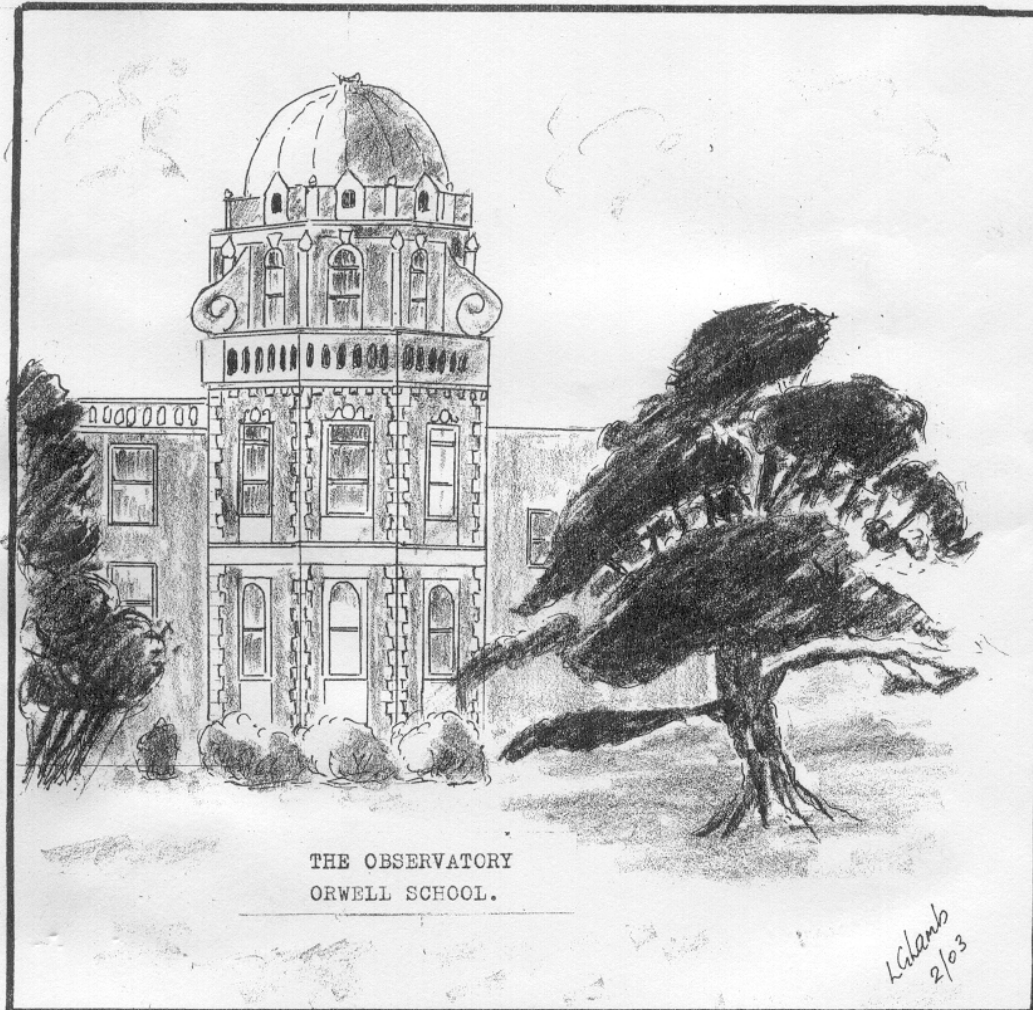


ORWELL ASTRONOMICAL

SOCIETY IPSWICH

Charity No 271313

APRIL 2004



Society News

1 Next Committee Meeting Saturday 5th June 2004

The next committee meeting will be held on Saturday 6th June at 19:30 in a classroom in the courtyard. This is an open meeting and any one who is interested is invited to attend

