

Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich)

Registered Charity No. 271313

<http://www.oasi.org.uk>

ipswich: @ast.cam.ac.uk

NEWSLETTER August / September 2006

No.411



THE OBSERVATORY
ORWELL SCHOOL.

*Lalamb
2/03*

Society News (Roy Gooding)

1 Committee Meeting Saturday 16 or 23rd September

The next Committee meeting will be held on Saturday 16 or 23rd September, at the Methodist Church Hall, from 20:00. This is an open meeting and any one who is interested is invited to attend. The actual day will not be decided until the Herstmonceux excursion date is known

2 Events for 2006

Meeting	Venue	Date
Perseids meteor watch	Not yet fixed	Saturday 12 th August
Society Barbecue At Mike and Sue's garden	Newbourn Bucklesham Ipswich	Saturday 15 th July From around 14:00
Society Excursion to Herstmonceux	Excursion in May has been cancelled New date in September http://www.the-observatory.org/	New dates: Either Saturday 16 th or 23 rd September
Open Weekend	More information in the August / September Newsletter	Saturday 30 th September and Sunday 1 st October
Lecture meeting The Day they Launched a Woodpecker By Jerry Stone FBIS FAS	Methodist Church Hall Blackhorse Lane	Friday 27 th October 20:00
Lecture meeting Space Rocks By David Byrant	Methodist Church Hall Blackhorse Lane	Friday 24 th November 20:00
New series of Astronomy Workshop meetings	The new session is now at the planning stage	
Geminids Meteor Watch	Not yet fixed	Saturday 9 th or 23 rd December
Christmas Meal	Levington Ship	Wednesday 13 th December

This event list will be updated through out the year

Provisional Events for 2007

Meeting	Venue	Date
Lecture Meeting Nik Symanek	Methodist Church Hall Blackhorse Lane	Friday 2 nd March

3 Access into the School Grounds and Observatory Tower

If the Black door entrance at the base of the observatory tower is locked, you will have to phone someone in the observatory to let you in. My mobile number is [REDACTED]. (Roy Gooding)

4 Society's 40th Anniversary Year 2007
Some random thoughts open for discussion.

2007 will be the 40th anniversary year for the Orwell Astronomical Society. A number of events will be held throughout the year to celebrate this. At present, any plans are at a very preliminary stage

- A joint meeting with the BAA in January is in the preliminary planning stage. This meeting will be on Saturday 20th January 2007
- All events could be prefixed with "40th Anniversary"
- A society meal could be held during the year.
- A formal Astronomical Convention could be held.
- A more informal exhibition meeting could be held that is aimed more for the general public.

If you have any ideas that can be considered please contact me.

5 Equipment Wish List

At the March committee meeting, a wish list for additional society equipment was discussed.

Item under consideration	Comments
Laptop PC	Purchased
Eyepiece Cupboard	Purchased
Eyepieces for the small telescopes	
Webcam and equipment for CCD imaging.	Purchased
Coronado solar telescope	
Barlow Lens	
2" Right Angle Mirror Diagonal	
Laser Collimator	
AC587 1.25" Universal Eyepiece Protection Kit	
AC598 Jumbo Eyepiece Protection Kit	
Orion (USA) Soft Rubber Eyeguards	

6 Society Email Distribution list

Society information is often distributed at an earlier date than can be achieved by the monthly Newsletter. If you would like to be received society emails, please forward your name and email address to

7 Welcome to New Member

8 Observing Projects for 2006 Perseid Maximum Night

If there is sufficient interest the first meteor watch, for many years, will be Saturday 12th August. At the time of writing an observing site has not yet been decided. The moon will only be about 3 days from full, but the brighter meteors should be visible. Please contact Roy Gooding or James Appleton.

As the skies will not dark enough to start observing to after 22:30 this will be a late night early morning session. A venue has not yet been decided, except that it will probably be out side of Ipswich.

9 Open Weekend (Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October)

The annual fund raising event this year is on Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October.

As ever, as much help as possible is required. I will put up a rota list on the club room notice board.

A poster is included with this month's issue. Please endeavour to find a good home for it. If you require additional posters please contact Eric Sims

10 Lecture Meeting Venue

Our town lecture venue is now at the Methodist Church, in Blackhorse Lane. The church has a car park, bigger enough to take about 30 cars, in Black Horse Lane Alternatively there is a Park & Display car park at the top of Black Horse Lane, next too the Town Council Offices. This is about 100 yards form the church.

Black Horse Lane has only one entrance, which is from Elm Street. This is just past the Police Station, if you are arriving from Civic Drive. The church car park is on the right, just past the Black Horse pub.

Meeting starts at 20:00, doors open at 19:30

Night Sky (August)

All times GMT

Sun

The sun will be rising approximately between 04:20 and 05:00

The sun will be setting approximately between 19:40 and 19:00

Moon

1 st Quarter	Full Moon	3 rd Quarter	New Moon	1 st Quarter
2 nd	9 th	16 th	23 rd	31 st

Mercury Mercury will be at greatest western elongation on the 7th. It will be at magnitude -1.0 in mid month, in the pre-drawn NE sky.

Venus Venus remains a prominent object, low down, in the pre-sunrise morning sky. Rising at about 02:00 through out the month. Magnitude -3.9

Mars Mars will setting close to sunset this month, and will not be observably.

