

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY IPSWICH

Charity No 271313

AUGUST 2000



Society News

1 Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Saturday 9th September from 19:30 in the clubroom. This is an open meeting and any one who is interested is invited to attend.

2 Events for 2000

Event	Details	Date
Visit to Norwich AS observatory	To be arranged for October	
Summer Excursion	Visit to the Whipple museum in Cambridge.	23 rd September
Open Weekend	Saturday 7 th October from 19:00 to 22:00 Sunday 8 th October from 17:00 to 22:00	
Equinox Star Party	Thetford Organiser; Loughton A.S See below	22 nd September to 1 st October
Lecture Meeting	Mars and the Amateur Astronomer, Richard McKim, Director of the BAA Mars Section.	Friday 24 th November
Christmas Meal	Provisionally set for the 13 th	
Allan Chapman Talk	Orwell Park School	18th May 2001

Summer excursion



The summer excursion this year will be Saturday 23rd September. At the last committee meeting it was decided to go to Cambridge. This will be a combined, visit to the Whipple museum, a look round any colleges that may be open and a shopping trip, for those who wish.

Please contact Roy Gooding if you are interested in coming along. This will give me an idea on numbers so the correct size coach can be booked.

Equinox Skycamp

Location: Dower House Touring Park
East Harling
Thetford

Coat: £7.25 pre-booked per night
£7.75 on day

Main Event: 23rd September

Speakers:- Martin Mobberly
Jerry Workman
Pete Simmons

Contact: Mike Cook
[Redacted]
Broxhill Road
Havering-Atte-Bower
Essex
RM4 1QL
Tel. [Redacted]

Open Weekend



As much help as possible will be required for this year's event to run smoothly. If you are able to help please contact any committee member, so that your name can be added to the rota.

Dates:- Saturday 7th October from 19:00 to 22:00
Sunday 8th October from 17:00 to 22:00

Night Sky

All times GMT

Sun

The sun will be rising approximately between 04:20 to 05:20
The sun will be setting approximately between 20:00 to 19:00

Moon

1 st Quarter	Full Moon	3 rd Quarter	New Moon
7 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th

Mercury Mercury will be visible in the early morning sky until mid month. It will be at superior conjunction on the 22nd

Venus Venus will be setting near to sunset this month, and will be visible.

Mars Mars moves back into the early morning sky this month. By the 31st it will be rising at about 03:30. Magnitude 1.8.

Jupiter Jupiter will be rising at about 22:00 by the end of the month. Magnitude -2.3

Saturn Saturn will be rising at about 21:00 by the end of the month. Magnitude 0.2

Uranus Uranus will be opposition on the 11th. Magnitude 5.7

Neptune Neptune will be setting at about 02:00 by the 31st. Magnitude 7.8

Meteor Showers

Shower	Maximum	Limits	ZHR
α Cygnids	July 21 st to August 21 st	July to August	5
Capricornids	July 8 th July 15 th July 26 th	July to August	5
δ Aquarids	July 29 th August 6 th	July 15 th to August 20 th	20 10
α Capricornids	August 2 nd	July 15 th to August 20 th	5
ι Aquarids	August 6 th	July to August	8
Perseids	August 12 th	July 23 rd to August 20 th	80

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

Roy Gooding

OCCULTATIONS DURING AUGUST 2000

One stellar occultation occurs during the month under favourable circumstances. The table provides disappearance and reappearance times for Orwell Park Observatory; these will be similar at nearby locations.

D or R	Date & Time (UT)	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (°)	Star Alt (°)	Min Dist (rad)	Star	Mag
D	21 Aug 02:29	0.68-	-18	41	0.39S	ksi 2 Cet	4.3
R	03:37	0.68-	-11	45			

James Appleton

Astronomy Workshops

Some might say 'quit while you're ahead' : But no. Due to popular demand [we hope], another series of workshops is planned, starting in September 2000. We expect to have the workshops on the second Wednesday of each month. Actual dates, times, and topics will be printed in the September newsletter, with any other information. A reminder of the date and topic will be printed for the following months.

Ted Sampson.

Raffle Prizes

From time to time the society holds raffles to help raise much needed funds. It would be a great help if we could collect a stock pile of suitable prizes, which could be held in reserve for these raffles.

You are invited to donate items suitable for use as prizes.
Please give any donated items to a member of the
committee.

A BIG THANK YOU!!!

The Summer Barbecue

There has been an electronic report on the above event, but for those not that way inclined, or don't have time to read their e-mails, just a few words to say what a good event it was, despite there being moments when we wondered if we were in the right season.

Shorts were optimistically worn by a few, but by evening the fleece, and even a blanket were more in evidence.

