

Cover Image, Getting ready for another public night at the Briars, by G Walton



SCORPIUS

THE JOURNAL OF THE
MORNINGTON PENINSULA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY INC.

Volume XXII, No 4 (July /August)

The Mornington Peninsula Astronomical Society (formerly the Astronomical Society of Frankston) was founded in 1969 with the aim of fostering the study and understanding of Astronomy by amateurs and promoting the hobby of amateur Astronomy to the general community at all levels.

The Society holds a focused general meeting each month for the exchange of ideas and information. Regular public and private observing nights are arranged to observe currently available celestial objects and phenomena. In addition, the society encourages the services of its members for educational presentations and observing nights for schools and community groups. Reg No: A268 ABN: 34569548751 ISSN: 1445-7032

PUBLIC NIGHT THANK-YOU

Recent public viewing nights and school viewing nights have continue to be very well received by the attendees. It is no coincidence that this is due to the efforts put in by the members that help out at these events. To everyone that has helped out over the past months, a very big thank-you goes to you all. Your efforts are very much appreciated, and are being very well received.

A word from the Scorpius editing team.

Members please write a story about your astronomy experiences and add some pictures.

Send them to:

Brett Bajada, Peter Lowe or Greg Walton gwmpas@gmail.com

Nation Science week 10th to the 18th August
So come along to the Special Public Night
on the 16th August at the Briars

SCORPIUS The journal of the Mornington Peninsula Astronomical Society
Newsletter Disclaimer

The Scorpius Newsletter is published online, once every two months for its membership, by the Mornington Peninsula Astronomical Society, for Educational Purposes Only. As a newsletter, this publication presents news spanning a spectrum of activities, reports, and publications in order to keep society members abreast of a variety of events and views pertaining to astronomy. While prudent, reasonable effort has been utilized to verify factual statements made by authors, inclusion in this newsletter does not constitute or imply official MPAS endorsement. All materials (except previously published material, where credited) are subject to copyright protection © 2013, Mornington Peninsula Astronomical Society

July / 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Mercury at closest point to earth	2	3	4	5 Public Night 8pm Dawn Jupiter & M35	6
7	8 New Moon	9	10 ASV Meeting	11	12	13 Astronomy class 1pm
14	15	16 First Quarter	17 Society Meeting 8pm	18	19	20 Working Bee Members Night BBQ 6pm
21	22 Dawn Jupiter & Mars 0.8 - Evening Venus & Regulus 1.1	23 Full Moon Dawn Jupiter & Mars 0.8	24 Planning Meeting 8pm	25	26	27
28	29	30 Last Quarter	31			

Monthly Events & High Lights. **Red Days** indicates School Holidays - 5th Earth at Furthest distance from the sun. Public nights 5th, 8pm start - **AC Astronomy class** on 13th March @ the Briars 1:00 pm by Peter Lowe
Society Meeting at 8pm on 17th @ the Peninsula School - Members Night BBQ 6pm at the Briars 20th
Evening - 22nd Venus & Regulus 1.1deg apart **Dawn** - 5th Jupiter & M35 1deg apart - 22nd Jupiter & Mars 0.8deg apart
Briars Working Bee 20th at 1pm - Spring cleaning, remove cobwebs, shorten trees and whipper snipping.

August / 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Public Night 8pm	3 Jupiter, Mars, Mercury & Moon in a line
4 Dawn Jupiter, Mars, Mercury & Moon	5 Dawn Jupiter, Mars, Mercury & Moon	6	7 New Moon	8	9	10 Venus & Moon Astronomy class 1pm Nation Science week
11 Nation Science week	12 Nation Science week Moon & Spica	13 Nation Science week Saturn & Moon	14 ASV Meeting First Quarter Science week Venus & Beta Virginis	15 Nation Science week	16 Public Night 8pm Nation Science week	17 Nation Science week
18 Nation Science week	19	20	21 Society Meeting 8pm Full Moon	22	23	24 Members Night BBQ 6pm
25	26	27	28 Committee meeting 8pm Last Quarter	29	30	31

