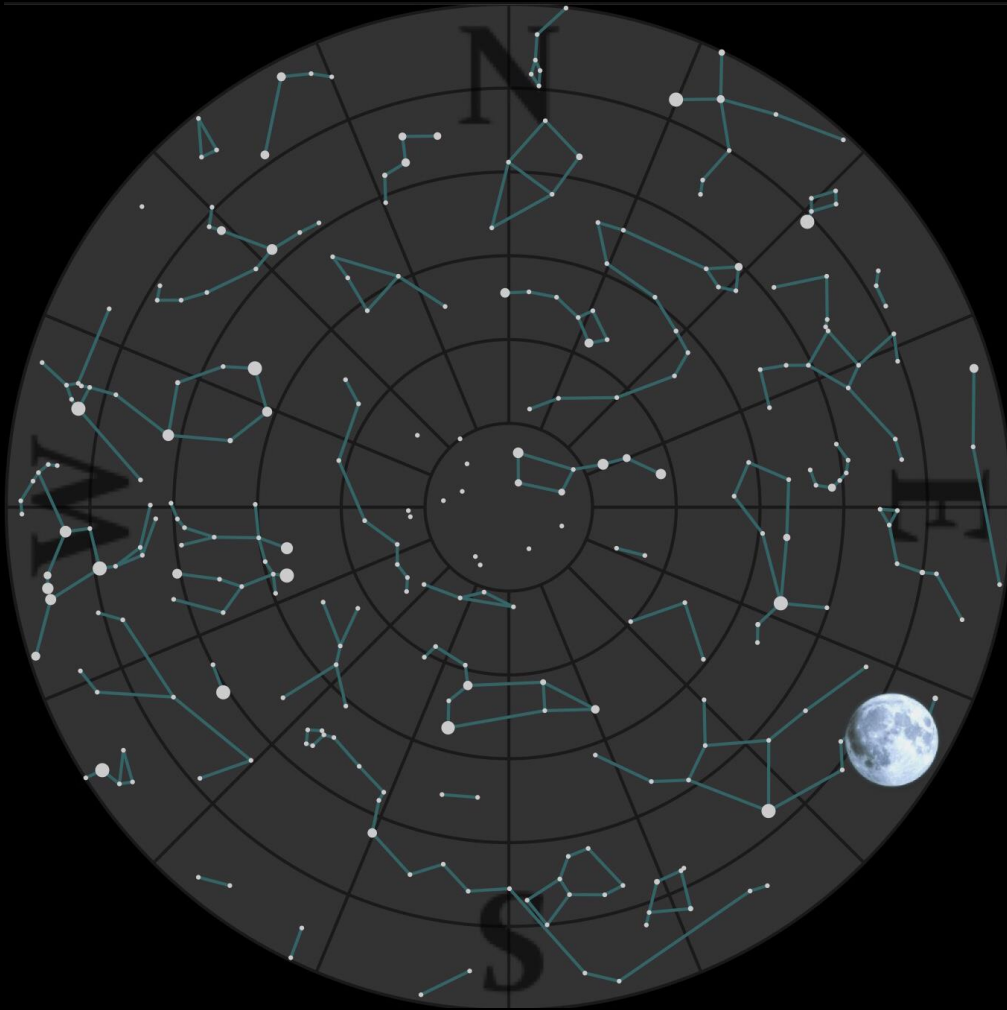


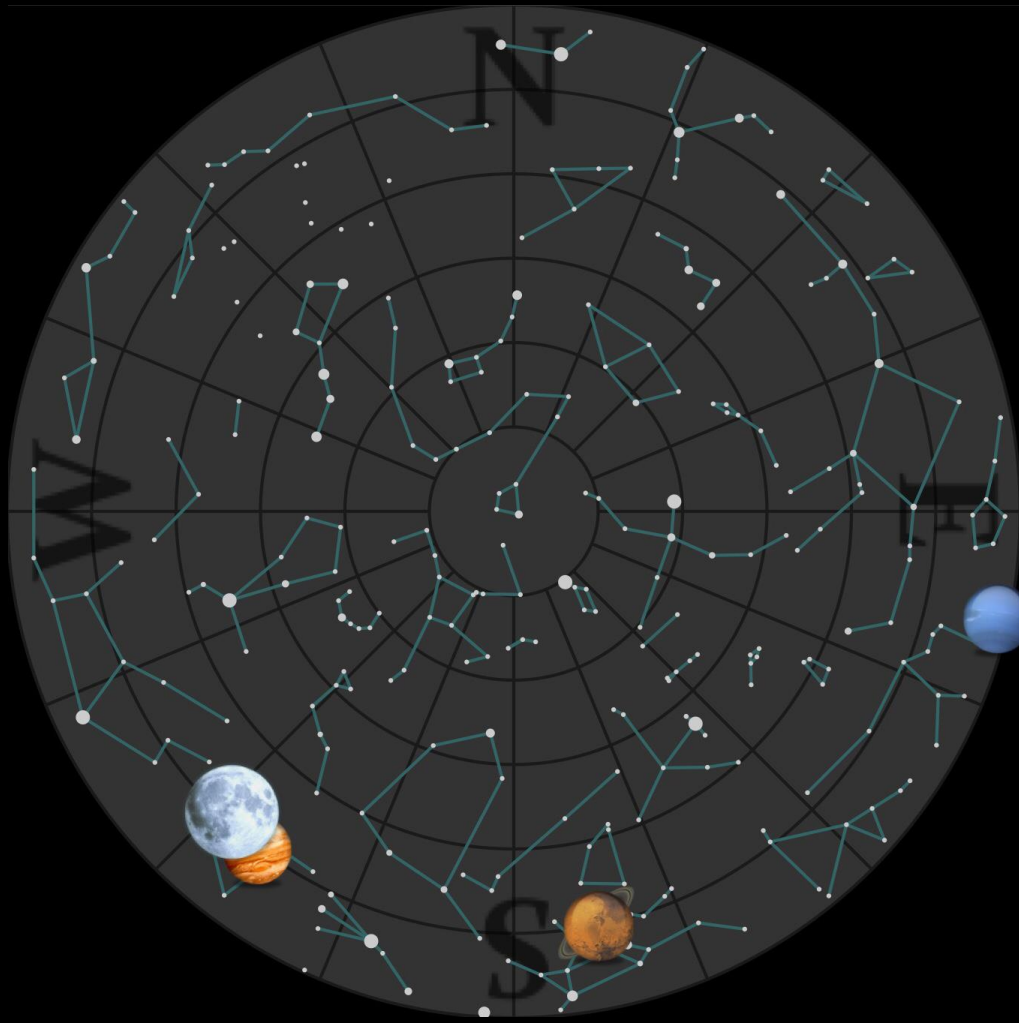
# What's Up?

2018 April 02 to May 07

Bill Barton, FRAS

•The Sky 22:00  
Tonight





•The Sky 05:00  
Tomorrow

# Inner Solar System

- Sun
  - Declination increasing
  - Equinox March 21, Solstice June 21
- Mercury
  - Inferior Conjunction yesterday & in morning sky until early June, but not favourable for observation
  - Maximum elongation from Sun will be on April 29 ( $29^{\circ}$ )
- Venus
  - In the evening sky until October 2018
  - Maximum elongation on August 17 ( $46^{\circ}$ )

# Earth

- Moon
  - Last Quarter, 8, May 8
  - New, 16
  - First Quarter, 22
  - Full, 30 (Seed or Sprouting Grass)
- Eclipses
  - None this period
- Meteors
  - Lyrids, April 18-25, ZHR 10

