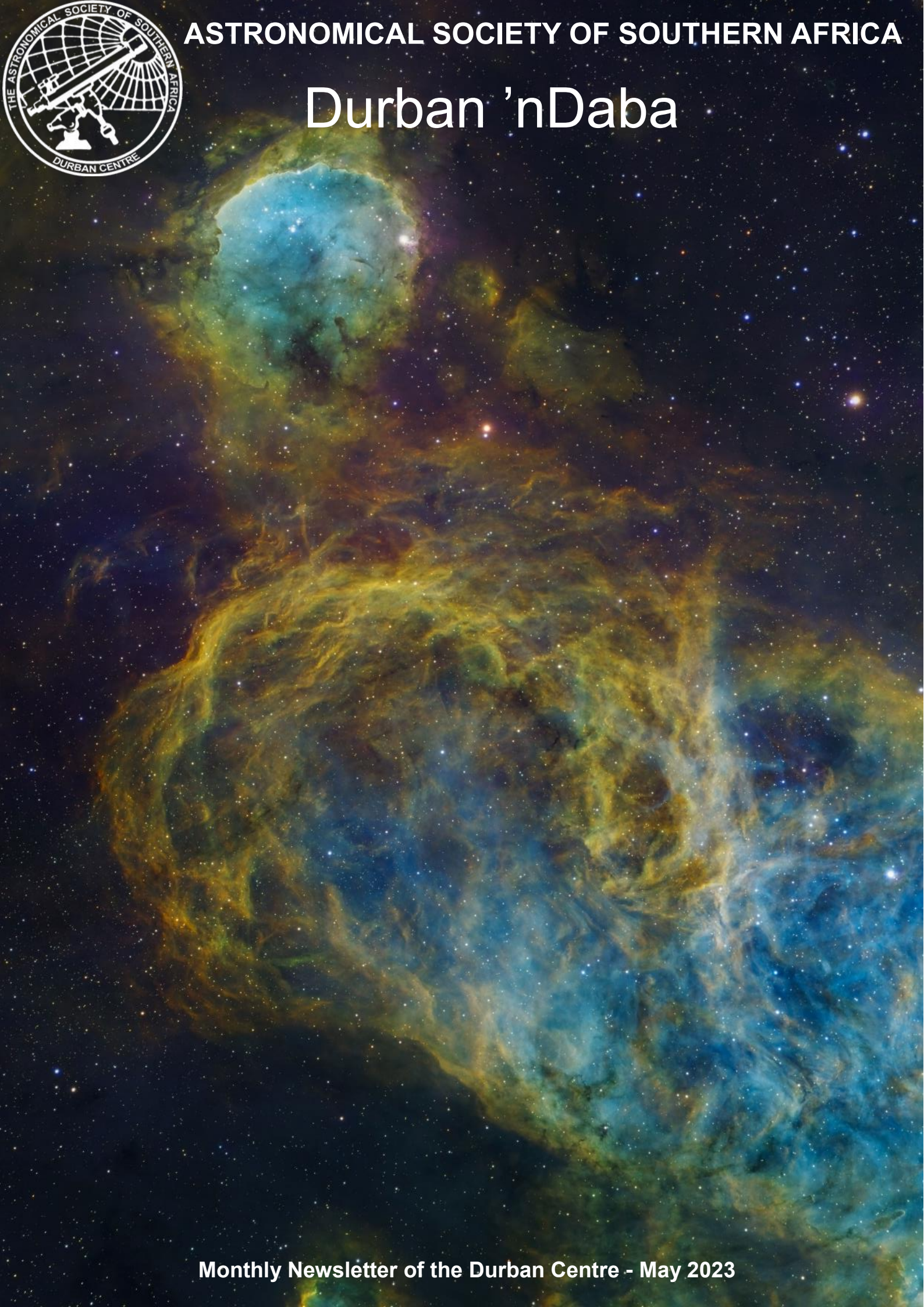




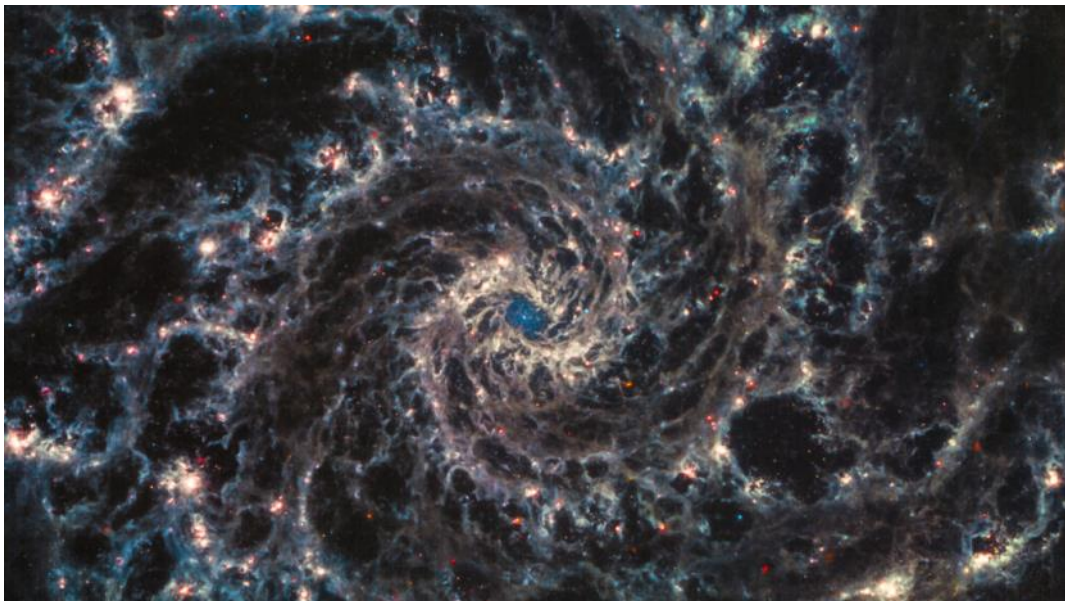
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

# Durban 'nDaba



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## Member Submissions Disclaimer

The views expressed in 'nDaba are solely those of the writer and are not necessarily the views of the ASSA Durban Centre, nor that of the Editor.

