



# OASI News

The newsletter of Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich)



[Asteroid Psyche, target of a new NASA mission launched in October.](#)

## OASI Lecture

### *The Optical Tracking of Spacecraft*

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Nick James will be giving us a lecture starting at 8pm at St. Augustine's Church Hall, Bucklesham Rd, Ipswich IP3 8TH  
We hope to stream this talk over Zoom, technology permitting, but the best experience will be in person.

Members are requested to bring their own mugs if they want tea or coffee

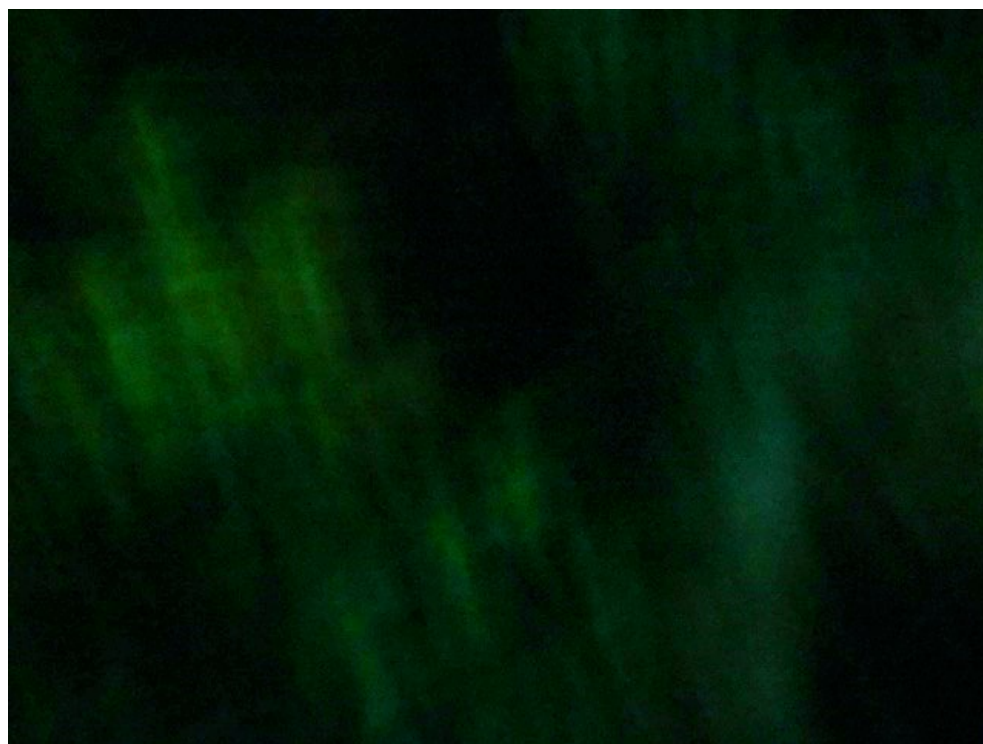
Trustees: Mr Roy Adams Mr Neil Morley Mr David Payne

Honorary President: Dr Allan Chapman D.Phil MA FRAS

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**The Newsletter is a bit lean this month, as no-one sent in any contributions.**



**Aurora seen at Lawford, 18 September 2023 (photo: Lynette Burgess)**

## Society Notices

**Dear Members,**

It is good to see so many members, old and new, at our Newbourne meetings, we have even been blessed with a couple of clear nights to enjoy some observing!

If you are a new member, don't forget that you are always welcome at our Wednesday meetings at Orwell Park Observatory. Unfortunately, tea and cake won't be provided, but, if clear, we can provide impressive views through the Tomline Refractor.

I hope to see you at a meeting in November.

Clear Skies!

