

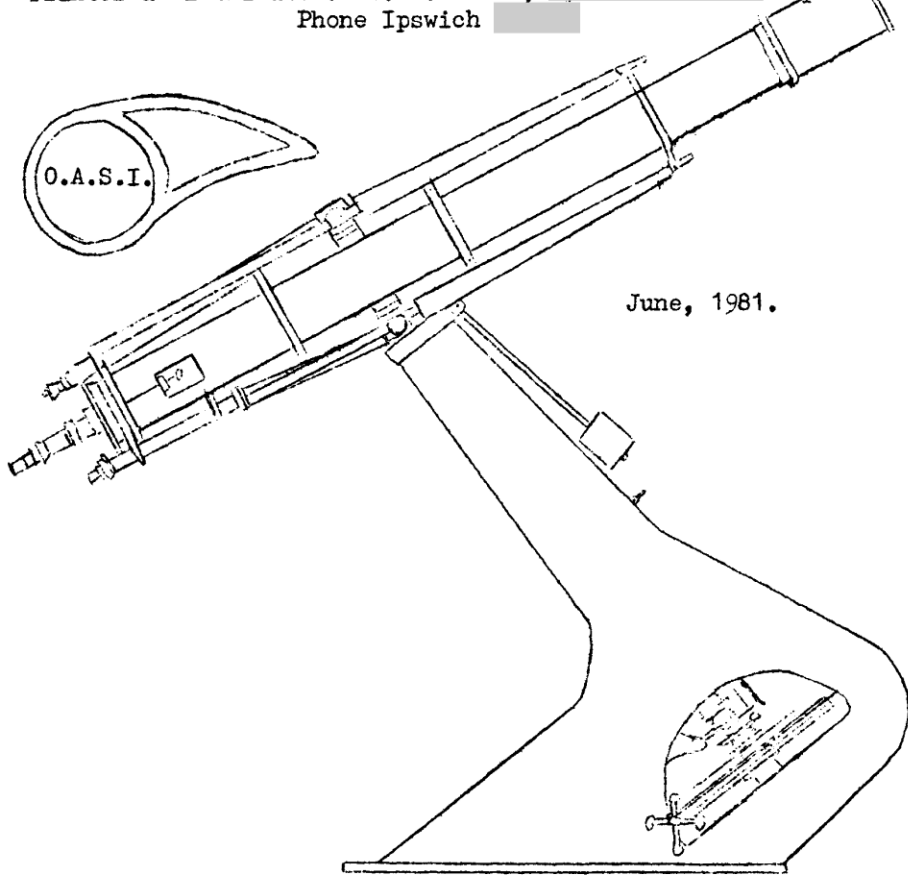
JOURNAL OF THE ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)

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June, 1981.

The Orwell Park 10 inch Astronomical Telescope
at Nacton near Ipswich.

THE NIGHT SKY AS SEEN FROM ORWELL PARK DURING JUNE

by Paul Burt.

Draco occupies the zenith this month, surrounded by Cygnus and Lyra to the east; Hercules, Corona and Bootes to the south; Ursa Major to the west; and Ursa Minor and Cepheus to the north. To the south-east Aquila is well visible by late evening, with its main star Altair completing the 'Summer Triangle' with Deneb and Vega. The south contains some of the less conspicuous constellations this month. Ophiuchus, which divides Serpens into its two components, Caput and Cauda, lies directly below Hercules. Just above the southern horizon lies Libra, and the head of Scorpius, containing Antares the red giant. To the south-west Virgo plays host to Saturn and Jupiter, while further west Leo will be below the horizon by the end of the month.

THE SUN

Sunrise is at 03h 40m throughout the month, and sunset changes from 20h 10m to 20h 25m during the month. The Sun moves from Taurus to Gemini during the month.

THE MOON - Phases:

New Moon	2d 11h 32m	Full Moon	17d 15h 04m
First Quarter	9d 11h 33m	Last Quarter	25d 04h 25m

Occultations:

<u>Star</u>	<u>Phases</u>	<u>Mag.</u>	<u>Time</u>		
			<u>d.</u>	<u>hrs.</u>	<u>m.</u>
3171	R	3.8	22	1	33.3

Star listed according to Zodiacal Catalog (ZC) numbers
R = reappearance

THE PLANETS:

Mercury will be visible during the early part of the month as an evening star, but it will be drawing rapidly into the Sun, reaching inferior conjunction on the 22nd.

Venus is also an evening star setting an hour and a half after the Sun at mag. -3.3

Earth Summer solstice is at 21d 11h 45m.

Mars will be visible as a morning object by the end of the month at mag. +1.7 in Taurus.

Jupiter is at mag. -1.7 in Virgo, setting at around midnight.

Saturn also in Virgo, lying east of Jupiter at mag. +1.1

Uranus is visible in Libra, at mag 5.7
R.A. 15h 40m Dec. -19° 20'

Neptune reaches opposition on the 14th, at mag 7.7 in
Ophiuchus. R.A. 17h 32m Dec -21° 55'

Source: B.A.A. Handbook 1981, all times are U.T.

SOCIETY NEWS:

OPEN DAY 1981

This year we propose holding our annual Open Day at the Observatory on Saturday 3rd October and we are now beginning to organise this event which not only encourages new membership to our Society each year but also brings in much needed money to help run our Society.

