

Society News from the Secretary



The Newsletter



of the Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich)

Registered charity No 271313
www.oasi.org.uk

2009 AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

No 444



Noctilucent Cloud

Seen from Ipswich on Thursday 16th July only 15 minutes before the storms moved in.

Society News (Roy Gooding)

1 Committee Meeting Sunday 20th September 2009 at 7:30pm

All members are invited to attend the next Committee meeting, on Sunday 20th September at 19:30 at Nacton Village Hall **Please note date, time and venue**

2 Access into the School Grounds and Observatory Tower

Please use the third gate into the school grounds, this is the gate behind the Gym. If the Black door entrance at the base of the observatory tower is locked, you will have to phone someone in the observatory to let you in. My mobile number is [REDACTED] (Roy Gooding) alternatively the Observatory mobile is [REDACTED] during meeting hours. The gate code is on the back of your membership card

3 Welcome to New Members

4 Events for International Year of Astronomy 2009 (IYA 2009)

Autumn Meetings	Venue	Date
Autumn Open Weekend		Saturday & Sunday 24 th & 25 th October 19:30 to 22:00
Talk and Telescope Evening	Nacton Village hall	Monday 26 th October 19:30
Talk and Telescope Evening	Nacton Village hall	Tuesday 27 th October 19:30
Sidewalk Astronomy (Night Observing)	The Ship Levington	Thursday 29 th October 19:30
Astronomy in the Park Solar observing	The Reg Driver Visitors Centre Christchurch Park (Bolton Lane entrance)	Saturday 31st October & Sunday 1 st November 11:00 to 15:00

The success of our contribution to IYA 2009 is dependent on the enthusiasm of our members. Please come along to as many events as you can.

Telescopes are needed for events at, The Ship, and Astronomy in the Park (preferably solar ones if available)

For more information please contact Paul Whiting or Roy Gooding

5 Other Society Events

Meeting	Venue	Date
Summer Barbecue This has now been combined with Perseid meteor watch	Newbourne Village Hall	Saturday 15 th August Barbecue starts at 15:30 to 17:00
Geminid meteor watch	The "Dip" Felixstowe	To be confirmed
Christmas Meal	Not yet confirmed	Wednesday 16 th December

6 Summer Barbecue Saturday 15th August

- Venue Newbourne Village Hall
- Open from 14:00 too late
- Barbecue starts at 15:30 to 17:00
- Cost £3 a head. Children free
- Cost will cover hire of village hall and food
- Provided food will be bread, rolls and salad
- Soft drinks, tea and coffee will also be provided
- Bring your own food for barbecuing and drinks.
- If the weather is inclement there will be a buffet in the village hall.
- After the barbecue there is a period of 3 to 4 hours before the next event of the evening. This will give time for anyone that wishes, to give a talk on their experiences on the July eclipse.
- Quiz starts at 19:00
- The Perseid meteor watch can not start until it gets dark, which is not until after 22:00
For members who wish to come to the meteor watch only there will be no charge.
Please attend at any time after 20:00

Night Sky (August)

All times GMT

Moon

Full Moon	3 rd Quarter	New Moon	1 st Quarter
6 th	13 th	20 th	27 th

Object	Date	Times		Mag.	Notes
		Rise	Set		
Sun	1	04:26	19:55		
	31	05:15	18:54		
Mercury	1	06:07	20:39	0.0	Mercury is at greatest eastern elongation on the 24 th
	31	07:56	19:14		
Venus	1	01:17	17:34	-4.0	Venus remains well placed to observe in the morning sky
	31	02:09	17:46		
Mars	1	00:05	16:26	1.0	Mars is visible in the morning sky. It is now starting to move out of the morning twilight sky
	31	19:29	16:02		
Jupiter	1	20:22	05:57	-2.9	Jupiter is at opposition on the 15 th
	31	18:17	03:36		
Saturn	1	08:14	21:21	1.2	Saturn may be glimpsed in the evening twilight sky
	31	06:35	19:29		
Uranus	1	21:17	09:94	5.7	Uranus is in Pisces and will be well placed to observe
	31	19:18	07:01		
Neptune	1	20:21	06:09	7.9	Neptune is at opposition on the 17 th
	31	18:22	04:07		

