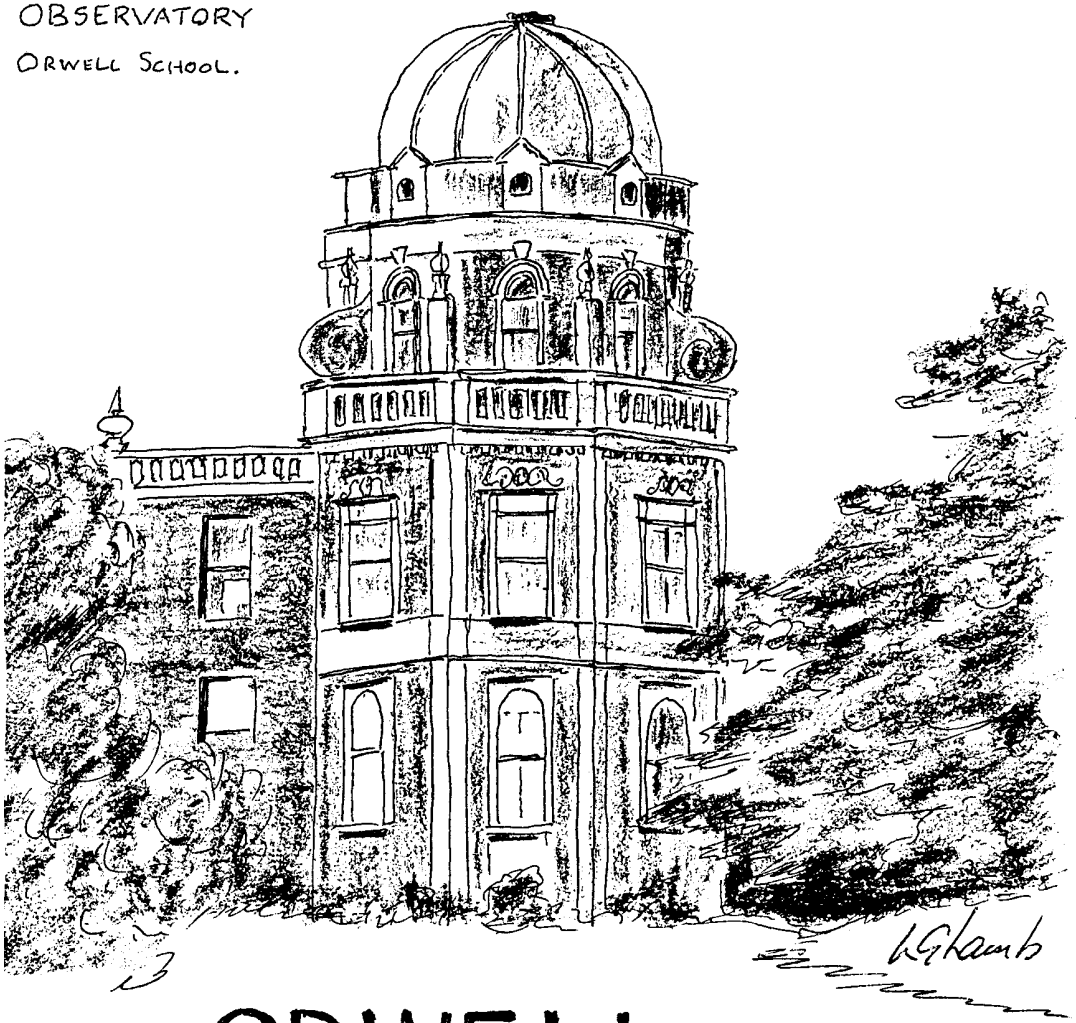
MARCH
1995

OBSERVATORY
ORWELL SCHOOL.



ORWELL

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY~IPSWICH

NIGHT SKY

All times GMT

SUN

Rises approximately at 06.50 to 05.50
Sets approximately at 17.30 to 18.30

MOON

1st 9th 17th 23rd 31st

MERCURY Mercury will be at greatest western elongation on the 1st (27°). It will remain low down in the dawn sky and very difficult to see.