All content and images are the work of the respective copyright owners

# Chair's Chat



Greetings ASSA Durban,

The year continues to whizz by at something akin to light speed. On the plus side, skies are clearing as we move towards winter – this also means we have many more requests for events and viewings to squeeze into a limited time span (as Sheryl will elaborate on in later pages). So, busy nights ahead.

So far, we haven't had much success with the hoped for in-person meetings this year; load shedding gets us every time. I'm starting to consider a conspiracy – stage 3 for weeks, until our meeting is due then up to 4 or more.

Those that have been around the Sun a few times with us will recall the many fundraisers for a large telescope. Well, the monster scope never happened and we acquired our current, more modest, one; but that exercise did gather us a tidy little savings sum.

The committee is looking at purchasing a portable power pack to provide power to the projector, and possibly also a new LED projector (our old spot light one swallows power like a black hole, requiring a power pack at the next order of magnitude cost). We will test drive a set up this month with a borrowed power pack and our old projector and see what numbers pop out the other side – we'll use that to decide on which combination to go forward with.

So (drum roll, please), **MAY MEETING IS IN PERSON AT THE SCHOOL**, with or without eishkom, with hybrid for our remote members or anyone who feels they may not negotiate the 3 flights of stairs to the first floor venue.

We will be joining Joburg at 7:30 pm for a presentation on eyepieces but, to accommodate our 'business' and a chat, **WE WILL BE STARTING AT 6:45 PM**. We may not have food and drinks in the classroom so you will have to eat, drink and be merry beforehand. This will be a trial and error process so please bear with us as we try to find an arrangement that works for the majority of our members.

Hope to see many of you, in the flesh, next week.

Regards

Debbie



# Astronomy Delights - Volans

## A Fish Without Wings

By Magda Streicher

The constellation was originally named Piscis Volans to immortalize the flying fish seen by the European mariners during their explorations of the tropical oceans.

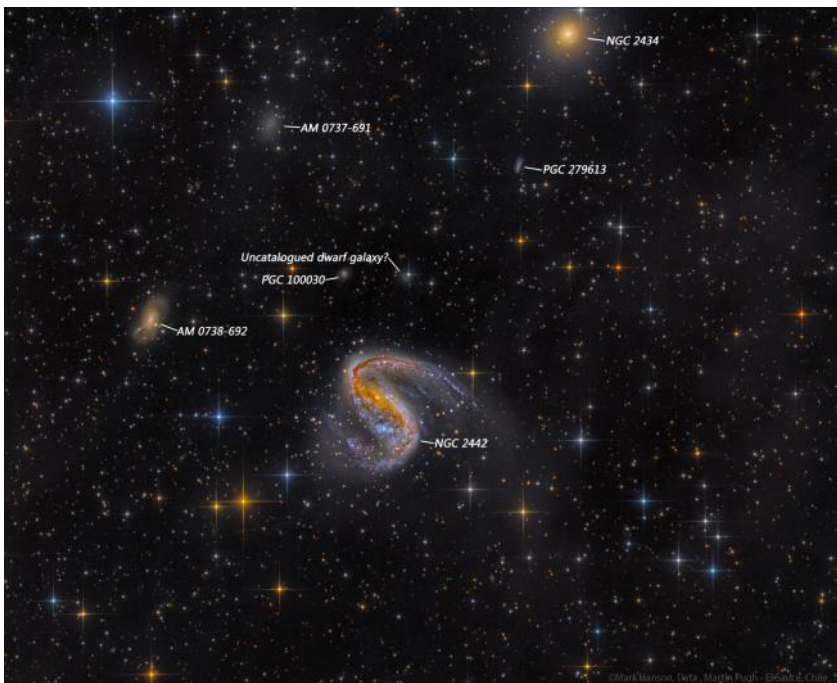
In the northern part of the constellation the cluster NGC 2348 displays a lovely combination of many stars between magnitudes 11 to 13 in a large roundish shape. Prominent in this grouping is a star string running through the dense middle area from north to south. However, the cluster could be a much larger as the indicated size.

Further south the asterism STREICHER 33 are, astonishingly, in the shape of a stick-figure Jumping Jack. The magnitude 8 star HD 56480 on the south-eastern tip forms the head, with the rest of the figure extending north-westward to complete the body and well-defined stiff legs. The field of view consists mainly of yellow and orange-coloured stars.

A well known galaxy is **NGC 2442** to explore - quite easy to spot as a hazy oval mist in moderate telescopes and dark skies. The nucleus is outstanding and with high magnification dark patches can be discerned on the surface. With careful observation the galaxy displays its famous



unmistakable S-shape. A wisp of light curls out from the nucleus and extends with a swing towards the south-east, which can only be part of the spiral arm. Apparently there is a double star in front of the galaxy which could have had an effect on the shape of the nucleus. John Herschel discovered this galaxy in 1834 and thought it was a double nebula with "some sort of hooked appendage". Follow the faint stars northwards to glimpse the faint round smudge of galaxy NGC 2434.