Thanks to Alan Smith, who again hosted the event on his extensive estate in Grundisburgh. His gourmet skills over the glowing charcoal were wide ranging, including a roast banana, which correctly went black, but attracted a few ribald comments.

It was nice to see some of our youngest members there, some of whom took every opportunity to toddle off down the drive hoping their parents weren't looking. Maybe they knew of the Millennium celebrations taking place down the road at The Green, and thought that a better bet.

Other attractions included a raffle organised by our entrepreneurial treasurer. Thanks to those who donated prizes. There were some multiple winners, one for whom three numbers came up, but with their usual good grace asked for a re-draw after the first win.

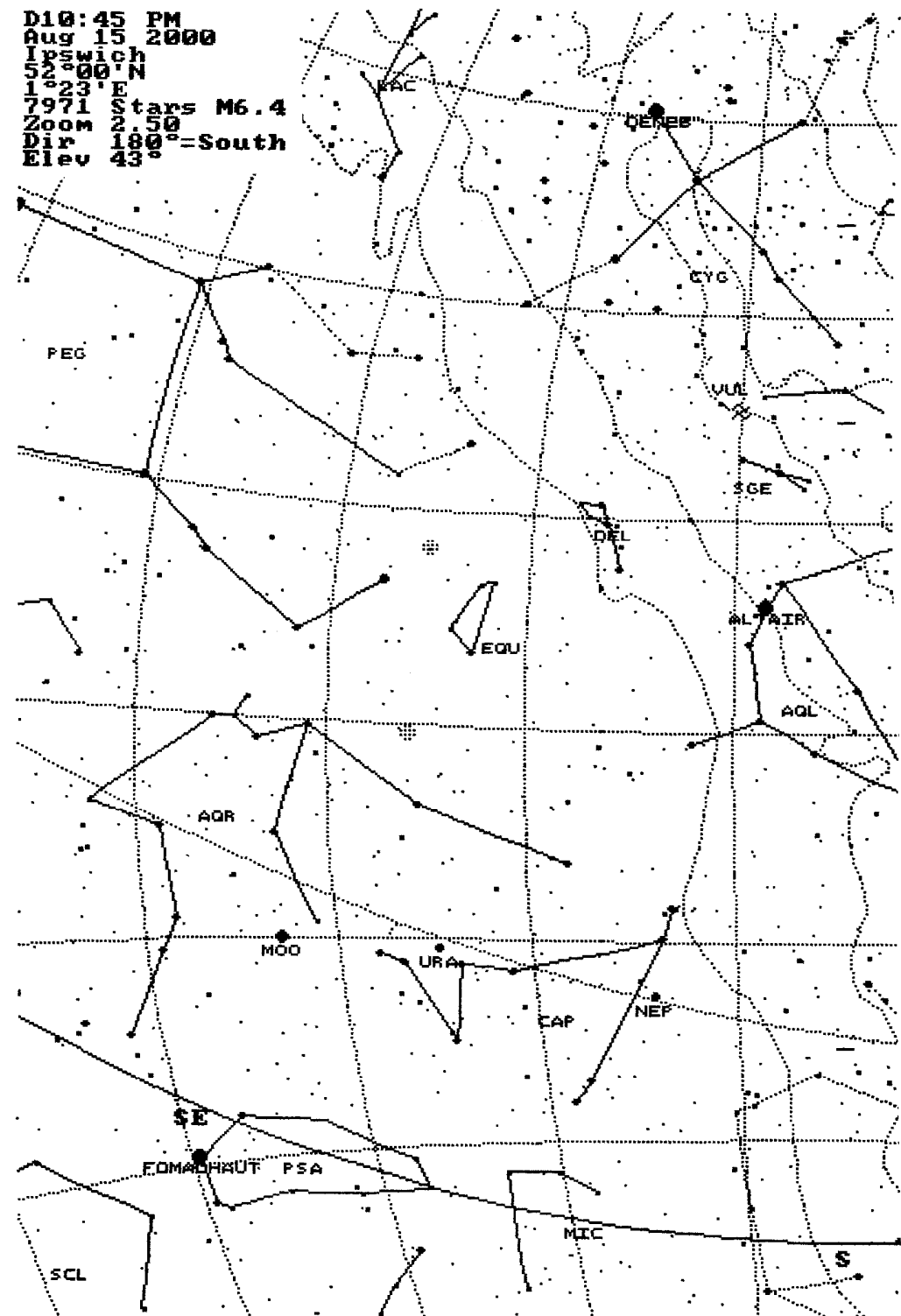
Clearly their planet configuration was different to others with multiple tickets for whom no numbers came up. Unfortunately the intended first prize was not taken: so the evaporator has to stay in Pete's garage for the next five years: [nice one Mike and Sue].