VENUS Venus will be rising about a hour before the sun at the end of the month. It remains badly placed fro observation until the autumn, when it returns to the evening sky.

MARS Mars will be be visible all night, setting less than a hour before sun rise. Mag.-0..6

JUPITER Jupiter will be rising at about midnight in mid month. Mag. -2.2.

SATURN Saturn is in conjunction with the sun on the 6th. It will not visible this momth.

URANUS Uranus will be rising at about 03.00 in mid month. Mag. 5.6

Neptune Neptune will both be rising about 1½ hours before Uranus. Mag. 7.9

R.Gooding

OCCULTATIONS DURING MARCH 1995

The table lists disappearance times of stars of magnitude 7.5 or brighter which are occulted during the month. Only events taking place under favourable circumstances are listed. The data relates to Orwell Park Observatory, and timings, etc. will differ slightly for nearby locations.

Date	Time (UT)	Mag	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (°)	Star Alt (°)	Star (D=double)
Wed 08 Mar	21:11:51	7.1	0.44+	-31	36	ZC710 (D)
Wed 08 Mar	23:02:34	7.1	0.45+	-41	20	ZC718
Sat 11 Mar	22:53:15	3.6	0.73+	-39	40	ZC1106 Lambda Gem
Mon 13 Mar	00:39:28	6.9	0.82+	-41	30	ZC1237
Mon 13 Mar	19:55:19	6.7	0.88+	-19	46	ZC1332, 60 Cnc
Wed 15 Mar	23:58:56	7.3	0.98+	-40	39	ZC1566, 36 Sex
Fri 17 Mar	00:50:49	6.8	1.00+	-39	34	ZC1688 (D)
Sat 18 Mar	23:05:43	1.0	0.95-	-37	19	Spica (D)

James Appleton

OPEN WEEKEND

THE OPEN WEEKEND THIS YEAR WILL BE FROM

MARCH 10TH, 11TH, 12TH

8.00 TO 10.00 pm

A MUCH HELP AS POSSIBLE WILL REQUIRED

IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE COME ALONG

STAR GAZING WITHOUT PAIN

(Using Binoculars).

All those viewers, who, like myself, suffer from neck pains when using binoculars on objects at high altitudes, would perhaps be interested in the construction of a simple gadget which enables one to look downwards when looking upwards.

The idea was first culled from an Ipswich Library book quoting an article from the B.A.A. journal, Vol. 92, No: 3, April 1982. This is in our library in the observatory at Orwell Park.

Basically the instrument consists of a base, an upright stand carrying a lectern set at the longitude of the viewer. Upon the angled side is fitted a ledge upon which the binoculars rest. Below and in front is a platform upon which is secured a mirror. This platform is carried on a transverse hinge permitting the mirror to be angled at 20 degrees either side of the centre line.