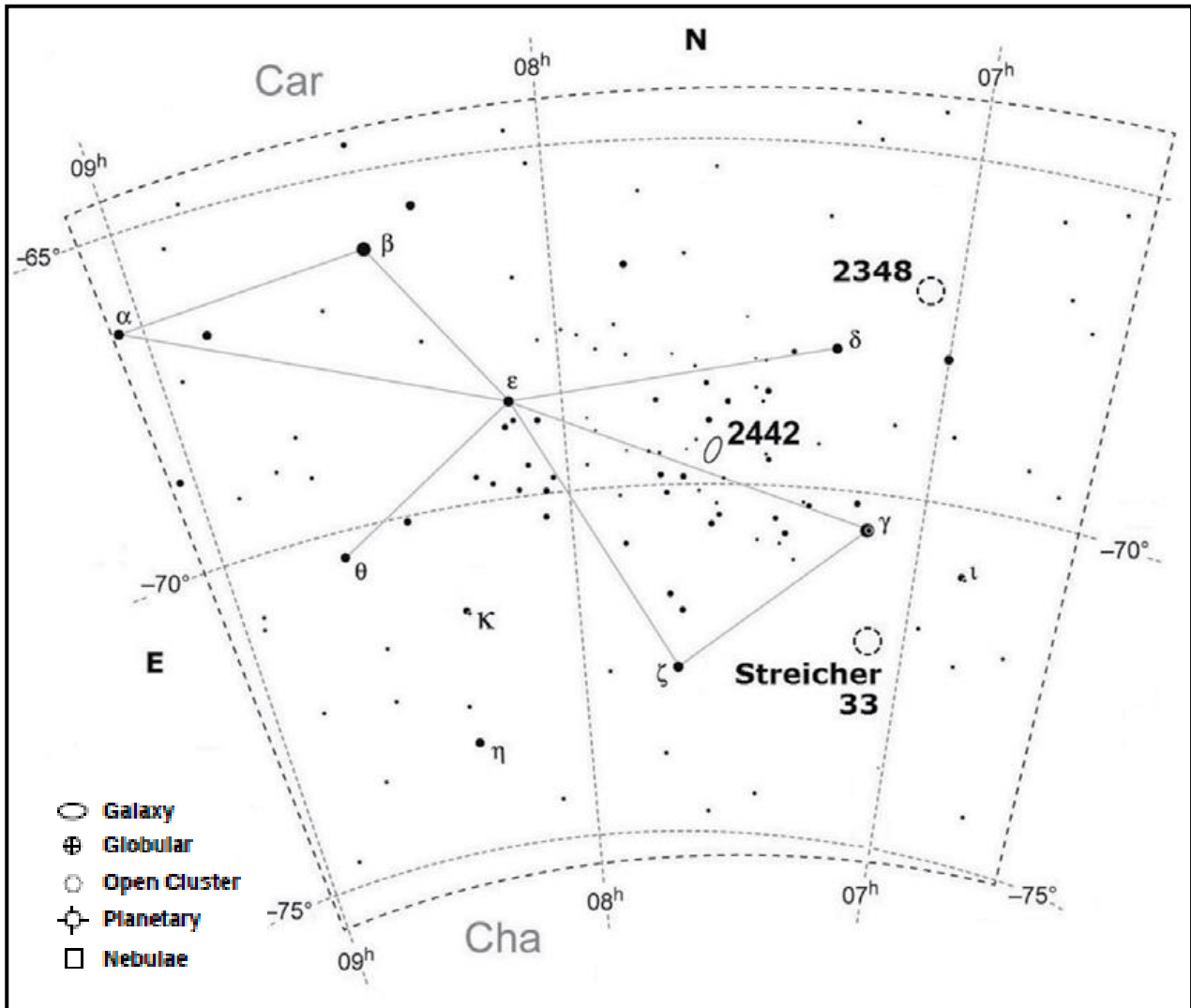
LEFT: NGC 2442 & NGC 2434  
Image: Hansomastronomy.com

*Deep sky dreams are made of objects flying away to the deep oceans of the universe*

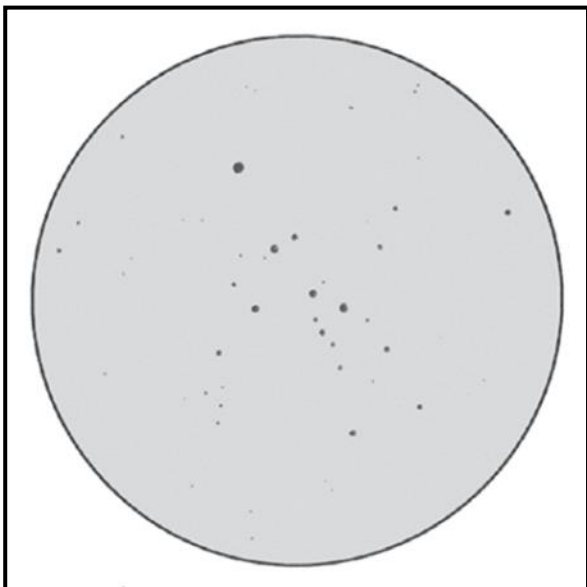
OBJECT	TYPE	RA	DEC	MAG	SIZE
NGC 2348	Open Cluster	07h03m.2	-67°23'.7	9	12'
STREICHER 33	Asterism	07h08m.9	-72°14'.3	8.5	18'
NGC 2442	Galaxy	07h36m.4	-69°31'.5	10.4	5.4'×2.6'



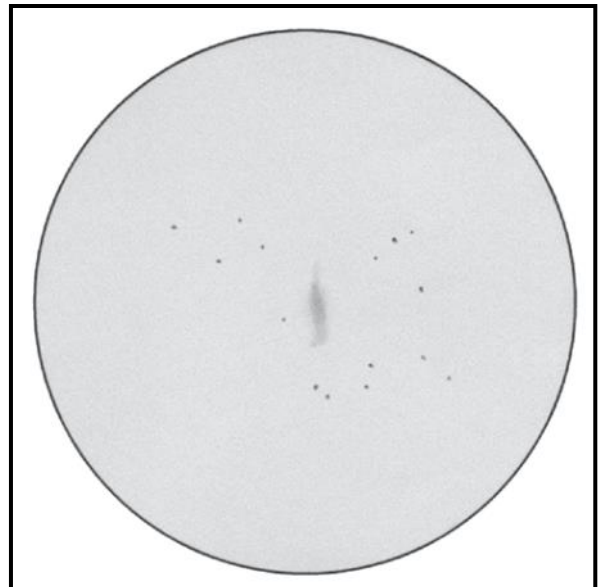
# ...Volans



The Constellation of Volans



STREICHER 33 - Asterism



NGC 2442 - Galaxy



# At the Eyepiece - May 2023

by Ray Field

The Moon. There will be a penumbral eclipse of the Moon on the 5<sup>th</sup>. It starts at 17:13, with a maximum at 19:22. The eclipse ends at 21:31. Unlike a total or partial eclipse, there is no dark umbra of the Earth's shadow on the Moon. It is only a very slight darkening of the Moon and it is easy to pass unnoticed. The maximum altitude of the eclipse from Durban is 27.3°.

The Moon is full on the 5<sup>th</sup>, last quarter on the 12<sup>th</sup>, new on the 19<sup>th</sup> and first quarter on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The Moon is near Spica on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Antares on the 7<sup>th</sup>, tau Sagittarii on the 10<sup>th</sup> (occultation), Saturn on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Jupiter on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Venus on the 23<sup>rd</sup> early before sunrise, the Moon occults iota Geminorum and the Moon is close to Mars and Pollux on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Regulus again on the 27<sup>th</sup> and Spica again on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mercury is at its greatest western elongation of 25° on the 29<sup>th</sup> May. Mercury becomes visible below Jupiter in the morning sky around the middle of the month.

