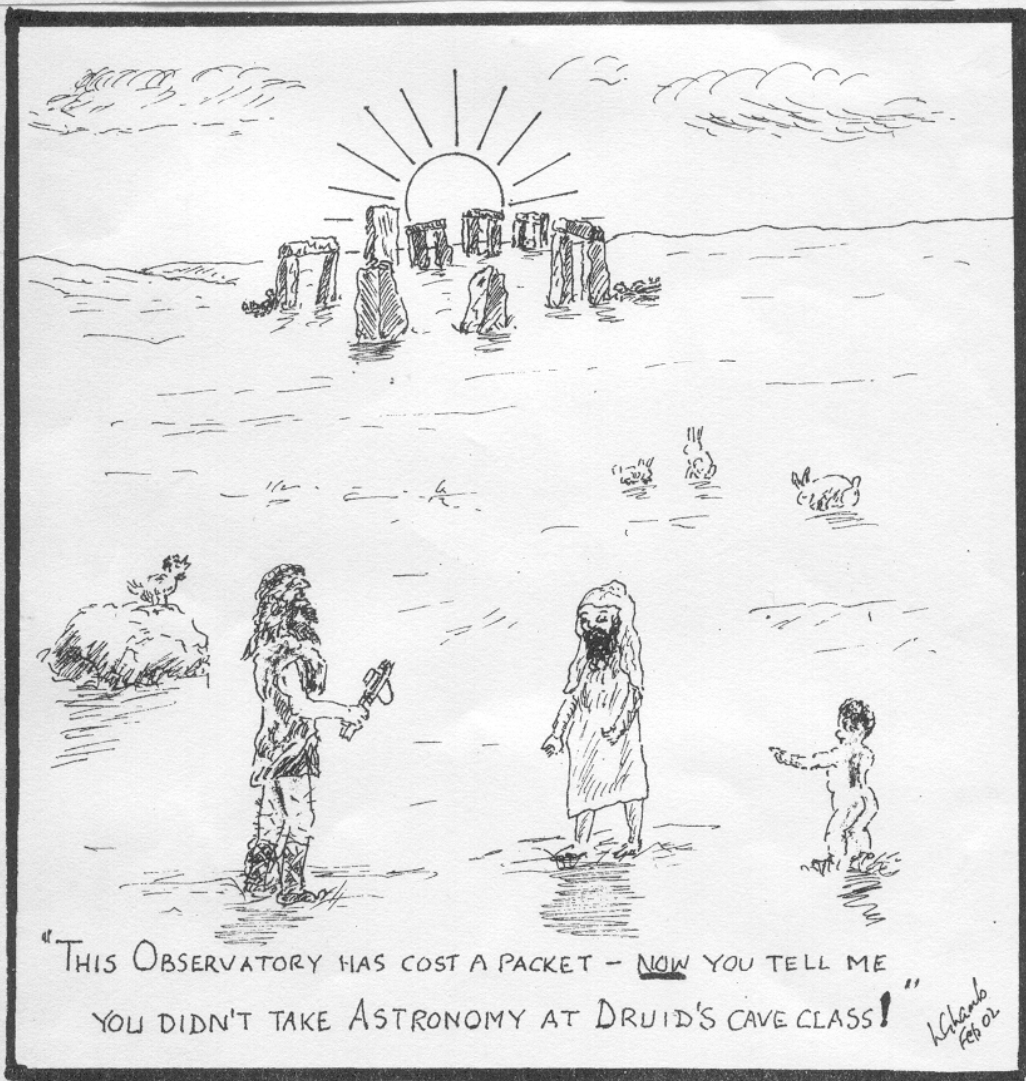


# ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL

## SOCIETY IPSWICH

Charity No 271313

### MAY 2002



## Society News

### 1 Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 19:30 in the clubroom. This is an open meeting and any one who is interested is invited to attend.

### 2 Events for 2002

Event	Details	Date
Astronomy Workshop	School science room 19:45 to 21:00 <b>Computer Packages</b> Paddy O' Sullivan	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May
Lecture Meeting	Searching for Supernovae by Tom Boles 20:00 Friends Meeting House	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
Summer Barbecue	Ken Goward's garden Tuddenham	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> July
Summer Excursion	Provisional destination is Oxford	Provisional date Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> September
BAA Exhibition Meeting	Cavendish Laboratory Cambridge	Saturday 21st September
FAS Convention	Venue: Rutherford Appleton Laboratory Oxfordshire	5 <sup>th</sup> October?
Open Weekend	Members help will be needed again this year. to prepare the displays	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> and Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> November
Equinox Star Party	Thetford Organiser Loughton A.S	6 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> September
Christmas Meal	Provisional date	11 <sup>th</sup> December

This events list, is updated monthly, so watch this space.