**Andy Gibbs, Chairman**

## Society Contact details

Email queries: [info@oasi.org.uk](mailto:info@oasi.org.uk)

Facebook: Orwell Astronomical

Twitter: @OASIspswich

YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHgxe3QAeRVWf7vkjKkCI2Q>

Members-only message board

<https://groups.io/g/OASI>

Observatory (meeting nights only)

07960 083714

**Please send material for the OASI  
web site and newsletter  
e.g. observations, notices of events,  
general interest articles, to  
[news@oasi.org.uk](mailto:news@oasi.org.uk)**

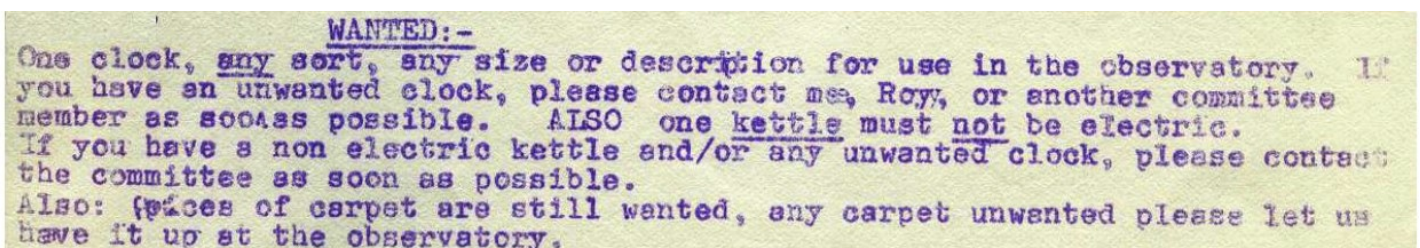
The CLOSING date is the 15th day of the month

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## From The Archive

extract from the OASI Newsletter 50 years ago: November 1973.

Roy is on the cadge ...



**WANTED:-**  
One clock, any sort, any size or description for use in the observatory. If you have an unwanted clock, please contact me, Roy, or another committee member as soon as possible. ALSO one kettle must not be electric. If you have a non electric kettle and/or any unwanted clock, please contact the committee as soon as possible. Also: pieces of carpet are still wanted, any carpet unwanted please let us have it up at the observatory.

... and we still don't have a kettle!



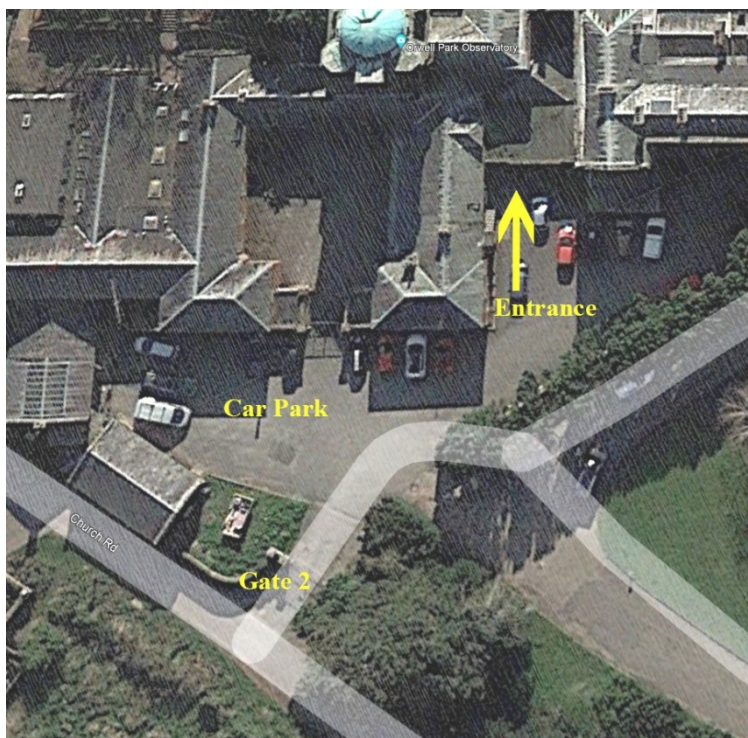
## Access into the School Grounds and Observatory Tower

Orwell Park School have changed our access route to the observatory.

The new route will be as follows:-

- Enter through gate 2 (gate 1 being the main gate) and park inside as per the attached map.
- Enter the school through the double black doors as indicated on the map. A key fob will be required to open the door.
- Continue straight through the next two sets of double doors.
- Turn left at the end of the short corridor then immediately right.
- Pass through the single door and on your left you will find the staircase leading to the observatory.
- On no account must you deviate from this route.