Venus is the very bright planet in the evening sky setting up to 3 hours after the Sun. In a telescope, Venus shows phases like the Moon.

Mars, the "Red Planet" is visible in the evening – "sky twilight" this month. One of its polar caps is usually visible in a telescope, depending on its season. It is usually a naked eye object.

Jupiter is not placed favourably for observation this month, due to its closeness to the Sun. It reappears in the second half of April in the morning sky and will be better placed for viewing as the year progresses.

Saturn, in Aquarius, is visible for more than half the night. It rises about midnight and sets in the dawn glare. Looking North it lies between the bright star Fomalhaut and the "Great Square of Pegasus". Saturn is a bright object easily visible to the naked eye. The rings and its brightest moon, Titan, may be visible in a fairly small telescope. I have often seen it in a little refractor and in my 6" and 8" reflectors. Titan is slightly larger than the planet Mercury as per Norton's Star Atlas. Saturn is about 9.5 times the distance from the Sun to the Earth.

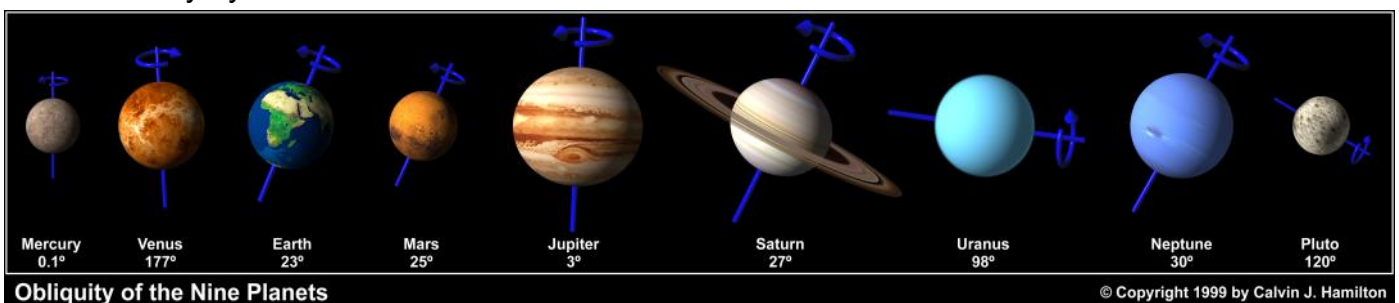
Uranus, just visible to the naked eye under good dark skies and is about 19 times the distance from the Sun to the Earth.

Comet 364P/PanStars will be nearest the Sun on the 16<sup>th</sup> May at an estimated possible maximum magnitude of 9. Its orbital period is 4.89 years.

Meteor Showers. The eta Aquariids have their maximum activity on the 6<sup>th</sup> May with a Zenithal Hourly Rate of 50. The radiant is 2° South. Their period of activity is from 19<sup>th</sup> April to the 28<sup>th</sup> May. The time to watch is from 03:30 to 05:30. Although the full Moon on the 5<sup>th</sup> May will hinder observation, it is still a good idea to keep a watch. See page 86 of the ASSA Sky Guide 2023.

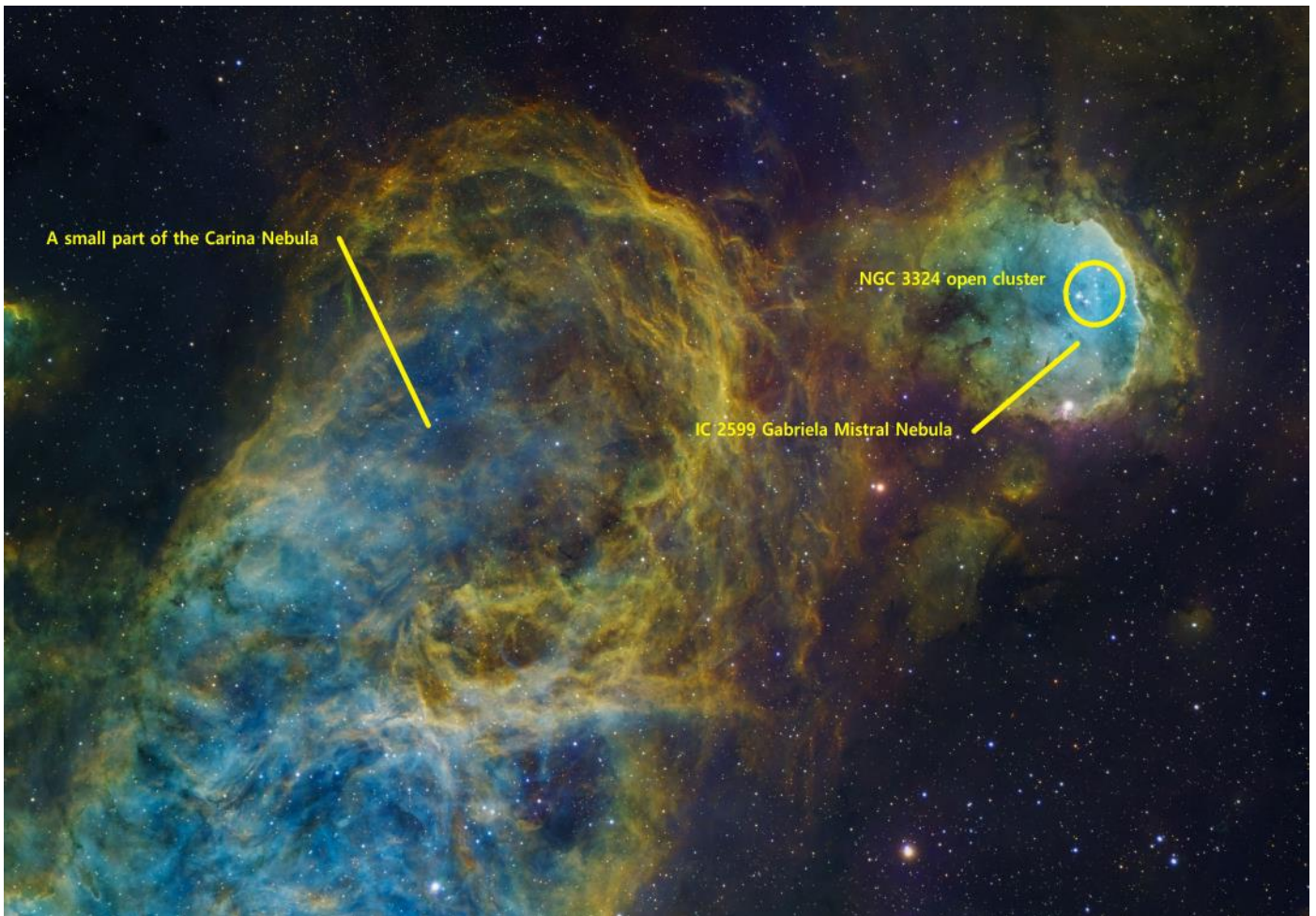
The starry sky from Durban. Orion is setting in the West and Scorpius rising in the Southeast. The legend of the scorpion stinging the hunter in the heel, fits with their arrangement in the sky. Messier 7 or Ptolemy's Cluster is a good example of an open cluster. Messier 7 needs binoculars to reveal its starry nature. The Southern Cross is rising over the Southeast.