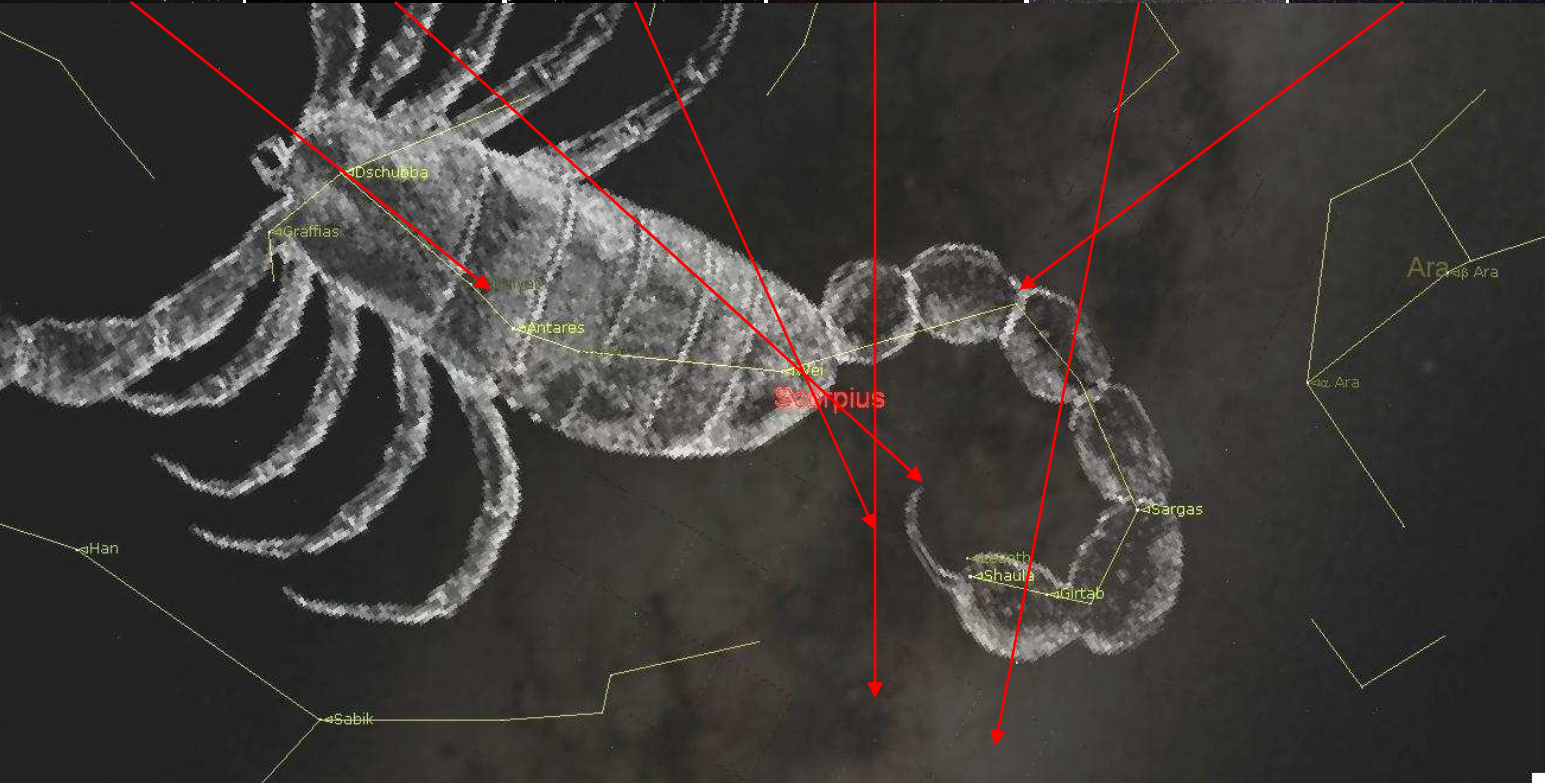
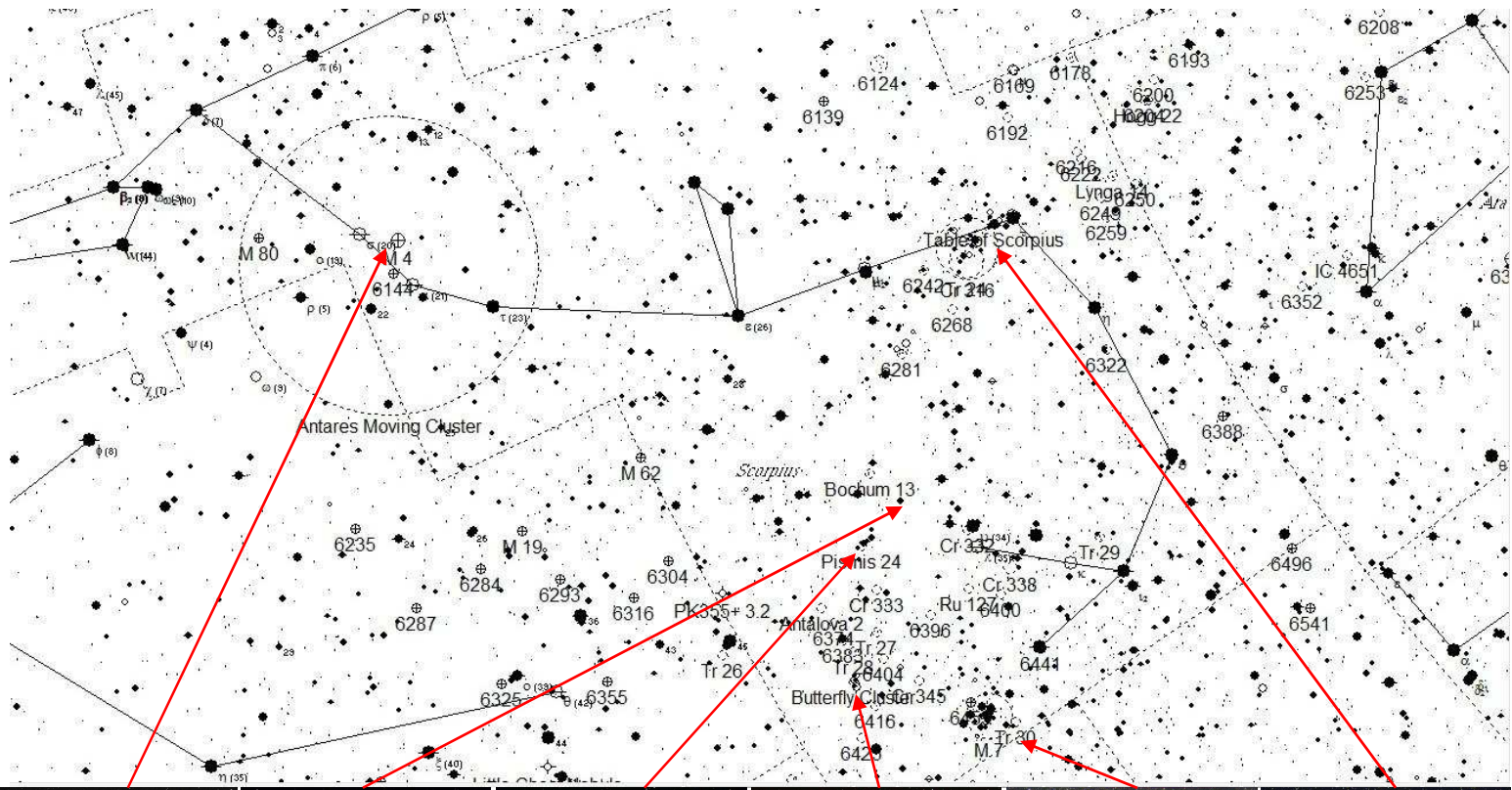
Monthly Events & High Lights. - Nation Science week 10th to the 18th. **Watch out for Auroras**
Public nights 2nd and 16th, 8pm start - Society Meeting at 8pm on 21st @ the Peninsula School
Members Night BBQ 6pm at the Briars 24th
AC Astronomy class on 10th March @ the Briars 1:00 pm by Peter Lowe
Evening - 10th Venus below the Moon - 12th Moon & Spica - 13th Saturn next to the Moon - 14th Venus & Beta Viginis
Dawn - 4th & 5th Jupiter, Mars, Mercury & Moon all together & on the 3rd all in a line

Note this years the Members night BBQ's will be the first Saturday after the Society Meeting.
Also General Meetings will be called Society Meetings under the new regulations.

Sky for the months July we look over head to the Scorpion

Produced on Sky Map & Starry Night by Greg Walton

The Scorpion is one of the few constellation which looks like its name, on its back you will find the Large globular cluster M4 near the yellow star Antares, half way along its tail is the table of Scorpius a bright open cluster and nebula, two of the brightest open cluster M6 & M7 below the tail, Near the sting are two interesting nebulas NGC6357 & 6334 Now is the best time to view and photograph these objects.



SOCIETY NEWS

By Greg Walton

April Society meeting seen a good turn out of about 30 members. Ian Sullivan gave a talk Stone Henge and the people who investigated it purpose, also talked about the coming Vastroc. Greg Walton did sky for the month and showed new time lapse videos.

April Member Night BBQ seen a good turn out of about 20 members even though the cooler weather is on its way. Thank you Peter Lowe (President) for buying in all the food & help with the cooking. Special thank you to Marg Cleverdon for cleaning up after wards. We all had a great time using the society telescopes. Charlotte showed an excellent view of Saturn in her telescope.

May Public Night seen a good turn out of about 20 members and 40 member of the public. Trevor Hand gave an excellent talk about his 20 best moons in our solar system. No telescope out as the sky stayed cloudy with rainy at times, still a successful night.

May Society meeting seen a small turn out of only about 15 members due to the poor weather on the night. Peter Lowe did his 30 minute Vastroc Presentation on the changing roll of the society and what member are doing today. Greg Walton did sky for the month and a round up on the road trip to the South Pacific Star Party with Photos and time lapse videos of a lap around Bathurst, Tedbinbilla deep space tracking centre, the burnt out telescopes at Mt Stromlo, telescopes at the Canberra Nation Museum and the par-shall solar eclipse.

May 16 MPAS movie night at Karringal Hub about 10 members seen the latest Star Trek movie.

May Member Night BBQ seen a good turn out even though the weather was cool and rainy. Thank you Peter Lowe (President) for buying in all the food the day before, as Peter could not attend for he was at Vastroc. Thanks Guys for help with the cooking and thanks Girls for set up the food and the cleaning up after wards.

It was a good night - after a little difficulty getting into the place - Bruce, Kevin and I 'turned and burned' some snags ... there was a fair crowd of people in attendance (I think the count was roughly 18 souls). The weather was quite average with some heavy rain at times, but some nice BBQ food was consumed and some good company to boot - an enjoyable night was had by me at least! Jamie

Vastroc May18-19 Peter Skilton, Ian Sullivan, Jim Blanksby, Brett Bajaba and myself had to make do with VASTROC Convention dinner. (Not a sausage in sight !!) Cheers Peter Lowe

May 20 Frankston primary, Although it was fairly cold, it was a great school night at Frankston Primary last night with nearly 140 present if you count the teachers. Peter Lowe gave the talk in the school hall, while outside with the telescopes were David Stock, Phil Holt, Greg Walton, Peter Skilton and David Rolfe who had to contend with a forgotten diagonal. The Year 3/4 pupils and their families observed in 2-3 groups, which enabled the clouds to clear sufficiently for each. First quarter Moon and Saturn/Titan gave good views high in the sky, with clear and steady seeing, and there were plenty of oohs and aahs as they saw the rings for the first time. The school lights, which couldn't be switched off were less of a nuisance than the persistent clouds. The school put on supper for us in the staff room, but I think almost no-one took them up on the offer - too much of a healthy lifestyle amongst amateurs obviously. Therefore the staff undoubtedly enjoyed it all today. Regards Peter Skilton

May 21 Last night Peter Skilton, Ian Sullivan and myself went to the Overport Primary with clear skies and I'd guess 400 people. We had a few scopes from Monash Uni there as well but it was a very busy and successful night. We're hoping to pick up some speakers and a booked viewing night. Yes, there is a committee meeting but the only significant business is voting Jamie in as Treasurer and getting the society operational manual started. Cheers Peter Lowe

June Public Night seen a good turn out of about 20 members and 25 member of the public, in almost freezing conditions, first time in many years Peter Lowe was unable to attend. Trevor Hand gave another one of his excellent talks. We had clear skies with many telescopes out looking at Saturn and other deep sky objects. Before hand Paul Albers captured some imagers of an aurora visible from Balnarring, some members were planning to head to Flinders after the public left but the aurora faded.