Meteor Showers

Shower	Limits	Maximum	ZHR
α Capricornids	July 15 th to August 20 th	August 2 nd	5
\perp Aquarids	July to August	August 6 th	8
Perseids	July 23 to August 20 th	August 12 th 09:00	80

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

Night Sky (September)

All times GMT

Moon

Full Moon	3rd Quarter	New Moon	1st Quarter
4 th	12 th	18 th	26 th

Object	Date	Times		Mag.	Notes
		Rise	Set		
Sun	1	05:16	18:52		
	30	06:04	17:44		
Mercury	1	07:55	19:10	1.0	Mercury will pass through inferior conjunction on the 20 th
	30	04:37	17:18		
Venus	1	02:11	17:45	-3.9	Venus remains well placed to observe in the morning sky
	30	03:36	17:09		
Mars	1	23:19	16:01	0.9	Mars is visible in the morning sky.
	30	22:47	15:13		
Jupiter	1	18:12	03:32	-2.8	Jupiter remains visible for most of the night
	30	16:13	01:24		
Saturn	1	06:32	19:25		Saturn is at conjunction on the 17 th . Will not be observable this month
	30	04:59	17:37		
Uranus	1	19:14	06:56	5.7	Uranus is at opposition on the 17 th
	30	17:18	04:56		
Neptune	1	18:18	04:02	7.9	Neptune will be observable during all the hours of darkness
	30	16:22	02:05		

Meteor Showers

Shower	Limits	Maximum	ZHR
Piscids	September to October	Sept 8 th	10
		Sept 21 st	5
		Oct. 13 th	?

Meteor source is the BAA Handbook

Chairman's Chat

It's incredible to think we're already over halfway through the year and I'd like to thank everyone who has assisted with IYA 2009 activities, thus-far culminating in Astronomy in the park.

Since the last Chairman's Chat, I contacted Suffolk Association of Voluntary Organisations (SAVO) about the cost of enhanced CRB checks for members owning key fobs. If OASI joins SAVO, the cost will be £7.50 per head and needs renewing every three years. This will eventually apply to all key fob owners.

On behalf of OASI, I would like to express my thanks to Ted Samspon who responded to Lorraine Goward's plea for help by completing the base board for "Project Rail". As you can see from the photo opposite, the boys clearly are delighted with their acquisition, and have already added the layout.

On the evening of Tuesday 14th July, Mike Harlow and I imaged a noctilucent cloud display between 10:00 and 10:20pm. Mike mentioned in an email this was the most impressive he'd ever seen. Please refer to one of the digital photos I took opposite. These night time "shining" clouds are best seen during the Summer months (June-August). If you manage to observe or image any subsequent displays, please pass your results to the OASI mailing list and/or Newsletter.

Finally, I am organising a beer and curry event coinciding with this year's Ipswich Beer Festival. The date is Thursday 24th September at the Corn Exchange Ipswich. The start time is 6:30pm and the theme Darwin, celebrating 200 years of beers with an animal, bird or reptile connection! If you would like to attend, please let me know so I can assess numbers for the restaurant.

Words by Neil Morley.



OCCULTATIONS DURING AUGUST

Only one lunar occultation occurs during the month under favourable circumstances. The following table details the circumstances; the data relates to Orwell Park Observatory, but will be similar at nearby locations.

