



The Newsletter



of the
Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich)

2011

Registered charity no. 271313

NOVEMBER

www.oasi.org.uk

No 468



Saturday 16th July when OASI hosted the picnic for the Society
for the History of Astronomy.

Society News (Roy Gooding)

1 Annual General Meeting Saturday 14th January 2012

All members are invited to attend the AGM
Start time 20:00 Venue: Methodist Church Hall.

2 Access into the School Grounds and Observatory Tower

Please use the third gate into the school grounds, this is the gate behind the Gym. 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) alternatively the Observatory mobile is [REDACTED] during meeting hours. The gate code is on the back of your membership card. In recent weeks the gate code has not been working. Hopefully, now the Autumn term has started, the School will rectify this.

3 Welcome to New Members

Alan Waters Katrina Wilce

4 Events Programme for 2011

This provisional event list will be updated through out the year

Meeting	Venue	Date
Lecture Meeting Are We Star Dust or Nuclear Waste? (Stellar Evolution) by Robin Catchpole	Methodist Church Halls, Blackhorse Lane	Friday 4 th November 20:00
Christmas Meal Social event	Venue Ski Lodge	Wednesday 7 th December 20:00

6 Christmas Meal 7th December (Note date change)

Starters

Potato & spinach soup
King prawns, chilli, soy & ginger dip
Chicken & cognac pate, fig chutney, toasted ciabatta
Smoked cheese & onion potato cake on machinist rosti balsamic dressing

Main Course

Turkey with all the trimmings

Pork belly, apple & onion veloute, seasonal vegetables, roast new potatoes

Pan seared red snapper, creamed leeks & pancetta, new potatoes

Rabbit thyme & shallot causoulet, dijon mash, seasonal vegetables

Balsamic roasted vegetables halloumi stack, red pepper source, sweet potato wedges

Dessert

Plum pudding, amaretto ice cream, bunt sugar & toffee source

Selection of sweets

Mixed cheese & biscuits, seasonal chutney

Tea or Coffee with minced pie

Total cost £26.50

Deposit £5.00

Please see me (Roy Gooding) to book. First come first served!

7 Proposed Out Reach Meetings for 2012

Christchurch Park

In January the BBC will be running a new series of Stargazer (starts on 16th)

Saturday evening meetings (19:00 to 21:00)

1st option 28th January

2nd option 25th February

3rd option 31st March

Chantry Park

Saturday evening meetings (20:00 to 22:00)

1st option 21st April

2nd option 28th April

Christchurch Park

Astronomy in the park (11:00 to 16:00)

1st option May 19th & 20th

2nd option May 26th & 27th

All these dates have now been confirmed with Sam Pollard and Richard Sharp

Night Sky (November)

All times GMT

Moon

New Moon	1 st Quarter	Full Moon	3 rd Quarter
25 th	2 nd	10 th	18 th

Object	Date			Mag	Notes
		Rise	Set		
Sun	1	06:50	16:28		
	30	07:39	00:00		
Mercury	1	08:55	16:56	-0.1	Mercury will be at greatest eastern elongation on the 14 th
	31	08:30	16:15		
Venus	1	08:48	17:12	-3.8	Venus has now moved into the evening sky.
	30	10:01	17:21		
Mars	1	23:42	14:28	1.0	Mars has moved into Leo. It is well placed to observe after midnight.
	30	23:08	13:02		
Jupiter	1	16:19	06:33	-2.7	Jupiter is well placed to observe all night
	30	14:18	04:20		
Saturn	1	05:12	16:09	1.0	Saturn is now in Virgo. It is observable in the early morning
	30	03:36	14:21		
Uranus	1	15:16	03:24	5.7	Uranus is an evening object in Pisces
	30	13:21	01:26		
Neptune	1	14:18	00:15	7.8	Neptune remains an evening object, in Aquarius
	30	12:24	22:17		

Meteor Showers

Shower	Limits	Maximum	ZH R
Taurids	October 20 th to November 30 th	November 5 th 12 th	10
Leonids	November 15 th to 20 th	November 18 th 08:00	20

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

OCCULTATIONS DURING NOVEMBER

The table lists lunar 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
04 Nov	20:49:16	D	0.71+	-40	30	7.3	ZC 3290
05 Nov	19:04:06	D	0.79+	-25	36	7.4	Hip 114260
06 Nov	22:20:02	D	0.86+	-51	39	6.9	ZC 3524
20 Nov	02:06:59	D	0.33-	-47	10	5.9	62 Leo
	02:46:54	R		-42	15		
28 Nov	16:35:10	D	0.15+	-7	16	7.2	ZC 2854
29 Nov	18:11:28	D	0.24+	-21	16	6.4	ZC 2986

James Appleton

Open Weekend 1st & 2nd October

(Roy Gooding)

The week preceding our annual open weekend was one of the best of the whole summer, with clear skies and very high temperatures. The forecast at the beginning of the week gave every indication that it would last until the weekend, and this is precisely what happened. The evening's program followed the same formate as in previous years. Three observing sites were in use the Tomline refractor, small telescopes on the observatory balconies, and a selection of telescopes on the field.

