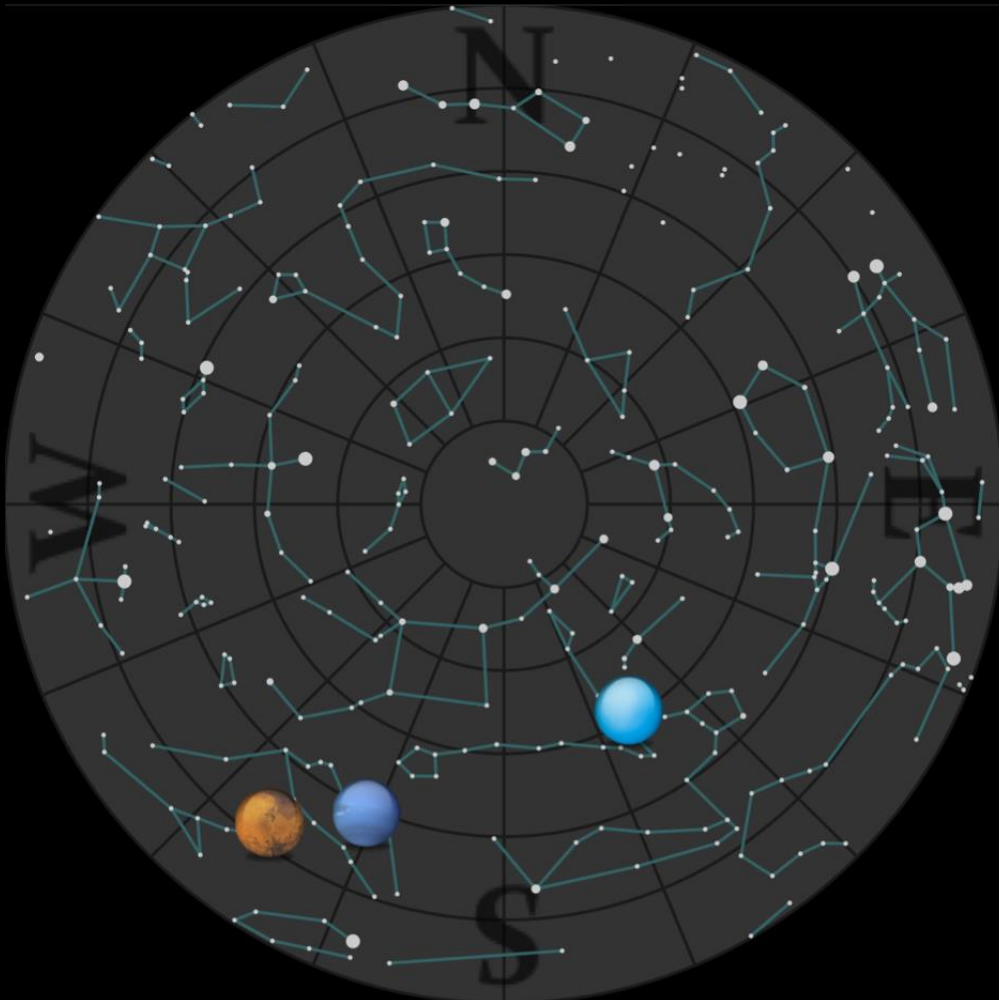


What's Up?

