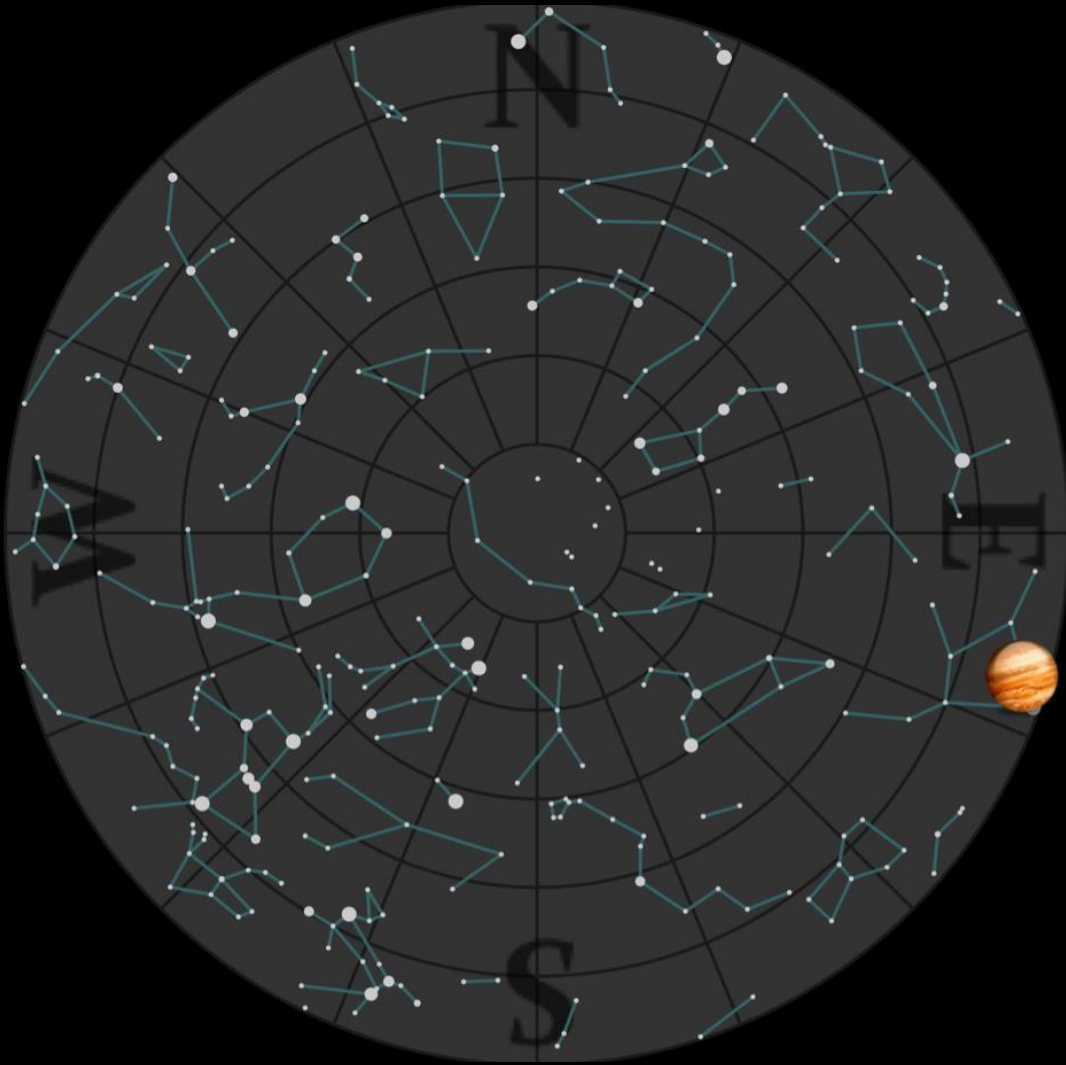


What's Up?

