

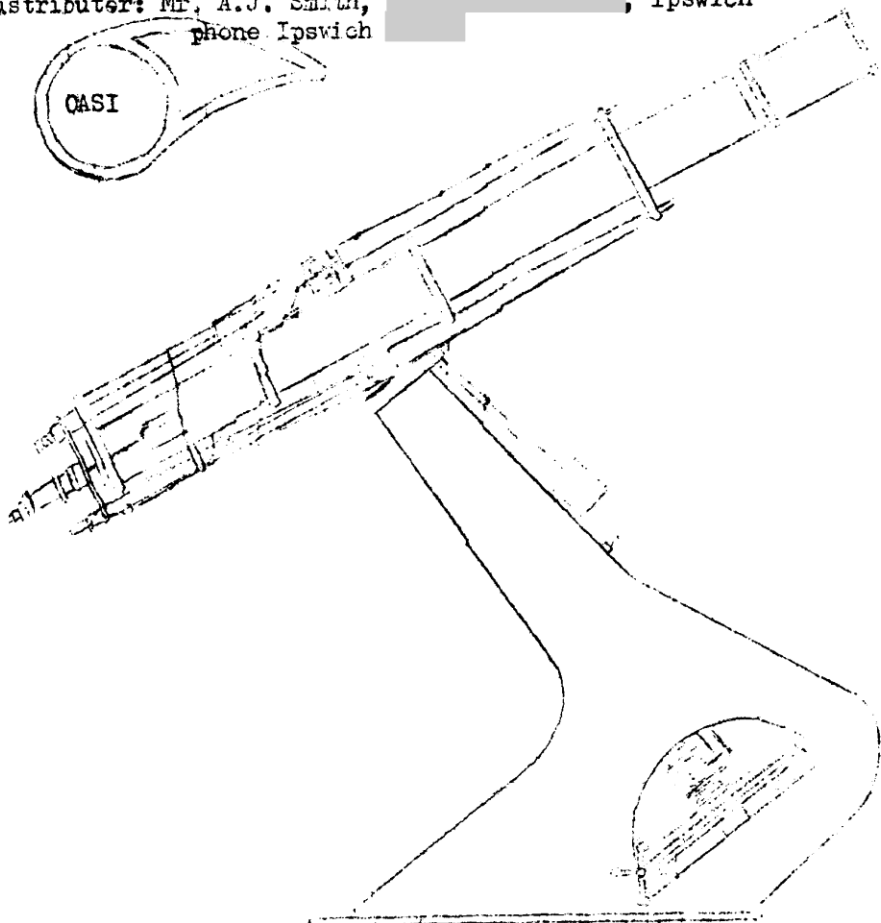
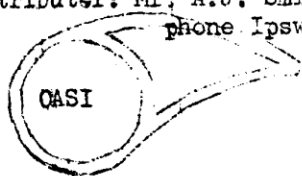
February 1962.

JOURNAL OF THE ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)

Editor: Mr. P. Burt, [REDACTED]. Ipswich IP1 6PP
phone Ipswich [REDACTED]

Producer: Mr. R.M. Cheesman,
WEST HANNINGFIELD, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 8LQ

Distributor: Mr. A.J. Smith, [REDACTED], Ipswich
phone Ipswich [REDACTED]



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

1.

THE NIGHT SKY AS SEEN FROM ORWELL PARK DURING
FEBRUARY, 1982.

by Paul Burt.

The zenith area is fairly barren this month, containing the inconspicuous Lynx and Camelopardalis, but to the south the sky is filled with the winter zodiac constellations from Virgo in the east (rising during late evening), through Leo, Cancer (due south at mid-night), Gemini, Taurus and Aries, becoming low in the west. The head of Hydra, the water snake, lies directly below Cancer, the rest of the constellation winding away to the south-east horizon. The constellations of Canes Venatici and Coma Berenices, renowned for their abundance of galaxy clusters, will be well up in the eastern sky by the end of the month, lying to the west of Arcturus.