Charlotte has donating her trusty old EQ5 mount to MPAS, after updating her mount to a go to HEQ5, we often see Charlotte at the Briars hunting down her favourite objects mostly double stars, thankyou from everybody.

New Members

Welcome

Dan Duffy

Mellissa Epping

Rhona & Kim Wong, with family
Emily & Andrew.

Nathan & Judith Schroeder, with
family Andrew, Brody, Harrison
& Kimberley.

Carol Carney

2013 SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

The ticking over of the New Year also means that society fees are now due to be paid.

The society has worked hard to ensure that 2013 fees are still the same as last years prices.

So to assist the society in maintaining the facilities and service we provide, we appreciate your prompt payment for the 2013-year ahead.

As a reminder, the following structure of the fees are:

\$50 – Full Member

\$45 – Pensioner Member

\$65 – Family Membership

\$60 – Family Pensioner Membership

SOCIETY FEES

Subscriptions can be paid in a number of ways:

- Direct Cash payments to a committee member
- Send a cheque or mail order to the society mail box MPAS. P O Box 596, Frankston 3199
- Make a direct electronic payment into the society working bank account.

The account details are BSB 033-272 Account 162207. Remember to add your name and details to the transfer so we can identify the payment in the bank records.

If you have any concerns please talk to a committee member.

ASTRO NEWS

By Peter Lowe

Ian Sullivan Superstar. Our very own committee member Ian Sullivan has achieved superstar status appearing on the Channel 7 promo video. Ian appears at right with presenter David Brown. Go Ian.



Naked Eye Meteor Impact on the Moon.

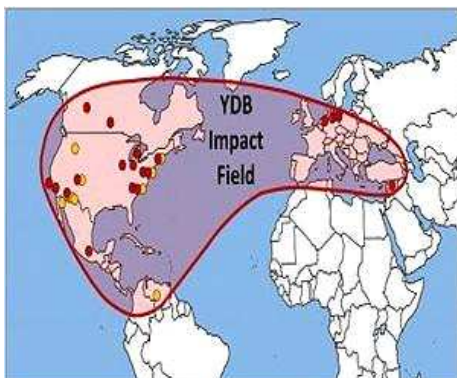
On March 17 a meteor struck the moon caused an explosion equal to five tons of TNT and for a second was visible to the naked eye as bright as a 4th magnitude star. A meteor only about 40 centimetres across, weighing about 40kg caused the impact according to NASA. It produced a 20-metre-wide crater, which will be photographed by the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter on its next pass over the impact

site. The meteor hit a part of the moon known as the Mare Imbrium, Latin for "Sea of Showers". NASA's Lunar Impact Monitoring program, now in its eighth year recorded the event on a video made by the program's 35-centimetre telescope. [See photo] About half of the over 300 recorded strikes are associated with major swarms of meteors such as the Perseids and the Geminds, according to NASA. Interestingly at the time of the strike one of the speakers at the VASTROC in Melbourne was discussing lunar impact monitoring as a possible amateur astronomy project.

More Evidence Supports Major Cosmic Impact 12,800 years ago.

About 12,800 years ago when the Earth was warming and emerging from the last ice age as it continues to do today, in a single year a dramatic and anomalous event occurred that abruptly reversed climatic conditions back to a near-glacial state. This event heralded what has become known's as the Younger Dryas cool episode.

The cause of this cooling has been much debated, especially because it closely coincided with the abrupt extinction of the majority of the large animals then inhabiting the Americas, as well as the disappearance of the prehistoric Clovis culture, known for its big game hunting. While an exact cause for this event has yet to be identified, evidence has been slowly accumulating and pointing toward a massive meteoric impact. A comprehensive survey into the distribution of microspherules over 50 million square kilometres on four continents, including North America, including Arlington Canyon on Santa Rosa Island in the Channel Islands



reveals the Younger Dryas Boundary (YDB) layer containing exotic materials, including nanodiamonds and other unusual forms of carbon such as fullerenes, as well as melt-glass and iridium. This new evidence in support of the cosmic impact theory appeared recently in a paper in the Proceedings of the National Academy of the Sciences. The YDB layer also includes an overlying "black mat" - a thin, dark carbon-rich sedimentary layer - as well as the youngest known Clovis archaeological material and megafaunal remains plus abundant charcoal that indicates substantial biomass burning resulting from impact. Although an impact site is yet to be identified the evidence continues to point to a major cosmic impact.

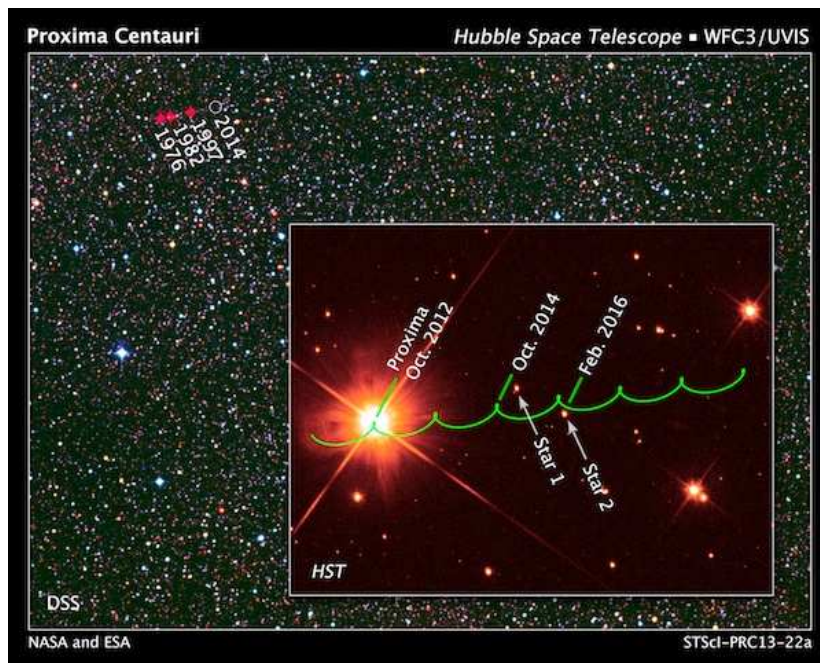
Curiosity Mars Rover Prepares for the Next Long Drive.



Before the Curiosity Mars rover turns and departs the "Glenelg" area east of its landing site it is approaching a pitted outcrop called "Point Lake". The outcrop as seen in this photo is about 2 meters wide and 50cm high. Its surface texture, with its voids or cavities, sets Point Lake apart from other outcrops in the vicinity. Closer inspection may yield information about whether it is a volcanic or sedimentary deposit. The rover has spent the last 6 months in this region but will soon shift into a distance-driving mode heading for the base Mount Sharp about 8kms away. The drive will take several months. Images of Mount Sharp taken from orbit and images Curiosity has taken from a distance reveal many layers where scientists anticipate evidence about how the ancient Martian environment changed and evolved.

