No. 498 Registered Charity 271313 **July 2014**

OASI News

The newsletter of the Orwell Astronomical Society

Trustees: **Mr Roy Adams** **Mr David Brown** **Mr David Payne**

Honorary President: **Dr Allan Chapman D.Phil MA FRAS**

Solar observing at Christchurch Park on 18 May

Solar Observing at Christchurch Park 18 May

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Society Contact details

Observatory (meeting nights only) 07967 519249

Email queries: info@oasi.org.uk

facebook.com/pages/orwell-astronomical [*]

Twitter: @OASIpswich

Forum: forum.oasi.org.uk/index.php

Please send material for the OASI web site and newsletter

e.g. observations, notices of events, general interest articles, to

news@oasi.org.uk

Other contact details will be issued to members on a separate printed list or emailed directly to those who only receive the e-version of the News.

Access into the School Grounds and Observatory Tower

Please use the third gate into the school grounds, The code for the gate, is on the back of your membership card. If the Black door entrance at the base of the observatory tower is locked, please phone the observatory mobile, 07967 519249 during meeting hours.

We now have a key to the toilets in the school gym. It is located in the seating area in the Belvedere room.

Articles for OASI News

News, pictures and articles for this newsletter are always welcome. Please send them to

news@oasi.org.uk

The CLOSING date is the 15th day of the month

Please submit your articles in any of the following formats:–

Text: txt, rtf, rtfd, doc, docx, odt, Pages
Spreadsheets: xls, xlsx, OpenOffice/LibreOffice, Numbers
Images: tiff, png, jpg

Please send tables as separate files in one of the above formats.

The Newsletter

We now use an outside printer. The cost of doing so means that only the cover pages can be printed in colour. The full colour version is available from the OASI Yahoo group.

To receive the electronic version of the newsletter (which you can also print in A4 or A5 booklet format) you may either:–

- Subscribe to the OASI Yahoo group by emailing oasi-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- Or, for those who don't like Yahoo, a Dropbox link will be emailed to those who have expressed a wish to receive the e-version. Email membership@oasi.org.uk

Newsletter archive on DVD

James Appleton

The electronic archive of OASI *Newsletters* is complete from edition 1 (February 1972) to edition 484 (April 2013) inclusive. The archive contains a scan of every non-blank page of the *Newsletter* and an index. The spreadsheet facilitates locating articles by keyword searches using the Excel *Find* function. The archive can now be searched online at www.oasi.org.uk/NL/NL_form.shtml

A DVD containing the archive is in the OASI library for loan to members. Anybody wanting their own copy, please let me know what format your require – DVD or your own memory stick.

Committee 2014

Chairman	David Murton	Chair committee meetings, represent OASI to external bodies
Secretary	Roy Gooding	Respond to enquiries, Press & publicity, Outreach meetings, Open days
Treasurer	Paul Whiting FRAS	Finance, Visits by outside groups, Supervision of applications for grants, Taster evenings, Public appreciation of astronomy.
Committee	James Appleton	Web site
	Bill Barton FRAS	Safety & security
	Martin Cook	Membership, Tomline refractor maintenance
	Tina Hammond	Librarian
	Peter Richards	Lecture meetings, Email distribution lists
	Martin Richmond-Hardy	Newsletter
	John Wainwright	Equipment curator
	Mike Whybray	Workshops
	Mike Norris	Newbourne Observing Group

Society Notices

Committee Meeting Tuesday 29th July

Venue Shepherd and Dog, Nacton

Time: 20:00 to 22:00

This meeting is open to any member who wishes to come along

New members

Kevin Fulcher

Contacts

A printed list of Committee and other activity contacts is available from the Secretary or the Observatory. Email links are available in the pdf version of this newsletter.

For general enquiries please email info@oasi.org.uk and your enquiry will be forwarded for action.