THE SUN:

Sunrise is at 07h 50m at the beginning of the month, changing to 06h 50m at month-end. Sunset changes from 6h 40m to 17h 30m. The Sun moves from Capricornus to Aquarius during the month.

THE MOON - Phases

First Quarter	1d 14h 28m	Last Quarter	15d 20h 21m
Full Moon	8d 07h 57m	New Moon	25d 10h 17m

Occultations:

Star	Phase	Mag.	Time		
			d.	h.	m.
730	D	5.1	3	18	33.0
835	D	6.9	5	2	49.6
1086	D	6.5	6	0	55.6
Neptune	R	7.8	18	9	44.6
** 405	GRAZE	4.4	28	19	33.0

D = Disappearance R = Reappearance, Stars listed according to ZC numbers. ** Graze observable from Chelmsford Area. Contact A.J. Smith on Ipswich [redacted] if you would like to come to see this event.

THE PLANETS:

Mercury reaches greatest elongation west of 27° on the 26th, at mag. +0.3, but will be rising only an hour before the Sun.

Venus is also a morning object rising about two hours before the Sun. It reaches greatest brilliancy of -4.3 on the 25th.

Mars is in Virgo, rising at around 2200 hours increasing in magnitude from +0.3 to -0.5 during the month. It changes to retrograde motion on the 21st.

Jupiter lies between Libra and Virgo rising at around mid-night at mag. -1.7. It reaches it's stationary point on the 24th, after which it will be retrograding.

Saturn is in Virgo, not far from Mars, at mag. +0.7. It will be stationary on the 1st, after which it will also be retrograding.

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

METEOR NOTES FOR FEBRUARY 1982 by David Barnard.

The Quadrantids meteor count held on January 3rd resulted in cloudy skies. There are no meteor showers active this month, although of course, sporadic meteors can be observed.

REPORT OF CRAZING OCCULTATION on January 4th by star 346.
by David Barnard.

Four members left Ipswich at 7p.m. to observe this interesting event. Weather conditions were favourable and we eventually found a site near Barton Broad, about five miles east of Coltishall in North Norfolk. (Grid ref: 353209). Apart from a brisk wind, conditions remained good but all attempts to find the 7.4 mag star failed. Even well after the event the star could not be found. Let us hope that the next expedition to Chelmsford on Feb 26th will be more successful if not there is still two more which can be observed in East Anglia this year.

CHAZING OCCULTATION ON FEBRUARY 28th at 19h 42m.

This graze looks good! The track passes near Chelmsford across to Feilness in Essex, and the star's magnitude is 4.4, three magnitudes brighter than the other non-event described earlier. We will be leaving Ipswich around 6p.m. and we might have a meeting with the Chelmsford and District Astronomical Society to share the graze with.

For further details please contact Alan Smith on Ipswich [redacted] who is organising this expedition.

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE MOON on January 9th.

This could not be observed in Ipswich or in Chelmsford because of thick snow clouds

AURORA SECTION:

Due to the adverse weather conditions aided by the railway strike the expedition to Scotland during January had to be abandoned. There will probably be another expedition arranged possible for two weeks at the end of July/beginning of August. Please contact me if you are interested in coming along so that we can arrange a mini-bus.

David Barnard.

VARIABLE STAR OBSERVATIONS by Mike Nicholls

The light curve on page 4 shows W Cygni from April to December 1981. This star is one of the semi-regular class. The period is quoted as about 130 days superimposed on a longer period of 3100 days.

The light curve shows a minimum in the 130 day period, although the period of this cycle seems longer than that. This star was previously in the June 1981 Journal. Here, some quicker variations of approximately 20 day period were shown. The light curve this month shows fluctuations to start with, but it becomes more steady for June. Another member, Mr. E.H. Collinson, did not have these fast variations on his light curve. Thus they could be due to us and not the star. All readings were taken with 10 x 50 binoculars.

W CYCMT April to December, 1981.

	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
5									
6	X X	X X X	X X X	X X X	X X X	XX	X		X
7							X	X	X
8							X	X	X

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1982.