When leaving the observatory use the same route but in reverse. Please keep noise to a minimum as there are staff quarters nearby.



## Articles for OASI News

News, pictures and articles for this newsletter are always welcome. Details above.

Please send tables as separate files in one of the above formats.

If you don't feel up to writing a major article, perhaps you might write a short note for OASI News along the lines of "This month I have mostly been observing/constructing/mending/reading/etc."

The Newsletter archive is at [www.oasi.org.uk/NL/NL\\_form.shtml](http://www.oasi.org.uk/NL/NL_form.shtml)

**Authors, please note that your articles will be publicly available worldwide!**

## Reproducing articles from OASI News

If you plan to reproduce an article exactly as per OASI News then please contact the Editor – otherwise, as a matter of courtesy, please seek permission from and credit the original source/author. You may not reproduce articles for profit or other commercial purpose.

## Committee 2023

Chairman	AndyGibbs	Set overall agenda for OASI, Chair committee meetings, Press and publicity
Secretary	RoyGooding	Outreach meetings (jointly with Chairman), observatory decoration
Treasurer	PaulWhiting	Finance, Supervision of applications for grants. Visits by outside groups, Observatory tours, Public appreciation of astronomy, Outreach activities
Committee	James Appleton	Committee meeting minutes, Web site
	MartinCook	Membership, Tomline refractor maintenance & user testing
	Matt Leeks	Safety & security
	Peter Richards	Lecture meetings, Email distribution lists
	John Wainwright	Equipment curator
	Mike Whybray	Astronomy Workshops, Child protection officer, Orwell Park School Astronomy Club
	Andy Willshire	Librarian
		Newsletter, OASI @ Newbourne

For newsletter and Newbourne please contact Paul Whiting,

## Committee Meeting

The next Committee Meeting will be on Friday 1st December at 8:00pm via Zoom. All members welcome.

## Welcome to new members

Nick Hayhoe   Neal Gordon

## OASI and BAA Events

For the latest event details, please see [www.oasi.org.uk/Events/Events.php](http://www.oasi.org.uk/Events/Events.php)

There's a Google Calendar on the OASI web site with the latest dates.

If you want to easily add OASI Events to your own computer/phone/tablet calendar

application click this button on the website Events page (bottom right of the calendar)



or use this address to access this calendar from other calendar applications:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/Ijhs9db7Incki4sojo7092vfvc%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

For other astronomy news and astro pictures try our

Twitter feed      <https://twitter.com/OASlpswich>

Facebook page      <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Orwell-Astronomical/158256464287623>

Date, Time & Location	Contact	Event
Weekly, every Wednesday, from 20:15 Orwell Park Observatory, Nacton	Martin Cook, Roy Gooding	Observatory open
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov 19:00 Zoom	Paul Whiting	Beginners Astronomy Course continues
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov 20:00 St. Augustine's Church Hall	Pete Richards	Talk Nick James "The Optical Tracking of Spacecraft"
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov from 19:30 Newbourne Village Hall	Paul Whiting	OASI@Newbourne Beginners and new members welcome
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov 20:00 Zoom	Paul Whiting	Monthly Zoom Meeting
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov from 19:30 Newbourne Village Hall	Paul Whiting	OASI@Newbourne Bill Barton : Night Sky Guide Paul Whiting : Astro News Beginners and new members welcome

## OASI @ Newbourne

[newbourne@oasi.org.uk](mailto:newbourne@oasi.org.uk)

We meet at Newbourne Village Hall,  
Mill Lane, IP12 4NP usually on the 2nd and 4th  
Mondays from 19:30.