Equipment in use on the field:

Neil Morley:	80mm refractor
Roy Gooding:	120 mm refractor
James Appleton	10" Meade Schmidt Cassegrain
John Wainwright:	16" Dobsonian reflector
Jennie Wood:	100mm reflector

There were only 5 telescopes on the field but they covered the whole price range for amateur equipment. Firstly there were John's and James's top range scopes, followed by my refractor at an intermediate level, with Neil's and Jennie's starter scopes. This should have proved to the visitors, that expensive telescopes are not always necessary to observe the moon and planets well.

With clear skies in the evening we could have expected upwards of 200 visitors on the Saturday. The good weather this year was probably against us. Many people were making the best use of the weather, and probably went out during the day, and did not want to go out again in the evening.

However there were about 114 visitors on the Saturday with some 60 visitors on the Sunday, and we also recruited two members.

Being out side on both evenings I only made one fleetingly quick visit up to the Belvedere. As well as observing the night sky, the calls of the local owl population always makes their present known. A less common, but seasonal sound, is one of the local deer stags bellowing during their autumn rut. I heard them several times on both evenings.

Both evenings were clear, so a full observing program was possible. Sunday evening was the better of the two, Saturday had some hazy cloud. On Saturday, the moon was very low down, over the Orwell, but we able to observe it until it disappeared behind a near by oak tree

This years Open Weekend was another successful event, which would not be possible without the help of members. As normal I would like too thank every one who was able to give up their time.

FAS Convention 2011

Roy Gooding

The FAS have been holding their annual convention in early October since the mid 1990's. These earliest meetings were held at RGO Herstmonceux On. occasions, up to 20 OASI members would travel down to Sussex. Reports of these meetings can be found on our web site. In recent years the meetings have been held at the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge, The most recent meeting was on Saturday 15th October.

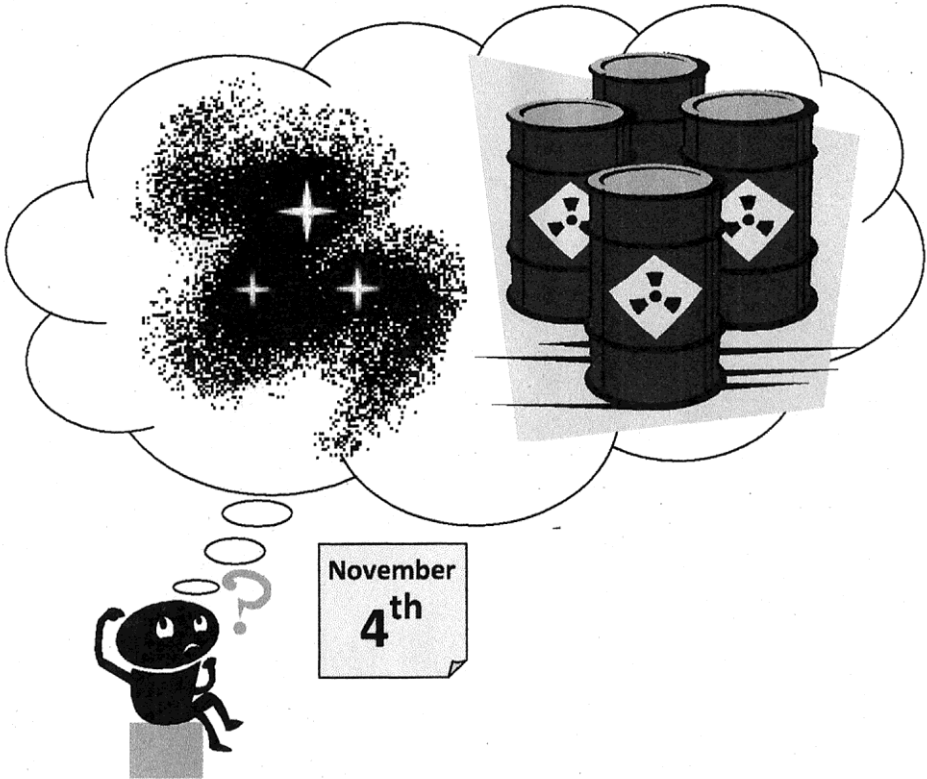
The numbers of members attending have been very fickle in recent times, with only 1 or 2 members attended. some years This year was a little different. Paul Whiting had volunteered to set up our society display boards, together with our Millennium 19.5" Dobsonian. For good measure Bill Barton decided to bring along his recent acquisition , a 6" Meade Refractor. Our telescopes were by far the largest on display.