Rare Stellar Alignment Offers Opportunity To Hunt For Planets

Using Hubble Space telescope observations the projected path of the red dwarf star Proxima Centauri (green line) over the next decade indicates the likelihood of stellar occultation's with four nearby stars. The path appears scalloped because of parallax effects from Earth. Because Proxima Centauri is the closest star to our sun at 4.2 light-years its angular motion across the sky is relatively fast compared to more distant background stars. In 2014 and 2016 Proxima Centauri may pass in front of two background stars that are along its path, one in Oct2014 and the other in Feb2016. During these periods Hubble will hunt for Earth-sized planets around the star. Red dwarfs are the most common class of stars. There are about 10 red dwarfs for every Sun-like star. Because lower-mass stars tend to have smaller planets, red dwarfs are ideal places to go hunting for Earth-sized planets. Previous attempts to detect planets around Proxima Centauri have not been successful. But astronomers believe they may be able to detect smaller terrestrial planets, if they exist, by looking for microlensing effects during these two rare stellar alignments.

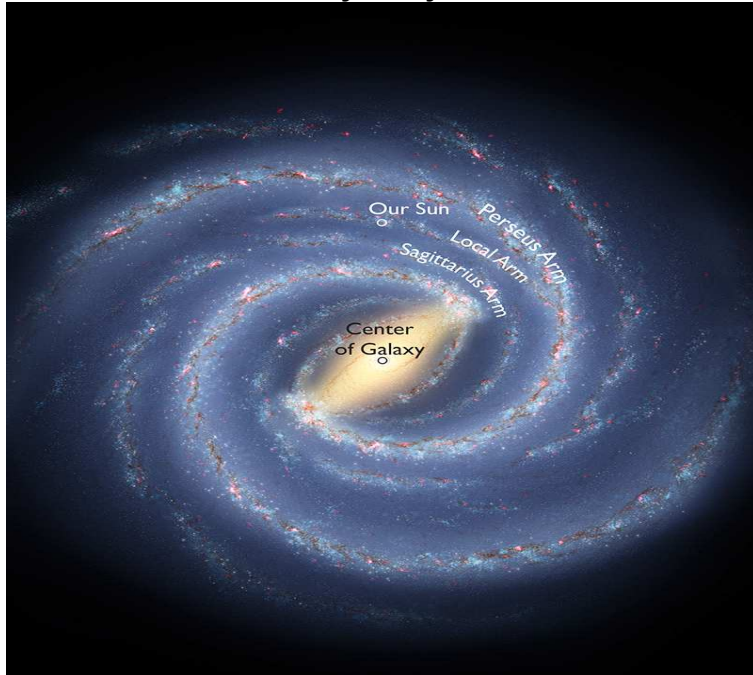


Massive Asteroid with moon passes Earth.

Earlier this month a double asteroid safely passed the Earth-Moon system. Asteroid 1998QE2 is about 3km across with an attendant moon 600m in size. It passed by about 15 times the Earth-Moon distance and will not make another close approach for at least the next two centuries. The asteroid was tracked by radar to establish better orbital data. Binary and even triple asteroid systems are common with NASA estimating about 16% of the larger asteroids are multiples.



Earth in Prime Milky Way Real Estate.



Our Sun's location in the Milky Way galaxy has been thought to be on a small spur known as the Local Arm positioned between two major spiral arms, the Sagittarius arm and the Perseus arm. Determining the detailed structure of the Milky Way galaxy has been a longstanding problem for astronomers because we are on the inside looking out and the galaxy is full of obscuring dust and gas. In addition measure cosmic distances is notoriously difficult with large uncertainties. While astronomers agree we live in a spiral galaxy, its exact structure has been very hard to elucidate. Using the précising position measuring abilities of the Very Long Baseline Array (VLBA) radio telescope astronomers have been able to yield accurate distance measurements unambiguously through simple trigonometric methods. As the Earth orbits the Sun there is a yearly parallax shift and the VLBA has

been used to measure the parallax of star forming regions known as masers where water and methanol molecules effectively beam microwave radio waves toward the Earth. The results of a survey between 2008 and 2012 indicate that the Local Arm is not a small spur but may in fact be another major arm with the Sagittarius Arm closer to the galactic centre and the Perseus Arm further away. The new observations are part of an ongoing project called the Bar and Spiral Structure Legacy (BeSSeL) survey, a major effort to map the Milky Way using the VLBA. The acronym honours Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel, the German astronomer who made the first accurate measurement of a star's parallax in 1838.



Comet ISON Inside Jupiter's Orbit.

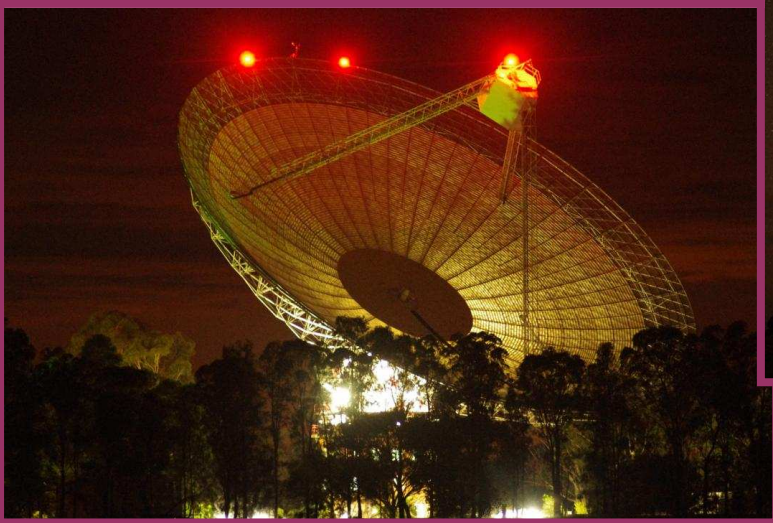
Discovered in September 2012 by two Russian amateur astronomers, Comet ISON [C/2012 S1] is likely making its first passage into the inner Solar System from the Oort Cloud, a region deep in the recesses of the Solar System. Historically, comets making a first go-around the Sun exhibit strong activity as they near the inner Solar System, but they often fizzle as they get closer to the Sun. Comet ISON has currently about as far away as Jupiter from the Sun and continues to show remarkable activity sporting a well-defined parabolic hood in the sunward direction that tapers into a short and stubby tail pointing away from the Sun. [shown in the photo at right] These features form when dust and gas escape from the comet's icy nucleus and surround that main body to form a relatively extensive atmosphere called a coma. Solar wind and radiation pressure push the coma's material away from the Sun to form the comet's tail, which we see here at a slight angle (thus its stubby appearance).

Visible at magnitude 15-16 it is coming into range of amateur astrophotographers. In late November the comet could present a stunning sight in the twilight sky and remain easily visible, or even brilliant, into early December of this year. Time-sequence images, spanning early February through May 2013, show the comet's remarkable activity despite its current great distance from the Sun and Earth. The information gleaned from the photographic sequence provides vital clues as to the comet's overall behaviour and potential to present a spectacular show. However, it's anyone's guess if the comet has the "right stuff" to survive its extremely close brush with the Sun at the end of November and become an early morning spectacle from Earth in early December 2013.

MPAS road trip to the South Pacific Star Party, *by Greg Walton*

Big Dave, Kevin Rossitter and myself did a road trip north, to the south pacific star party, held at Ilford in NSW about 1 hour north of Bathurst. It's a bit too far to drive all the way in one go, so we decided to stop at a motel in Parks. So we could do same time lapse photograph at the Parks Radio Telescope in the night, though the sky was mostly cloudy. When we arrived at the Dish we snuck in down the side road, it was bathed in bright lights and pointing straight up in the parked position. Dave & I set up the cameras and then a very loud siren rang out for about 5 minutes, we thought the dish must be going to move or security was coming to get us.