References include ASSA Sky Guide 2023, Philips Planisphere for 35° and Stars of the Southern Sky by Sir Patrick Moore.



# The Cover Image - The Lagoon Nebula

by Gerald de Beer




After many months of clouds, I enjoyed the first 4 consecutive nights of clear skies but had 95% humidity. I aimed at NGC 3324 over 2 of those evenings.

NGC 3324 is an open cluster in the southern constellation Carina, located northwest of the Carina Nebula at a distance of 9,100 light years from Earth. It is closely associated with the emission nebula IC 2599, also known as Gum 31. The two are often confused as a single object, and together have been nicknamed the "Gabriela Mistral Nebula" due to its resemblance to the Chilean poet. (per Wikipedia).

Total of 9h10 mins of lights (integration time) from my garden at home. I processed the narrow band images starless and then added in the RGB stars taken separately.


Camera: ZWO ASI2600MM Pro cooled  
SkyWatcher EQ6-R Pro mount

Ha, SII and OIII : 35 x 5 minutes of each at -10deg C  
R, G and B: 20 x 30 seconds of each at -10 deg C.

Processed in PixInsight. 

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## Index Page

New JWST images of face-on spiral galaxies like NGC 628 (shown) reveal whorls of gas and dust, pockmarked with dark voids. These voids are thought to be bubbles in the gas and dust created by radiation from young, massive stars, and by supernovas. NASA, ESA, CSA, JUDY SCHMIDT 

# ASSA Durban - Outreach Events

Coordinated by Sheryl Venter

Events are picking up to the levels before Covid.

Our members have always enjoyed coming to the events for the pleasure of increasing and sharing their knowledge. The purpose of Outreach is to introduce people to Astronomy. We always hope this will serve to increase membership numbers and keep the Durban Centre alive.

Star Party Crews are needed to assist at all events so any member who has not been to a Public Viewing, a Public Outreach Event or to School Outreach is welcome. Attending and learning from the experts in person is the best way. The admiration and awe from children (and their parents) when you can tell them what they see in the sky is endlessly rewarding. You don't need a telescope or a vast store of knowledge to have fun and enjoy working an Outreach Event. Binoculars are also good to bring along. At our events, people realise that the night sky comes alive with binos. They ask how to use their home telescopes. Children ask about the "Man on the Moon". Outreach is sharing and sharing is good.

## SUMMARY OF PLANNED EVENTS

19 May – Public Viewing with Home Schoolers – Piet Strauss, Claire Odhav, Maryanne Jackson as hosts. Mike Hadlow and John Gill on the telescope – to be confirmed.

20 May – Farm Adventures Mtuzini Private Star Party – Debbie Abel, Piet Strauss

28 May – International Astronomical Symposium at Sani Pass Hotel. By invitation a few ASSA members will be there to show off the Southern Skies to international guests. Arranged by Piet Strauss.

15 July – Monteseel Conservancy – Presenter to be confirmed. All members welcome to attend – ASSA crew and members do not pay entry fees!

21 July – St Henrys School Open Evening for Scholars and Parents only. Moya O Donoghue and Piet Strauss. Dome and Star Party Crew to be confirmed.

1-10 September – Trees and Seas Festival where we will be showcasing ASSA: Durban Centre

## MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EACH EVENT

19 MAY – PUBLIC VIEWING - The monthly public viewing on the 19 May will be extra special. A group of Home Schooled children and their parents are coming.

Piet Strauss and Maryanne Jackson will be presenting The Sky Tonight. Piet gave a daytime talk to the children a few weeks ago. This made the children excited to see the Observatory and telescope.

Public Viewings are open to school groups by arrangement. On these evenings a few extra members are needed to assist with additional telescopes, binoculars or lasers.

Anyone who has been to the Observatory Training recently can come along to enjoy and widen their experience.

The viewing will still be open to the general public.



## ... Outreach Events

20 MAY – STAR PARTY AT FARM ADVENTURES, MTUNZIN - Privately arranged public event (not an official ASSA event). In 2022 members who took their telescopes and gave a presentation in their private capacity especially enjoyed the vegan food and dark skies. There is an entry fee for this event.

15 JULY – STAR PARTY AT MONTESEEL CONSERVANCY, DRUMMOND – our annual fundraising event in partnership with Monteseel Conservancy. All members welcome to attend this open air star party. Bring telescopes, binoculars and lasers and be a member of the ASSA Durban Centre Star Party Team. Dark skies, fresh air and a wonderful family atmosphere with camp fires and picnic blankets. Advert to be circulated later.

21 JULY – STAR PARTY AT ST HENRYS MARIST SCHOOL, GLENWOOD. For scholars and their families only. Star Party Team Members will be appreciated.