This year we will be holding this event in the main Sports Hall at Orwell Park and much room has to be filled up. On Saturday 6th June at 7.30p.m. we are holding an 'Open Committee Meeting' to which all members are invited to attend and at this meeting the main topic will be the arrangements for the Open Day. Please come along and bring your ideas. Last year was the best Open Day which the Society had ever organised and we hope that this year's will be even better.

TELESCOPE DRIVE:

The new drive for the telescope is now being tested and it is hoped that the drive together with the variable frequency drive will be fully operational within the not too distant future.

DEADLINE FOR JULY'S JOURNAL:

All items for the July Journal should be sent to arrive by not later than Monday 22nd June to R.M. Cheesman, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 8DQ.

VARIABLE STAR OBSERVATIONS

by Mike Nicholls.

The light curve on page 4 this month shows W Cygni from mid August 1980 to mid February 1981. This star is classed as a semi-regular variable, and, like many of it's class is reported as having a relatively shorter period superimposed on top of a longer one. The shorter period is quoted as being around 130 days One of these cycles can be seen on the light curve, although it looks more like 160 days. It is not called semi- regular for nothing. The longer period is around 3100 days which is over eight years; too long for signs of it to be seen on this light curve.

There are also variations in the light curve which seem to suggest the presence of a shorter period of about 20 days. I can find no mention of this in any literature, and would appreciate it if someone would help with this star in future if anyone is interested in watching it.

All the readings were taken with 10 x 50 binoculars.

ITEMS FOR THE JOURNAL:

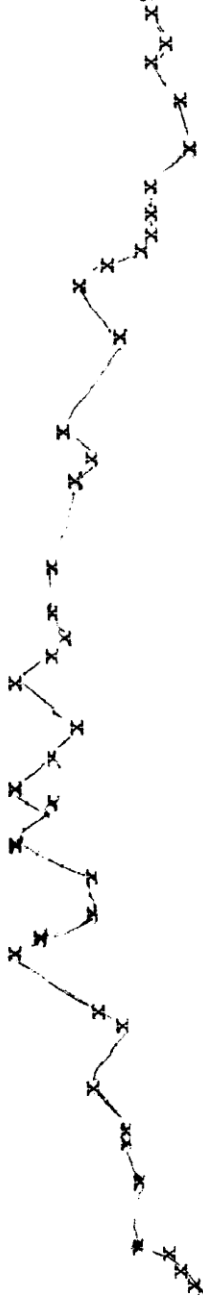
If you have any items of astronomical interest such as cartoons, cuttings from newspapers or magazines or any of your own observations which you would like published in our monthly Journal please send them to Mr. R.M. Cheesman, [redacted], [redacted], West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8LQ.

all items will be gladly received, the more the merrier!

W Cygni August '80 - Feb. '81.

Mag.

4+
5
6
7
8+



AUG I SEPT I OCT I NOV I DEC I JAN I FEB I

METEOR NOTES: by David Barnard.

This month there is one shower active in the northern hemisphere - the June Lyrids.

The maximum of this shower fall on the night of the 16th June with the normal limits falling between June 10th and the 21st. The Z.H.R. is in the order of about 8 and the radiant is R.A. 18hrs 32m and the Dec. $+35^{\circ}$. The characteristics of this shower are blueish meteors and the transit time is 0100hours U.T.

There will be a meteor watch to observe this shower on June 20th (appropriately just about the shortest night of the year!) at 9.30p.m. at Levington Creek. The Moon may present a problem in observing this shower as it will be only 3 days after full Moon.

If you would like to come along for an hour or so to observe this shower meet at the 'Levington Ship' public house at 9.30p.m. on Saturday 20th June.

All members and visitors are welcome to come along.

VISIT TO OBSERVATORY BY CLEETHORPES ASTRONOMICAL SOC:

On Saturday June 27th Cleethorpes Astronomical Society is thinking about giving us a visit at our Observatory. For fuller details please contact David Barnard telephone Ipswich [redacted].

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)

MEETINGS FOR JUNE, 1981.

At the Observatory, Orwell Park School, Nacton:-

TUESDAYS from 7p.m. Solar, Lunar & Planetary Sections:

Directors: Mr. J. Hood, [REDACTED] Ipswich

Tel: [REDACTED]

and Mr. J. Ranson, [REDACTED] Ipswich

Tel. [REDACTED]

2nd, 9th, 16th 23rd and 30th.

WEDNESDAYS from 8p.m. Nebulae & Faint Objects Sections

Directors Mr. D. Payne, [REDACTED],

Wickham Market, Tel. Wickham Market

and Mr. M. Cook, [REDACTED], Ipswich

Tel: [REDACTED]

3rd 10th 17th and 24th

FRIDAYS from 8p.m. Vairiable Stars Section.

Mr. M. Nicholls, [REDACTED], Ipswich.

5th 12th 19th and 26th

SUNDAYS from 8p.m. General Observations Section

Directors Mr. M. Barriskill, [REDACTED] Ipswich

and Mr. R. Adams, [REDACTED], Ipswich

Tel: [REDACTED]

7th and 21st.

SATURDAY 6th June at 7.30p.m.

OPEN COMMITTEE MEETING to which all members
are invited

OTHER MEETINGS: METEOR SECTION.

Director Mr. D. Barnard, [REDACTED] Ipswich

Tel. [REDACTED]

Saturday 20th June Lyrids Meteor Count

Meet at the 'Levington Ship' at 9.30p.m.