### 3 Telescope Review Articles ( Old and New )

Society members own a verity of telescopes, both old and new. I would like to request a series of review articles, from members on their telescopes.

The eventual aim would be to product a booklet on member's equipment that can be given to prospective new members, who ask for advice on telescopes.

The first of these articles was recently written by Neil Morley. Neil reviewed his short focal length 80mm refractor.

### Night Sky

All times GMT

#### Sun

The sun will be rising approximately between 04:30 to 03:40  
The sun will be setting approximately between 19:30 to 20:10

## Moon

3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	New Moon	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	Full Moon
4 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>

**Mercury** Mercury will be visible in the north western evening sky this month. Greatest eastern elongation will be on the 4<sup>th</sup>, ( 21° ). It will be at magnitude 0.0. After the 4<sup>th</sup> Mercury will quickly move back towards the sun, reaching superior conjunction on the 27<sup>th</sup>

**Venus** Venus remains a prominent evening sky object this month. Shining at magnitude -3.9. Venus will be setting at about 23:00 by the end of the month.

**Mars** Mars is also visible in the western evening sky this month. It will be setting at about 22:00 by the end of the month. Magnitude 1.7.

**Jupiter** Jupiter remains prominently visible in Gemini. The planet will be setting at about 23:00 by the end of the month. Magnitude -1.9

**Saturn** Saturn will be setting a short time after sunset this month. Magnitude 0.1

**Uranus** Uranus is visible in the morning sky this month. It will be rising at about 01:00 by the end of the month

**Neptune** Neptune will be rising at about midnight at the end of the month.

## Meteor Showers

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

Shower	Limits	Maximum	ZHR
η Aquarids	April 24 <sup>th</sup> to May 20 <sup>th</sup>	May 4 <sup>th</sup>	40
α Scorpids	April 20 <sup>th</sup> to May 19 <sup>th</sup>	April 27 <sup>th</sup> May 12 <sup>th</sup>	5
Ophiuchids	May 19 <sup>th</sup> to July	June 9 <sup>th</sup> June 19 <sup>th</sup>	5

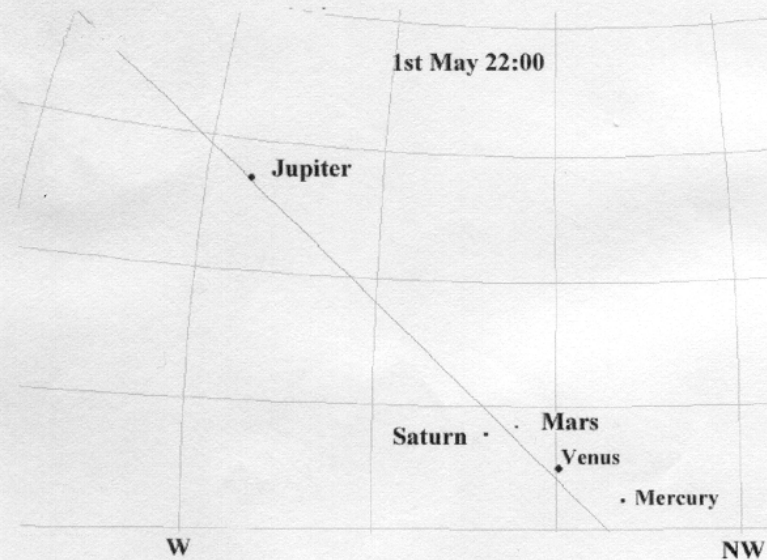
## OCCULTATIONS DURING MAY

Only one stellar occultation occurs during the month under favourable circumstances. The table provides details for Orwell Park Observatory; these will be similar at nearby locations.

D	Date & Time	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (°)	Star Alt (°)	Min Dist rad	Star	Mag
D	25 May 00:38	0.97+	-16	19	0.26N	mu Lib	5.3

James Appleton

## Planet Alignment in Early May



## Saturn Occultation 16<sup>th</sup> April ( Roy Gooding )

Occasionally the weather forgets that an interesting astronomy event is going to occur, and presents the observer with a clear sky. Such an event occurred on the 16<sup>th</sup> for the occultation of Saturn. The conditions were good enough to see Saturn and the moon, but the limiting magnitude was still only about 3 to 4. A thin layer of cloudy had prevailed all day and into the evening.