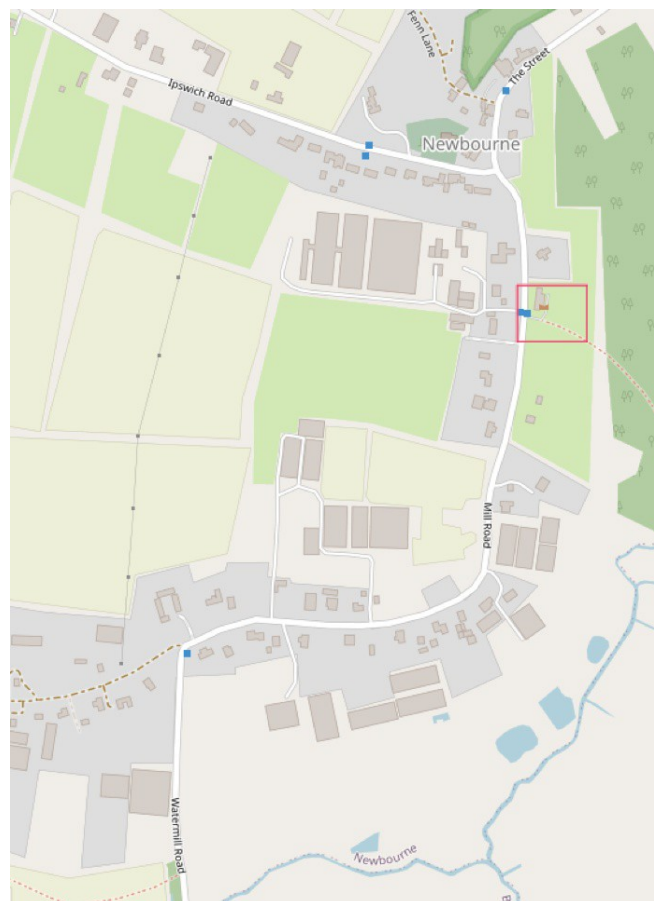
**Visitors are welcome but we do ask you  
to join the Society after two visits.**

<http://www.oasi.org.uk/OASI/Membership.php>

### Newbourne dates for 2023

November	13	27 (A/S)
December	11 (Q)	

We open up for all meetings at 7:30pm.  
Astro News (A) / Star Guide (S) at 7:45pm  
followed by any Talks (T), Workshops (W) and  
occasional Quiz (Q).



## BAA news & webinars

For full details of all meetings or cancellations, please go to <https://britastro.org/events/future-events>

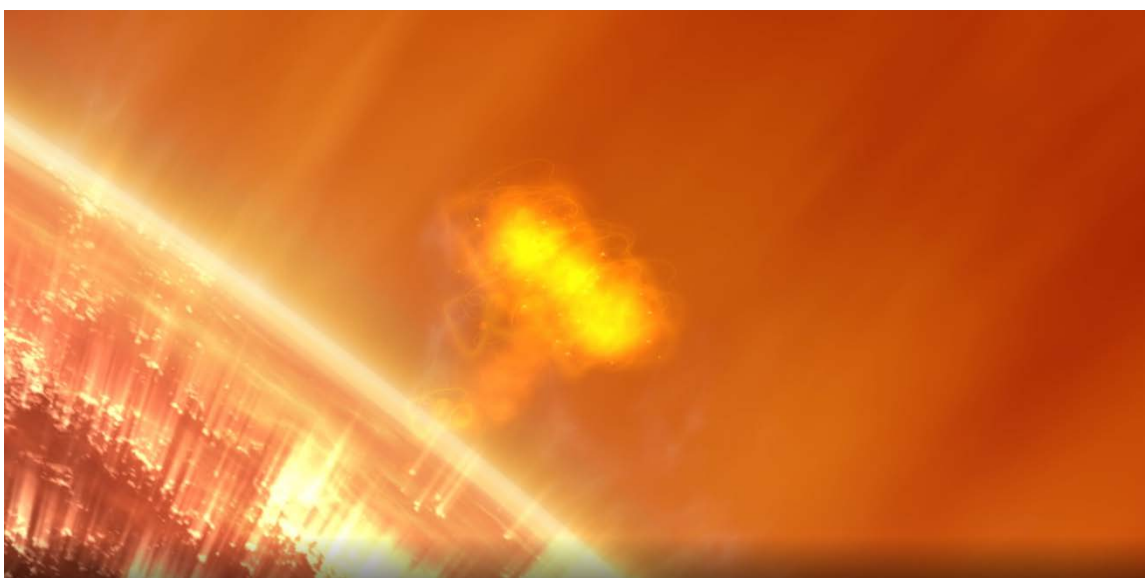
22nd November 2023 20:00 GMT	Historical Section Webinar	Prof Nick Lomb: "Australian Eclipses 1857 and 1871"
24th November 2023 19:30 GMT	Solar Section Zoom Meeting	<i>Contact the Solar Section Director to sign-up if you are not a section member</i>
9th December 2023 14:00 to 18:00 GMT	BAA Christmas Meeting 2023	Prof Lyndsay Fletcher: "Exploring the Solar Atmosphere: A Journey through the Sun's Spectrum"  Prof Martin Hendry: "Listening to Einstein's Universe: Dawn" and "Exciting Future of Gravitational-Wave Astronomy"