Date	Time (UT)	D R	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (d)	Star Alt (d)	Mag	Star
30 Aug	21:13:10	D	0.80+	-20	13	7.5	6877-0154-1

James Appleton

OCCULTATIONS DURING SEPTEMBER

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

Date	Time (UT)	D R	Lunar Phase	Sun Alt (d)	Star Alt (d)	Mag	Star
04 Sep	00:38:30	D	1.00+	-30	28	5.3	rho Aqr
04 Sep	03:10:14	D	1.00+	-18	14	5.9	ZC 3285
15 Sep	03:27:07 04:23:33	D R	0.17-	-19 -11	21 30	5.9	20 Cnc
28 Sep	19:09:48	D	0.74+	-15	18	6.8	ZC 2977

James Appleton



Orwell Astronomical Society (Ipswich) is holding an

OASI Starbecue

on the playing field at Newbourne Village Hall



Newbourne Village Hall

15th August 2009 From 2pm until late



In case of inclement weather we'll change to an

OASI Summer Party

inside(!) Newbourne Village Hall



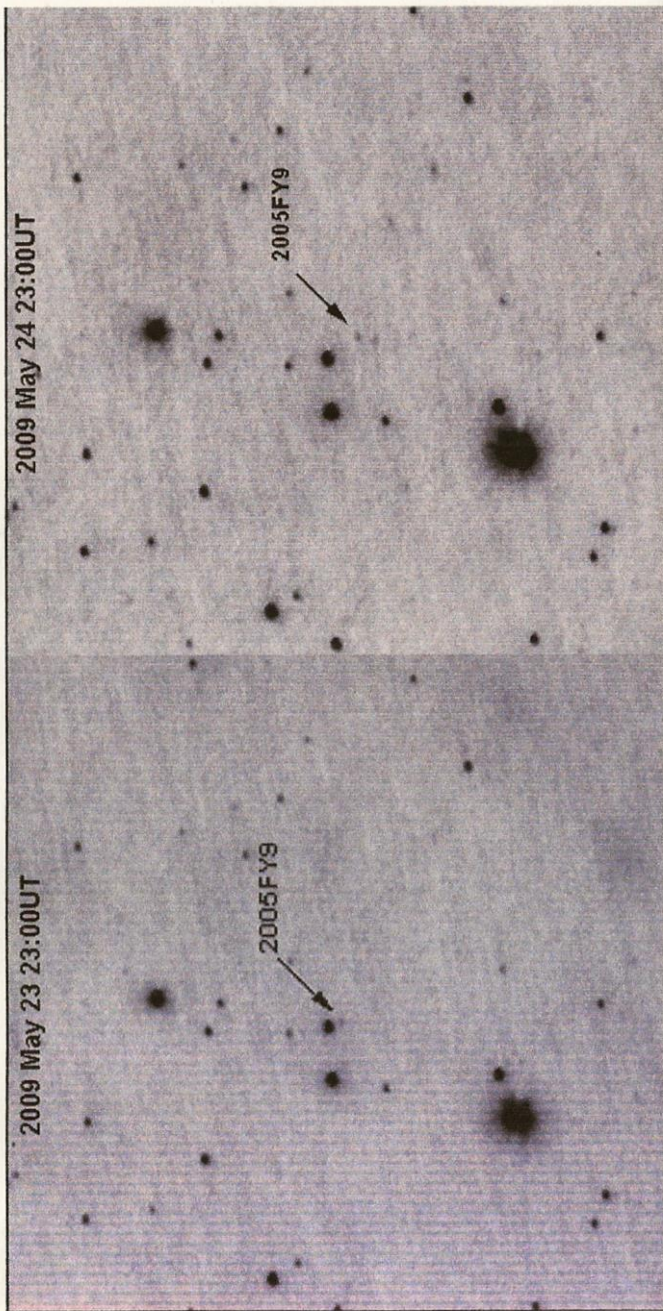
- ☆ **Solar & planetary observing during the day if clear (H-alpha & White-light)**
- ☆ **The barbecue will be lit between 3pm and 3.30pm and it will run until 5 or later if the demand exists**
- ☆ **Quiz starts at 7pm**
- ☆ **There will be slots for slide-shows of astronomical images or short presentations (on the July eclipse for example) at times to be decided on the day.**
- ☆ **Night-sky observing and meteor watch after dusk (weather permitting!).**

Please bring meat or veggie items to barbecue. Rolls, salad and condiments will be supplied. Bring drinks for yourself or to share. (Some soft drinks and tea and coffee will be available.) If the weather is wet you may prefer to bring buffet food (for yourself or to share) but our Barbecue Maestro (Martin Cook) says he intends to run the Barbecue - under a gazebo - regardless of the weather! You can use provided plates and cutlery (please wash-up after use), use disposable plates and cutlery (also provided) or bring your own.