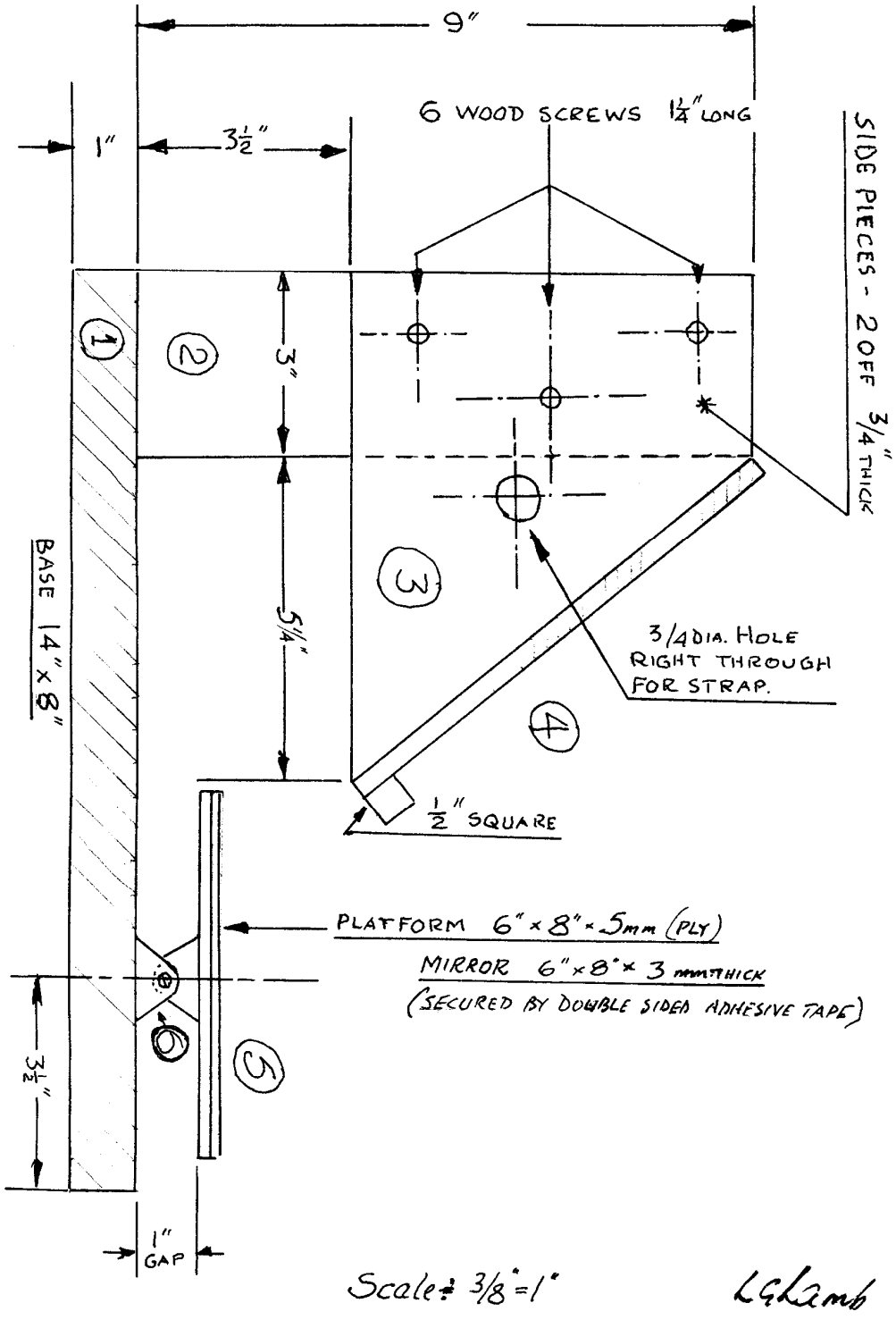
A strap, or other means of securing the binoculars is necessary. The instrument can be used mounted on a tripod or resting on a table top.

A dimensioned drawing and list of parts is appended.

All dimensions are my own, none being printed in the original article. Most are not all that important and can be modified to suit the maker.

1. Base, 1 off. 14" x 8"
2. Upright, 1 off 3" x 2"
3. Side pieces, angle as longitude of user 2 off.
4. Lectern for binoculars 6" x 8" with strip across bottom edge. 1 off.
5. Mirror and platform. 1 off.
6. Hinges for swivelling mirror 2 sets.
   (2 self locking set screws were used for fulcrum.)
   There could be a simple alternative.

L.G. Lamb.



SOCIETY NEWS

1 1995 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscriptions are due on January 1st 1995.
Rates for 1995-

JUNIOR & OAP	£7.50	(under 18 or in full time education)
ADULT	£11.00	
FAMILY	£12.50	

Cheques & P.O.'s made payable to the ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH) together with the form, included with January's newsletter. The form is for checking the society membership records. Please sent all monies to:

Martin Cook
[redacted]
Ipswich
IP4 5PZ

If you do not wish to rejoin the society for 1995 could you please either write or phone Martin Cook.