## The BAA Radio Astronomy Section

The BAA Radio Astronomy Section have been enjoying talks, seminars and tutorials via Zoom and these are available on the BAA YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/britishastronomical/playlists>.

Monday Nov. 13th  19:30 GMT	Prof. Sean Paling  STFC UKRI	Deep Science at Boulby Underground Laboratory  <b>The search for Dark Matter and Beyond.</b>
Christmas lecture Fri. Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup> .  19:30 GMT	Prof Clive Tadhunter Department of Physics and Astronomy University of Sheffield	<b>Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN)</b> emit at least as much radiation by themselves as the integrated light of all the stars in a typical galaxy, yet this radiation is produced in a region that is smaller than the solar system.



Parker Solar Probe Image of a solar eruption

## The Night Sky in November 2023

All event times are for the location of Orwell Park Observatory 52.0096°N, 1.2305°E. Times are **GMT** unless otherwise stated.

### Sun, Moon and planets

Sources: <http://heavens-above.com/PlanetSummary.aspx> <http://heavens-above.com/moon.aspx>

### November 2023

Object	Date	Rise	Set	Mag.	Notes
Sun	1	06:49	16:27		
	30	07:39	15:48		
Moon	1	18:12	11:39		Last Quarter 05 November 08:37 Apogee 06 November 21:50 New Moon 13 November 09:27 First Quarter 20 November 10:50 Perigee 21 November 21:02 Full Moon 27 November 09:16
	30	17:58	11:14		
Mercury	1	07:40	16:33	-0.7	
	30	09:45	16:38	-0.4	
Venus	1	02:26	15:04	-4.2	
	30	03:31	14:14	-4.1	
Mars	1	07:23	16:32	1.5	
	30	07:26	15:27	1.4	
Jupiter	1	16:34	07:00	-2.8	
	30	14:32	04:46	-2.7	
Saturn	1	14:33	00:18	0.7	
	30	12:40	22:23	0.9	
Uranus	1	16:51	08:06	5.6	
	30	14:54	06:05	5.6	
Neptune	1	15:12	02:41	7.8	
	30	13:17	00:46	7.9	

### Occultations during November 2023

[https://iota-es.de/moon/grazing\\_descrx101.html](https://iota-es.de/moon/grazing_descrx101.html) and <http://www.lunar-occultations.com/iota/bstar/bstar.htm>

Observers are encouraged to download and install the [Occult](#) software program [Windows only] to generate predictions for their own particular site coordinates.



## Meteor showers during November 2023

Shower	Normal limits	Maximum	ZHR at Max	Notes
Southern Taurids	10/09 – 20/11	10/11	5	Few, very slow meteors
Northern Taurids	20/10 – 10/12	12/11 - 13/11	5	Very slow meteors
Epsilon Geminids	29/09 - 02/11	18/10	3	
Southern Taurids	10/09 – 20/11	10/11	5	Few, very slow meteors
Leonids	06/11 - 30/11	17/11 – 18/11	10	Fast bright meteors with fine trains. Associated with Comet Tempel-Tuttle

See also <https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/meteor-shower-guide>

For radio observation, use reflections from Graves Radar on 143.049MHz or the Brams transmitter in Belgium on 49.97MHz and UK GB3MBA on 50.408MHz <https://www.ukmeteorbeacon.org/Home>

See also [https://www.popastro.com/main\\_spal/meteor/radio-meteor-observing-2020/](https://www.popastro.com/main_spal/meteor/radio-meteor-observing-2020/).