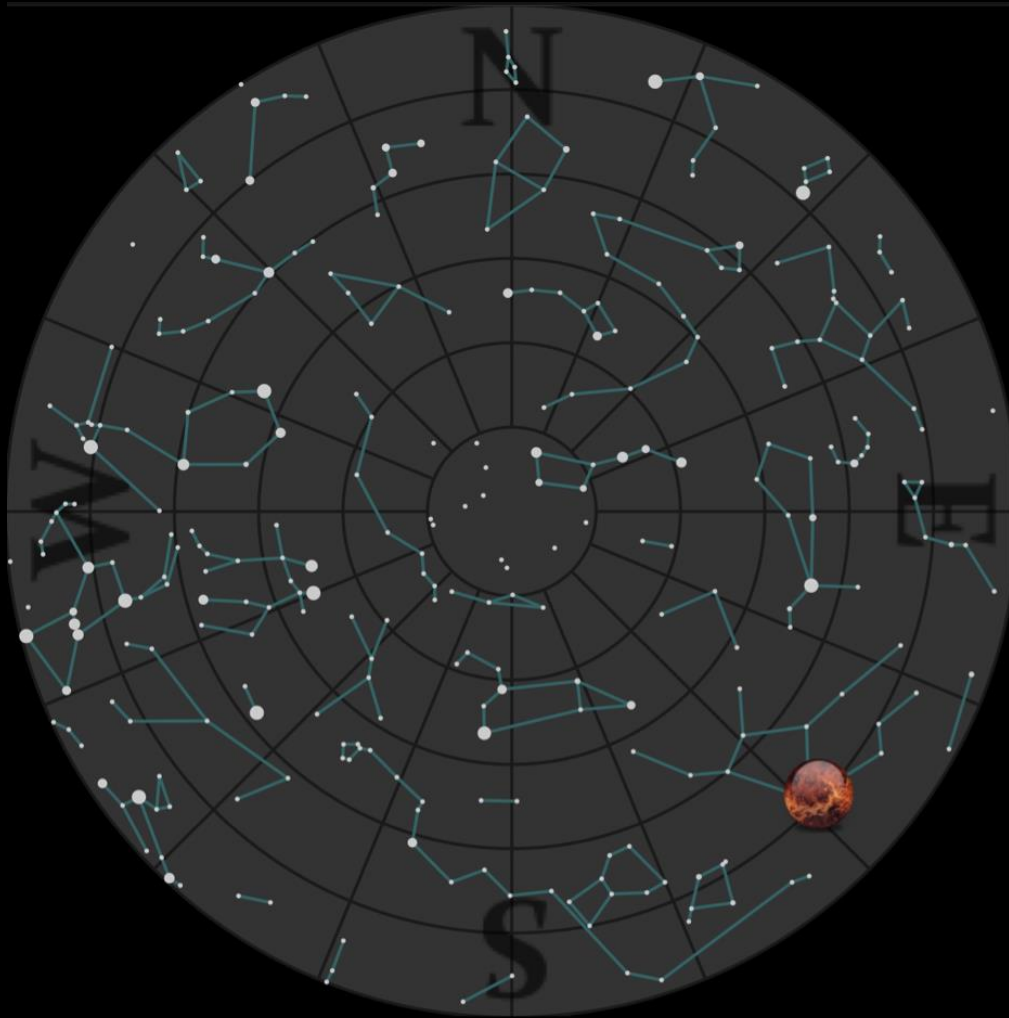
2018 November 12 to December 10

Bill Barton, FRAS

•The Sky 21:00
Tonight







•The Sky 07:00
Tomorrow



Inner Solar System

- Sun
 - Declination decreasing until
 - Solstice December 21, perihelion January 04
- Mercury
 - In evening sky until the end of November, but not favourable for observation, then in morning sky in December
 - Maximum elongation from Sun was on November 6 (23°)
 - Inferior conjunction November 27
 - currently rising 10:30, setting 17:50
- Venus
 - In morning sky following inferior conjunction on October 26
 - Greatest elongation January 6, superior conjunction August 14
 - Currently rising 06:00, setting 16:00

Earth

- Time
 - 00:00UT \approx 03:25ST today
 - Today sunrise 07:10, sunset 16:10
 - End of period sunrise 07:50, sunset 15:45
- Moon
 -  First Quarter, 15
 -  Full, 23, (Frost Moon)
 -  Last Quarter, 30
 -  New, December 07
- Eclipses
 - None this period
- Meteors
 - Geminids, peak December 14, ZHR=100+