2 Events for 2004

Meeting	Venue	Date
BAA Winchester Weekend	King Alfred's College Winchester	April 2 nd to 4 th
Visit from Thurrock Astronomical Society	Meet at the Shepherd & Dog restaurant at 18:00 for a meal Adjourn to the observatory afterwards	Saturday 3 rd April
6 th Astronomy Workshop	Bill Barton Rainbows and Other Natural Wonders	Wednesday 7 th April
7 th Astronomy Workshop	Paul Whiting The Radio Universe - A Look At Radio Astronomy	Wednesday 5 th May
Lecture meeting Fonnereau Road	Transit of Venus by Peter Hingley Meeting will start at 20:00	Friday 14 th May
Opening of new Society Library by Peter Hingle	Lecture on RAS Library Collection. by Peter Hingle At Orwell Park School in the Music Hall See Ken Goward's article	Saturday 15 th May
Society History Astronomy AGM	Institute of Astronomy Cambridge	Saturday 22 nd May 11:00 to 17:00
The Web society Annual Meeting	Institute of Astronomy Cambridge	June 19 th from 10:30
BAA Exhibition Meeting	The Cavendish Laboratory Cambridge	June 26 th 11:00 to 18:00
Summer Barbecue	Mike Whybray's garden. His address is [redacted], Nacton, IPSWICH	Saturday in July Date to be fixed
FAS Convention	Institute of Astronomy Cambridge	Saturday 2 nd October
Christmas Meal	Red Lion Martlesham	15 th December at 20:00



INVITATION TO ORWELL AS MEMBERS

3 Thurrock Astronomical Society Visit Saturday 3rd April

This visit will start with a meal, at the Shepherd & Dog restaurant at 18:00
If you would like to attend please just come alone.
After the meal we will go the observatory

Night Sky (April)

All times GMT

Sun

The sun will be rising approximately between 05:40 to 04:40
The sun will be setting approximately between 18:30 to 19:30

Moon

Full Moon	3 rd Quarter	New Moon	1 st Quarter
5 th	12 th	19 th	27 th

Mercury Mercury will be low down in the western sky after sunset It will be inferior conjunction on the 17th. When it moved back into the morning sky it will be to close to the sun to be observed.

Venus Venus remains prominent on the evening sky, not setting until about 23:00. Magnitude -4.4

Mars Mars has moved into Taurus this month. It will be setting at about 23:30 at the end of the month. Magnitude fades to 1.6 this month.

Jupiter Jupiter remains a prominent object this month, in Leo. It will be setting at about 03:00 at the end of the month will Magnitude -2.2

Saturn Saturn remains prominently visible this month in Gemini By months end it will be setting at about 00:00 Saturn will be at magnitude -0.1.

Uranus Uranus rises at about 03:00 at the end of the month. Magnitude 5.7

Neptune Neptune rises at about 02:00 at the end of the month. Magnitude 7.8

Meteor Showers

Shower	Limits	Maximum	ZHR
Lyrids	April 19 th to 25 th	April 22 nd	10
η Aquarids	April 24 th to May 20 th	May 4 th	40
α Scorpid	April 20 th to May 19 th	April 27 th & May 12 th	5

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

On **Saturday 22nd May** (11AM to 5PM), the Society for the History of Astronomy will hold its Annual General Meeting at the **Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge**. The society is pleased to extend an invitation to OASI members to attend the supporting three lectures, refreshments and a Cheese & Wine buffet lunch for the modest price of just £2 per delegate (payable at the door).

LECTURES

Dr David Dewhirst. *A Brief History of the Cambridge Institute of Astronomy*.

Roger Jones. *Sir Robert Stawell Ball*. The Patrick Moore of the late 19th/early 20th centuries.

Dr Michael Hosking. *The Real Caroline Herschel*. Michael is probably the world's leading authority on the Herschels and this lecture deals with Caroline's private and scientific life.

The event will be supported by book trade stands and an excellent prize raffle. Tours of the Institute and Telescopes will be available during the lunch break.

For further details visit the SHA Web Site at www.shastro.org.uk

*****CAUTION*****

Would members please note that the
**Floodlight inside the dome at Orwell Park is for
EMERGENCY REPAIR USE ONLY
And is not to be used for any other reason.**

MAKE A DATE FOR A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER...

On Friday 14th and Saturday 15th May, Mr Peter Hingley, the Librarian of the Royal Astronomical Society, will be making a visit to OASI to present two very interesting talks to members and formally open our Library and dedicate it in memory of Col Tomline's Astronomer, John Isaac Plummer.

FRIDAY 14th MAY. 8PM
At the Friends Meeting House,
Fonnereau Road, Ipswich.

Peter, one of the International Astronomical Union TOV organisers, will lecture on a subject of special relevance – the forthcoming 'Transit Of Venus'* and will detail the historic importance of this rare phenomena (the last one occurred in 1882) and set this year's much looked forward to in context.