Jupiter Jupiter is in Libra, it will be setting at about 21:00 at the end of the month. Magnitude -2.0

Saturn Saturn will be in conjunction with the sun on the 7th. Saturn will be close to Venus on the 26th to 28th.

Uranus Uranus is on Aquarius, and will be rising at about 20:00, in mid month. Magnitude 5.7

Neptune Neptune is in Capricornus, and will be at opposition on the 9th. month. Magnitude 7.8

Meteor Showers Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

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 Aquards	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

Night Sky (September)

All times GMT

Sun

The sun will be rising approximately between 04:20 and 05:00
The sun will be setting approximately between 19:40 and 19:00

Moon

Full Moon	3 rd Quarter	New Moon	1 st Quarter
7 th	14 th	22 nd	30 th

Mercury Mercury will be at superior conjunction on the 1st. It will not be observable this month.

Venus Venus will be rising about an hour before sunrise by the end of the month. It has now moved into the pre-dawn twilight sky.

Mars Mars sets close too sunset this month and will not be observable.

Jupiter Jupiter is in Libra, it will be setting at about 19:00 at the end of the month.
Magnitude -1.8

Saturn Saturn will be rising at about 01:30 by the end of the month.
Magnitude 0.5

Uranus Uranus is at opposition on the 5th. Magnitude 5.7

Neptune Neptune will be setting at the end of the month. Magnitude 7.8

Meteor Showers Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

Shower	Maximum	Limits	ZHR
Piscids	September 8 th	September to October	10
	September 21 st		5
	October 13 th		?

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

OCCULTATIONS DURING SEPTEMBER

The table lists stellar occultations which occur during the month under favourable circumstances. The data relates to Orwell Park Observatory, but will be similar at nearby locations.

Date	Time (UT)	D /R	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (d)	Star Alt (d)	Mag	Star
12 Sep	21:30:31	R	0.66-	-27	12	3.6	27 Tau, Atlas
14 Sep	22:50:26	R	0.44-	-33	10	5.6	ZC 885
18 Sep	02:02:50	R	0.16-	-29	10	4.7	43 Cnc

OCCULTATIONS DURING AUGUST

Only one stellar occultation occurs during the month under favourable circumstances. The table below summarises the details. The data relates to Orwell Park Observatory, but will be similar at nearby locations.

Date	Time (UT)	D /R	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (d)	Star Alt (d)	Mag	Star
20 Aug	02:38:08	R	0.12-	-17	16	5.8	47 Gem

James Appleton

OASI COMMITTEE CONTACTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Kenneth J Goward FRAS	Chairman	☎			Press & Publicity with the Secretary. Open Weekend.
Roy Gooding	Secretary	☎			MAIN POINT OF SOCIETY CONTACT. Press Publicity with the Chairman. Observatory Decoration. Visits by potential new members.
Garry Coleman	Treasurer	☎			Finance. Supervision of Grant Applications.
James Appleton	Committee	☎			Committee Meeting Minutes. Web site.
Martin Cook	Committee	☎			Membership. Tomline Refractor Maintenance.
Neil Morley	Committee	☎			Equipment Curator.
Ted Sampson	Committee	☎			Tomline Refractor tutoring. Social Activities.
Eric Sims	Committee	☎			Newsletter
Mike Whybray	Committee	☎			Librarian. Workshops
Paul Whiting FRAS	Committee	☎			Visits by outside groups.
Bill Barton FRAS	Committee	☎			Safety & Security
Peter Richards	Co-opted	☎			Lecture Meetings School Lighting liaison Email Distribution Lists

Diary for August & September

Monday	Small Telescope Observing Evenings Further meetings by arrangement only ☎ Paddy O'Sullivan [redacted]		
Wednesday	Nebulae & Faint Objects Section August 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th September 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th Open Weekend Saturday 30th September Sunday 1st October		
	☎	Home	Mobile
	Martin Cook	[redacted]	[redacted]
	Roy Gooding	[redacted]	[redacted]

Society Primary Contacts				
	☎	Day	Evening	Mobile
Chairman	Kenneth Goward FRAS	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Secretary	Roy Gooding	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Email Queries Ipswich@ast.cam.ac.uk				
Contact details for the full Committee may be found on the inside back cover				

Society Trustees
 Roy Adams David Brown David Payne
Hon. President
 Professor Alan Chapman D.Phil MA FRAS

☎ Observatory [redacted] Meeting evenings only

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)

<http://www.oasi.org.uk/>

PUBLIC OPEN WEEKEND

Visit One of the Few Remaining Operational Victorian Observatories
Located at Orwell Park School Nacton off the
A1156 between Ipswich and Felixstowe

THE ORWELL PARK OBSERVATORY WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON

SATURDAY 30th September From 7:00pm to 10:00pm
SUNDAY 1st October From 7:00pm to 10:00pm

The weekends programme includes:

OBSERVATIONS OF THE MOON and the NIGHT SKY

Observations will be undertaken: -

(Subject to favourable weather conditions)

- In the Observatory Tower, using the 10" Tomline Refractor and other small telescopes
- Outside on the field, using naked eye and small telescopes
- If you have a pair of binoculars we recommend that you bring them with you.
- Warm clothing may be required

An alternative programme of talks and slide shows will be arranged
if weather conditions are not suitable for observations

Entrance by Donation

Child & Senior Citizen £1
Adult £2

Honorary Secretary
Roy Gooding
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