There was Badminton played to the Bristol rules, wher the idea is to hit the shuttle at your opponent as hard as possible. Body armour may be worn. For those missing the Open Chamoionship, putting was on offer. The handicap in this case was in the form of one [or was it two] small boy who thought the idea was to pick up the golf balls and put them in the paddling pool.

There was a demonstration of parent abuse by one young man: but nothing that the parent didn't deserve.

Cloud prevented any sky observation : but otherwise a thoroughly good do. Did I hear Alan say 'see you all here next year'?

Ted Sampson.



2000 COMMITTEE

	Home Phone	Work Phone
CHAIRMAN	D Payne	
SECRETARY & WORK PARTY ORGANISER	R Gooding	
TREASURER & PUBLICITY MECHANICS	M Cook	
NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATOR	E Sims	
BEGINNERS MEETING CO-ORD & VISIT CO-ORD	T Sampson	
EQUIPMENT CURATOR	G Coleman	
LIBRARIAN	J Walsh	
	J Appleton	
CO-OPTED MEMBER		
LECTURE CO-ORDINATOR & DARK SKIES	P Richards	
JOURNAL ARTICLES TO CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	E Sims	Ipswich Suffolk IP1 4HA
	R Gooding	OASI Secretary Ipswich Suffolk IP1 6AE
MEMBERSHIP	M. Cook	Ipswich IP4 5PZ

Observing Programme For August

Dates	Observing Director	Activities
Mondays from 7.30pm	T Sampson	General Observation
Tuesdays from 7.30pm	G Coleman	Group Visits
Wednesdays from 8.00pm	M Cook D Payne	Nebular & Faint Objects
Thursdays from 7.30pm	G Coleman	Group Visits
Fridays from 7.30pm		Double Stars

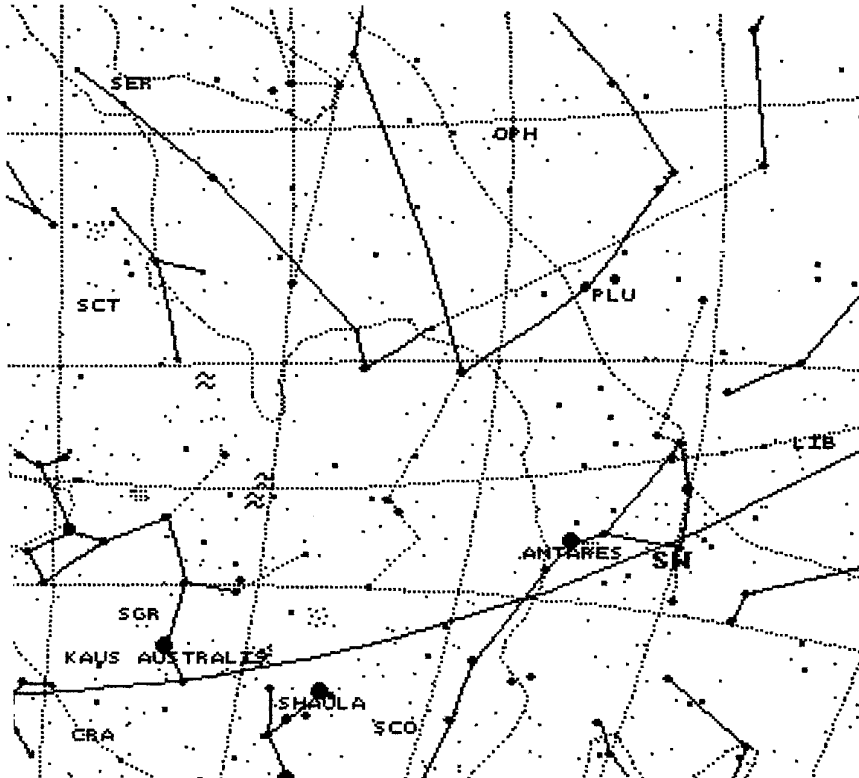
All members are welcome on any night, but on nights other than Wednesday please check with the appropriate director that the observatory will be open.

Special Events

1. Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting is going to be held on Saturday 9th September in the club room at the observatory at 7.30pm. All members are welcome to attend.

2.



Society Contact Details

	Home Phone	Work Phone
Chairman	D Payne	
Secretary	R Gooding	
Contact details for the full committee are inside the back page.		

e-mail queries: ipswich@ast.cam.ac.uk
 WWW address: <http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/~ipswich/>