2 NEW CAR PARKING FOR 1995

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*
* The society has been asked by the school to change our *
* present car parking arrangements. Will all members *
* and visitors please now park around the grass island *
* infront of the school and not near the school kitchens *
*
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3 Committee Meeting

The Next committee meeting will be held on saturday 29th April, at 7.30pm. Any member who wishes to attend will be welcome

4 List of events for 1995

A new lecture venue will be used at Ipswich Prep. School Henley Road.

An evening visit to the new Norwich AS observatory	3-3-95
BAA/CUAS meeting Cambridge	18-3-95
Open Weekend	10,11,12-3-95
BAA Winchester weekend	31-3-95
Lecture Meeting	4-4-95
WEB Society AGM Cambridge	20-5-95
BAA Exhibition London	24-6-95
Astro Camp	13-8-95
FAS Convention	30-9-95
Christmas Meal	20-12-95?

5 Lecture Meeting 4th April

A lecture meeting will be held on the Friday 7th April.
Mr. Nik Szymanek will give a talk on CCD cameras.

NB This meeting will be at new venue, the Ipswich Prep. School in Henley road. The entrance into the school is in Henley road next to the post box. The school entrance has a plague outside the door.

6 Return of Unused Observatory Keys

If any member has a set of observatory keys and no longer needs to use them, could you please return them to Roy Gooding. The keys will reissued to to members who have expressed an interest in starting new evening meetings. A set of keys costs the society about £12.00, and there are over 15 sets of observatory keys.

PROGRAMME FOR MARCH

Mondays from 7.30pm — *GENERAL OBSERVATION SECTION*

No Directors available for this night

Tuesdays from 7.30pm — GENERAL OBSERVATION SECTION

Mr D Barnard [redacted] *daytime only*

Wednesdays from 7.45pm — NEBULA & FAINT OBJECTS SECTION

Mr M Cook [redacted] *Mr D Payne* [redacted]

Thursdays from 7.30pm — OBSERVATORY VISITS FROM OUTSIDE GROUPS

Mr P Richards [redacted]

Fridays from 7.30pm — DOUBLE STARS

3rd 17th 31st

Mr J Hood [redacted] *Mr M Barritt* [redacted]

All members are welcome to come but, on nights other than Wednesdays please check with the director of the night that the observatory will be open.

Lectures and other events:
Visits 9th March Earl Stonham W.I.
13th March 1st Orwell Scouts
30th March Tendring High School

1995 COMMITTEE

		Home Phone Work Phone
CHAIRMAN	D Payne	[redacted]
SECRETARY	R Gooding	
TREASURER	M Nicholls	
MAINTENANCE CO-ORD	M Cook	
JOURNAL CO-ORDINATOR	E Sims	
PUBLICITY & VISIT CO-ORD	P Richards	
EQUIPMENT CURATOR	M Harlow	
SPECIAL EVENTS CO-ORD	M Andrews	
LIBRARIAN & COMP SOFTWARE	J Appleton	

JOURNAL ARTICLES TO E Sims [redacted] Ipswich Suffolk IP1 4HA

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS R Gooding OASI Secretary
[redacted] Ipswich Suffolk IP1 6AE

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY IPSWICH

OPEN EVENINGS

To Coincide With B.B.C.T/Vs Heavenly Bodies

MARCH 10th,11th,12th.

8.00pm - 10.00pm.

Weather permitting.

See the Moon and Mars At Orwell Park Observatory

Nacton Near Ipswich

Binoculars may be useful

Slides and talks if cloudy.

Entrance by donation
Adults 75 p
Child or O.A.P. 50 P

Enquiries to O.A.S.I.Secretary
Mr R Gooding
168 Ashcroft Rd
Ipswich Suffolk
IP1 6AE