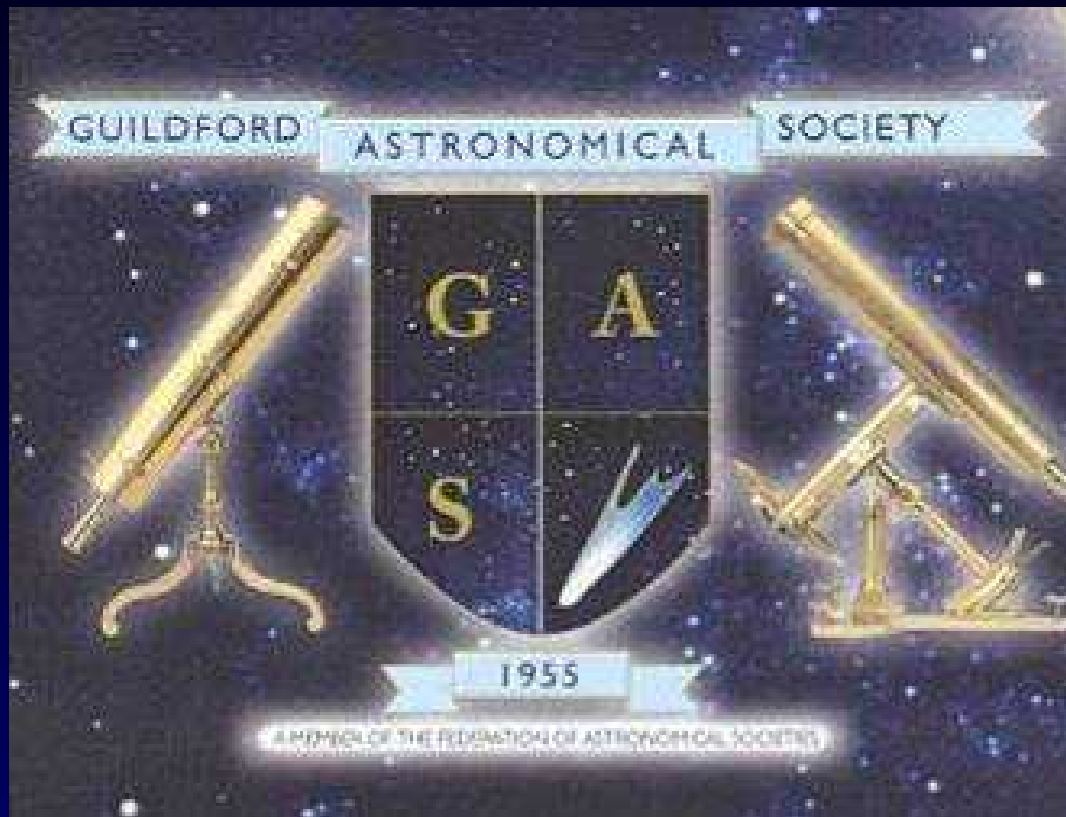
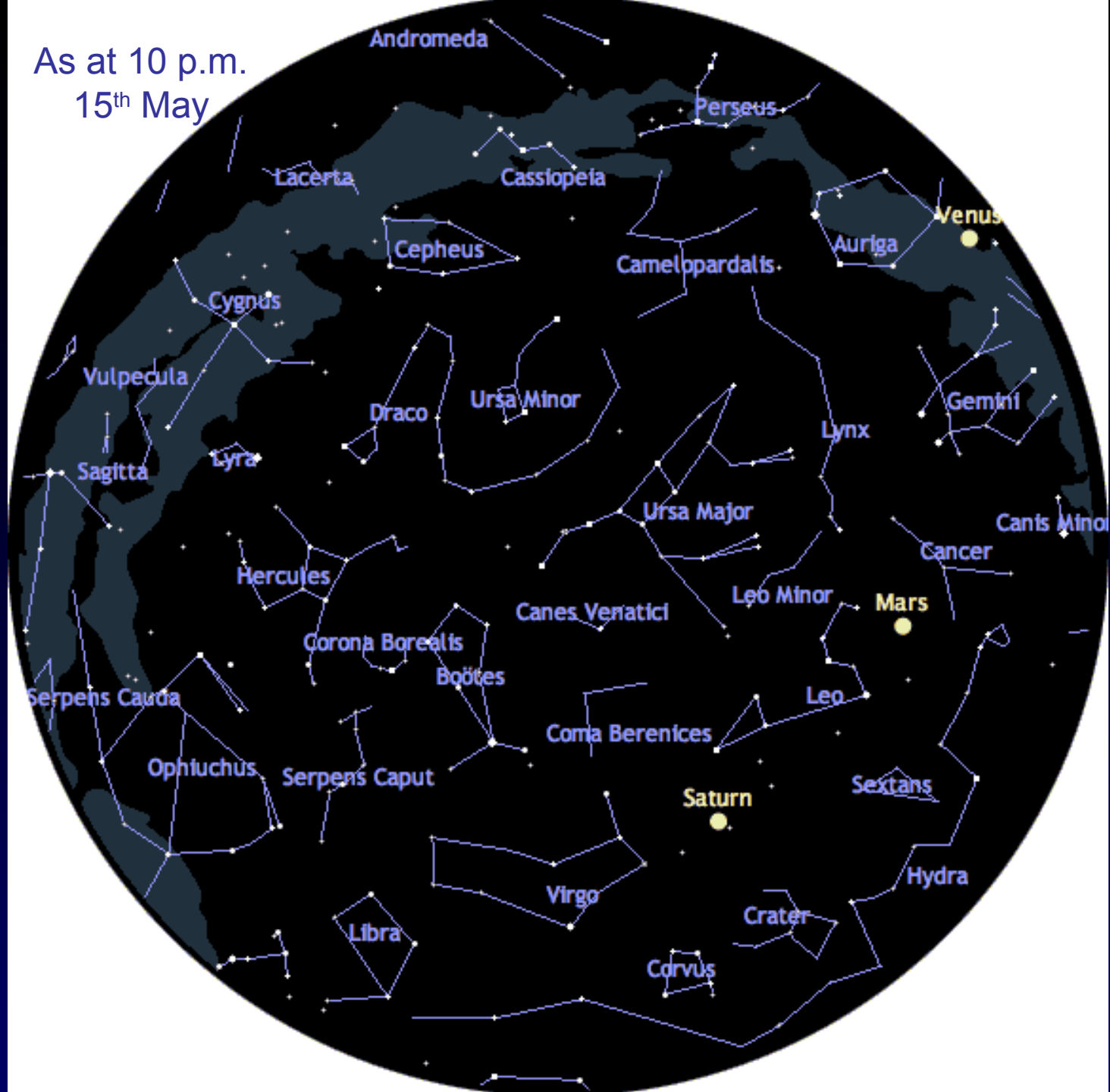