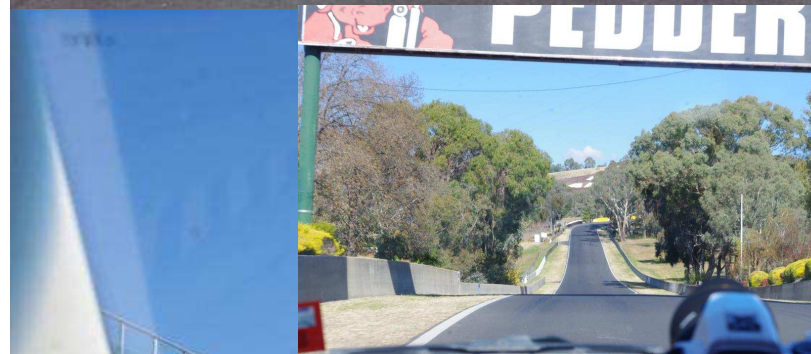
We stay till mid night capturing the Dish moving several times, we were happy with the image we got, though under cloudy skies. We also drove across county to see if we could get the dish with some stars. (right)



Next Morning it was on to Bathurst and Boys will be Boys so we decided to do a few laps around Mount Panorama race track. I left my Pentax on the dash with a 10mm fish eye lens snapping away once every 1 seconds which I turned into a time lapse movie. Kevin blow passed Dave and I on the first straight, the track has a 60 Kilometre per Hour speed limit with plenty of speed cameras and police cars also regularly lapping the track, so we were very careful not to rack up any fines.



Dave giving it the full beans in the corners.

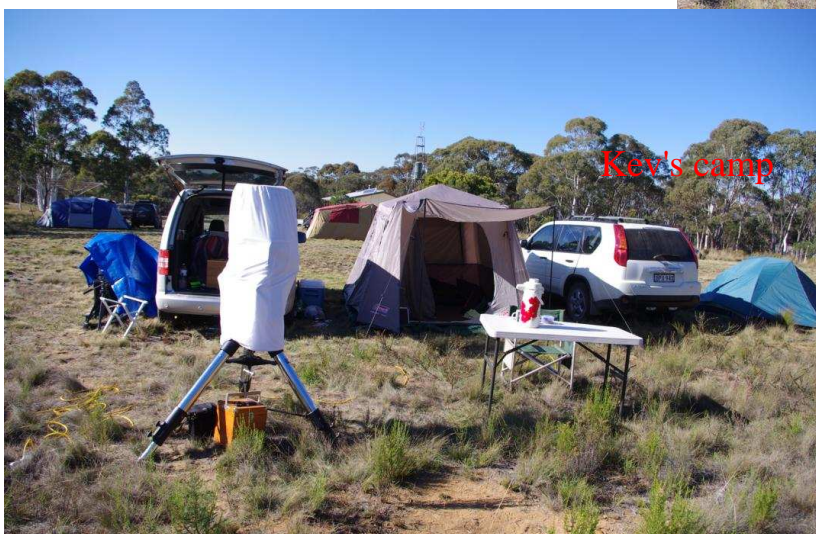
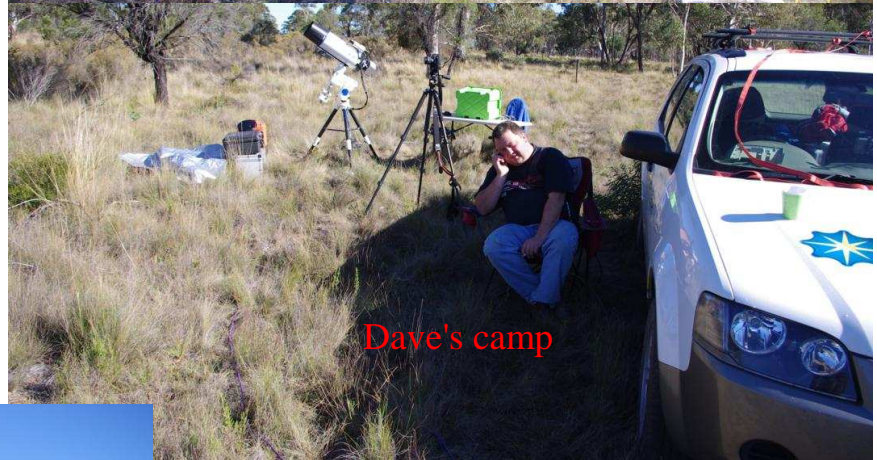


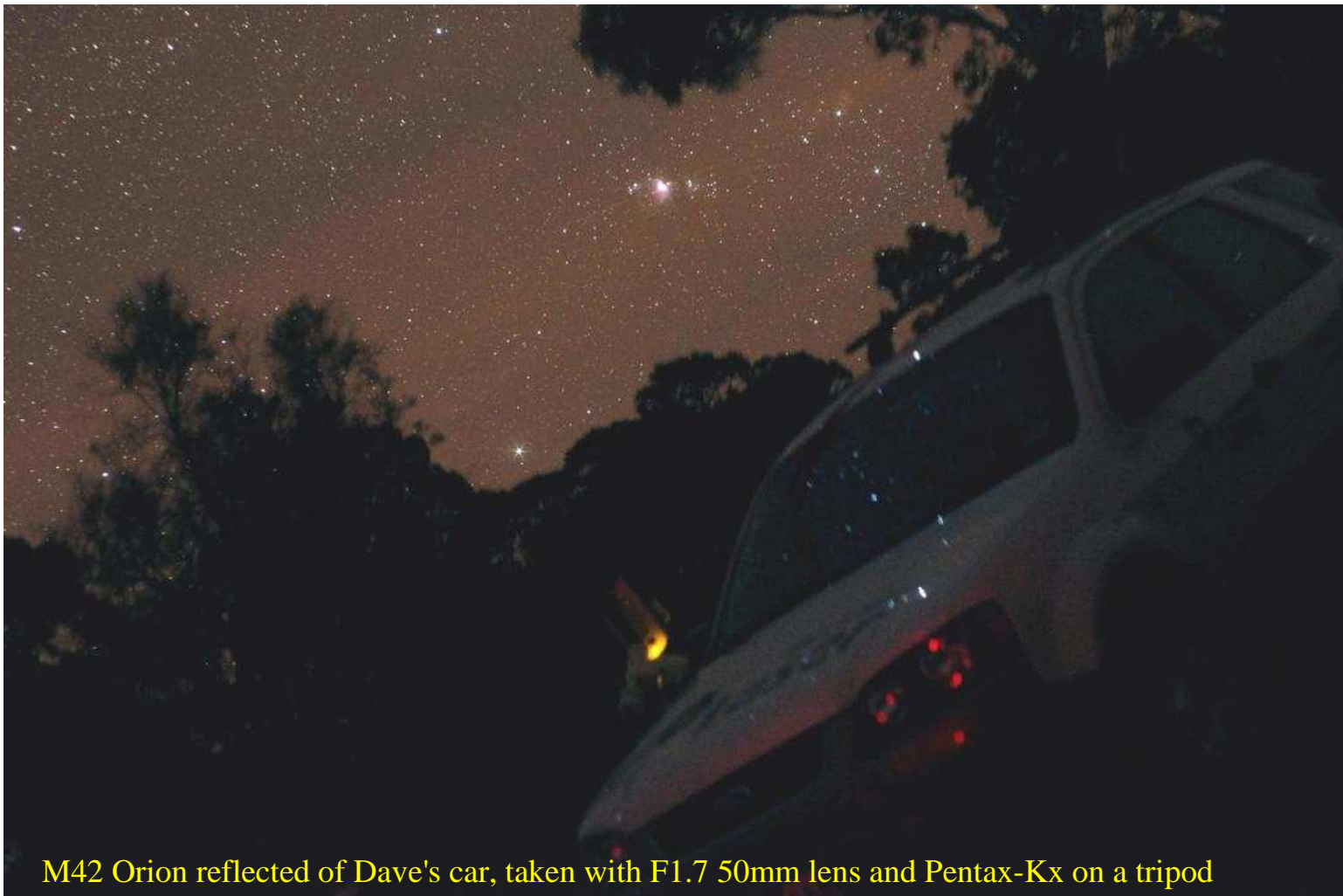
We arrived at the South Pacific Star Party on the Thursday under a clear sky. We set up camp at the far rear of the site were the astrophotographer's hang out, though this year the astrophotographer's out numbered the visual astronomers and most set up on the visual field. Dave brought along his 240v generator so we did not have to rely on batteries, as there is no mains power on site. (right) They do provide a battery charging station but this is over worked and 500 meter away from us. (bottom right) The land here is very much like the ASV's LMDSS site at Heathcote dry and dusty. As I travelled in Dave's car I could only bring one scope, my ED80 on EQ6 which would be well suited for the par-shall solar eclipse on the Friday morning. Also I would not need a hair drier to remove dew as the ED80 has dew heaters. I also brought along my Polaris tracker and PST. Kevin brought along his 12" Meade and concentrated on visual objects. Dave brought along his 200mm Vixen and S-big camera. Early on that night, smoke from near by back burning sent the sky red and did not clear till mid-night when a breeze started. It was a very busy night with no time for drinking port.