Lunar Occultations

- None of note this period

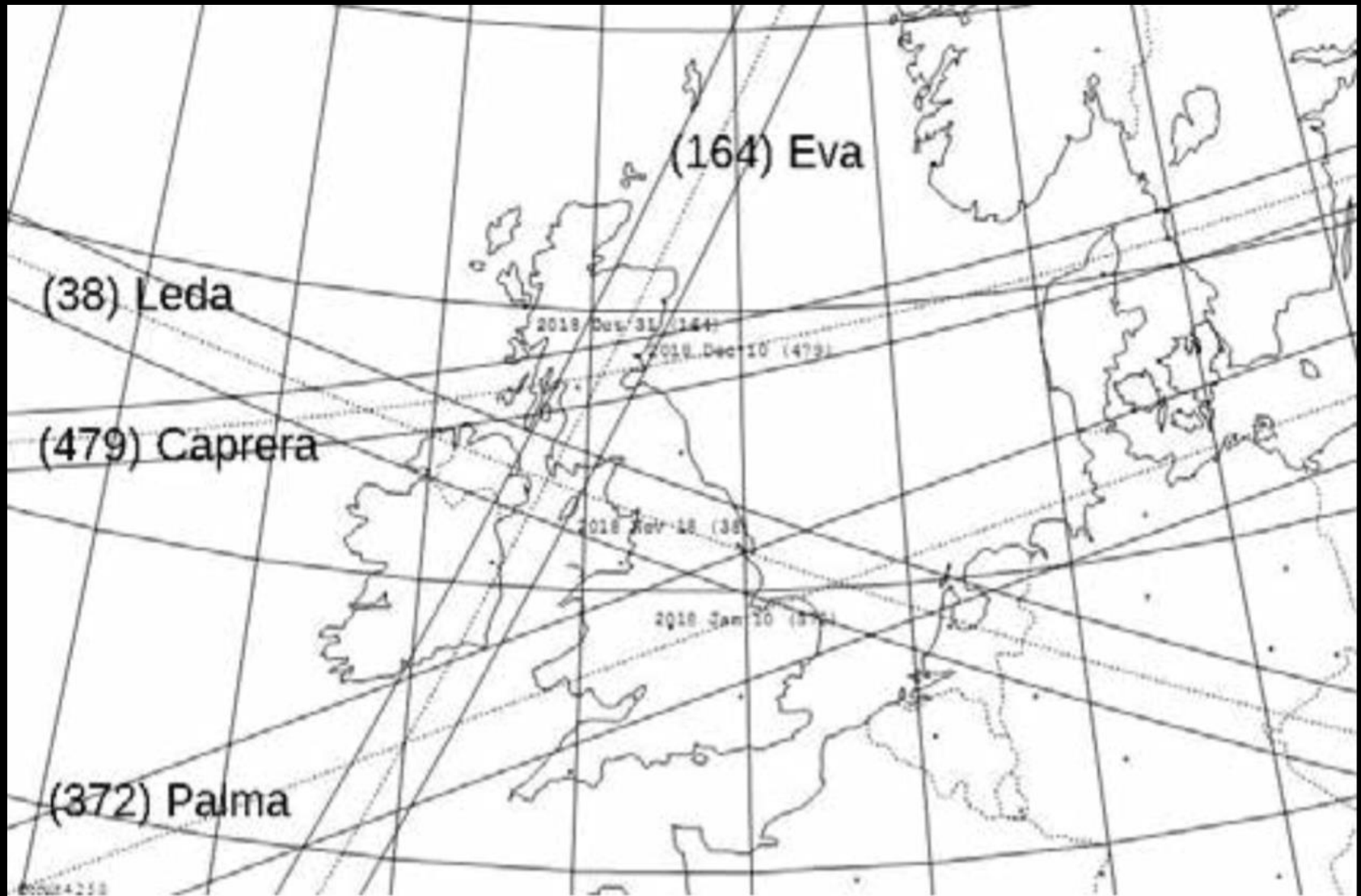
Grazing Lunar Occultations

- November 27
 - 85 Geminorum, 04:04, south limb, Lunar alt 57°
 - δ Cancri, 22:14, south limb, Lunar alt 14°

Asteroid Occultations

- November 18
 - 38, Leda (116km dia) & UCAC4-606-13842 (mag 9.8)
 - 04:37, 1.7 mag drop, max dur 13.3s
- December 10
 - 479, Caprera (70km dia) & UCAC4-514-35495 (mag 7.8)
 - 20:47, 5.1 mag drop, max dur 9.8s

