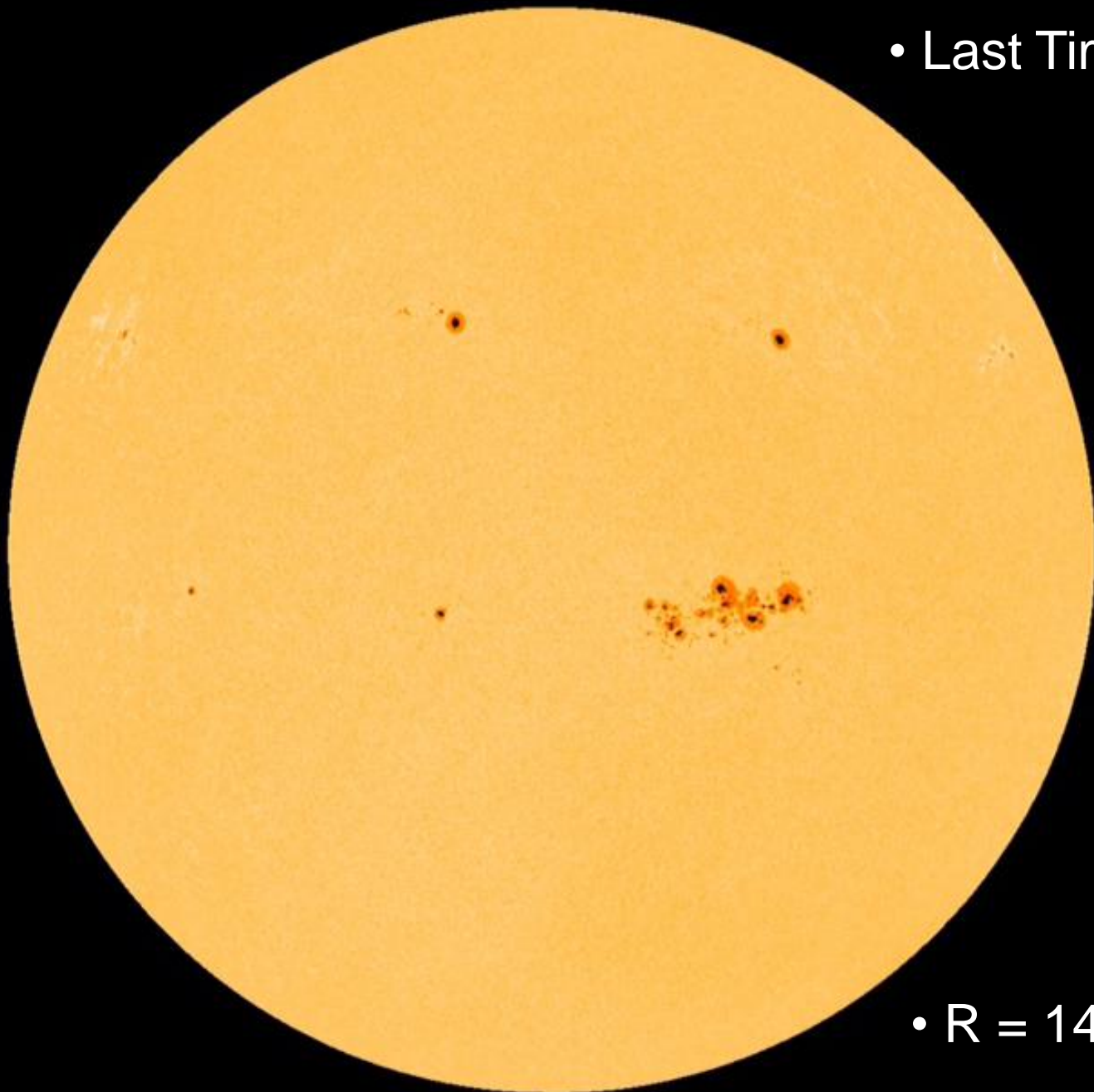


# What's Up?

2024 April 22 to May 27

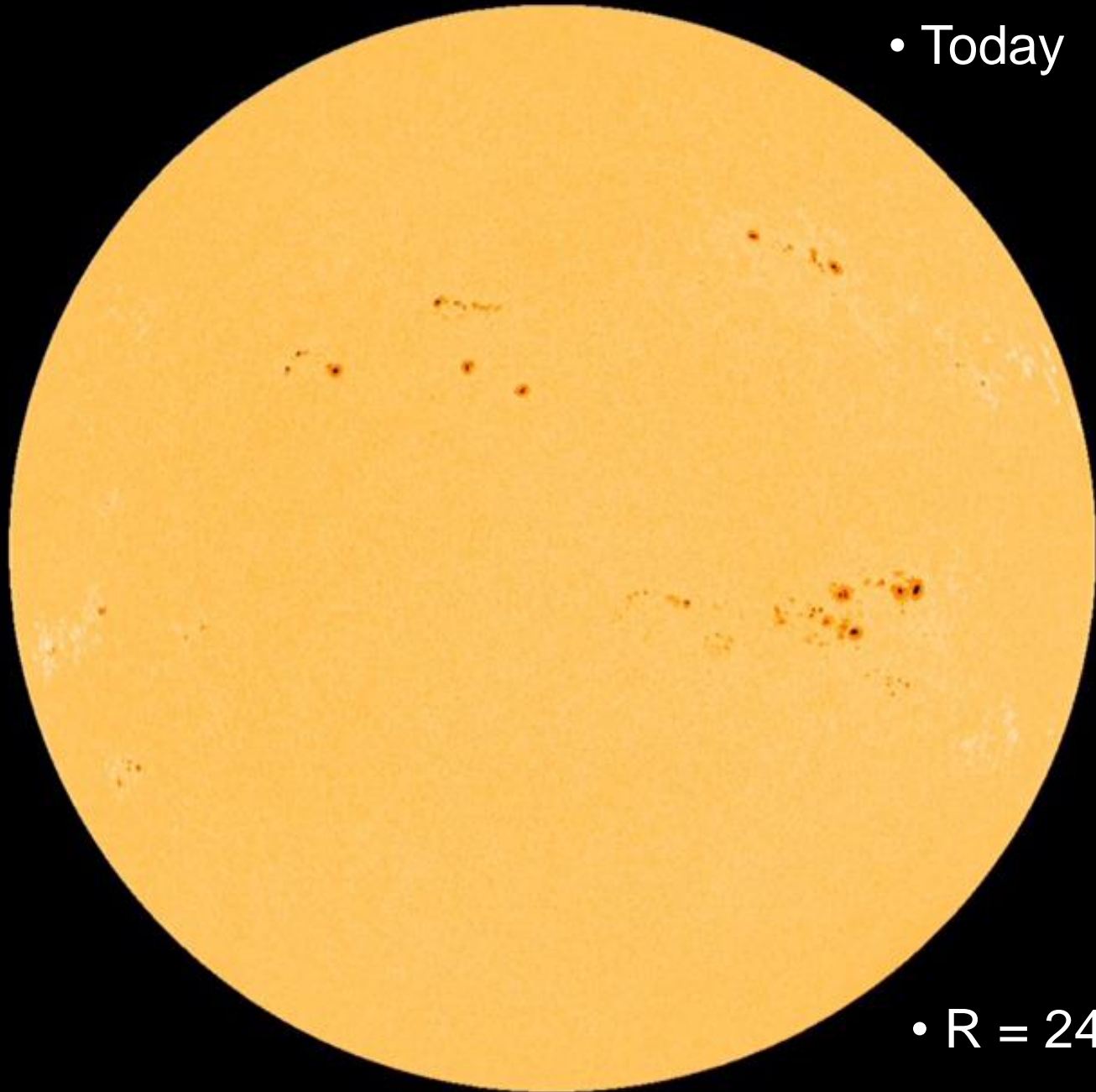
Bill Barton, FRAS

• Last Time



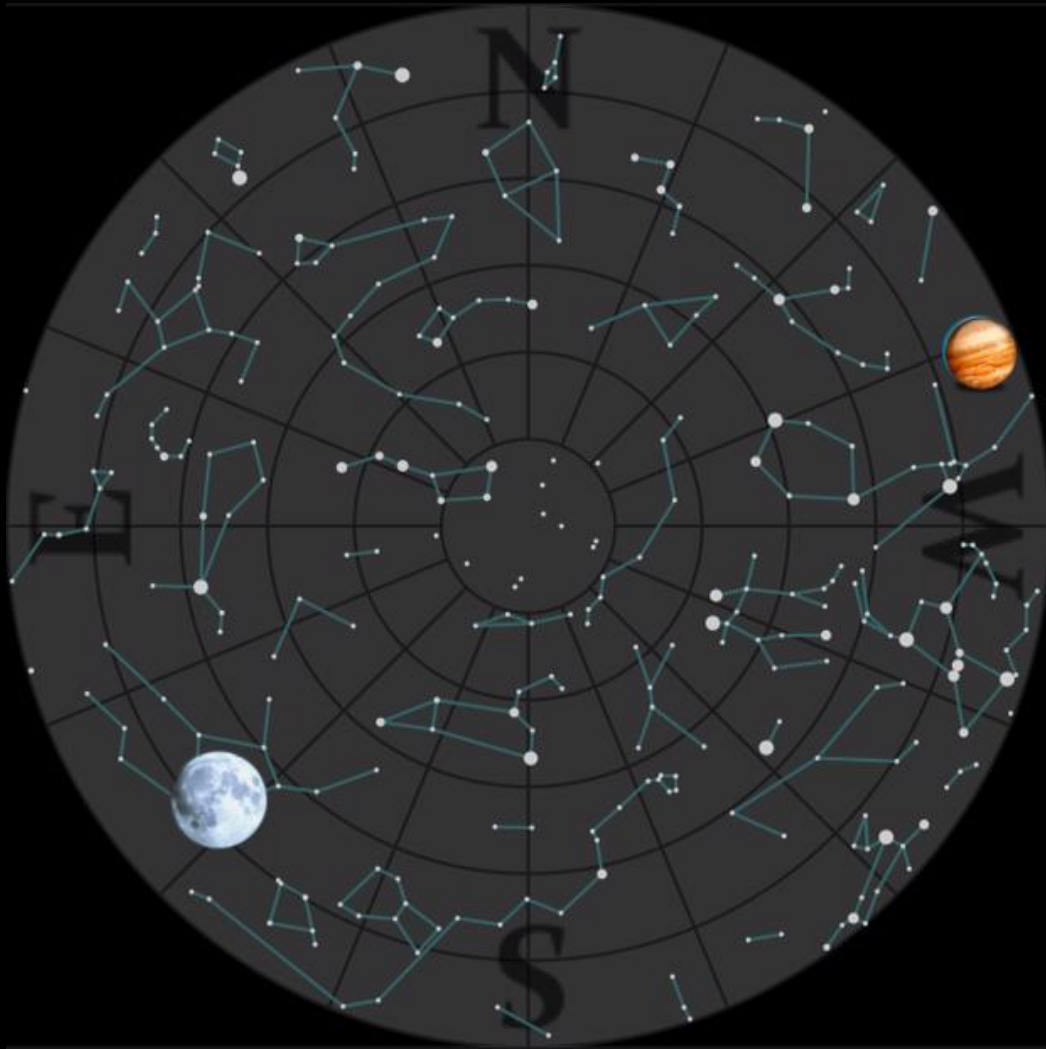