Friday morning we awoke to a clear sky, we quickly fired up the generator and switch on the scopes in readiness to image the par-shall solar eclipse. We all had problems with trees but seen most of eclipse. (See bottom) Then we bombed out till evening, then we wandered down to the food tent where the scout were cooking a large range of goodies, we all had the works burgers. This was the best night with steady seeing and no clouds, all nights I had 2 time lapse cameras running and the ED80 also imaging. At 9:30 Dave wandered back to the scouts tent to get the nightly mandatory bag of doughnuts.

Saturday was when most things happen, with lots of talks from guest speakers, astrophotography competition, workshops, telescope making awards, door prizes, group photo, Roast dinner and sky tours. Dave picked up third prize in the deep sky astrophotography competition. It was another good night even though clouds did shut us down between 11:00 to 12:30

Sunday morning was very dewy and took some time to dry out the gear, before it was time to pack up camp and hit the road back to Victoria.





M42 Orion reflected of Dave's car, taken with F1.7 50mm lens and Pentax-Kx on a tripod



Main observing Field at South Pacific Star Party.

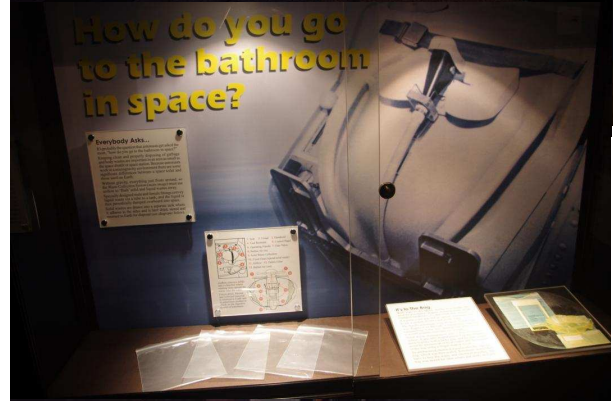


Astrophotography competition and Workshops at South Pacific Star Party

MPAS at NASA Deep Space Centre at Tidbinbilla Canberra, *By Greg Walton*

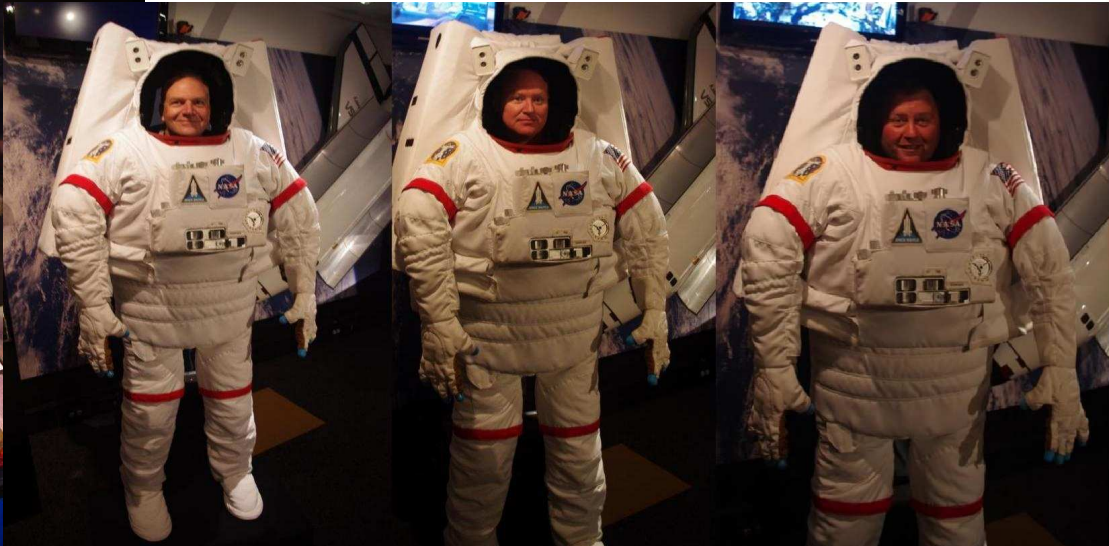
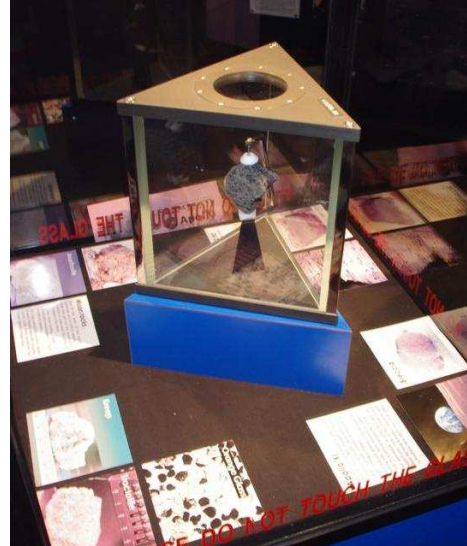
After leaving the SPSP we decide it was too far to drive back home in one go, so we went to Canberra to check out the NASA Deep Space Centre at Tidbinbilla. We were pleasantly surprised to find it was well worth the trip. The information centre had a very impressive display of space craft, space suits, Mars Drovers, satellites, Rockets, space food, space toilet and a piece of Moon Rock.

Right Dave photographing the dishes.



Well worth the trip!!!!!!

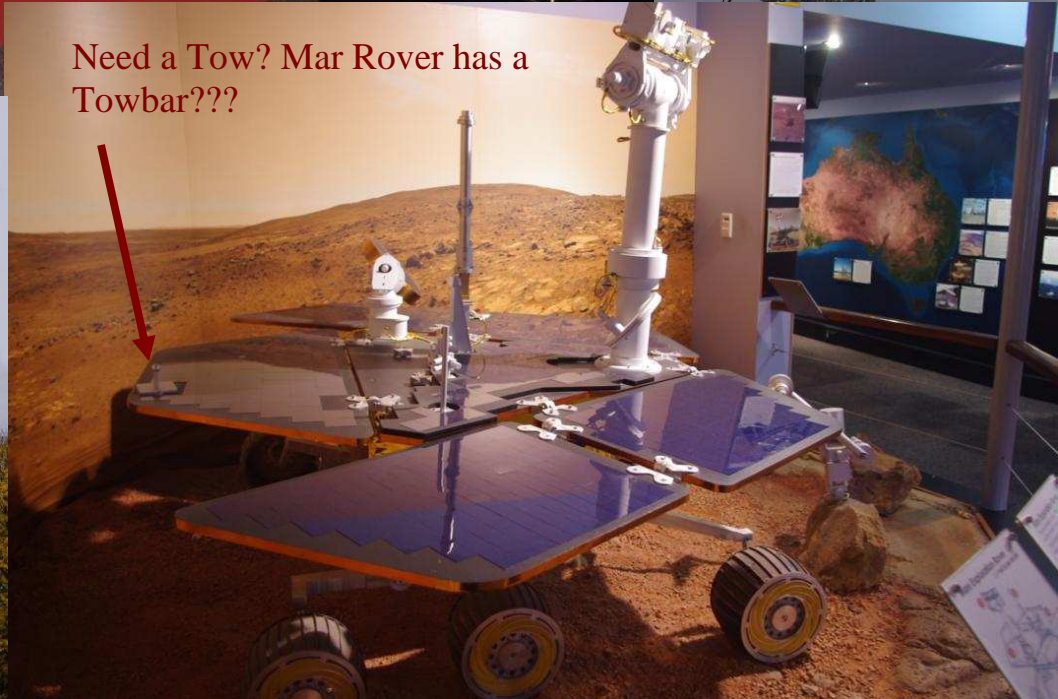
It rained most of the day but we did not care, because we got to play space men, also we got to see and stand very close to a piece of the moon (see bottom left)