Asteroid Occultations

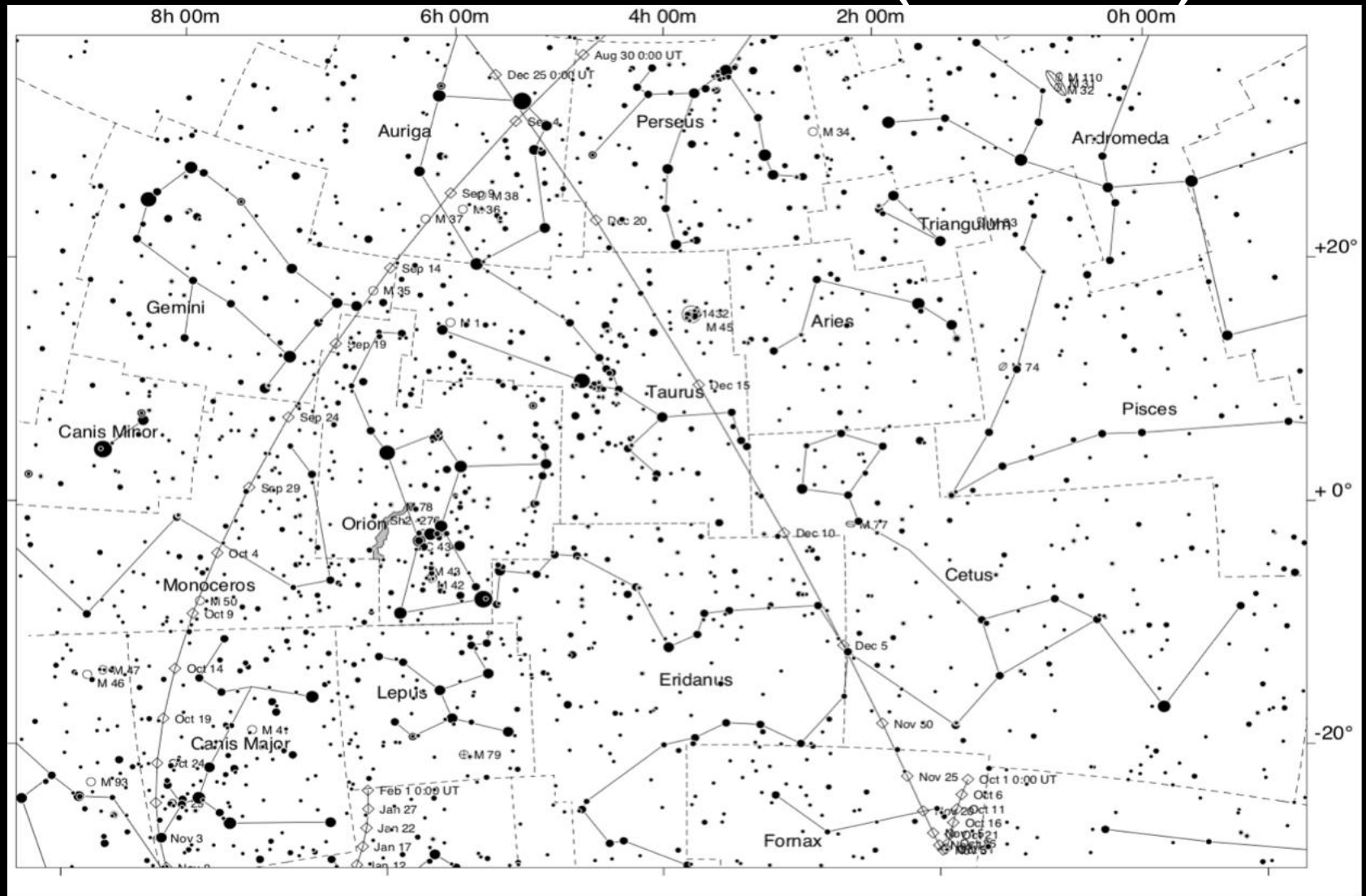


Comet Wirtanen

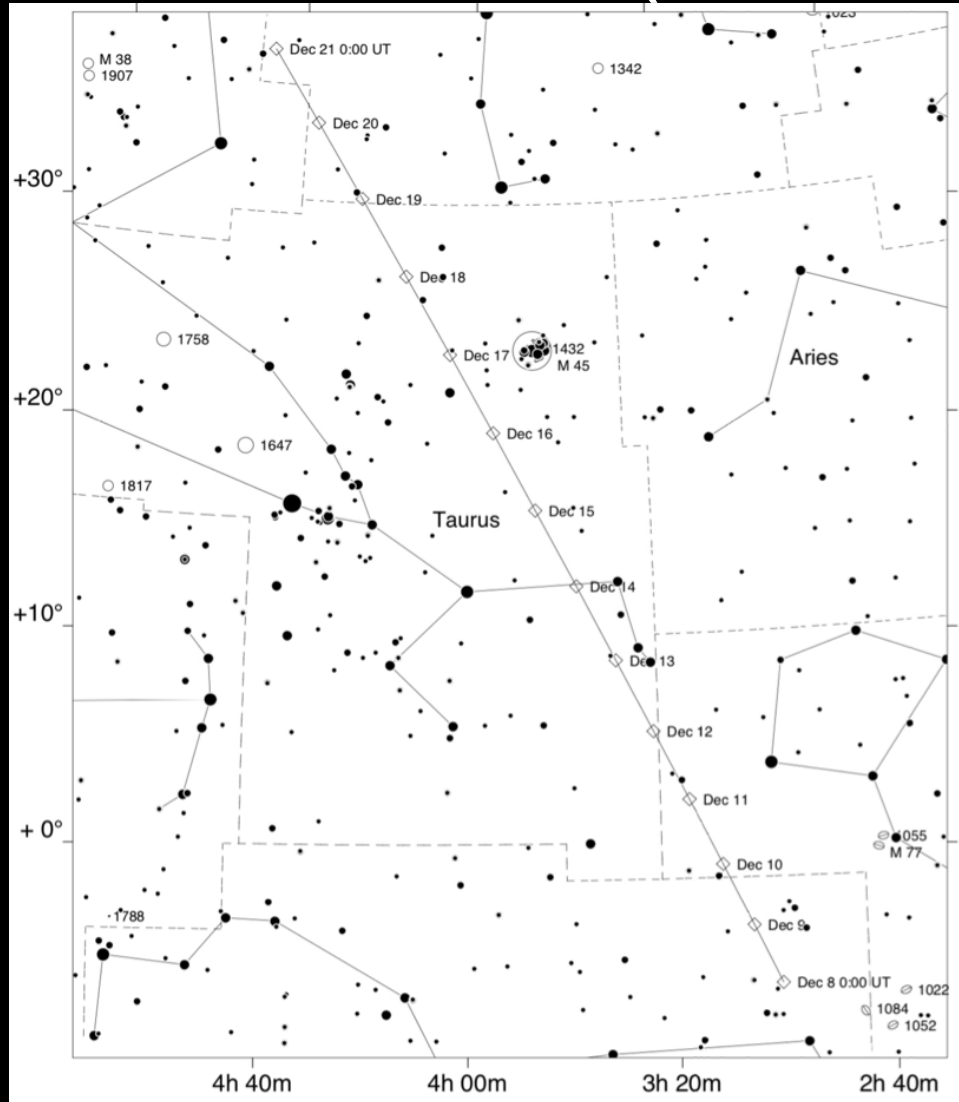
- Discovered in 1948 by Carl Wirtanen (11 November 1910-1990) at the Lick Observatory
- Orbit period 5.4 years
- Perihelion 12 December 2018
- Closest approach to Earth 16 December (30 times Earth Moon distance)
- Magnitude ≈ 4 , but 1-2⁰ diameter (similar to the Andromeda Nebula)



Comet Wirtanen (Oct→)



Comet Wirtanen (December)



Outer Solar System

- Mars
 - Currently rising 14:40, setting 00:20. Perihelic Opposition was on July 27, conjunction September 02 2019
- Jupiter
 - Currently rising 09:10, setting 17:40. Solar Conjunction November 26, opposition June 10 2019
- Saturn
 - Currently rising 12:00, setting 19:50. Opposition was on June 27, 2018, conjunction January 02 2019
- Uranus
 - Currently rising 16:20, setting 06:20. Opposition was on October 24, 2018
- Neptune
 - Currently rising 15:05, setting 02:00. Opposition was on September 7, 2018

Society Events

- Lecture Meeting
 - Friday November 23, 8:00pm, St Augustines Church Hall, Bucklesham Road, Ipswich. 'Imaging with a Dobsonian Telescope', Martin Lewis
- Committee Meeting