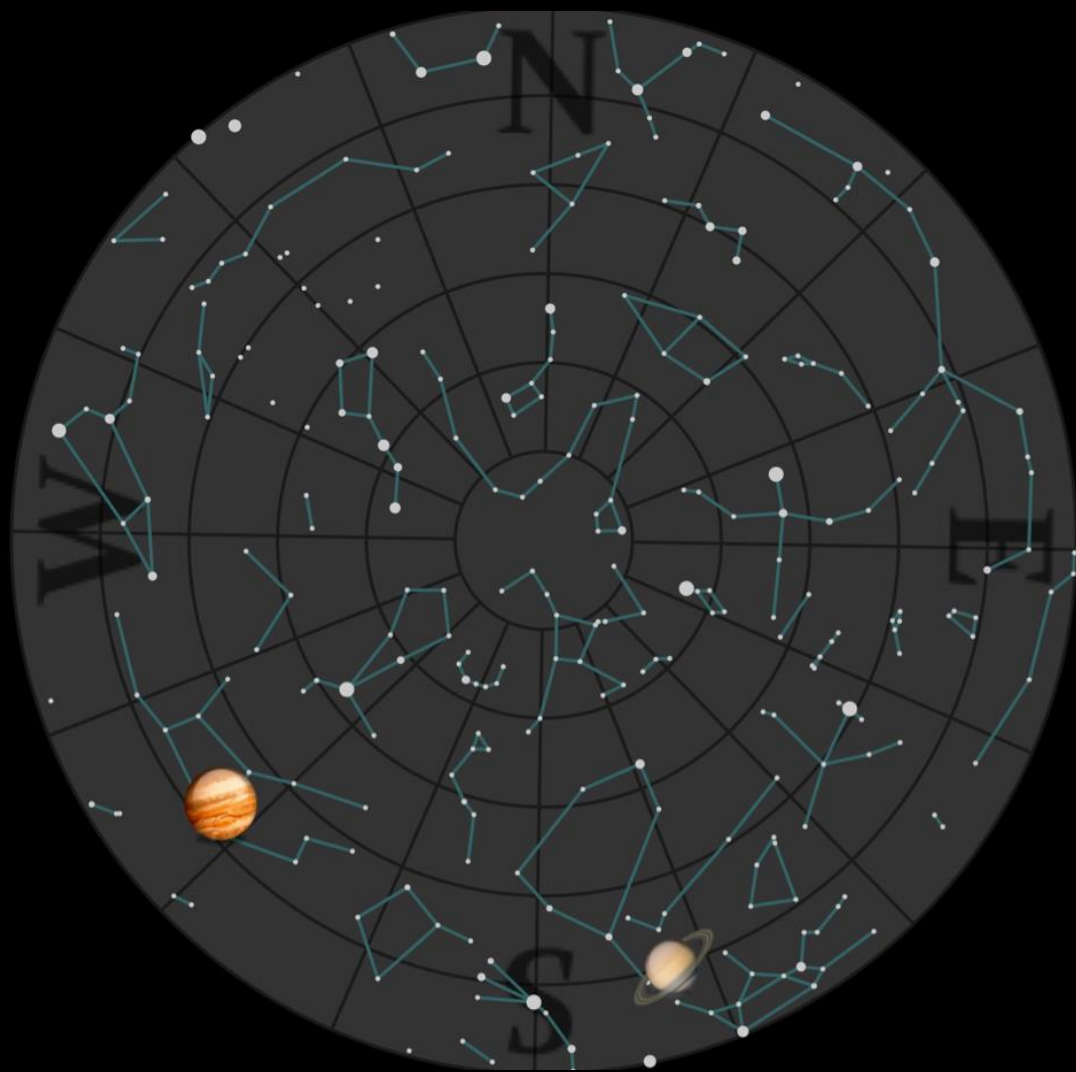
2017 February 27 to March 27

Bill Barton, FRAS

•The Sky 22:00
Tonight



•The Sky 06:00
Tomorrow Morning



Inner Solar System

- Sun
 - Equinox at 10:30am on March 20, in Aquarius then Pisces
 - UT and ST twelve hours out of alignment
- Mercury
 - In the morning sky at the beginning of this period, in Aquarius
 - Superior conjunction on March 07 (far side of the Sun)
 - Then in evening sky, best conditions until September
 - Heading toward maximum eastern elongation on April 01 (19⁰)
- Venus
 - In evening sky, in Pisces, phase reducing
 - Inferior conjunction on March 25 (our side of the Sun)