1-10 September – TREES AND SEAS FESTIVAL AT BEACHWOOD MANGROVES, DURBAN NORTH. We have been asked to host an Astronomical Evening during the festival. Specific date still to be determined. Star Party Team members




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## Astronomy & Space News

Please see below latest links to read at your leisure::

Mysterious Radio Signals in Space Keep Repeating

<https://www.sciencealert.com/mysterious-radio-signals-in-space-keep-repeating-astronomers-just-picked-up-25-more>

Solar storm DANGER! Intense solar flare explosion sparks blackouts on Earth, NASA says

<https://tech.hindustantimes.com/tech/news/solar-storm-danger-intense-solar-flare-explosion-sparks-blackouts-on-earth-nasa-says-71682998801145.html>

Alien replies to NASA's spacecraft signals might reach us by 2029

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2371222-alien-replies-to-nasas-spacecraft-signals-might-reach-us-by-2029/>

NASA animation sizes up the universe's biggest black holes

<https://phys.org/news/2023-05-nasa-animation-sizes-universe-biggest.html>

Webb finds water vapor, but is it from a rocky planet or its star?

<https://phys.org/news/2023-05-webb-vapor-rocky-planet-star.html>

New measurements suggest rethinking the shape of the Milky Way galaxy

<https://phys.org/news/2023-05-rethinking-milky-galaxy.html>

Hubble observes lenticular galaxy NGC 3489

<https://phys.org/news/2023-05-hubble-lenticular-galaxy-ngc.html>

A stormy, active sun may have kickstarted life on Earth

<https://phys.org/news/2023-05-stormy-sun-kickstarted-life-earth.html>

Space calendar 2023: Rocket launches and sky watching dates | Space

<https://www.space.com/32286-space-calendar.html>



# Librarian's Page

I chanced upon a lovely article in astronomy.com and wanted to share a part of it with my fellow sky and book lovers....

(Books 1,2 &3 are summarised here.

We'll continue with the list next month, fingers crossed.)

Happy reading,

Claire.

## Top 10 astronomy books of all time

*Often leading to paradigm shifts in how we understand the universe, these classic works will continue to withstand the test of time.*

By [Raymond Shubinski](#) | Published: Monday, January 23, 2023  
|astronomy.com

*[...] These 10 astronomy books have had a significant impact not only on astronomical science, but also on the way humans think about our place and purpose in the cosmos. And for that, they should certainly be considered some of the most important astronomy books of all time.*

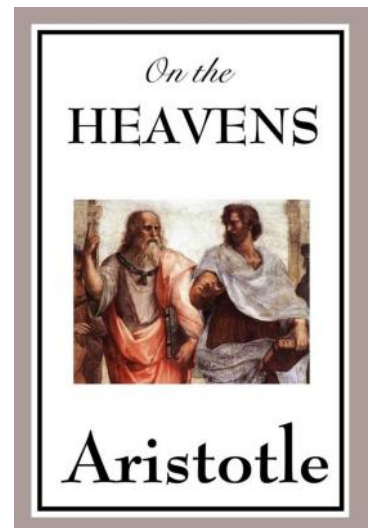
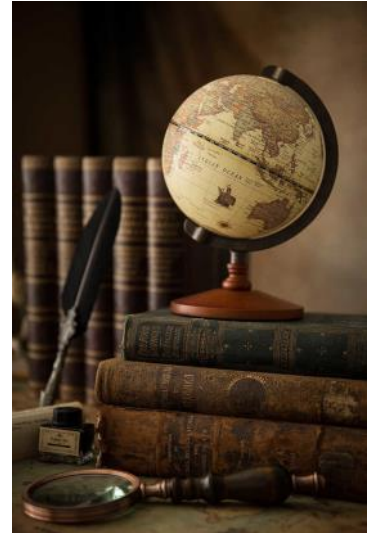
### 1. *On the Heavens*, Aristotle (circa 350 b.c.)

*On the Heavens*, written by Aristotle nearly 2,400 years ago, is perhaps the most influential astronomy book in history. This work's continued importance stems mostly from its historical significance to the Catholic Church. Aristotle's work was adopted as a true description of God's creation linked to biblical text. The separation of corruptible Earth from perfect heaven and the description of a geocentric universe aligned with the teachings of the Church. At the time of its writing, it provided compelling answers to a pre-telescopic world, even impacting historical events that would later follow. For instance, Christopher Columbus used the book, in part, as an inspiration for his voyages. Eventually, almost everything in it was proven incorrect, but *On the Heavens*, which is still in print, provides a fascinating view of astronomical evolution.

### 2. *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium*, Nicolaus Copernicus (1543)

Nicolaus Copernicus' book *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium* (*On the Revolutions of Heavenly Spheres*) ignited a slow-burning change in the attitudes toward Aristotle's geocentric universe. Copernicus, a canon of the Catholic Church, worked on the book for years but was reluctant to publish it for fear of backlash. He also realized his heliocentric thesis did not solve all the observational problems of the geocentric system.

Late author Arthur Koestler claimed that there was very little interest in *De Revolutionibus*, and that almost no one initially read the work after its publication in 1543. That's at least partly because, packed with diagrams and tables, even a good English translation isn't an easy read.



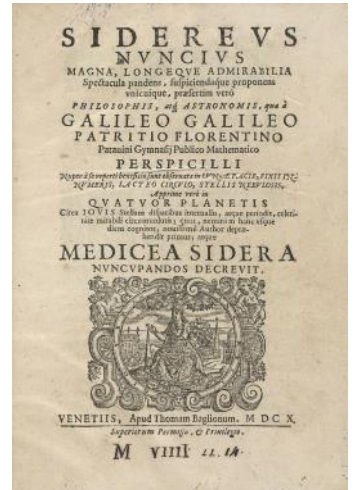
## ...Librarian's Page

However, historian of science Owen Gingerich spent years traveling the world looking at first and second editions of *De Revolutionibus*. He found that many copies, including those of Kepler and Galileo, had copious notes, a clear sign that it was closely studied. Eventually, enough controversy grew that it was placed on the Catholic Church's Index of Forbidden Books, where it remained until 1758.

### 3. *Sidereus Nuncius*, Galileo Galilei (1610)

On a visit to the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, Missouri, I was taken to the rare book room by former Librarian of History and Science Bruce Bradley. After donning white, acid-free archival gloves, Bradley showed me many iconic treasures. When he handed me the 1610 first edition of Galileo's little book, *Sidereus Nuncius* (*Starry Messenger*), I felt like I was holding the Holy Grail! This small book challenged and changed astronomy forever.

