

OCTOBER 1985







1. OPEN WEEK
Open Week this year will be from 13 - 16th November. The observatory will be open to the public each evening. As many members as possible will be required to help during these evenings. If you can help, even if only for an hour or so, please contact Eric Sims or any committee member.
2. Halley's Comet Lectures
This meeting is being held at 8.00 p.m. on Friday, 1st November at the Friends' Meeting House, Fonnereau Road. The speaker will be Mr. M. Hendrie.
3. Posters
Please display the posters in a prominent position.
4. Committee Meeting
The next meeting will be on Saturday, 19th October from 7.30 p.m. in the club room. All members welcome.

NIGHT SKY

Constellations (all times G.M.T.)

Pegasus and Andromeda are both well placed for observation. The autumn is the best time to find M31 with naked eye. This is the most distant object visible without optical aid, at a little over 2 million light years.

Sun Rises approx. between 06.00 - 07.00
Sets approx. between 17.40 - 16.30

Moon  7th  14th  20th  28th

A total eclipse of the moon is visible on October 28th.
Eclipse begins 15hr. 55m.
Moon rises 16hr. 36m
Totality ends 18hr. 05m
Eclipse ends 19hr. 30m

- Mercury Visible after sunset. Sets about 20 minutes after sunset.
Venus Visible before sunrise. Rises at about 04.00 in mid month. Mag. -3.4
Mars Rises at about 03.30 in mid month. Mag. 2
Jupiter Sets at about 23.30 in mid month. Mag. -2.1
Saturn Sets about 1 hour after sunset.
Uranus Sets at about 19.00 in mid month. Mag. 5.8
Neptune Sets at about 20.00 in mid month. Mag. 7.7

R. Gooding.

The Orwell Park Observatory 10 inch Astronomical Telescope at Nazton near Ipswich

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the society:

- 1) Mr & Mrs J A Flavell
- 2) Mr P Stonebridge
- 3) Mr K Dye

Visits in October

- 1) Tuesday October 15th
Ipswich Scout Fellowship @ 8pm
- 2) Monday October 21st
17th Ipswich Venture Scouts @ 8pm
- 3) Ipswich & District Natural History Society on Wednesday
October 23rd @ 8pm.

Open Committee Meeting

All members are invited to this meeting on Saturday October 19th @ 7.30pm where the chief item on the agenda will be the Open Weekend & Halleys' Comet.

Lecture

With your journal this month there is enclosed a poster publicising this event on Friday November 1st the Friends Meeting House in Fomereau Road, Ipswich. Please display this poster in a prominent place if possible.

Grand Draw

This month's journal will be delayed because we are waiting the arrival of draw tickets. Please attempt to sell as many as possible and return cash and counterfoils to me as quickly as you can ie. no later than Tuesday November 12th.

(David Barnard)

Comet Halley - Has Anyone Seen it Yet?

D B Payne

At the time of writing 23rd Sept. I have not yet been able to observe this elusive object. This has been because of poor weather conditions coinciding with the opportunity to observe. Also I have not yet heard of any other members observing it! It makes one wonder if we are the only Society in the UK that has not yet had a visual sighting. However as an aid to observations the photographic chart below has been reproduced from Sky and Telescope it shows the position of Halley's Comet up to the middle of October after this it will be worth attempting a search with binoculars! The chart shows stars down to mag 13.5. The following list gives the magnitude of the comet through October (from the Halley Watch Book):

Predictions for Comet Halley

	R. A.	Dec.	Mag.
Oct. 1st	6h 11.5m	+20 01'	11.1
5th	6h 09.7m	+20 09'	10.9
10th	6h 06.8m	+20 22'	10.5
15th	6h 01.3m	+20 38'	10.2
20th	5h 54.0m	+20 56'	9.8
25th	5h 43.7m	+21 16'	9.4
30th	5h 29.4m	+21 39'	9.0