Saturn and the moon were easily seen before the occultation started. I observed the planet disappearing behind the dark limb of the moon, but just missed the reappearance. I had been looking at the wrong place of the moon's bright limb, under a too large a magnification

This complemented the occultation of Saturn last November, when I missed the disappearance and saw the reappearance.

ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (IPSWICH)

# Talks Two Thousand & Two

This year's talks programme features talks from two visiting speakers who are world-class amateur astronomers in their respective fields of supernova discovery and astronomical imaging and a special showcase session for club members

17<sup>th</sup> May 2002

## Supernova Discovery

Tom Boles

18<sup>th</sup> October 2002

## Imaging the Universe

Nik Szymanek

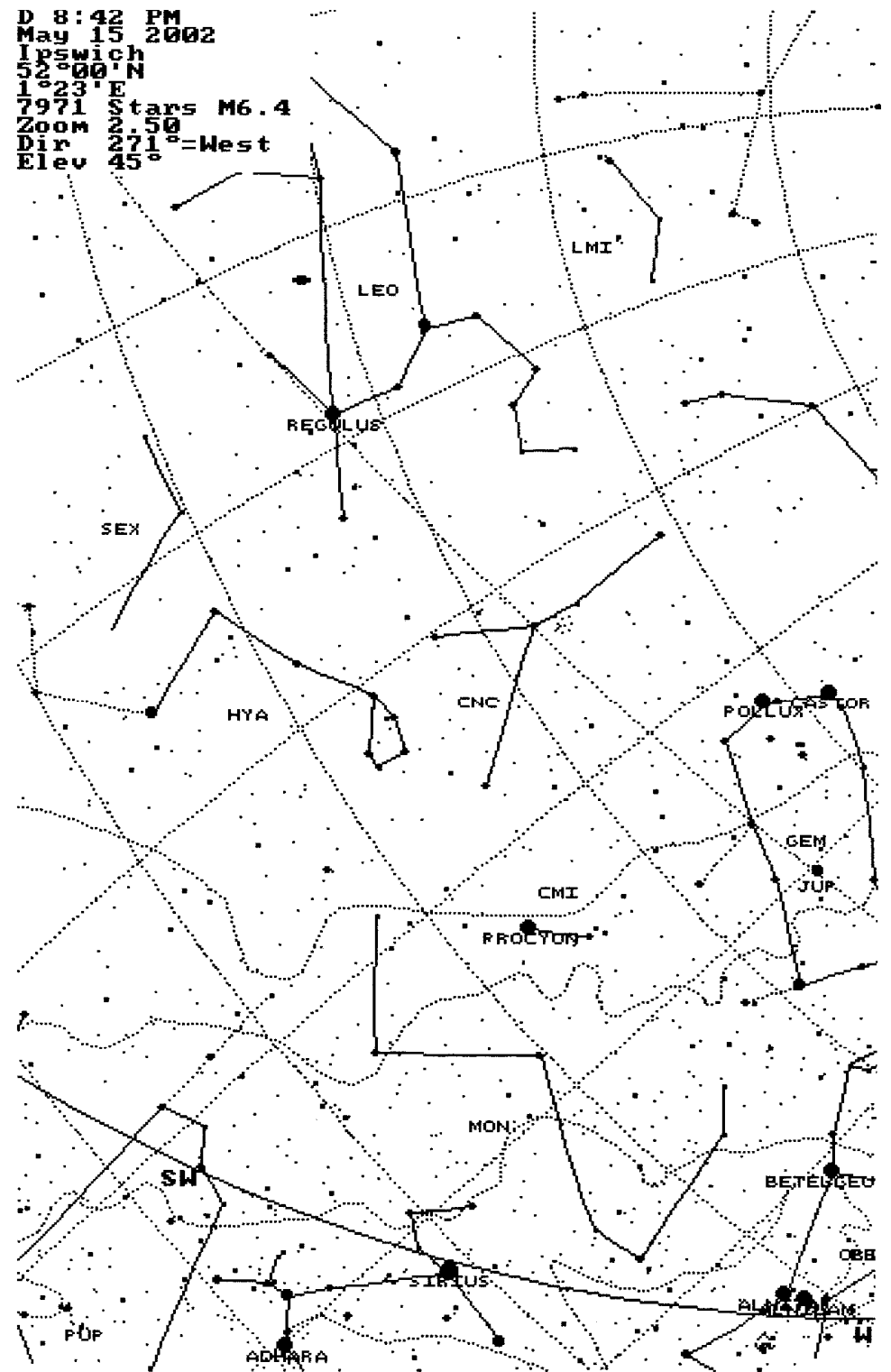
Date to be announced

## Astronomy is Looking Up

Club Members

The Friends Meeting House Fonnereau Road Ipswich  
Start time 8pm

D 8:42 PM  
May 15 2002  
Ipswich  
52°00'N  
1°23'E  
7971 Stars M6.4  
Zoom 2.50  
Dir 271°=West  
Elev 45



