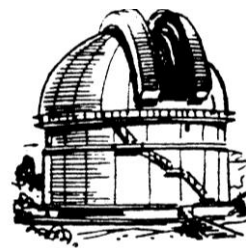

Journal

of the



Nottingham Astronomical Society

June 2013

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- Sky Notes for June
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Thursday, 6th June

British Geological Survey
Nicker Hill, Keyworth
8 pm (doors open at 7.30pm)

Tonight we welcome

Dr Emma Bunce
of the University of Leicester

who will be speaking on

**“Exploring Jupiter’s Icy Moons –
the next ESA Mission to Jupiter”**

AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO READING...

you could try listening to these podcasts from BBC Radio 4...

Material World is a regular science programme, with recent editions available to download at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/series/material>

Recent programmes broadcast on the following dates might be of particular interest:

- **18th April:** Includes an interview with Paolo Bellutta, driver of the Mars Curiosity rover
- **9th May:** Studies of the Hyades star cluster shed light on the future of our Solar System
- **16th May:** A quantum computer is to be installed at NASA’s Ames research centre
- **30th May:** Evidence from the Planck spacecraft of a multiverse, and fresh thoughts on the nature of time

Sky Notes

June 2013

Compiled by Roy Gretton



All times given below are in **British Summer Time (BST)**

The Summer Solstice (northern hemisphere) occurs shortly after 6 am on June 21st. The Sun's centre will at that time be 23.4393 degrees north of Earth's equator.

PHASES OF THE MOON

New Moon	4.56 pm on June 8 th
First Quarter	6.24 pm on June 16 th
Full Moon	12.32 pm on June 23 rd
Last Quarter	5.54 am on June 30 th

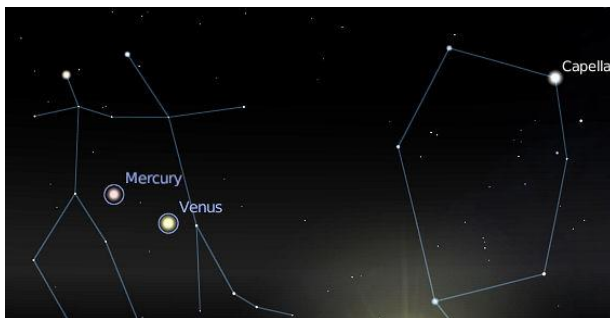
This month the Moon is closest to the Earth on the 23rd, and furthest on the 9th.

(Data from the BAA Handbook)

THE PLANETS

Mercury begins this month better placed for evening observation from the northern hemisphere than it will be at any other time in 2013, being more than 25 degrees north of the celestial equator, and more than 20 degrees from the Sun. That said, Mercury's position will still be far from ideal, due its low altitude in our sky. It will be shining at magnitude zero low down in the northwest after sunset, and even in the second half of June it will still be observable, but now even more of a challenge as it moves closer to the Sun.

Venus is also an evening object, gradually pulling away from the Sun, reaching an elongation of 25 degrees by the end of June, and shining at magnitude -3.8 . It will be 2 degrees north of Mercury on the 20th.



Looking NW at
11 pm BST on June 12th

Mars is unobservable this month.

Jupiter also is unobservable.

Saturn, in southeastern Virgo, remains a very worthwhile target for observation, although it won't be seen against a truly dark sky for most of this month. A challenge might be to spot Saturn's largest satellite, Titan, which will be found due north of the planet on June 16th.

Neptune, magnitude +7.9, is visible through a telescope in the morning sky, in the constellation of Aquarius; but having a declination of -10 degrees it will be very close to the eastern horizon.

METEORS

June isn't a good month for observing meteors, (unless they are exceptionally bright!)

NOCTILUCENT CLOUDS

Noctilucent clouds are pale blue filamentary clouds, formed about 50 miles above the Earth's surface, far above the normal clouds we associate with the weather. They are best observed in June and July (from the northern hemisphere), becoming visible when illuminated by the Sun when it is well below the horizon. They are still poorly understood, but their "electric blue" appearance is quite distinctive. If you wish to see noctilucent clouds, look toward the north or northwest on a clear evening after 10.30 pm. You might like to try imaging them with a digital camera, in which case use a tripod, and find the best exposure setting by trial and error.

The Nottingham Astronomical Society: E - SERVICES

Whether or not you are a NAS member, you can keep up to date with details of the Society's meetings and other events by visiting the NAS website:

www.nottinghamastro.org.uk

NAS on Facebook

You are welcome to connect with other members and friends of the NAS on Facebook by going to:

<http://www.facebook.com/nas.org.uk>

NAS Journal e-mailing list

To register for your monthly e-mailed copy of the NAS Journal, just e-mail

secretary@nottinghamastro.org.uk

You don't have to be a Society member to take advantage of this service.

DIARY DATES 2013

Monthly Meetings of the Nottingham Astronomical Society

Our programme for this year is shown below. Don't forget to check our website:

www.nottinghamastro.org.uk

for the latest information about the Society's meetings and for further information about the talks and speakers.