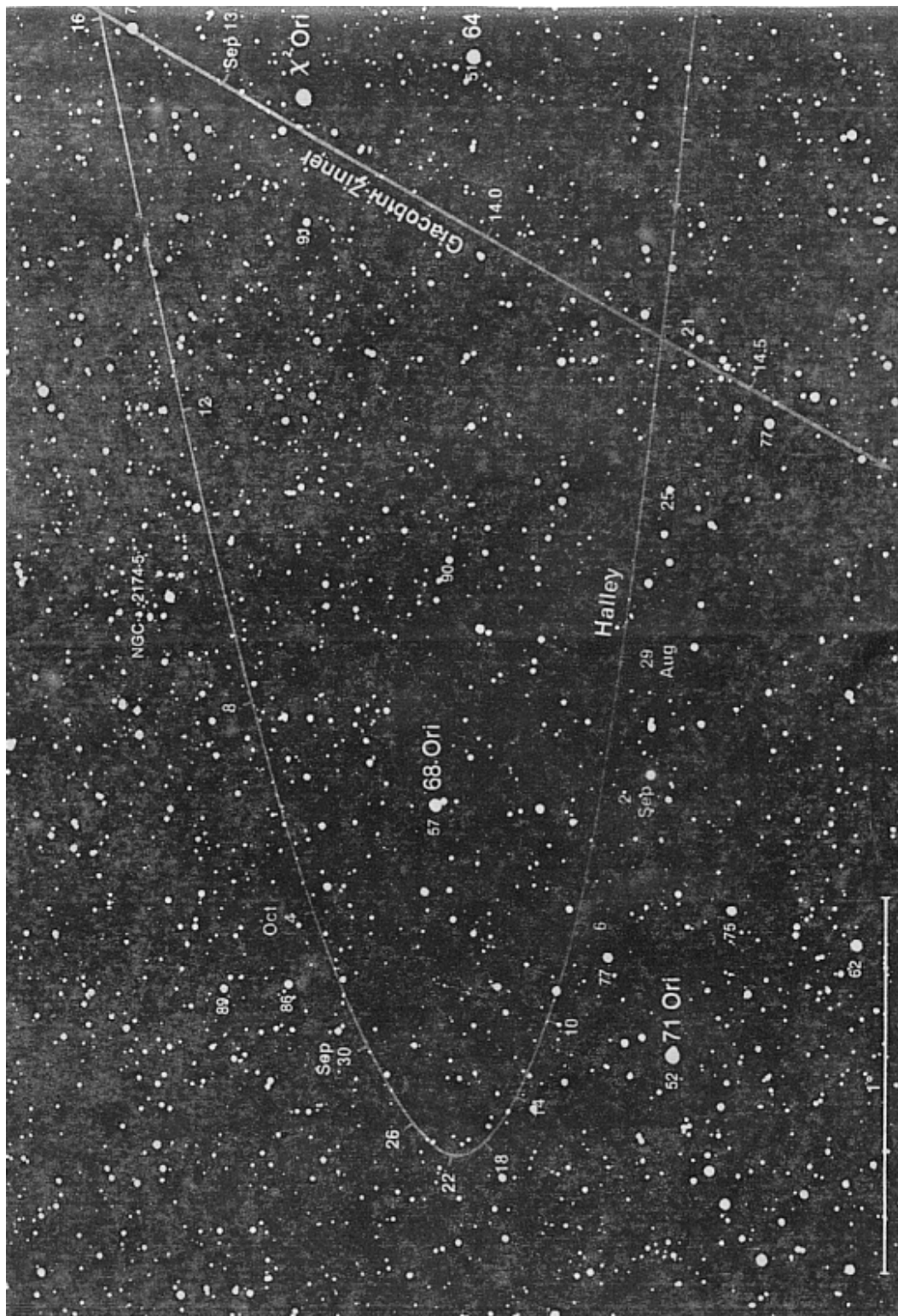
Predictions for Comet Giacobini-Zinner

	R. A.	Dec.	Mag.
Oct. 1st	6h 48.7m	-01 45'	8.7
5th	6h 56.2m	-05 56'	8.9
10th	7h 04.9m	-10 42'	9.1
15th	7h 11.7m	-14 59'	9.3
20th	7h 17.2m	-18 49'	9.6
25th	7h 21.1m	-22 15'	9.8
30th	7h 23.7m	-25 18'	10.0

Predictions for Comet Giacobini-Zinner

	R. A.	Dec.	Mag.
Sept. 22th	0h 14.5m	-27 55'	10.7
27th	23h 34.9m	-26 58'	10.2
Oct. 2th	22h 48.8m	-24 41'	9.9

(M Cook)



*** ARTICLES ***
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It may be a voice fading into the distance but we really do need more articles for the journal. Records of observations, drawings, general articles etc. are all urgently required. Please send YOUR contributions to any of the committee members listed on the back page, or leave them up the observatory!

