180° Pt:128 .
```

6. The dome will invariably slew to the where the telescope is pointing. If it does not arrive correctly, then while in **Track telescope** mode use < and > to move and resync the dome to the correct position.
7. The dome will now track the telescope and move periodically to keep up with it. The dome will only move after the telescope has carried out a slew.
8. To exit the **Track telescope** mode, press and hold **Esc**.

*For computer use (warm room)*

1. Switch on the telescope.
2. If the telescope is parked (in **LAND** mode) manually point the telescope at - 35° DEC and due south by using its RA and DEC clutches.
3. Connect computer to the telescope using N.I.N.A. etc.
4. Go to step (4) above.

## FINISHING USING THE DOME CONTROLLER

1. Press **Esc** until the main menu appears on the display.
2. Use < and > to select **Park dome** and press **OK**:

```
Move dome
→Park dome    *
```

```
Park Dome?
Press OK or Esc
```

3. **WARNING - THE DOME WILL MOVE ON THIS STEP**

Pressing **OK** will turn the dome to its previously defined home position.

4. When the dome has stopped slewing it should be lined-up so that the straps can be re-attached.

```
DOMED PARKED
Press OK
```

5. Press **OK** to return to the main menu.
6. If the dome is not line up, then use< and > to select **Move dome** and press **OK**.

```
Track telescope
→Move dome    *
```

```
Press ← or → to
rotate the dome
```

7. Use< and > to move the dome to the desired position and press **OK** when done.
8. To make the current position of the dome it's home position then use< and > to select  
**Home position:**

```
Park dome
→Home position
```

9. Press **OK** to confirm setting:

```
Set as home
position? OK/Esc
```

10. Power up the dome controller on the wall by:
  - a. Switching off the controller box

- b. Switching off the black power supply unit
- c. Switching off the power at the mains socket
- d. Reconnect the battery cable