

What's Up!

1st July 2010



What's Up - Planets

- **Mercury**
 - Not visible again until September
- **Venus**
 - Visible throughout the month, very low after sunset, at Mag -3.9, increasing to 25" diameter disc by end August and from a gibbous to 50% phase.
- **Mars**
 - Receding. Evening object in Leo. Small disc of only 4" diameter, Mag +1
- **Jupiter**
 - Morning object rising before midnight at start of month, and will be low in SE at sunset by end August. Increasing to Mag -2.8, Disc 49" diameter
- **Saturn**
 - Becoming less well placed, still in Virgo at Mag +1 and 16" diameter, setting just 2 hrs after the Sun by end of August.
- **Uranus**
 - Stays close to Jupiter throughout month. Mag +5.8, 3.5" disc.
- **Neptune**
 - Improving, a morning object in Aquarius, Mag 7.9, 2.3" disc. At opposition on 20th August.

What's Up – July's Photo Opportunities

- **1st** : Uranus just 2° West of Jupiter
- **4th** : Last quarter Moon just 6.5° North of Jupiter
- **8th** : 02.30 hrs, thin crescent Moon just to right of Pleiades
- **14th** : Moon, Saturn and Mars form right-angled triangle
- **30th** : Waning gibbous Moon just 7° North of Jupiter
- **21st** : Mars just 2° South of Saturn, Venus another 4° South West of Saturn

What's Up – Meteors

- Capricornids (bright blue-white, low rates – 5 per hour)
 - 8th July: 1st maxima, fairly favourable Moon
 - 26th : 3rd maxima, favourable Moon
- Aquarids (faint, low rates – 10 per hour)
 - 6th August: maxima Iota, favourable Moon
 - 7th : maxima Delta, favourable Moon
- Perseids (fast, bright, persistent trains, 80 per hour)
 - 11th /12th maxima, fairly favourable Moon
 - 26th : 3rd maxima, favourable Moon
- Alpha Aurigids (low rates – 10 per hour)
 - 28th August: maxima, favourable Moon

Astronomy on TV & Radio - JULY

- **The Sky at Night**

- *“The Universe from Atlantis”*



- Sir Patrick Moore & Chris Lintott meet the crew of Space Shuttle *Atlantis* on their recent UK visit.

Monday 5th, BBC 1, 00.30 hrs

Tuesday 6th, BBC 4, 19.30 hrs

Astronomy on Radio - JULY

- **“Richard Feynman**
 - **Astronomy Superhero”**
 - ***Prof Brian Cox***
 - A tribute to the first major populariser of modern science and perhaps the most inspirational and celebrated scientist since Einstein

Sat 24th July, BBC Radio 4, 20.00 hrs

Meetings at Local Societies

- **Tuesday 13th July**

- **Farnham AS** : “The Asteroid Impact Threat”, Prof Richard Crowther

- **Friday 9th July**

- **Ewell AS** : “TBA”, Prof. John Brown

- **Saturday 31st July**

- **SPA, London**: “Herschel Space Observatory – early results” , Prof Matt Griffin, plus Robin Scagell, and reports of 2010 Eclipse