• R = 146

• Today

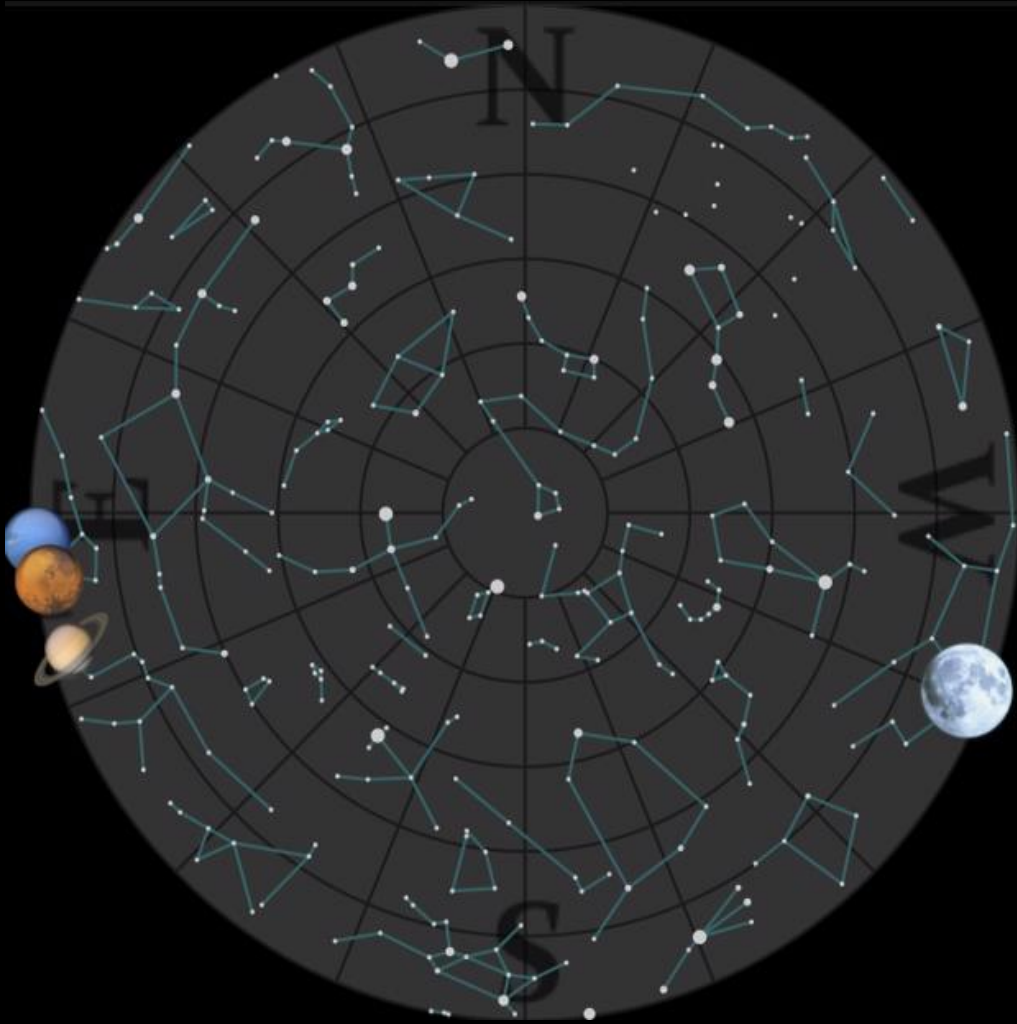


• R = 240

- The Sky 21:00 Tonight







- The Sky 05:00  
Tomorrow



# Inner Solar System

- Sun
  - Declination increasing, solstice Jun. 20, aphelion Jul. 5
  - Last sunspot min., Apr. 2020, next max., early-mid 2024?
- Mercury
  - In the morning sky, greatest elongation May 9 ( $26^\circ$  ), currently  $16^\circ$
  - Superior conjunction Jun. 14
  - Today, rise 05:15, transit 11:50, set 18:20
- Venus
  - Also in the morning sky, and currently  $11^\circ$
  - Superior conjunction, Jun. 04
  - today, rise 05:30, transit 12:10, set 18:50