Society Events

For the latest event details, please see www.oasi.org.uk/Events/Events.shtml

Google Calendar

There's a Google Calendar on the OASI web site with the latest dates (and corrections!). If you want to easily add OASI Events to your own computer/phone/tablet calendar application click this button on the website Events page

For other astronomy news and astro pictures try our

Twitter feed	https://twitter.com/OASIpswich
Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/pages/Orwell-Astronomical/158256464287623
Discussion Forum	http://forum.oasi.org.uk/index.php

Date and Time	Location	Contact	Event
Weekly, every Wednesday, 20:00	Orwell Park Observatory	Martin Cook, Roy Gooding	General observation (weather permitting) using a variety of telescopes.
Sunday 29 June, 12:00 - 17:00	Debenham High Street	David Murton	Debenham Street Party Solar event
July 9 - 12	New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich	www.wolseytheatre.co.uk/shows/galileo	The World Premiere of ***Galileo*** by Martin Waddington - specially developed for the Gallery Players.
Monday 14 July, 20:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Saturday 19 July from 12:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Pete Richards	OASI Summer BBQ

Date and Time	Location	Contact	Event
Tuesday 29 July 20:00	Shepherd & Dog	Roy Gooding	Committee meeting
3 August Time TBC	Felixstowe Leisure Centre	David Murton	**Public access event.** Observing the sun safely. Booking not necessary.
Friday 8 August 19:30	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Foxburrow Farm	Roy Gooding	**Public access event.** Astronomy evening. Details TBC.
Monday 11 August 20:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Sunday 24 August 11:00 – 16:00	Alnesbourne Priory	Mike Norris	**Public access event.** Observing the sun safely. Booking not necessary.
Sunday 29 August	Bentley Playing field	David Murton	Solar event at Bentley Families Day
Monday 8 September 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Friday 12 September	Westbourne Library	Paul Whiting, FRAS	**Public access event.** Telescopes and talk evening. Details TBC.
Monday 22 September 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Friday – Monday 19–22 September or, if poor skies in Sept: Friday–Monday 24–27 October	Haw Wood Farm Caravan Park, Hinton, Saxmundham IP17 3QT www.hawwoodfarm.co.uk	www.brecklandastro.org.uk/	Breckland Astronomical Society Autumn Star Party
22Sept – 3 Oct Main weekend 26–28 Sept	Kelling Heath	starparty.las-astro.org.uk	Autumn Equinox Sky Camp
Tuesday 7 October	Orwell Park Observatory	Paul Whiting, FRAS	**Public access event**. Observatory tour. Places must be booked. Further info and book a place.
Monday 13 October 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Tuesday 21 Oct	Orwell Park Observatory	Gerry Pilling	Small Telescope Observing Night
Friday 24 October, 20:00	Methodist Church Hall, Black Horse Lane, Ipswich	Pete Richards	Lecture Meeting. Prof Ralph Spencer: Black Swans - Black Holes in the Constellation Cygnus. [postponed from May]
Monday 27 October 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.

Date and Time	Location	Contact	Event
Saturday 01 November Time TBA	TBA	James Appleton	Field trip to observe grazing lunar occultation of the magnitude 7.1 star Hip 109637.
Tuesday 4 November	Orwell Park Observatory	Paul Whiting, FRAS	**Public access event.** Observatory tour. **Places must be booked.** Further info and book a place.
Monday 10 November 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Tuesday 18 Nov	Orwell Park Observatory	Gerry Pilling	Small Telescope Observing Night
Friday 21 November 2014, 20:00	Methodist Church Hall, Black Horse Lane, Ipswich	Pete Richards	**Lecture Meeting.** Alan McGuire – Using the Sloan Digital Sky Survey to Study Quasars and the Early Universe.
Monday 24 November 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Tuesday 2 December	Orwell Park Observatory	Paul Whiting, FRAS	**Public access event.** Observatory tour. **Places must be booked.** Further info and book a place.
Monday 8 December 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group.
Wednesday 10 December	TBC		Christmas meal
Tuesday 16 Dec	Orwell Park Observatory	Gerry Pilling	Small Telescope Observing Night
Monday 22 December 19:00	Newbourne Village Hall	Mike Norris Mike O'Mahony	Newbourne Observing Group. Christmas Meeting
Monday 29 December Time TBS	TBA	James Appleton	Field trip to observe grazing lunar occultation of the magnitude 6.6 star 88 Psc.
2015			
Tuesday 20 Jan	Orwell Park Observatory	Gerry Pilling	Small Telescope Observing Night
Wednesday 11 February **2015**	North Norway	Paul Whiting, FRAS	OASI aurora observing field trip to northern Norway, 11-16 February 2015. Further details on web site and p15