* Tuesday 8th June

SATURDAY 15th MAY
Orwell Park

11.45AM

Gather in the Observatory dome for light buffet refreshments. Our new Millennium Telescope will be on display, along with a pictorial story of the work involved in transforming the former lift shaft.

12.30PM

Formal Opening of Library by Peter Hingley, who will unveil a plaque and dedicate the room in memory of John Isaac Plummer.

12.45PM

Peter will present a lecture entitled 'Astronomers and Oddities, the Treasures of the Royal Astronomical Society Library'. The lecture will be in the school music room.

1.45PM

Tea & Coffee.

Many members have toiled in sometimes quite arduous conditions to create our new Library and Saturday's arrangements will be a fitting celebration of our success. Representatives from the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, from the Institute of Astronomy at Cambridge, from the school and local press will be joining us.

We earnestly hope YOU; our fellow members,
will join us too...

OCCULTATIONS DURING APRIL

The table lists stellar occultations which occur during the month under favourable circumstances. The data relates to Orwell Park Observatory, but will be similar at nearby locations.

D / R	Date & Time (UT)	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (°)	Star Alt (°)	Star	Mag
D	01 Apr 03:30	0.79+	-18	8	ZC 1393	6.5
D	22 Apr 21:31	0.10+	-19	8	ZC 676	7.2
D	25 Apr 22:56	0.33+	-23	20	ZC 1089	6.7
D	25 Apr 23:16	0.33+	-24	17	Hip 34830	7.4
D	26 Apr 21:05	0.41+	-15	43	2 Cnc, omega 1 Cnc	5.9
R	21:37		-18	38		
D	26 Apr 21:24	0.42+	-17	40	4 Cnc, omega 2 Cnc	6.3
D	27 Apr 23:15	0.52+	-23	28	ZC 1334	7.0

James Appleton

PICTURE REQUEST

Over the course of the last three years, members involved in the project to floor over the lift shaft and create our new library have been occasionally aware of photographs being snapped during the course of the project.

If any member has photographs of the work in its various stages, we would very much appreciate the loan of those images for scanning to create a visual display for the opening ceremony and for the society web site/archives?

If you are able to help, please get in touch with me asp.

Kenneth J Goward FRAS
OASI Chairman



email

[Redacted]

OASI COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Kenneth J Goward	Chairman	Press Publicity with the Secretary. Open Weekend.
Roy Gooding	Secretary	Main point of Society Contact. Press Publicity with the Chairman. Observatory Decoration. Visits by potential new members.
Garry Coleman	Treasurer	Finance. Supervision of Grant Applications.
James Appleton	Committee	Committee Meeting Minutes. Web site.
Martin Cook	Committee	Membership. Tomline Refractor Maintenance.
Neil Morley	Committee	Equipment Curator.
Ted Sampson	Committee	Workshops. Tomline Refractor tutoring.
Eric Sims	Committee	Newsletter
Mike Whybray	Committee	Librarian.
Paul Whiting	Committee	Visits by outside groups.
Monica Lustig	Committee	Safety & Security
Peter Richards	Working under Committee direction but not Co-opted	Lecture Meetings.

DIARY FOR 2004 APRIL

MONDAY	<p><u>SMALL TELESCOPES OBSERVING NIGHTS</u> (Observatory balconies) 5th Hydra and Cancer 19th Cancer and Leo ☎ Paddy O'Sullivan</p>
WEDNESDAY	<p><u>OBSERVATORY CLUB NIGHTS</u> 7th 14th 21st 28th from 8pm ☎ Martin Cook</p> <p><u>ASTRONOMY WORKSHOP</u> 7th Commencing 7.45pm 'Rainbows and other Natural Wonders' - Bill Barton FRAS ☎ Ted Sampson</p>
THURSDAY	<p><u>OBSERVATORY VISITS BY OUTSIDE GROUPS</u> 1st 7pm Woodbridge Brownies 15th 8pm Ipswich ATC ☎ Paul Whiting FRAS</p>

SOCIETY PRIMARY CONTACTS
CHAIRMAN Kenneth J Goward FRAS ☎ (daytime & evenings)
SECRETARY Roy Gooding ☎ (daytime) (evenings)
E-MAIL QUERIES ipswich@ast.cam.ac.uk
WEB SITE www.ast.cam.ac.uk/~ipswich
Contact details for the full Committee may be found on the inside back page

Registered Charity No 271313
Society Trustees
 Roy Adams David Brown David Payne
Hon President
 Professor Allan Chapman D.Phil MA FRAS