## 2002 COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN  
 SECRETARY &  
 WORK PARTY ORGANISER  
 TREASURER & PUBLICITY  
 MECHANICS  
 NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATOR  
 BEGINNERS MEETING CO-ORD  
 & VISIT CO-ORD  
 EQUIPMENT CURATOR  
 LIBRARIAN

D Payne  
 R Gooding  
 K Goward  
 M Cook  
 E Sims  
 T Sampson  
 G Coleman  
 J Walsh  
 M Whybray

Home Phone    Work Phone

CO-OPTED MEMBER  
 LECTURE CO-ORDINATOR  
 & DARK SKIES

P Richards

JOURNAL ARTICLES TO  
 CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

E Sims [redacted] Ipswich Suffolk IP1 4HA  
 R Gooding OASI Secretary

MEMBERSHIP

[redacted] Ipswich Suffolk IP1 6AE  
 M. Cook [redacted] Ipswich IP4 5PZ

## Observing Programme For May

Dates	Observing Director	Activities
Monday		Nothing Booked
Tuesday		Nothing Booked
Wednesdays 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th from 8.00	M Cook D Payne	Nebular & Faint Objects
Thursday		Group Visit
Friday		Nothing Booked

All members are welcome on any night, but on nights other than Wednesday please check with the appropriate director that the observatory will be open.

## Special Events

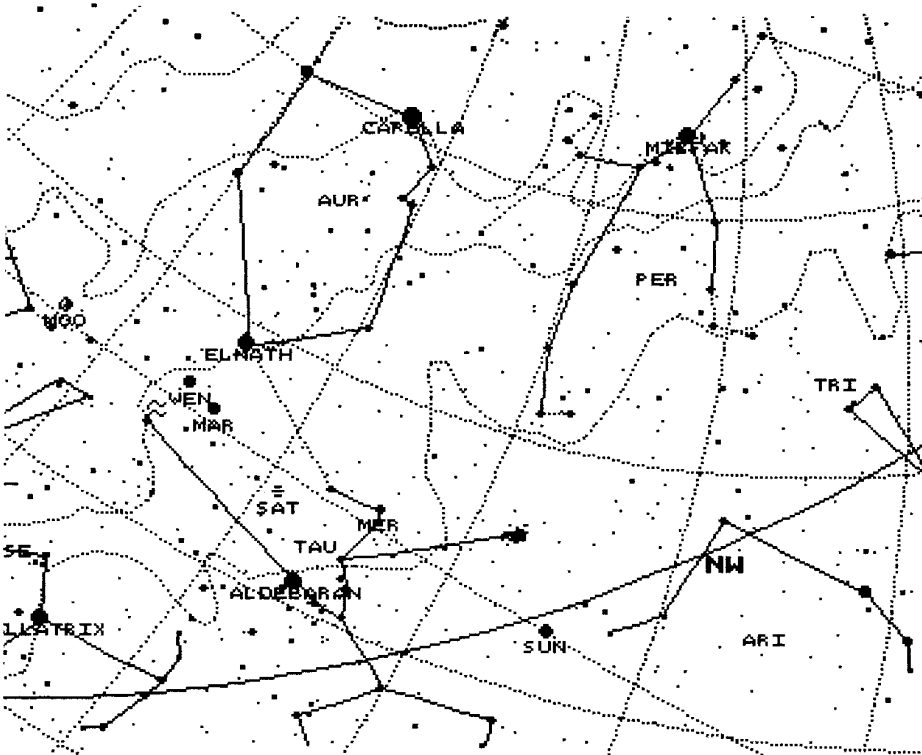
### 1. COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting is to be held on Saturday the 25th of May at 7.30pm in the club room at the observatory. All members are welcome to attend.

### 2. ASTRONOMY WORKSHOP May 1st

The next Astronomy Workshop is "More Computer Packages" by Paddy O'Sullivan.

This is held in the School Science Room 7.45pm to 9.00pm.



## Society Contact Details

	Home Phone	Work Phone
Chairman	D Payne	[redacted]
Secretary	R Gooding	[redacted]

Contact details for the full committee are inside the back page.

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 WWW address: <http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/~ipswich/>