Dudley K M Fuller FSc, FRAS 1929–2014

His full obituary, with pictures, can be read at
http://www.telescopehouse.com/acatalog/Dudley-Fuller-1929---2014.html

It is with profound regret that the staff at Telescope House announce the passing of our Chairman, Dudley Fuller. Put simply, he is the reason we're all here and the landscape of amateur astronomy in the UK would be very different without his influence.

To say that Dud had an initial interest in everything astronomical is to perhaps rather overstate the case. Dudley was an excellent Jazz pianist and had regularly toured the UK and Europe as a professional musician after completing his National Service. He had no formal qualifications in either astronomy, optics or engineering when he first made a telescope in 1962, but the overwhelming response to his Exchange and Mart ad when he attempted to sell his basic Newtonian made him think: telescopes of decent apertures were eyewateringly expensive in the early '60s - Dud had made one simply because he couldn't afford to buy a regular, off-the-shelf reflector (yet alone a comparatively much more expensive refractor). The instrument he had made had been rudimentary, yet functional, but importantly had shown him a wealth of planetary and deep sky detail and remained steady on its simple mounting. The clamorous response to a small ad in a weekly sales paper proved there were plenty of other people in the UK crying out for a similar instrument - thus Fullerscopes was born.

Newbourne Observing Group

michael.norris17@btopenworld.com omahony.mike@gmail.com

We meet at The Newbourne Village Hall, Mill Lane, Newbourne, IP12 4NP

The Newbourne Observing Group (The NOGs) are a good place to start for beginners. If you are thinking of buying a scope or binoculars, come and try before you buy and talk to owners about the strength and weaknesses of particular models. If you've already splashed the cash, bring your new scope along to use or for advise on setting-up and adjustment.

Only one meeting in July on Monday 14th July from 8pm. All welcome, with or without telescopes.

David Murton, OASI Chairman

Wanted: We are on the lookout for a cheap, (free!) simple scope for use by newcomers at Newbourne if anyone has one laying about they don't want.

Small Telescope Observing Nights (STONs)

By Gerry Pilling

These will resume in October at Orwell Park Observatory.

Oct 21 2014	Jan 20 2015
Nov 18 2014	Feb 17 2015
Dec 16 2014	March 17 2015 (St Paddy's Day!)
	Apr 7 2015

Lecture Meetings

These take place in The Methodist Halls, Upstairs room, Black Horse Lane, Ipswich

"Spring" Lecture – 8pm Friday 24th October 2014

(postponed from 9 May)

Professor Ralph Spencer (University of Manchester)

Black Swans – black holes in the constellation of Cygnus

Autumn Lecture – 8pm Friday 21st November 2014

Alan McGuire

Using the Sloan Digital Sky Survey to study Quasars and the early Universe

Outreach Meetings for 2014

Debenham Street Party

This is a new event Sunday 29th June from 12:00 – 17:00.

We have been asked if we would like to take part. This would be a solar event

The address of the event is the High Street, Debenham, IP14 6QL. The post code is for the Angel Inn which is in the middle of the High street. Debenham is located on the B1077 going North out of Ipswich via Westerfield.