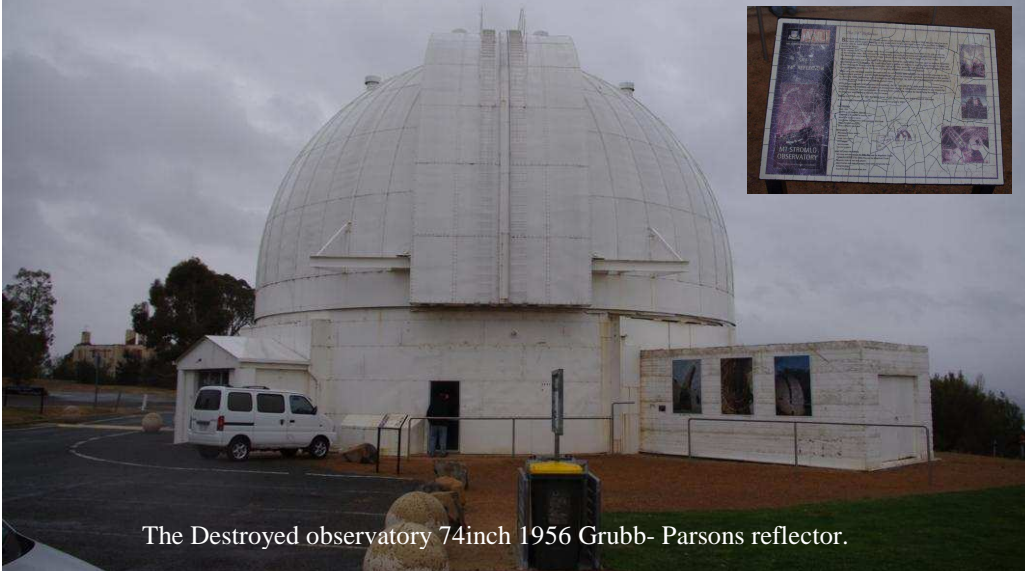
The largest Dish is almost as big as the Parks dish but spends most of the time communicating with space probes and satellites. We could not get close to the dishes like at Parks, due to a high wire fences. (See below) The full size Mars Rovers looked like they are fitted with towbars now? (See below) There is a café and gift shop there were I bought some pencil sharpener models of a Lunar Lander and Space Shuttle. We will most likely be back next year to do this all again.



Need a Tow? Mar Rover has a Towbar???



MPAS at Mt Stromlo, Canberra, *By Greg Walton*



The Destroyed observatory 74inch 1956 Grubb- Parsons reflector.

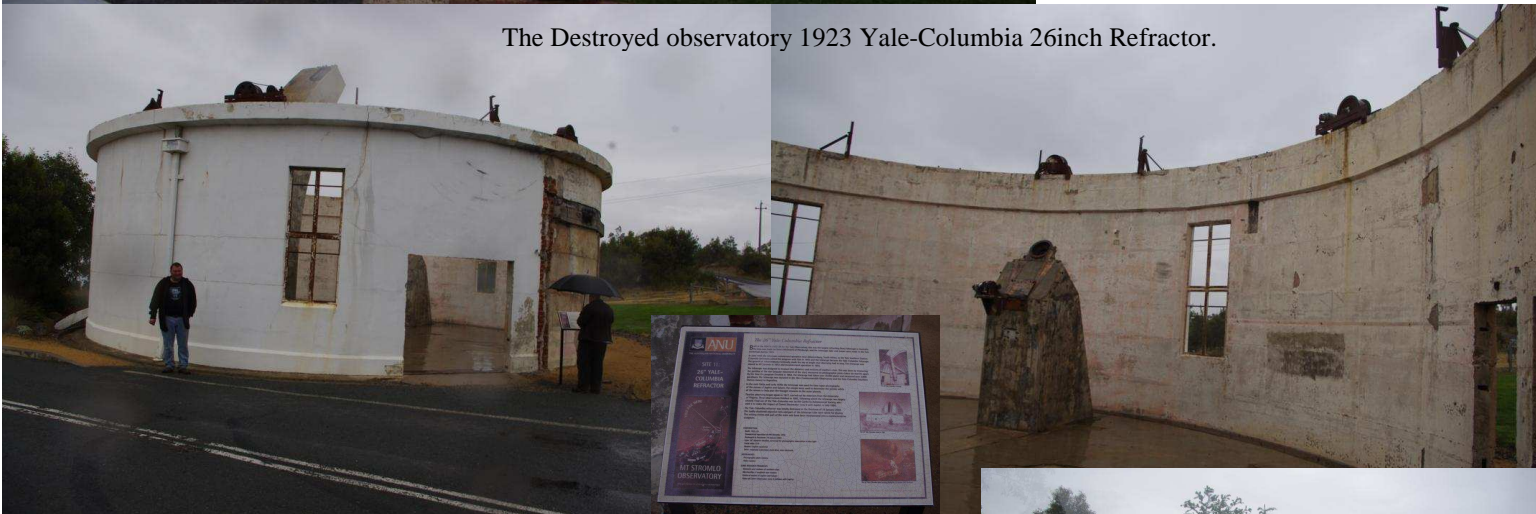
On the way to Tidbinbilla we dropped in on Mt Stromlo, I wish I had got to see all the telescopes before the fires which did so much damage. The dome at left looked operational at first glance, but housed a destroyed 74inch 1956 Grubb- Parsons reflector.

Below was the remains of the observatory that housed the 1923 Yale-Columbia 26inch Refractor.

Below that is the remains of the observatory that housed the Great Melbourne telescope which is now in storage at the Melbourne museum.

Very bottom is the remains of the observatory that housed the 1888 9inch James Oddie Refractor from Ballarat.

The Destroyed observatory 1923 Yale-Columbia 26inch Refractor.