 - Friday November 30, 8:00pm, Museum Street Methodist Church Hall, Blackhorse Lane
- Christmas Meal
 - Wednesday December 12, 7:00pm, Coach & Horses, Melton (booking required)

Other Events I

- DASH
 - Discussion Meeting, Sunday November 25, 7:30pm, Westleton Village Hall, 'Distances to Stars and Galaxies: How do we Measure?', Dave Green
 - Outreach Event, Coastguard Cottages, Dunwich, Friday 16 & Saturday 17 November from 6:00pm
- LYRA
 - Discussion Meeting, Tuesday November 13, 7:30pm, Coach House Room, Parkhill Hotel, Bob Argyle, Webb Society President, 'Observing Double Stars Past & Present'
 - Observing Meeting, Tuesday November 27, 7:30pm Barn Car Park, Parkhill Hotel

Other Events II

- Athenæum Astronomical Association
 - Meeting at Nowton Park
 - Thursday November 22, 7:30pm, members meeting
 - Thursday December 6, 7:30pm, members meeting
- British Astronomical Association
 - Christmas Meeting, Saturday December 8, 2:00pm, Institute of Physics, 37 Caledonian Rd, London (already fully booked)

And Finally...

- Today, 12 November (old style)
 - Admiral Edward Vernon's (1684-1757) birthday (he would have been 334)
 - Gregorian Calendar not adopted until 1752 when Wednesday 2nd September was followed by Thursday 14th