The road will be closed from 10:00 – 18:30 and the event duration is 12:00 – 17:00. We ask exhibitors to have stall/stand ready by 11:30 with all vehicles off the high street. There will be a car park provided on the day.

We can set up our kit just up the road from Chancery Lane, on the right where there is a grassy area.

I am waiting for confirmation details from Richard Sharp, so these arrangements may be modified.. I will email out any changes when I get them.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust event

The Suffolk Wildlife Trust event is at Foxburrow Farm in Melton on Friday 8th August. I will have more details later in the year.

Bentley Playing Field

A solar event. The playing field is at the bottom of Case Lane.

The Bentley Family Fun Day is on Sunday 31st August at 11am till 3pm.

Set up time is any time after 08:00

Bentley Star Parties

Option 1 : Saturday 4th October 19:00 to 21:00. Set-up from 18:00

Option 2 : if 4 Oct is cloudy :Saturday 29th November 19:00 to 21:00

The star parties will be open any villages who wish to come along.

If you have any questions about the above outreach meetings please contact Roy.

Westbourne Library

Friday 12 September details TBC

Sutton Hoo

Through our Twitter feed @OASIpswich we have received an invitation from the National Trust at Sutton Hoo. to stage an event. Basil Brown was also an astronomer.

Darsham

Some members of the Darsham society, DASH Astro dash.moonfruit.co.uk,have set up a serious observing email group. The intention is to arrange observing sessions at local dark sky sites such as Walberswick and Shingle Street, etc. If you are interested in joining, let me have your email address and I will get you added to the list.

David Murton

Some Astronomy Guides

The One Minute Astronomer	oneminuteastronomer.com/
Stargazers lounge	stargazerslounge.com/
Society for Popular Astronomy	www.popastro.com/index.php
UK Astronomy Directory	www.uk-astronomy.co.uk/directory/
Meteor Watch	www.meteorwatch.org/
Heavens Above (satellites, astronomy & time data)	heavens-above.com/
Metcheck forecast	uk.metcheck.com
Weatherweb	www.weatherweb.net
Astronomy weather forecast	clearoutside.com/forecast/52.06/1.15

OASI Discussion Forum

A web-based forum for general discussions and some initial specialist areas.
OASI members can join this forum at forum.oasi.org.uk/index.php

- OASI General
- Newbourne Observing Group
- Observing - Night Sky
- Observing - Solar
- Events
- Imaging
- Small Telescopes Observing Nights
- For Sale / Wanted
- Equipment

Night Sky in July

Roy Gooding & Martin RH

Moon

1st Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon
5th 13:00	12th 12:26 (Super Moon)	19th 03:09	26th 23:42

30 June: Apogee (Moon furthest away from Earth), 405,932 km
13 July: Perigee (Moon closest to Earth), 358,259 km
Times are BST (UTC+1) at Orwell Park Observatory.

Sun and planets

Source: http://heavens-above.com/PlanetSummary.aspx

Object	Date	Rise	Set	Mag.	Notes
Sun	1	04:37	21:20		4 July aphelion 21 July 11:51 Summer solstice
	31	05:15	20:47		
Mercury	1	04:11	19:35	2.5	Maximum western elongation 2014-Jul-12 Perihelion 2014-Jul-29
	31	04:21	20:26		
Venus	1	02:55	18:43	-3.7	Venus is in Gemini and very well placed to observe in the early morning sky
	31	03:17	19:34		
Mars	1	14:04	00:46	0.1	Mars is still well place to observed on the evening sky but is now fading
	31	13:30	23:07	0.5	
Jupiter	1	06:13	22:09	-1.6	Jupiter is too close to the sun to be seen this month
	31	04:52	20:30		
Saturn	1	16:34	02:01	1.0	Saturn is in Libra and visible for most of the night
	31	14:36	23:58	1.1	
Uranus	1	00:50	13:47	5.9	Uranus remains in Pisces
	31	22:49	11:50		
Neptune	1	23:42	10:05	7.9	Neptune is in Aquarius
	31	21:43	08:04	7.8	