The Destroyed observatory of The Great Melbourne telescope

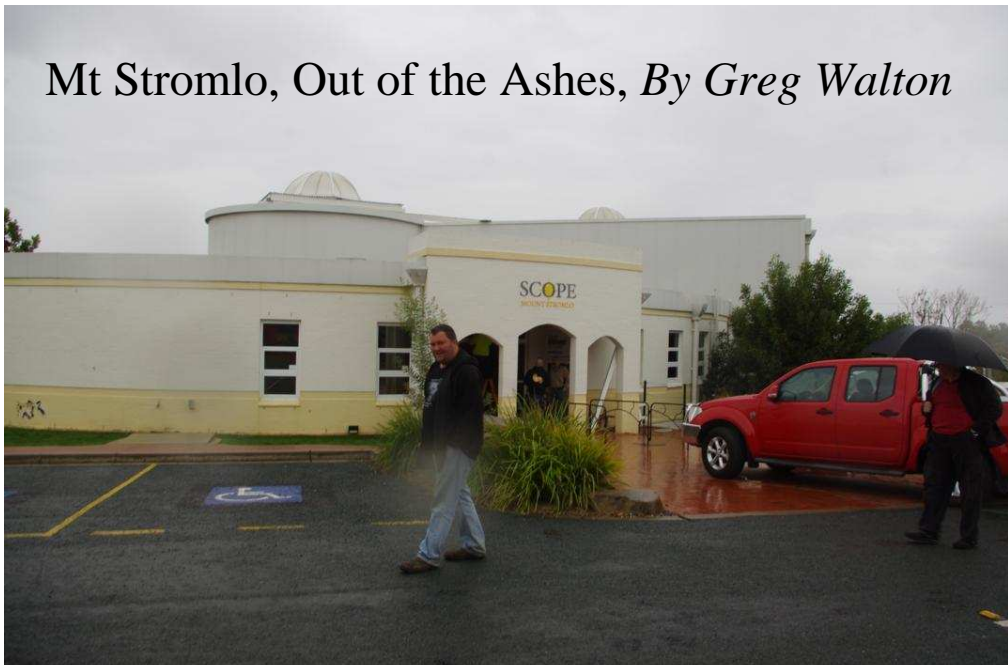


The Destroyed observatory 1888 9inch James Oddie Refractor



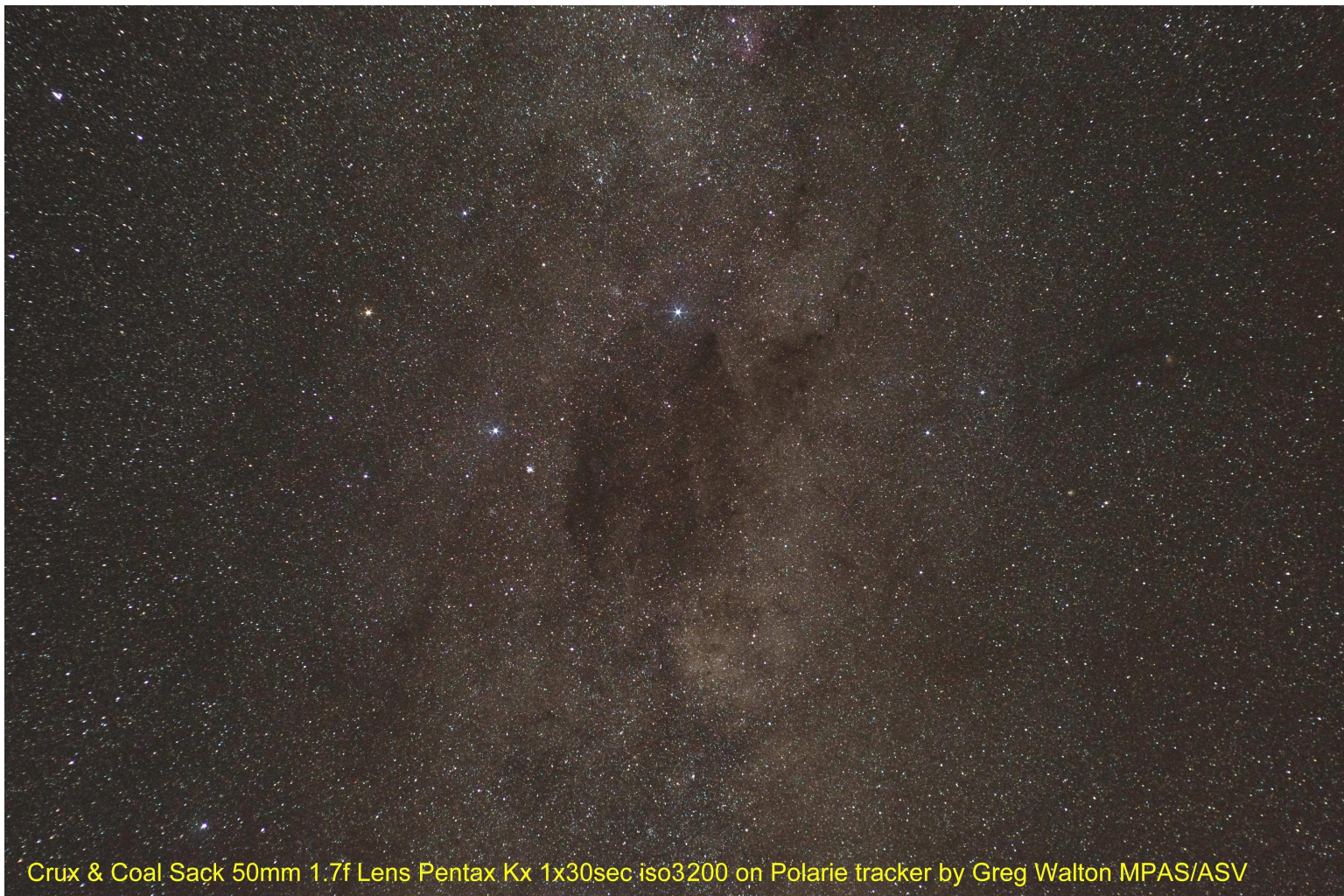
Mt Stromlo, Out of the Ashes, *By Greg Walton*

The Café and education centre did survive the fires but was closed Mondays, the day we were there. There has been some new observatories built since the fires 3 small domes for education purpose and a marble Moon below with Kev & Dave contemplating doing a moon dance. Bottom photo looks like a telescope but is a new Space research centre Laser range finder for measuring the distance to pieces of space junk built by EOS for more information go to www.eos-aus.com



EOS Space research centre Laser range finder www.eos-aus.com

The Members Gallery



Crux & Coal Sack 50mm 1.7f Lens Pentax Kx 1x30sec iso3200 on Polarie tracker by Greg Walton MPAS/ASV



Aurora 1 June 2013 Elephant Rock Flinders By Dave Rolfe

The Members Gallery

M16 @ SPSP 2013, Vixen VC200 Atlux Mount SKLIK camera 3 hours Luminance (over two nights),
1 hour each with Red, Blue & Green Filters. Image by Dave Rolfe



M83 @ SPSP 2013, Vixen VC200 Atlux Mount SKLIK camera
3 hours Luminance (10 min subs 1 hour each with Red, Blue
& Green Filters. Image by Dave Rolfe



SOCIETY INFORMATION



Peter Lowe



Dave Rolfe



Peter Skilton



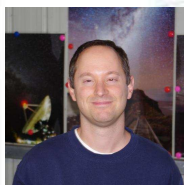
Jamie Poole



Trevor Hand



Ian Sullivan



Simon Hamm



Greg Walton - Please send your articles to gwpmpas@gmail.com

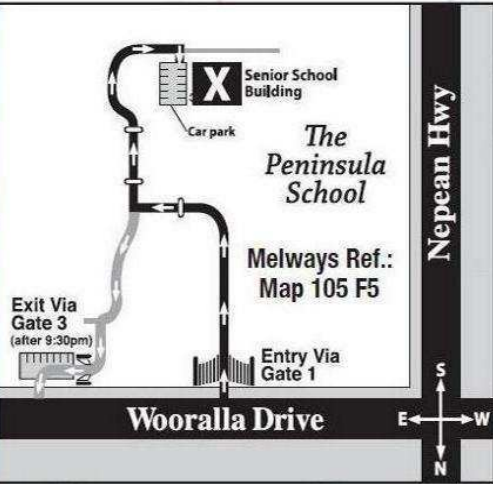
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Phone Contact: Peter Skilton - 0419 253 252

Secretary: Peter Skilton
Treasurer: Jamie Poole
Web Master: Steven Mohr
Scorpius Editor: Greg Walton
Library: Fiona Murray

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Meeting Venue: The Peninsula School, Wooralla Drive, Mt. Eliza, (Melways ref. 105/F5) in the Senior School at 8pm, on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except December).
 Entry is via the main gates or Gate 3, off Wooralla Drive. Exit is via Gate 3 Only after 9:30pm (see map).
For additional details:
Internet: <http://www.mpas.asn.au>
email: welcome@mpas.asn.au
Phone: 0419 253 252
Mail: P.O. Box 596, Frankston 3199, Victoria, Australia.



LIBRARY

The Society also has books and videos for loan from it's library, made available on most members nights at The Briars site, contact Fiona Murray.

E-SCORPIUS NEWSGROUP

M.P.A.S. main line of communication is the online newsgroup called E-Scorpius. Here you will be kept up to date with the latest M.P.A.S. news and event information as well as being able to join in discussions and ask questions with other members.
 To join, go to: <http://groups.com/group/e-scorpius> and sign up to Yahoo groups - You require to sign up to Yahoo groups to join E-Scorpius. Once you have signed up at Yahoo groups, email welcome@mpas.asn.au saying that you want to join E-Scorpius and you will be added to the E-Scorpius list.

VIEWING NIGHTS - MEMBERS ONLY

Any night, at The Briars, Nepean Hwy, Mt. Martha, starting at dusk.
 Members visiting The Briars for the first time must contact Greg Walton on either 9773 0098 or 0415 172 503 if they need help in getting to the site. Upon arrival at the site, remember to sign the attendance book in the observatory building.
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