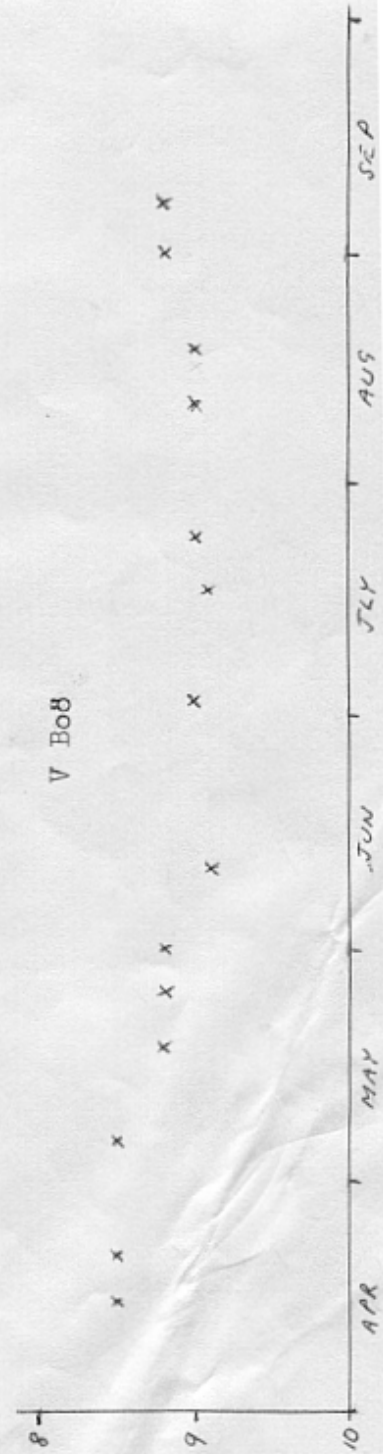


VARIABLE STAR OBSERVATIONS

by Mike Nicholls

This light curve shows V Boötis from April to September this year. As a member of the semi-regular class of variables, this star is a red giant in the latter stages of its life. The period quoted is 258 days with a light range from magnitudes 7 to 12. This light range is rather large for a semi-regular variable, where a range of up to 2 magnitudes is more normal. V Boötis itself does not show any signs of this large range on the light curve shown, and neither do records of the previous 3 years. This suggests that the variations of 258 day period are superimposed on variations with a much longer period of several years which then takes the magnitude to the extreme values mentioned above.

All observations were made using an 8" reflector.



PROGRAMME FOR OCTOBER

MONDAYS from 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28,

DOUBLE STAR & PLANETS SECTION

Mr M Taylor [redacted], Farlands
Trimley
Mr T Gillan [redacted], Felixstowe

Tel: Fel. [redacted]
Tel: Fel. [redacted]

WEDNESDAYS from 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30

NEBULEA & FAINT OBJECTS SECTION

Mr M Cook, [redacted], Ipswich
Mr D Payne, [redacted],
Wickham Market.

Tel: Ips. [redacted]
Tel: W. Mkt. [redacted]

FRIDAYS from 8pm
4, 18,

GENERAL OBSERVATION SECTION

Mr R A Lobbett, [redacted],
Felixstowe.
Mr J Hood, [redacted], Ipswich.

Tel: Fel. [redacted]
Tel: Ips. [redacted]

1985 COMMITTEE

- CHAIRMAN D Payne [redacted],
Wickham Market, IP13 0SD
- VICE CHAIRMAN R Cheesman [redacted], Carringham,
Essex SS17 9BU
- SECRETARY R Gooding [redacted], Ipswich
IP1 6AE
- TREASURER M Nicholls [redacted], Chapel St. Mary,
Ipswich, IP9 2EX
- MEMBERSHIP SEC. D Barnard [redacted],
Ipswich, IP4 5PP
- P.R.O. D Barnard [redacted],
Ipswich, IP4 5PP
- MAINTENANCE M Cook [redacted],
Ipswich, IP4 5QA
- FUNCTIONS E Sims [redacted],
Ipswich, IP1 4HA
- LIBRARIAN E Sims

Works: [redacted]
Home: [redacted]
Works: [redacted]
Ext: [redacted]
Works: [redacted]
Home: [redacted]
Works: [redacted]
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