See in-the-sky.org/risesetcharts.php for some nice graphs

Meteor Shower

Source: BAA Handbook 2014 p95-7

Shower	Maximum	Limits	ZHR
Shower	Limits	Maximum	ZHR
Ophiuchids	May 19th to July	June 10th - June 20th	5
α-Cygnids	July - August	July 21 Aug 21	5
Capricornids	July -August	July 8 July 15 July 26	5
δ-Aquarids	July 15 - Aug 20	July 29 Aug 6	20 10
Piscis Australids	July 15 - Aug 20	July 31	5

Occultations during July

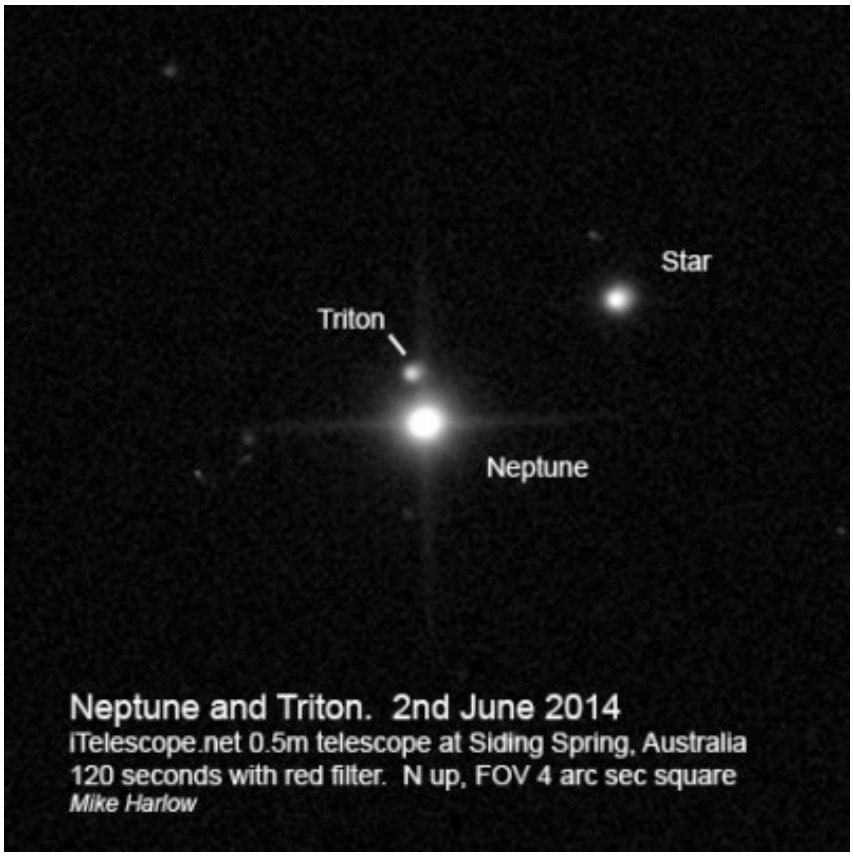
James Appleton

No lunar occultations occur during the month under favourable circumstances.

Using a remote telescope

Mike Harlow (from a note on theOASI forum)

Neptune and Pluto are now well placed for observation...if you are in the southern hemisphere! From Siding Spring observatory in Australia they are both high up in the early morning sky and can be easily imaged with the telescopes of iTelescope.net.



I used the 20 inch telescope for Neptune so that I could also get its large satellite Triton. For Pluto I used the 12inch telescope as I just wanted to detect its motion rather than pick out any detail. As Neptune is quite blue due to methane absorption in its atmosphere I used a red filter to try and reduce its brightness relative to Triton. Neptune is about mag 7.8 and Triton is mag 13.5 and only 11.5 arc seconds away from the planet(!).