The Millennium telescope was the centre of much attention. Through out the day the majority of the people at the meeting, came over to look at it, with the many asking questions. The rest of our exhibition included our standard display, which was last used at the Open Weekend, and a laptop showing the OASI web site .

During the lunch break the Institute's observatories were open for guided tours. The rest of the day was take up with a series of lectures.

Six members attended: myself, Paul Whiting, Bill Barton, John Wainwright, Pete Richards, Nicky Richards. If you have never been to any of these conventions, I would recommend that you do so next year.

Are we Stardust or Nuclear Waste?



Dr Robin Catchpole – of the Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge - will be posing this question at the next OASI guest speaker talk on **Friday 4th November at 8pm**. The venue for the talk is **The Methodist Church Halls in Blackhorse Lane Ipswich**.

Astronomy Workshops

Doors open at 7:30pm.

Workshops START at 7:45pm

Venue: NACTON VILLAGE HALL IP10 0EU













If you are a new OASI member, or haven't been to one of these workshops before – they are a mixture of events of different characters including beginners talks, interactive workshops, hands-on observing sessions, films etc., suitable for all. They are also a chance to chat with other members over a cup of tea and a biscuit, in a venue rather warmer than the observatory dome on a winter's night!

2nd November	Astronomical Imaging Taking photos of nebulae and galaxies is, to most people, something NASA and professional astronomers do with expensive equipment. You'll be amazed to find it can actually be done with very little experience and a digital camera from your back garden!	Ben Jarvis
14th December	Quiz Night A pub quiz style evening – several rounds of questions for teams to pool their knowledge on. Teams will be formed on the night so any number of people welcome. Questions may include some astronomy but most will be 'general knowledge'. Bring your own drinks/alcohol/nibbles/food.	Paul Whiting
11th January 2012	Measuring the speed of light – the experiments continue! After my workshop last year which left some loose ends, I'll try and tie these up. Back to the garage...	Mike Whybray

Mike Whybray
Workshops organiser
[REDACTED] (Mobile)
[REDACTED] (Home)

More information in Octobers newsletter.

OASI Committee Contacts & Responsibilities

Neil Morley	Chairman			Chair committee meetings. Represent OASI to external bodies.
Roy Gooding	Secretary			Respond to enquiries. Press & publicity. Observatory decoration. Open days.
Paul Whiting FRAS	Treasurer			Finance. Visits by outside groups.
James Appleton	Committee			Minutes of committee meetings. Web site.
Bill Barton FRAS	Committee			Safety & security.
Martin Cook	Committee			Membership. Tomline Refractor maintenance.
Tina Hammond	Committee			Librarian.
Peter Richards	Committee			Lecture meetings. Email distribution lists.
Eric Sims	Committee			Newsletter.
John Wainwright	Committee			Equipment curator.
Mike Whybray	Committee			Workshops.

Trustees

Mr Roy Adams
Mr David Brown
Mr David Payne

Honorary President

Dr Allan Chapman D.Phil MA FRAS

DIARY for November

<p>STONS Monday 28th</p>	<p>SMALL TELESCOPES OBSERVING NIGHTS AT THE OBSERVATORY Main observing targets: Pegasus & Andromeda ☎ Paddy O'Sullivan [REDACTED] ☎ Gerry Pilling [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Wednesdays From 8.00pm</p>	<p>OBSERVATORY CLUB NIGHTS Observing with the Tomline Refractor and other telescopes if skies are clear. ASTEROID OBSERVING PROJECT. ☎ Martin Cook [REDACTED] mobile [REDACTED] ☎ Roy Gooding [REDACTED] mobile [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Wednesday 2nd Doors open 7.30pm Start 7.45pm</p>	<p>OASI WORKSHOP At Nacton Village Hall Astronomical Imaging Taking photos of Nebulae & Galaxies ☎ Mike Whybray [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Thursday 3rd Nov 8.00pm 10th Nov 7.00pm 17th Nov 7.30pm 24th Nov 7.30pm 1st Dec 8.00pm</p>	<p>OBSERVATORY VISITS BY LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS Private Group 1st Capel Cubs 2nd Ipswich Cubs 40th Ipswich Brownies 11th Ipswich Scouts ☎ Paul Whiting FRAS [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Saturday 14th January 8.00pm</p>	<p>DATE FOR A.G.M. Venue: The Methodist Church Hall Blackhorse Lane Ipswich</p>

OPEN FIELD OBSERVING

Newbourne Village Hall

Monday 21st November – 7.30pm to 11.00pm.

**Suggested Targets – Pegasus, Andromeda, Cassiopeia,
Perseus, (29) Amphitrite & (15) Eunomia.**

Society Contact Details

Observatory tel. no. (meeting nights only): [REDACTED]

Secretary: Roy Gooding [REDACTED] (day) [REDACTED] (evening)

E-mail queries: info@oasi.org.uk

Chairman: Neil Morley [REDACTED]