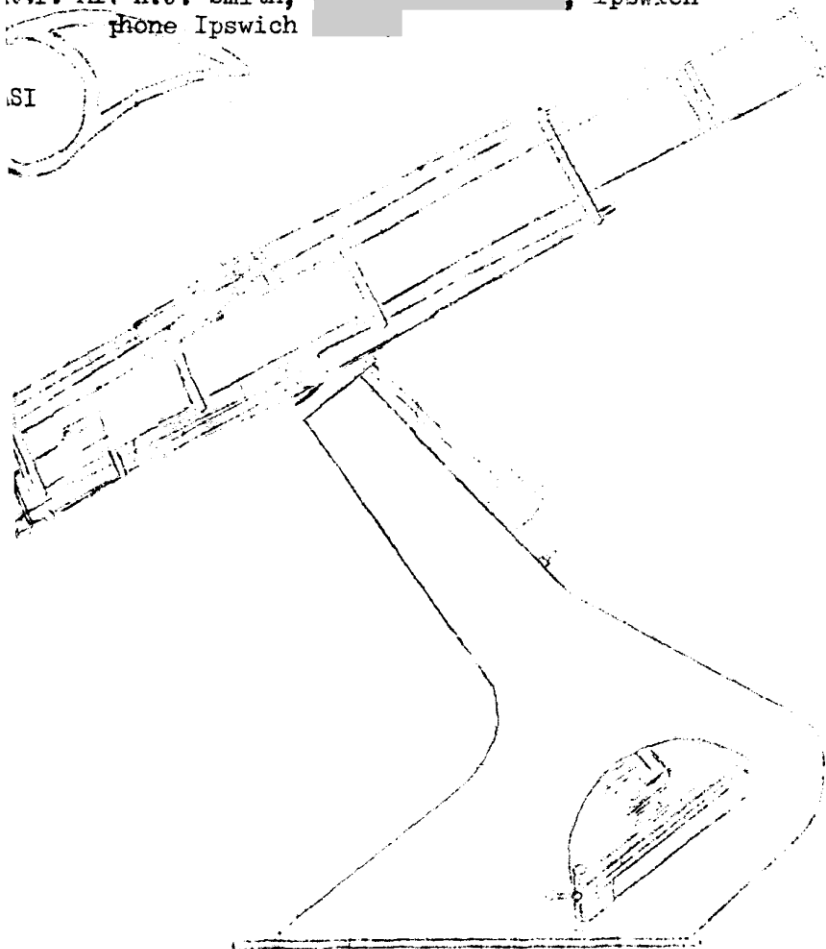


Jan. 1952

JOURNAL OF THE ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)

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phone Ipswich [REDACTED]

SI



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

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THE NIGHT SKY AS SEEN FROM ORWELL PARK  
DURING JANUARY.

by Paul Burt.

Capella, the yellow main star of Auriga dominates the zenith this month during late evening. The string of faint stars forming a straight line between Capella and Polaris to the north is Camelopardalis, and running at right-angles from this constellation eastwards down to Leo is another line of faint stars forming Lynx. The southern sky is shining in it's full winter glory with all the brightest zodiac constellations on show (from east to west:- Leo, Cancer, Gemini, Taurus and Aries). On the meridian during late evening Orion outshines all others, and above the southern horizon Canis Major, with Sirius, is fully visible, as is Lepus, the quadrilateral shape directly below Orion.

THE SUN

Sunrise is at 0800 hours at the beginning of the month, changing to 07hours 50 minutes at month-end. Sunset changes from 15h 50m to 16h 40m.

THE MOON - PHASES

First Quarter	03d 04h 45m	Last Quarter	16d 23h 39m
Full Moon	09d 19h 53m	New Moon	25d 04h 16m

Occultations

<u>Star</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Mag.</u>	<u>Time</u>		
			<u>days</u>	<u>hours</u>	<u>mins.</u>
**364	D	4.3	5	00	23.0
653	D	4.8	7	00	33.6
798	D	6.4	7	21	20.3
1418	R	5.9	11	23	17.6

D = disappearance R = reappearance. Stars listed according to Zodiacal Catalog (ZC) numbers.

\*\* denotes time is correct for latitude and longitude of Greenwich.

ECLIPSE

There will be a total eclipse of the Moon on January 9th (the night of the Society's Annual General Meeting), visible generally in Europe and Africa, most of Asia and Australia.

Moon enters penumbra	17h 15m	leaves	22h 37m
Moon enters umbra	18h 14m	leaves	21h 38m
Total eclipse begins	19h 17m	Ends	20h 35m
Middle of eclipse	19h 56m		

THE PLANETS:

Mercury is an evening object reaching greatest elongation of  $19^{\circ}$  on the 16th, when it will be setting nearly 2 hours after the Sun.

Venus is in inferior conjunction on the 21st, before which it will be an evening object, rapidly closing in on the Sun.

Mars will be rising before mid-night at mag. +0.9, increasing to +0.5 at month-end in Virgo.