Optional extras you may like to bring are: garden chairs, sweet/dessert items, extra snacks for later in the day, astronomical images on slides, usb stick or CD/DVD, telescopes and/or binoculars.

There will be a £3 per adult charge to cover hall hire and other costs (no charge for accompanied children). For late arrivals - after about 6.15 pm - not using the barbecue, but including quiz entry - can pay just £1.50. There's no charge after 8pm for anyone attending the meteor watch only (meteor watchers are welcome to make donations for tea/coffee etc.).

Newbourne Village Hall is on Mill Lane Newbourne and it has plenty of car parking and modern kitchen and toilet facilities. From the Foxhall Road roundabout on the A12 (near Martlesham Heath), take the road towards Walderingfield and where signposted Newbourne turn off this road to take the "Ipswich Road" into Newbourne. At the end of the Ipswich Road you arrive at Newbourne where you should turn right and the venue is on the left 150m (0.1 mile) from the junction.



Dwarf planet Makemake, 2005FY9. 2009 May 23 to 24
16cm Field-Flattened Schmidt camera @ F/2.8 + Starlight Xpress SXV-H16 CCD.
45 x 30 seconds, May 23. 64 x 30 seconds May 24.
Fields of view 15' x 15' N up. Mike Harlow

OASI Committee Contacts & Responsibilities

Neil Morley	Chairman	☎	
Roy Gooding	Secretary	☎	MAIN POINT OF SOCIETY CONTACT Press Publicity with Chairman. Observatory Decoration. Visits by potential new members.
Paul Whiting FRAS	Treasurer	☎	Finance. Supervision of Grant Applications. Visits by outside groups. IYA 2009 Coordinator
James Appleton	Committee	☎	Committee Meeting Minutes. Web Site.
Martin Cook	Committee	☎	Membership. Tomline Refractor Maintenance.
Peter Richards	Committee	☎	Lecture Meetings. Email Distribution Lists.
Eric Sims	Committee	☎	Newsletter.
Mike Whybray	Committee	☎	Librarian & Workshops.
Bill Barton FRAS	Committee	☎	Safety & Security.
John Wainwright	Committee	☎	Forward planning & Strategy Equipment Curator

DIARY FOR AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

Monday	<u>SMALL TELESCOPES OBSERVING NIGHTS AT THE OBSERVATORY</u> Will resume in October ☎ Paddy O'Sullivan [REDACTED] ☎ Gerry Pilling [REDACTED]
Wednesdays From 8PM	<u>MAIN OBSERVATORY CLUB NIGHTS</u> Primary Observational targets: Nebulae and faint objects. ☎ Martin Cook [REDACTED] (mobile) [REDACTED] ☎ Roy Gooding [REDACTED] (mobile) [REDACTED]
Wednesday	<u>OASI WORKSHOP</u> Will resume in the autumn ☎ Mike Whybray [REDACTED]
Thursday	<u>OBSERVATORY VISITS BY LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP</u> No outside visits this month <u>Taster evening</u> Will resume in the autumn ☎ Paul Whiting FRAS [REDACTED]
Sunday 20th SEPTEMBER 7.30pm	<u>COMMITTEE MEETING</u> Nacton Village Hall

Society Primary Contacts

Chairman: Neil Morley ☎ [REDACTED]

Secretary: Roy Gooding ☎ [REDACTED] (daytime) [REDACTED] (evenings)

E-Mail queries: ipswich@ast.cam.ac.uk

Society Trustees

Mr Roy Adams Mr David Brown Mr David Payne

Society Honorary President

Professor Allan Chapman D.Phil MA FRAS

Meeting nights only

Observatory Telephone Number

[REDACTED]