After Galileo built his first telescope in 1609, he quickly turned the new device to the heavens — and he was astounded by what he saw. Knowing others were also making observations with telescopes, he rushed to publish *Sidereus Nuncius*, a straightforward book of observations, in March of 1610. It revealed a universe far more complex than ever imagined, and one that was also undeniably heliocentric. Galileo's book went far beyond the theoretical work of Copernicus, providing the proof needed to displace Aristotle's geocentric universe once and for all .



## Librarian's Update

Hello Members,

We have uploaded our first small selection of books into our "virtual library"

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MCgmoKopNej2vt5txD5TDZGc8o34WitH?usp=sharing>

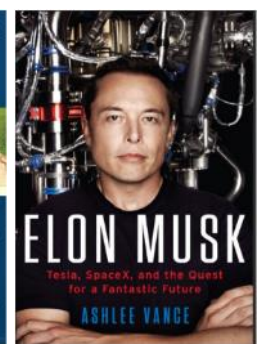
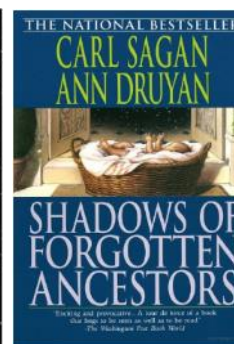
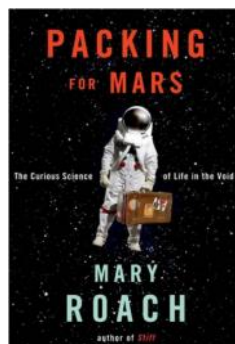
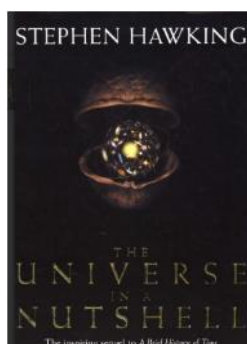
It's just a few for now, but there are some interesting and excellent titles in there.

The plan is to grow this into a comprehensive multimedia resource. If anyone has any books or videos they would like to add, please PM me, or email to [Claire@astronomydurban.co.za](mailto:Claire@astronomydurban.co.za)

Please feel free to download and enjoy. They are for personal (non-commercial) use only.

Happy Reading!

Claire  
ASSA DBN Librarian



# For Sale

## Intes-Micro 152mm F5.9 Mak-Newt



Tripod and extensions

APM or Explore Scientific eyepieces – 20, 13, 9, 5.5 and 3.5 mm

2 x Laser finders and battery rechargers

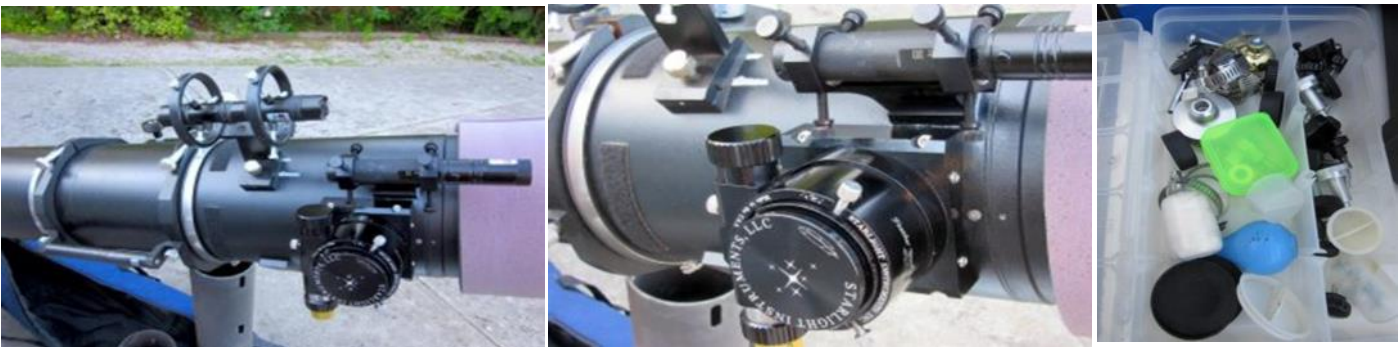
Celestron 2-inch UHC filter

Orion padded telescope case

Orion laser collimator

Cheshite tube

The telescope is nearly perfectly collimated and I haven't had to



recollimate in the last 7 years. The Intes-Micro 152mm scope has its original shipping papers and documentation from Orion (where it was marketed under the "Argonaut" badge.)

It gives a perfect Airy disc and partial first diffraction ring at 257x in the 3.5mm 100° eyepiece — at that power the Trapezium looks like the Pleiades to the naked eye.

The secondary is only 21% of the primary diameter, which makes it a superb lunar and planetary scope with minimal contrast loss due to secondary shadow.

It is a perfect startup system for a newcomer

**Price R 24 000**

**Doug Bullis – 083 347 0856 – [douglasbullis@gmail.com](mailto:douglasbullis@gmail.com)**



...For Sale

## Celestron LCM114 Telescope and Mount



Equipment includes:

- 3 x eyepieces
- Barlow
- External battery,
- Laser pointer
- Travel case

Excellent condition

Equipment location - Durban

Contact John Gill for information:

- **John Gill 083 378 8797**
- [John.gill013@gmail.com](mailto:John.gill013@gmail.com)



## Celestron 8" Edge HD Telescope

- Celestron 2" and 1.25" diagonals
- Celestron Luminos 2.5 barlow for 1.25" and 2" eyepieces
- Celestron 1.25" plossl 40mm eyepiece
- Celestron .7 focal reducer
- Televue 2" Panoptic 35mm eyepiece
- T-Ring and T-Adapter for Canon EOS camera
- Extra small and large dovetails
- Finder scope 9x50
- Dew shield
- Bahtinov mask

Excellent condition

Equipment in Durban



Contact John Gill for information:

- **John Gill 083 378 8797**
- [John.gill013@gmail.com](mailto:John.gill013@gmail.com)

**Price: R 50 000**





# Public Viewing Roster ASSA Durban



Dome Master	Email	Assistant	Telescope Volunteer	Public Viewing
Alan Marnitz	<a href="mailto:alan@astronomydurban.co.za">alan@astronomydurban.co.za</a>	TBC	TBC	19th May
Alan Marnitz	<a href="mailto:alan@astronomydurban.co.za">alan@astronomydurban.co.za</a>	TBC	TBC	16th June
Alan Marnitz	<a href="mailto:alan@astronomydurban.co.za">alan@astronomydurban.co.za</a>	TBC	TBC	14th July

## PUBLIC VIEWING:

Public viewing is on site at the Marist Brothers St Henry's School in the dome and around the pool area; usually on the first Friday evening closest to the New Moon.