## Comets

Source : <https://heavens-above.com/Comets.aspx> on 20/10/23.

Comet	Brightness	Date of last reported observation	Angular separation from Sun	Constellation
C/2023 P1 Nishimura	6.0	2023-Sep-28	19°	Hydra
2P Encke	8.4	2023-Oct-13	14°	Virgo
103P Hartley	10.0	2023-Oct-19	88°	Cancer
C/2023 H2 Lemmon	10.5	2023-Oct-19	60°	Canes Venatici
C/2020 V2 ZTF	10.8	2023-Oct-15	128°	Phoenix

## Forthcoming Outreach Programmes

All members are welcome to come along and help out at these events – you don't need to be an expert in the subject. Just respond to the email call for help prior to the event.

Please note that not all events are open to the public.

*outreach details will appear here as they become available*

## Visible ISS passes >30° max altitude for November 2023

Source: <http://heavens-above.com/PassSummary.aspx?satid=25544>

Times are **GMT**.

Predictions are approximate (20/10/23) due to craft adjustments. Check the day before.

Date	Bright -ness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End		
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.
01-Nov	-3.6	05:16:17	31°	W	05:17:38	60°	SSW	05:20:57	10°	ESE
02-Nov	-3.1	04:30:10	53°	SE	04:30:10	53°	SE	04:32:53	10°	ESE
03-Nov	-2.9	05:17:01	29°	WSW	05:17:58	36°	SSW	05:21:05	10°	SE
04-Nov	-2.4	04:30:58	33°	SSE	04:30:58	33°	SSE	04:33:09	10°	SE
20-Nov	-3	17:58:43	10°	SW	18:01:51	38°	SSE	18:01:54	38°	SSE
22-Nov	-3.7	17:58:05	10°	WSW	18:01:24	62°	SSE	18:01:39	59°	SE
23-Nov	-3.2	17:09:39	10°	SW	17:12:54	48°	SSE	17:15:01	19°	E
24-Nov	-3.9	17:57:36	10°	W	18:00:58	82°	S	18:01:14	72°	ESE
25-Nov	-3.7	17:09:02	10°	WSW	17:12:23	73°	SSE	17:14:33	20°	E
26-Nov	-3.9	17:57:07	10°	W	18:00:29	86°	S	18:00:44	75°	ESE
27-Nov	-3.8	17:08:29	10°	W	17:11:51	86°	S	17:14:03	20°	E
28-Nov	-3.7	17:56:33	10°	W	17:59:54	72°	SSW	18:00:16	63°	SE
29-Nov	-3.7	17:07:53	10°	W	17:11:14	81°	S	17:13:38	18°	E
30-Nov	-3	17:55:55	10°	W	17:59:10	47°	SSW	17:59:57	38°	SSE

## Starlink passes

<http://heavens-above.com/AllPassesFromLaunch.aspx>

For a dynamic 3-D display,

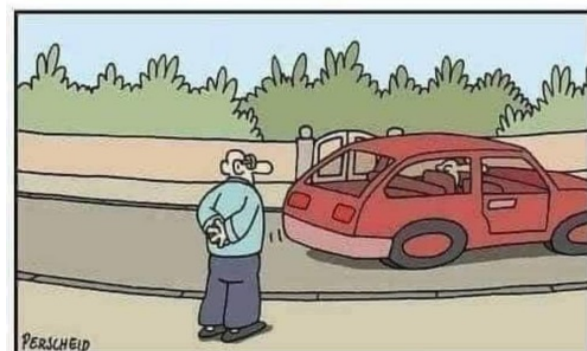
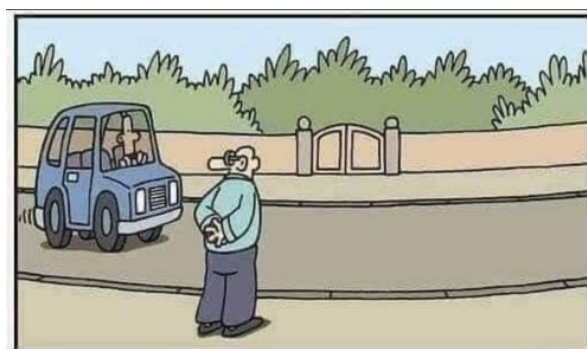
see <https://heavens-above.com/StarLink.aspx>

## Bill Barton's Radio Broadcast

ICRFM (Ipswich Community Radio) 105.7 MHz at about 08:25 in the morning of the first Wednesday of each month. I aim to cover what there is to see in the sky and then a little bit on something topical.