# Lunar Occultations

- $\pi$  Sagittarii, mag 2.9, 03:23 8 April
  - Recovery at Dark Limb

# Outer Solar System

- Mars
  - In morning sky moving away from the Sun, rising around 02:00
  - Perihelic Opposition July 27
- Jupiter
  - In morning sky moving away from the Sun, rising around 22:00
  - Opposition May 9
- Saturn
  - In morning sky, moving away from the Sun, rising around 02:00
  - Opposition June 27, 2018
- Uranus
  - Opposition on October 24, 2018
- Neptune
  - Opposition on September 7, 2018

# Society Events

- Committee Meeting, Saturday April 20, 8:00pm, Museum Street Methodist Church Hall



# Other Events I

- DASH
  - National Trust Solar Day, Wednesday April 11, 11:00am till 3:00pm, Dunwich Heath
  - Observing Meeting, Sunday April 15, 7:30pm, Westleton Heath
  - Discussion Meeting, Sunday April 29, 7:30pm, Westleton Village Hall. Nick James: Comets
- LYRA
  - Discussion Meeting, Tuesday April 10, 7:30 pm, Coach House Room, Parkhill Hotel. Nick James: Observing & Studying Comets
  - Observing Meeting, Tuesday April 24, 7:30pm, Barn Car Park, Parkhill Hotel
  - Discussion Meeting, Tuesday May 8, 7:30pm, Coach House Room, Parkhill Hotel. Paul Whiting: Practical Radio Astronomy

# Other Events II

- Athenæum Astronomical Association
  - Members Meetings, Nowton Park, Thursdays 5, 12 & 26 April from 7:30pm
- Framlingham Country Show
  - Framlingham College, Saturday & Sunday 7 & 8 April
- National Trust Solar Day
  - Coastguard Cottages, Dunwich, Wednesday 11 April
- Society For the History of Astronomy
  - Spring Conference, Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge, Saturday 21 April, 10:00am till 5:00pm

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# Very bright optical transient near the Trifid and Lagoon Nebulae

ATel #11448; *Peter Dunsby (University of Cape Town)*  
on 20 Mar 2018; 09:14 UT

*Distributed as an Instant Email Notice Transients*

*Credential Certification: Patrick Woudt (pwoudt@ast.uct.ac.za)*

Subjects: Transient

Referred to by ATel #: [11449](#)



Tweet



Recommend 499

Peter Dunsby (University of Cape Town) reports the detection of a very bright optical transient in the region between the Lagoon and Trifid Nebulae based on observations obtained from Cape Town on 20 March 2018, between 01:00 and 03:45 UT. The object was visible throughout the full duration of the observations and not seen when this field was observed previously (08 March 2018). The optical transient is at least first magnitude and is located at the following coordinates: RA (2000): 18h 04m 50s Declination (2000.0): -23d 29m 58s The coordinates are accurate to a few arcseconds. There is no obvious counterpart at this position on the Digital Sky Survey plates. Observations were obtained using an 80mm refractor. The attached URL show the image of this field (2.3 x 1.7 degrees, plate scale of 9 arcseconds per pixel) on 20 March 2018. The optical transient is the brightest star in the field. Further observations are strongly encouraged to establish the nature of this very bright optical transient.

## Related

[11449](#) [Erratum to ATel #11448: Very bright optical transient near the Trifid and Lagoon Nebulae](#)

[11448](#) [Very bright optical transient near the Trifid and Lagoon Nebulae](#)

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## Erratum to ATel #11448: Very bright optical transient near the Trifid and Lagoon Nebulae

ATel #11449; *Peter Dunsby (University of Cape Town)*  
on 20 Mar 2018; 09:54 UT

*Distributed as an Instant Email Notice Transients*

*Credential Certification: Patrick Woudt (pwoudt@ast.uct.ac.za)*

Subjects: Optical



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Recommend 351

The object reported in ATel 11448 has been identified as Mars. Our sincere apologies for the earlier report and the inconvenience caused.

### Related

- 11449 [Erratum to ATel #11448: Very bright optical transient near the Trifid and Lagoon Nebulae](#)
- 11448 [Very bright optical transient near the Trifid and Lagoon Nebulae](#)