I'm trying to get a series of observations of Neptune over a six day period to track Triton round one complete orbit of the planet. What are the chances of six clear nights in a row...?

See more of Mike's work on the OASI Forum.

Astronomy in the Park 2014

Roy Gooding

2014 was the 6th year we have held a public solar event in Christchurch Park. The event was run on the 1st option of Saturday and Sunday 17th and 18th May. This is one of the few outreach meetings, I arrange, that over the years has given consistently good summer weather (except 2013). Astronomy in the Park is our principle public solar event, but as you have probably noticed this one of many OASI solar events in the area this summer.

This year we had a more professional look to the event. David Murton had purchased a gazebo and display flag for OASI to use at outreach meetings. My wall paper past table was used as the reception desk, to display various hand outs to any interested visitors. David arrived first and was in the process of setting up the gazebo, when I arrived with Eric Sims. It was decide to set this up just outside the Reg Driver centre, as he grass here was flatter. The rest of the solar telescopes were setup above the centre in our usually spot.

After about 40 minutes, more members arrived and proceeded to set up their equipment, As ever, the event was very well supported by members and once again the equipment in use was very impressive.

- 4 Hα Coronado telescopes
- 3 white light telescopes
- 3 solar projection telescopes
- 1 Coronado pair of solar binoculars
- 1 spectroscope

In previous years the number of visitors was always guesstimated. This year I purchased a tally counter in order to give a better estimate. Many visitors only stayed at the gazebo and were lost to the count. This number was estimated again and added to the tally. Over the two days at least 500 people came to look at the sun and have a chat.

The sun was not very active again, showing only a few sun spots. The Hα telescopes did show a selection of prominences and filaments.

Other members included

Martin Cook	Pete & Nicky Richards	Paul Whiting	Andy Gibbs
Mike O'Mahony	Kevin Fulcher	John Wainwright	Mike Nicholls
Jennie Wood	Abigail Lee	Matthew Leeks	

Plus a few more that I do not recall. As ever I would like to thank all members who were able to attend.

See pictures on cover and page 2.

Roy

BBQ Saturday 19 July

Place: Newbourne Village Hall

Time: 1pm onwards

BBQ lit 3pm

BYO food to cook.

Rolls & salads provided

Enquiries to Pete & Nicky Richards

OASI Corporate Clothing

The Society now carries a stock of OASI clothing as below:

Order from Mike Norris michael.norris17@btopenworld.com Tel: 01473 726596

Sweatshirt by Maddins, easycare, crew neck, raglan sleeve. In Oxford Grey with Embroidered OASI Logo in Yellow.

Sizes: Small, Medium, Large & Ex Large.

£18.00 each

Thinsulate Beanie in 100% soft feel fabric Thinsulate lining Non-ribbed turn up in Dark Graphite with OASI embroidered in matching Yellow.

£8.00 each

Purchase both of the above for £25.00

Russell Ultimate Pique Polo Shirt in 100% combed cotton with flat knit collar and taped neck. Embroidered with OASI logo in Yellow. Sizes Small, Medium, Large & Ex.Large. Colours Black, White, Azure Blue & Sky Blue.

£15.50 each.

This item to order about 14 days.

Solar observing at Needham Lakes

Great day at Needham Lakes on Sunday 1st June.

Over 250 people came to have a look through our 14 scopes and weather was perfect.

Targets were the Sun, Moon and Venus.

The International Astronomy Show 2014

Five of us made the trip to Warwick on Saturday 7 June. It was a great show and much gear was purchased!

The society now has 3 William optics 50mm eyepieces for use with the Tomline telescope. Please note that these are not to leave the dome area. We are also obtaining a set and a half of 1¼" eyepieces for use with the other scopes. These are to stay in the observatory unless signed out for a public outreach event. If you borrow a scope you should only take the present Plössl ones.

Attached is a picture the OASI formation buying team.

David Murton.

John Wainright, Mike O'Mahony, Avtar Nagra, Paul Whiting