# Earth

- Time
  - 00:00UT  $\approx$  12:10ST today
  - Today, sunrise 05:40, transit 12:50, sunset 20:05
  - End of period, sunrise 04:40, transit 12:50, sunset 21:00
- Moon
  -  Full, Apr. 23 ('Seed or Egg' Moon), May 23 ('Milk or Flower' Moon)
  -  Last Quarter, May 01
  -  New, May 08
  -  First Quarter, May 15
- Meteors
  - None of note this period

# Conjunctions

- Apr. 29, 05:00
  - Mars-Neptune  $0.04^\circ$  apart
- May 23, 11:00
  - Venus-Jupiter  $0.2^\circ$  apart

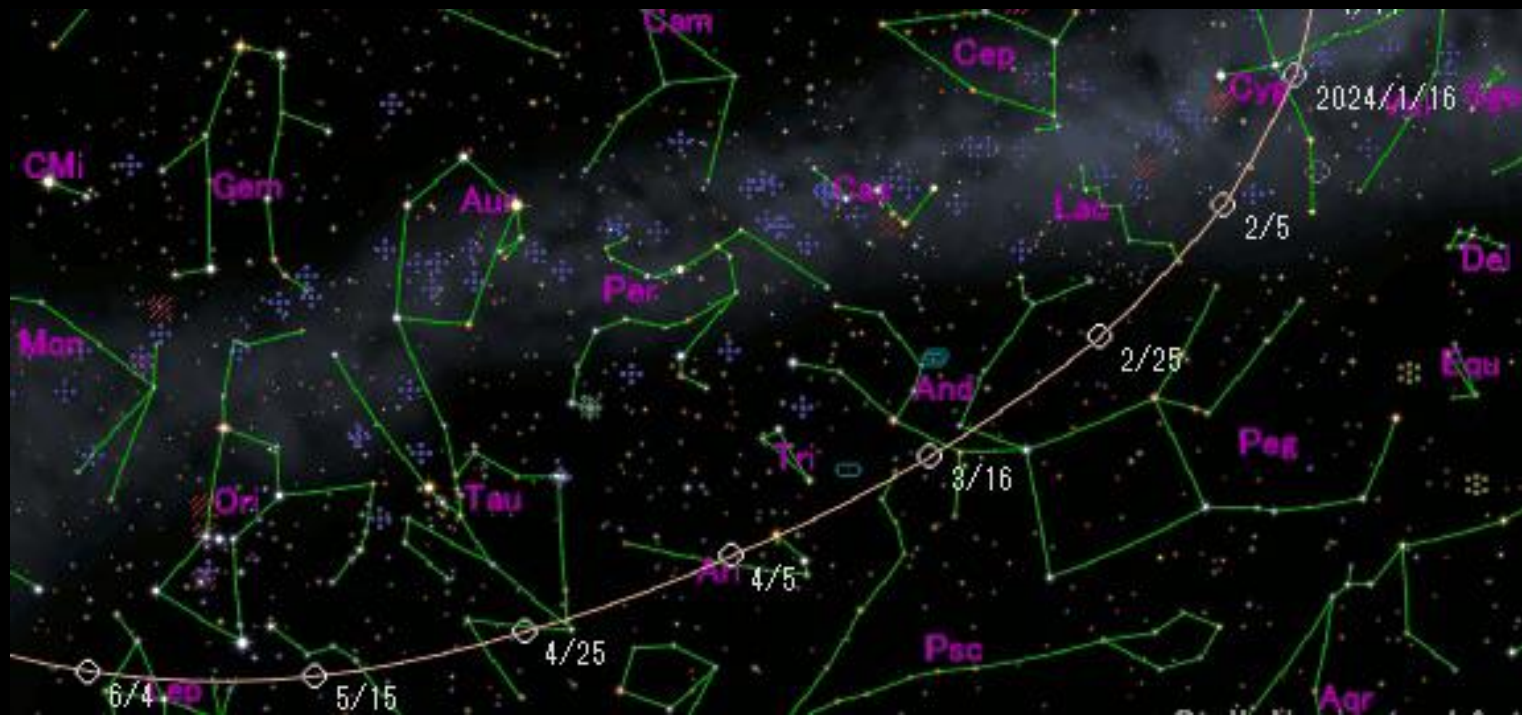


# Outer Solar System

- Mars
  - Conjunction 2023 Nov. 18. Opposition 2025 Jan. 16. Today, rise 04:45, transit 10:25, set 16:10
- Jupiter
  - Conjunction May 18. Opposition Dec. 07. Today, rise 06:30, transit 14:05, set 21:45
- Saturn
  - Conjunction Feb. 28. Opposition Sept. 08. Today, rise 04:30, transit 10:00, set 15:20
- Uranus
  - Conjunction May 13. Opposition Nov. 17. Today, rise 06:20, transit 14:00, set 21:50
- Neptune
  - Conjunction Mar. 17. Opposition Sept. 21. Today, rise 04:50, transit 10:45, set 16:40

# Comet I

- 12P/Pons-Brooks
  - Currently low in the West after sunset
  - Perihelion, Apr. 21
  - Perigee, Jun. 2, mag. 4.5?



# Comet II

- C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS)
  - Perihelion, Sept. 27 (0.39au)
  - Perigee, Oct. 12 (0.47au, 184 LD), mag. -0.2?

# OASI Events

- Monthly Zoom Meeting
  - Thursday May 16, from 8:00pm
- Joint Meeting with BAA Historical Section
  - Friday May 17, from 8:00pm, Museum St. Methodist Church
    - Mike Frost (BAA HS Director) 'The Yerkes Observatory'

# Local Societies Events

- DASH (Darsham Village Hall, 7:00pm, Sundays)