Earth

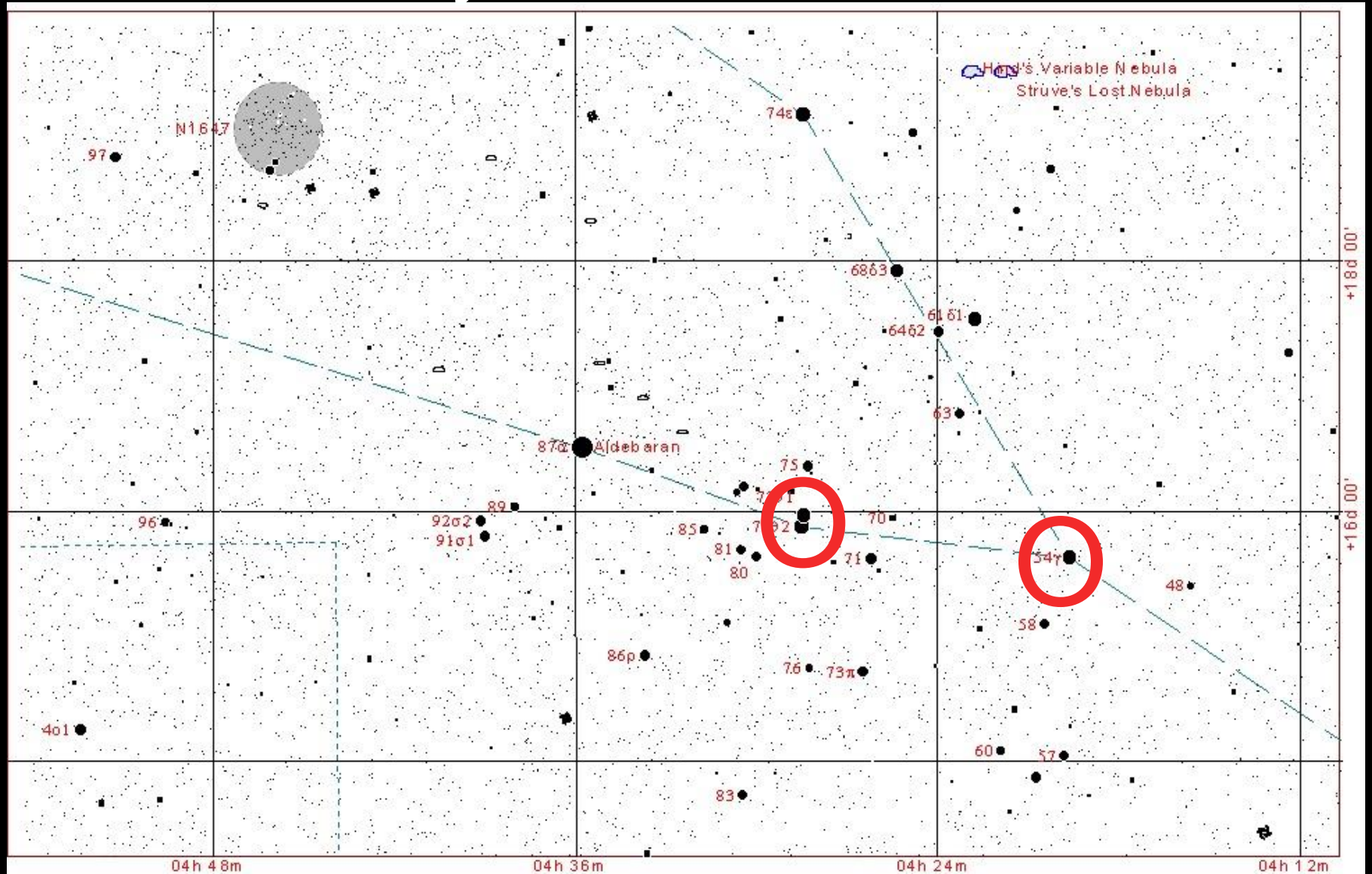
- Moon
 - First Quarter, March 05
 - Full, March 12 (Lenten or Sap Moon)
 - Last Quarter, March 20
 - New, March 28
- Eclipses
 - None this period
- Meteors
 - Only sporadics this period
- Equinox is on March 20 10:30UT
- 'Summer time' starts with clocks 'going forward' one hour at 01:00 on March 26

Lunar Occultations

- Moon passing through the Hyades star cluster again this month
 - Evening of Saturday March 04th
 - Moon phase, one day before 'first quarter' rising around 09:48UT
 - Two stars occulted this evening
 - γ Tauri (mag 3.7) dark limb disappearance at 20:48UT

 - Morning of Sunday March 05th
 - Moon phase, 'first quarter', setting 01:08 (5th)
 - Four stars occulted this morning
 - θ^2 Tauri (mag 3.4) dark limb disappearance at 00:41UT
 - θ^1 Tauri (mag 3.8) dark limb disappearance at 00:47UT

The Hyades Star Cluster



Outer Solar System

- Mars
 - In south-west at sunset, setting around 9pm. In Pisces and Aries
- Jupiter
 - In the sky all night, rising about 9pm. In Virgo
 - At opposition on April 07
- Saturn
 - In the morning sky, rising around 2am. In Sagittarius

Society Events

- None

Other Events

- DASH
 - Saturday 11 March, 7:30-9:30pm, Westleton Village Hall, lecture meeting 'The Solar System' and 'Ask the Panel'
- Haw Wood Farm Spring Event
 - Run by the Breckland Astronomical Society
 - Wednesday March 22 to Thursday March 30, Hinton, IP17 3QT
- Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge
 - Open afternoon, Saturday 25 March