

## **Astronomy Talk 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

### **Lunar geology from the safety of your own home**

Barry Fitz-Gerald gave us this talk. First he referred to Keith Abineri's work on the Moon: Keith was one of BNSS's leading lights many years ago.

There are a lot of different ways to see the Moon from the current cluster of orbiters, e.g. seep and shallow gravity maps, radioactive minerals, dense/not dense areas, titanium deposits, etc.

What can amateurs find that professionals have missed? Lots! Barry gave many examples of how attention to detail can show things that have been missed. He showed us all sorts of oddities, e.g. pear shaped craters, "dunes", herringbone features. In particular he looked at many examples of low impact angle craters, and why they are mostly round. This included double/multiple impacts, crater chains and volcanic vs. impact craters.

Other items included reasons for offset central peaks and concentric craters.

Lastly Barry looked at one off events, bright flashes that have been frequently seen, and talked about reasons for these flashes, including unusual angles of illumination, impacts and avalanches causing reflective dust.

All in all this was an impressively detailed understanding of what we can glean from detailed looking at the Moon's features, particularly using the eye of knowledge.