What's Up!

6th May 2010



As at 10 p.m.
15th May

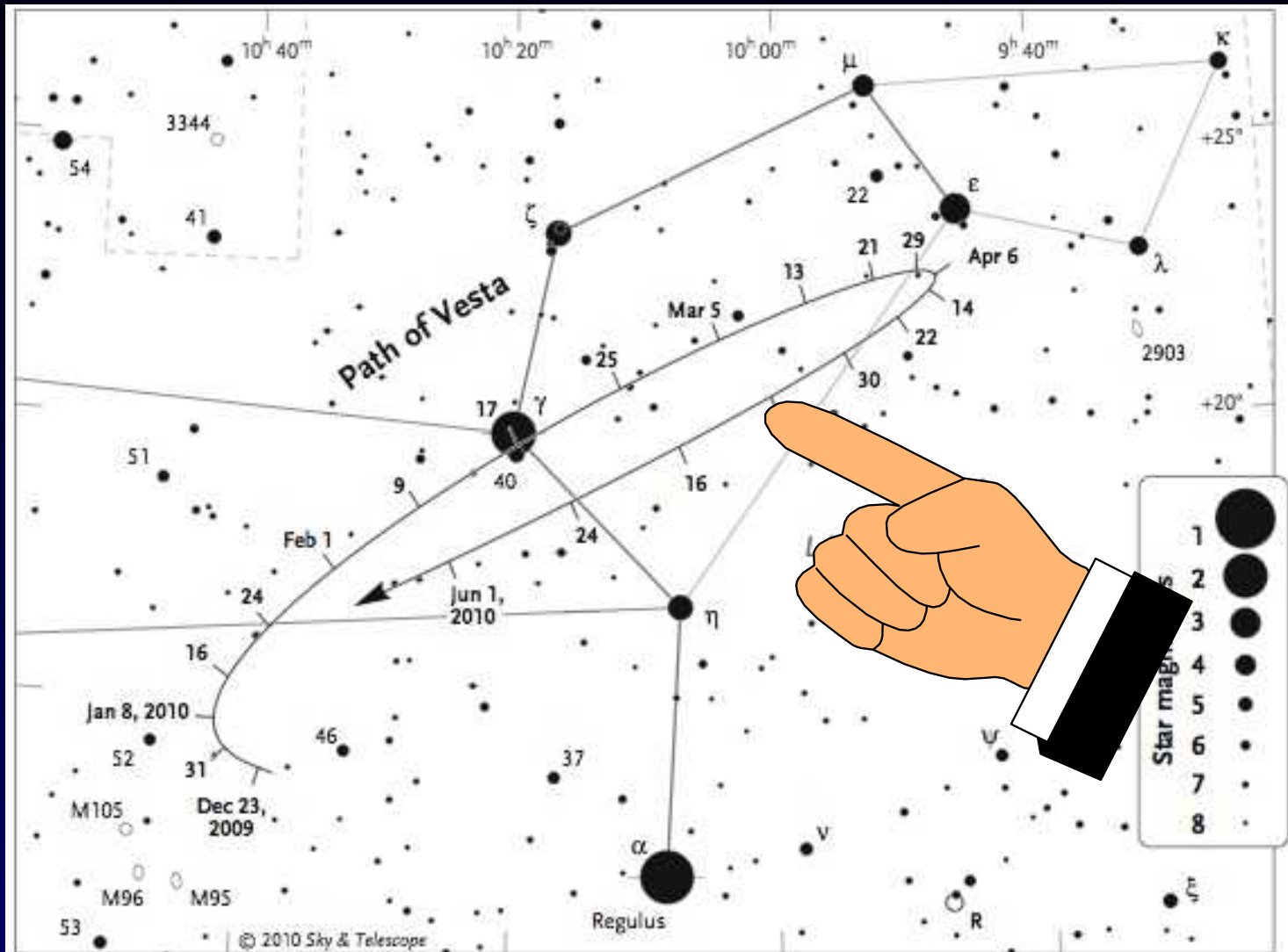


What's Up - Planets

- **Mercury**
 - Not visible again until September
- **Venus**
 - Visible throughout the month, very low after sunset, at Mag -3.9, moving from Taurus into Gemini.
- **Mars**
 - Fading. Evening object moving from Cancer into Leo. Very small disc of only 7.5" diameter, Mag +0.9
- **Jupiter**
 - Morning object rising 2 hrs before the Sun at Mag -2.1.
- **Saturn**
 - Still well placed, due South in Virgo around midnight at Mag +0.9 and 19.5" diameter.
- **Uranus**
 - Not favourable.
- **Neptune**
 - Improving, a morning object in Aquarius, Mag 7.9

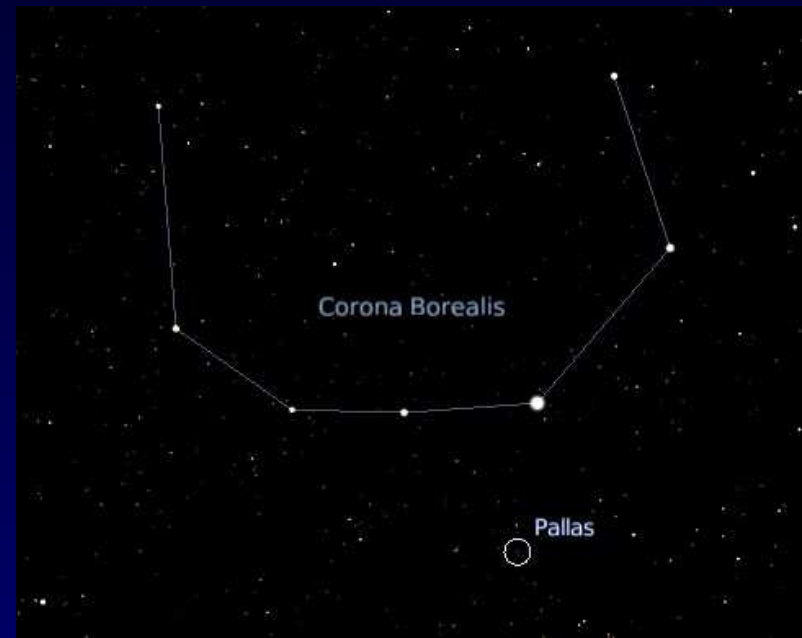
What's Up – Asteroid Vesta

- Magnitude 7.4



What's Up – Other Asteroids

- Ceres - Mag 7.4 in Sagittarius
 - Appears in front of Lagoon Nebula (M8) on 2nd June
- Pallas – Mag 8.6 in Serpens
 - Just past opposition
 - Approx 2° below Alphecca, α Corona Borealis



What's Up – May's Photo Opportunities

- **9th & 10th** : Waning crescent Moon close to Jupiter before sunrise
- **16th May** : Venus very close to Moon, just after sunset
 - *if you've not found Venus in daytime, then look at the Moon at about 11 a.m., Venus will be less than 1° away, certainly visible in binoculars*
- **21st** : Venus less than 1° from M35 in Gemini

What's Up – Meteors

- 13th : alpha Scorpiids 2nd maxima, favourable Moon, but low rates – 5 per hour

What's Up – Comets

- Comet C/2009 R1 McNaught
 - Moving from Pisces, through bottom of Pegasus, below Andromeda

What's Up – Occultations

- 28th May 03.10 BST sigma Scorpii disappears
04.13 BST sigma Scorpii reappears

Astronomy on TV & Radio - May

- **The Sky at Night**
– *“The Ring”*



- Sir Patrick Moore takes a look at the rings of Saturn. Guests include Prof Carl Murray & Prof Michele Dougherty. Pete Lawrence talks about observing the rings.

Saturday 8th, BBC2, 14.45 hrs

Meetings at Local Societies

- **Tuesday 11th May**
 - **Farnham AS** : “Sizing Up Space”, Kevin Pretorius
- **Friday 14th May**
 - **Ewell AS** : “Photographing the Night Sky”, Nik Szymanek