All membership subscriptions to our Society for 1982 became due on 1st January, 1982. If you have not renewed your membership and would like to do so please send your cheque made out to 'Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich)' to Mr. M. Barriskill, [REDACTED] Ipswich.

Membership Subscriptions for 1982 are at the following rates:-

Junior Membership (those under 18 years of age or students still in full time education):	£2.00
Full Membership	£3.00
Family Membership	£4.00

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Saturday 9th January.

The A.G.M. was only attended by about 14 members because of the very bad weather conditions, I was one who could not get there as the police would not let me go along the A12 from Chelmsford because of snow drifts and deteriorating weather conditions.

The Committee elected at that Meeting to represent you for 1982 is:-

Mr. D. Payne (Chairman)
 Mr. R.M. Cheesman (Vice-Chairman)
 Mr. M. Nicholls (Treasurer)
 Mr. R Gooding (Secretary)
 Mr. M. Barriskill
 Mr. D. Barnard
 Mr. M. Cook.
 Mr. J. Wragg
 Mr. J. Hood

The Minutes of the A.G.M. we hope to include with next month's Journal.

NEW MEMBER:

We would like to welcome Mr. Mark Wood, [REDACTED] EYKE, Woodbridge Suffolk, IP12 2QS, telephone EYKE 246 to our Society.

REQUEST FOR LIFTS TO THE OBSERVATORY.

One of our younger members, CHRISTOPHER NICE of [redacted], Felixstowe is unable to visit the Observatory as often as he would like to and is seeking occasional lifts. If you can help him please contact Christopher on Felixstowe [redacted].

COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Committee Meeting held at the Observatory on SATURDAY 6th FEBRUARY starting at 7.30p.m.

LECTURE AT FOMNEREAU ROAD.

We have arranged for Mr. B. Mitchell of the Norwich Astronomical Society to give us an illustrated talk on 'The Construction of the Norwich Telescope and Observatory'. This talk will take place at the Friends Meeting House, Fonnereau Road, Ipswich starting at 8p.m. on Friday 26th February. All members and friends are invited to come along.

BEGINNERS SECTION.

This month's meeting for the 'Beginners Section' will be held at the Observatory on FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY starting at 7.30p.m. This month's talk will be about various types of telescopes and how to make them.

DEADLINE FOR MARCH'S JOURNAL:

The deadline for March's Journal is MONDAY 15th FEB. All items for inclusion in the March Journal should be sent to Mr. R.M. Cheesman, [redacted], WEST HANNINGFIELD, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 8LQ. All articles will be gratefully received.

DATES IN FEBRUARY TO REMEMBER:

1. Committee Meeting at the Observatory on the 6th at 7.30pm
2. Beginners Section at the Observatory on the 12th at 7.30pm
3. LECTURE at Fonnereau Rd on the 26th starting at 8pm
4. GRAZING OCCULTATION on Sunday 28th near Chelmsford. Contact Alan Smith on Ipswich [redacted] if you would like to come along to observe this event which starts at 19h 42m U.T. We are leaving Ipswich at approx.6p.m.

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)
PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY.

At the Observatory, Orwell Park School, Nacton:

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

2nd 9th 16th & 23rd.

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

3rd 10th 17th & 24th

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

19th only.

FRIDAY 12th February at 7.30p.m. Beginners Section.
 Talk on 'Various types of telescopes and how
 to make them'

SATURDAY Committee Meeting 7.30p.m. on the 6th February.

SUNDAYS from 8p.m. General Observations Section
 Directors Mr. M. Bawiskill & Mr. R. Adams.

14th only

OTHER EVENTS NOT TO BE MISSED!

FRIDAY 26th February starting at 8p.m. at The Friends
 Meeting House, Fomereau Road, Ipswich, lecture
 given by Mr. B. Mitchell of Norwich Astro. Soc.
 on 'The Construction of the Norwich Telescope and
 Observatory'.

SUNDAY 28th February leaving Ipswich at 8p.m. to observe
 the grazing occultation of star ZW 507 at a site
 near Sokeford in Essex. Contact Alan Smith of
 Ipswich [redacted] if you would like to come along.