  - May 05 solar observing session, location TBA
  - May 19 AGM, Dr Matt Bothwell 'Dark Matter'
- LYRA (Parkhill Hotel, Oulton, 7:30pm, Tuesdays)
  - No information
- AAA (Whepstead Village Hall, 7:30pm, Wednesdays)
  - Apr. 24, Paul Fellows, 'The Life Cycle of Stars'
  - May 08, 'Telescopes'
  - May 22, Keith Townsend, 'The Rosetta Mission to Comet 67P'
- DAG (Diss)
  - Informal on FaceBook

# National Event

- Society for Popular Astronomy
  - Gustave Tuck Lecture Theatre, UCL, Gower St., London
  - Saturday Apr. 27, 14:00-17:30
    - Prof. Ben Stappers (Jodrell Bank), 'Hunting for Extreme Neutron Stars with MeerKAT'
    - Robin Scagell, 'Skynotes'
    - Thomas Obitz, 'Analyse Your Own Spacecraft Data'

# Local-National Event

- British Astronomical Association
  - Historical Section Meeting,
  - Saturday May 18, 10:00-17:00, Museum Street Methodist Church
    - Paul Whiting, 'The Aurora, Past and Present'
    - Jack Martin, 'The Bicentenary of William Huggins'
    - Andy Gibbs, 'One hundred and fifty years of astronomy at Orwell Park'
    - Bill Barton, 'Basil Brown's Astronomical Achievements'
    - Dr. George Seabroke, 'A girl's death, Rugby, rugby and astronomy: dating a Dollond telescope.'
- free booking now open on BAA website

# OASI Summer Events

- Saturday June 08, 10:00-16:00, Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich
- Sunday June 16, from 09:30, East Suffolk Wireless Revival, Kirton Recreation Ground
- Saturday June 22, 12:00-18:00, Mendlesham Village Fayre
- Saturday July 20, 13.00-20:00, Summer Picnic, Newbourne
- Sunday August 25, 11:00-16:00, Bawdsey Radar Museum