Jupiter is in Libra, at mag. -1.5, rising at around 0200 hours.

Saturn is in Virgo, rising at around mid-night, at mag. +0.9

Source: B.A.A. Handbook 1982, all times are U.T

METEOR NOTES: by David Barnard.

The Meteor Count held on December 12th to observe the Geminids Shower was not very successful. On one of the coldest nights of the century with temperatures plummeting to  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  in places, we only managed two meteors, one sporadic and one shower, mainly due to the near full Moon, compared with last year's total of 281.

This month we have the Quadrantids Shower. This has a very sharp maximum on Sunday January 3rd at 10p.m. This shower has blue faint meteors. We expect a ZPR of over 100. Radiant 15hours 28 minutes. Dec.  $+50^{\circ}$

WE WILL BE HOLDING A METEOR COUNT TO OBSERVE THIS SHOWER ON SUNDAY 3rd JANUARY. All members and friends are welcome to come along for a few hours to observe this shower. Meet OUTSIDE the 'Levington Ship' public house at 8p.m. whatever the weather.

AURORA SECTION: - Trip to Scotland No. 3 (3rd time lucky!:

At the time of writing we are thinking of investing in snowchains! The trip is DEFINITELY ON. We will probably be travelling by car, leaving Ipswich on Friday January 15th 1982 for an all night drive spending a week around the northern half of Scotland staying in hotels. A full report of the trip plus the Aurora sightings will be in the February Journal hopefully.

David Barnard.

Occultations Section. Graze on January 4th 1982.

Alan Smith, [redacted], Ipswich, telephone Ipswich [redacted] is currently drawing out the track of this event. It looks like we shall have to be somewhere near Cromer in Norfolk to see this event. The graze is around 2045hours U.T. and the star's magnitude is 7.4. If you are interested in coming along to observe this event please contact Alan Smith.

FIREBALL CAMERA

The Society's fireball camera run by Alan Smith has picked up it's first fireball backed by visual sighting. The fireball occurred on Wednesday 25th November at 2032hours. If anyone else saw the fireball please contact Alan Smith or myself. It was fairly low in the north and probably of around magnitude minus 5.

David Barnard.

VARIABLE STAR OBSERVATIONS by Mike Nicholls.

This month's light curve on page 5 is that of R Scruti from July to November this year. This is believed to be a supergiant pulsating star of the RV Tauri type. The period and light range are semi-regular in nature. The most notable characteristic of this class is the alternate deep and shallow minima. In the Journal of March 1981, what looked like a shallow minimum was shown. This time, however, we seem to have one of the deep minima.

Observations were made using 10x50 binoculars for most of the time, but the 8" reflector was used for magnitudes below about 7.

SOCIETY NEWS:

AG.M. The Annual General Meeting of our Society takes place on January 9th 1982 starting at 8p.m. in the Library of Orwell Park School.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1982.

All Membership Subscriptions for our Society become due for 1982 on the 1st January. If you wish to renew your subscription please send them direct to

Mr. M. Barriskill,  
Membership Secretary, O.A.S.I.

[REDACTED],  
Ipswich.

All cheques should be made out to:

Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich)

LECTURE:

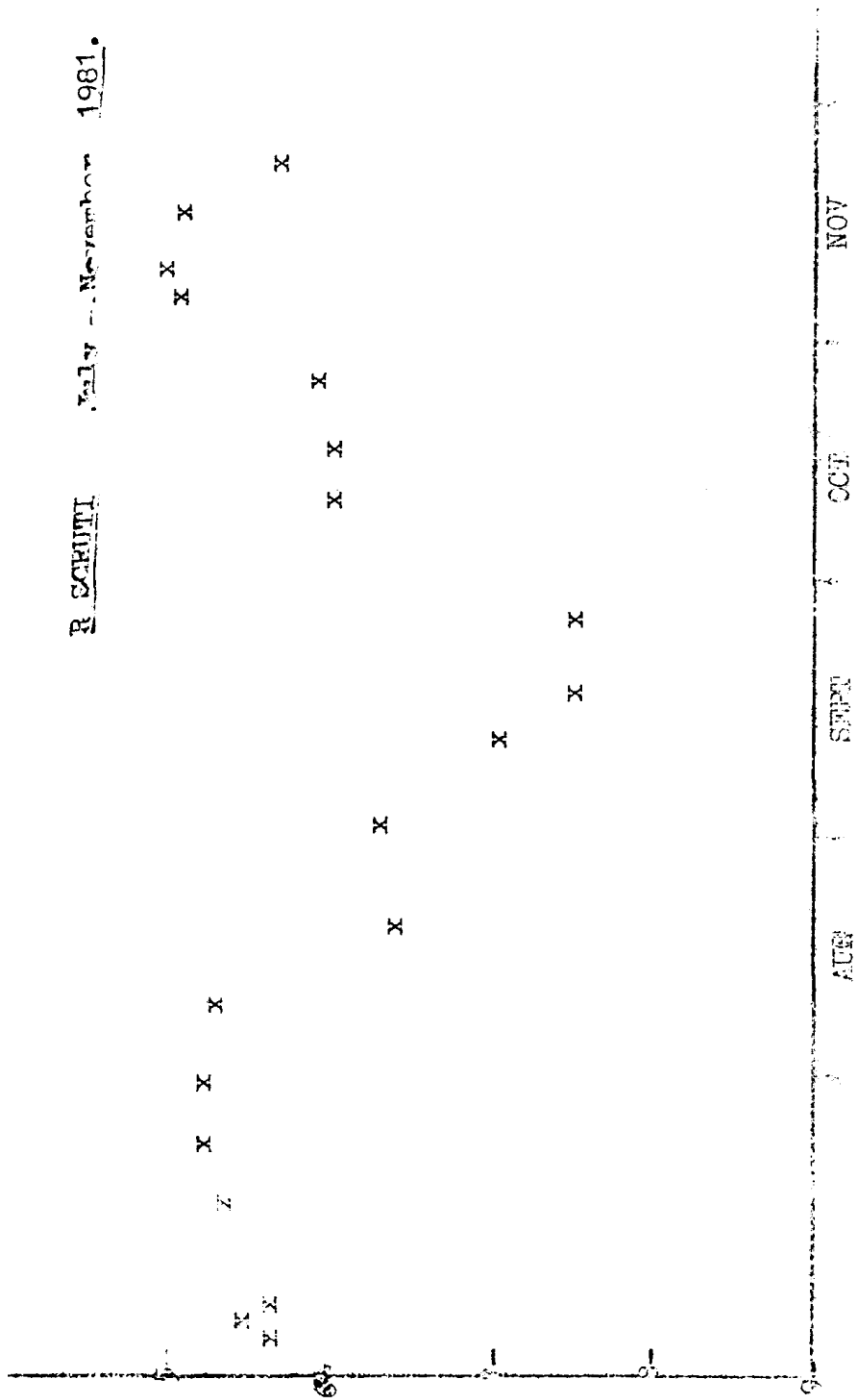
We have arranged with Mr. G.E. Curtis to give us a talk on Novae, Supernovae and stella Evolution at the Friends Meeting House, Fonnereau Road, Ipswich on Friday 29th January, 1982 starting at 8p.m.

Mr. Curtis has given our Society talks twice before, in fact he did our first lecture, and his lectures are not to be missed! Admission is free and everybody is welcome to come along.

R. SCRUTI

July - November

1981.



DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY'S JOURNAL:

6.

The Deadline for items for inclusion in the February's Journal is Wednesday 20th January. All items should be sent to :

Mr. R.M. Cheesman,

WEST HANNINGFIELD,  
Chelmsford, Essex.  
CM2 8LQ.

ASTRONOMY FOR BEGINNERS:

On Friday January 13th starting at 7.30p.m. in the Observatory we have our monthly evening for beginners in astronomy. This month's talk is given by our Secretary Mr. Roy Gooding and is entitled 'The History of Astronomy'. Members are invited to come along to this meeting and will be admitted free but non-members a charge of 20p will be made.

SO:- Do not forget:

1. Meteor Count on the 3rd (Sunday) at 8p.m.  
at the Levington Ship
2. A.G.M. starting at 8p.m. in the Library of  
Orwell Park School on Saturday 9th.
3. Astronomy for beginners on Friday 15th at 7.30p.m.  
in the Observatory.
4. Lecture at The Friends Meeting House, Bonnercau Rd.  
given by Mr. G. Curdie on Friday 29th  
starting at 8p.m.

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)  
 Program for January, 1982.

At the Observatory, Orwell Park, Nacton

TUESDAYS from 7p.m. Solar, Lunar & Planetary Sections  
 Directors. Mr. J. Hood & Mr. J. Ranson

5th 12th 19th & 26th

WEDNESDAYS from 8p.m. Nebula & Faint Objects Section  
 Directors. Mr. D. Payne & Mr. M. Cook

6th 13th 20th & 27th

FRIDAYS from 8p.m. Variable Stars Section  
 Directors Mr. M. Nicholls & Mr. R. Hodgkiss  
 January 8th.

FRIDAYS from 7.30p.m. Astronomy for Beginners.

SATURDAY 9th January, 1982 at 8p.m. A.G.M. in the  
 Library

OTHER MEETINGS:

FRIDAY 15th January, Ipswich to Durness, Scotland  
 Aurora Expedition.

SUNDAY Meteor Section, Director Mr. D. Barnard.  
 Sunday 3rd January, 8p.m. Meet OUTSIDE  
 the Levington Ship public House.

FRIDAY 29th January, 8p.m. at The Friends Meeting House,  
 Bennetean Road, Ipswich, Lecture by  
 Mr. C. Curtis on  
 'NOVAE, SUPERNOVAE and STELLA EVOLUTION