ICRFM is also available to listen to over the Internet and there is a listen again option on their website.

<http://www.icrfm.com>

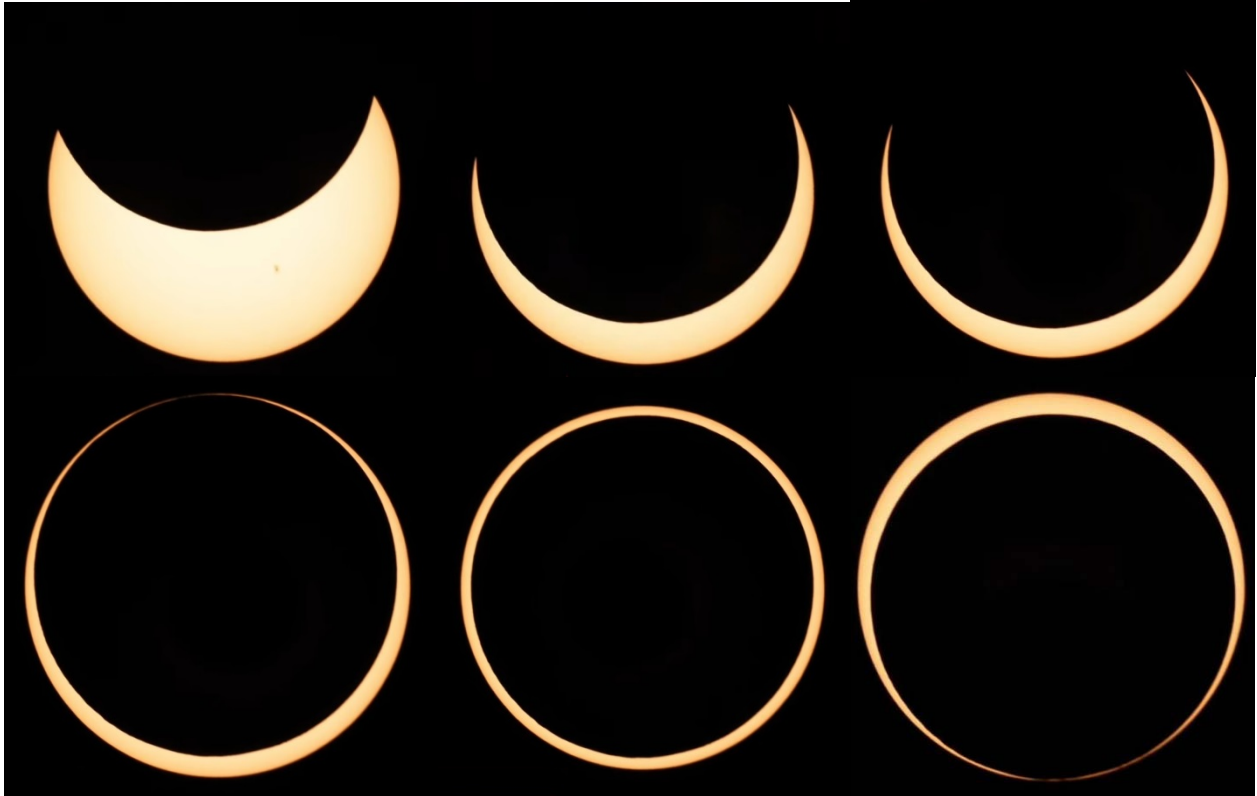


A little astronomical humour

## The Annular Solar Eclipse

2023 October 15

Albuquerque, New Mexico.



Images taken as stills from live feed from NASA TV (white light filter)

## Bailey's Beads and Flares



(H $\alpha$  filter)