Our meetings are held on the **FIRST THURSDAY** of the month,

at the British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Notts. NG12 5GG

doors open at 7:30pm for 8pm start.

Thursday, 6th June 2013

Talk : “ **Exploring Jupiter's Icy Moons – the next ESA Mission to Jupiter** “

Dr. Emma Bunce

University of Leicester

Thursday, 4th July 2013

Talk: “ **Matter Between the Stars -
the Physics and Chemistry of the Interstellar Medium** ”

Dr Paul Ruffle

Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics – University of Manchester

August 2013 - Summer Break - No Meeting

Thursday, 5th September 2013

Members' Evening (visitors welcome)

A short talk by one of our members, followed by an **Astro Quiz**.

Thursday 3rd October 2013

Talk: “ **Astrophotography – and How It's Done** ”

Nik Szymanek

The British amateur astronomer and prolific astrophotographer

Thursday 7th November 2013
2013 Annual General Meeting

Thursday 5th December 2013

Dramatic Lecture : “ Into the Cosmic Ocean ”

The dream of travel to the stars

Andrew Lound

Andy is a popular public presenter and UK Coordinator for the Planetary Society

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

Skywatcher Evostar 120 Refractor on EQ5 Mount

Almost new. Motor drives to both axes with hand controller
Heavy duty metal tripod. 50mm right-angle finder. 2" star-diagonal.
Two eyepieces plus solar filter (using Baader Solar Film)
£450

Beacon Hill 12-inch f/5.5 Newtonian Tube Assembly

Used but in good working order. Mirrors by Nichol Optical. Coatings in good condition.
Includes finderscope and primary mirror cover. Tube clamps for equatorial mount also
available if wanted.
£300

Phone David on: 0115 9602266 or e-mail: david_lukehurst@o2.co.uk

FOR SALE

- **Orion** (USA) 6x26 correct image **finderscope**, complete with bracket **£15**
- **Telescope Optics Book** by Rutten and van Venrooij (hardback), in excellent condition
£12

Contact BARRY WINSTON

Home tel no 0115 989 4239 mobile no. 07507 863 689.

Email barrywinston@yahoo.com

WANTED: Eyepieces

I am currently looking for 2nd hand Televue eyepieces to compliment my TV 101.

I am looking for mainly Nagler eyepieces but would be interested in other models in the Televue too.

I am situated close to Alfreton, Derbyshire. Thank you.

Paul Davies

Email: paul@graphic.demon.co.uk

Nottingham Astronomical Society

Affiliated to the British Astronomical Association
Member of the Federation of Astronomical Societies
Member of the Society for Popular Astronomy
Supporters of the Campaign for Dark Skies
Registered Charity No: 1066645

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CAMPAIGN FOR DARK SKIES

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email: b.chacksfield@gmail.com

ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Kevin Greally

David Anderson

Victoria Jolly

Phil Heesom

Meetings

Our meetings, often with an illustrated talk by a guest speaker, are held on the first Thursday of each month (except in August) at:

**The British Geological Survey
Nicker Hill
Keyworth
Nottingham NG12 5GG**

Doors open 7.30pm

Meetings start 8.00pm

Meetings end 10.00pm

Meetings are open to the public, and visitors are always welcome to attend.

Annual subscriptions 2013

Full	£25
Concessions	£12.50
Joint rate for partners living at the same address	£37.50

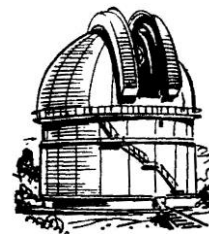
Subscriptions become due on 1st January. Half-price subscription is charged if joining after 1st July. Please make cheques payable to: Nottingham Astronomical Society.

If you would like more information about the **Nottingham Astronomical Society**, or would like to become a member, please contact the Secretary secretary@nottinghamastro.org.uk or speak to any NAS committee member at one of the regular monthly meetings. A membership application form is inside this issue of the Journal.

The Nottingham Astronomical Society

The Nottingham Astronomical Society, and/or the Editor accept no responsibility for any errors that may occur within this publication. Any views expressed in the **NAS Journal** are those of the individual authors and not necessarily endorsed by the Nottingham Astronomical Society, its Committee or Members.

NOTTINGHAM ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



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Affiliated to the British Astronomical Association
Member of the Federation of Astronomical Societies

Registered Charity No. 1066645
Member of the Society for Popular Astronomy
Supporter of the Campaign for Dark Skies

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Subscription rate:	Full	£25.00	(year)	£12.50	(half year)
	Concession	£12.50		£6.25	
	Partnership	£37.50		£18.75	

Concession = under-18 / full-time student / unemployed and receiving benefits

Partnership = two members living together as a couple at the same address

I wish my subscriptions to be eligible for Gift Aid **Yes / No**

Gift Aid declaration

(HMRC reference XR32048)

I want Nottingham Astronomical Society to treat all subscriptions and donations that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations, until I notify you otherwise.

I pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that Nottingham Astronomical Society reclaims on my donations in the appropriate tax year.

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