Please note there is a roster with a booking system. Once the number of telescopes are confirmed, Individuals will be contacted to confirm dates and times. Please book your place!!!

## NOTIFY OBSERVATORY MANAGER:

Members interested in attending the above viewing evenings and/or becoming involved in assisting with the viewing evenings, please send your names to Alan Marnitz on cell number 082 305 9600, or via email: [alan@astronomydurban.co.za](mailto:alan@astronomydurban.co.za)

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED:

Volunteers to please identify which role you are willing to assist with, Dome Master, Viewing Assistant or a Telescope Volunteer. After which, attendance will be confirmed and viewing dates will be announced.

**Viewing Assistant** - Learning about the new telescope, assisting with the viewing evenings and viewing members as required.

**Telescope Volunteers** - Members willing to bring their telescopes to the viewing evenings to set up around the pool for public viewing.

## VOLUNTEERS TUTORIAL:

**John Gill to organise another afternoon / evening to train volunteers as Dome Masters and the use of the large telescope. Date to be confirmed and viewing dates will be announced ASAP.**

Viewing Contact:	Phone	Email
Alan Marnitz	082 305 9600	<a href="mailto:alan@astronomydurban.co.za">alan@astronomydurban.co.za</a>



# ASSA Durban Minutes of General Meeting



12 April 2023 - 19:00 via Zoom

1. Welcome to Dbn (and later, Jhb) members
  - Debbie Able welcomed Durban members at 19:00
2. Present as per recording
  - Gerald de Beer, Francois Zinserling, Roger Bond, Mike Hadlow, Moya O' Donoghue, Debbie Abel, Sheryl Venter, Claire Odhav, John Gill, Robert Suberg, Peter Cramb, Piet Strauss, Jack, Michel Benet, Yesen Govender, Ooma Rambilass, Murray, Jean Senogles Apologies: Piet Strauss, Graham Alston, Robert Suberg, Mike Hadlow, Mike Watkeys
3. Confirmation of previous meeting minutes and matters arising
  - Confirmed by Gerald
4. Treasurer's report - Francois Zinserling
  - Current Account                    R 28 525.00
  - Investment Account                R 64 967.00
5. Month Ahead - Piet Strauss
  - Gerald showed onscreen and Piet presented the sky in the month ahead
6. Event
  - Introduction to Astronomy course – in person lectures looking like will be in classroom which limits numbers. 2 days / week to fit into holidays. Mix of online and in person.
  - FZ asked for volunteer speakers. Piet Strauss, Mike Hadlow, John Gill
  - Sheryl said Monteseel will be 15<sup>th</sup> July. Speakers and helpers needed as usual.
  - St Henry's talk on 21 July – will be done by Piet.
  - We have an invitation to present in September. More info to follow.
  - 25<sup>th</sup> April Piet will give a talk to a private school.
  - 28<sup>th</sup> May international conference at SANI pass. Need people with scopes.
7. Observatory
  - Next public viewing evening 21 April (next week Friday)
  - Seeking viewing team; hoping John can be imposed upon to run another Saturday training to increase numbers of volunteers
8. General
  - A few Sky-Guides still available from Piet Strauss or Mike Hadlow at R100 each. (sells in shops for R260)
  - Library – cupboards have been removed and books/records will be stored temporarily at Peter Wunderlin's office. Committee will be sorting through that in the next while and deciding on what to do with everything.
  - Collimation of telescope to be done by John Gill and Mike Hadlow. Does not need to be done at night. Can be done with a laser.

## ...General Meeting Minutes

9. Some chat before JHB meeting.
  - DBN meeting was well attended. Debbie thanks all in attendance.
  - Loadshedding likely to force online meetings until further notice. Any suggestions from members for in-person meetings will be welcomed.
  - DBN meeting was well attended. Debbie thanks all in attendance.
  - DBN meeting ended at 19:27 to give all chance to join JHB.
10. Joining JHB group - Guest speaker:
  - Percy Jacobs on Spectroscopy.

### **ASSA DURBAN ZOOM MEETING**

- A. ASSA - Durban meeting at 7:00 PM

Topic: ASSA Durban Monthly Meeting

Time: 7 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88037701479?pwd=UU5xMUFibWVlVWUzMWVtd1Y1I2ZDNQdz09>

Meeting ID: 880 3770 1479

Passcode: 297674

- B. ASSA - JHB meeting at 7:30 PM

Monthly meeting this Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

Speaker Percy Jacobs

Topic: Spectroscopy

Time: Apr 12, 2023 07:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81098357114?pwd=UUFhQzkwd0xTSUNUUFwODBkRVF1UT09>

Meeting ID: 810 9835 7114

Passcode: SPEC



### **THE OTHER COAST**





# Notice Board

## MEETINGS:

- GENERAL MEETING to be held on **10th May 2023** via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88037701479?pwd=UU5xMUJfbWVlVWUtd1Y1I2ZDNQdz09> @ **7:00pm** or as notified.
- PUBLIC VIEWING MEETINGS - please refer to website under the tab "Viewing and Events" for any updates with regards dates & public viewing, please click here: <https://astronomydurban.co.za/events-viewing/>

## MNASSA:

- Monthly Notes of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa.
- Available at [www.mnassa.org.za](http://www.mnassa.org.za) to download your free monthly copy.

## NIGHTFALL:

- Fantastic astronomy magazine. Check it out on the ASSA national website
- [assa.saao.ac.za/about/publications/nightfall/](http://assa.saao.ac.za/about/publications/nightfall/)

## MEMBERSHIP FEES & BANKING:

- Membership Subscriptions were due on the 2022-07-01 for the 2022-2023 financial year. PLEASE pay outstanding subscriptions fees.
- Please pay Subscription fees via EFT - Banking details below.



Membership fees indicated below:

- Single Members: **R 190:00**
- Family Membership: **R 230:00** for family membership.
- Under 18 members: **Free to join meetings**
- Cash/Cheques: **Please note: NO cheques or cash will be accepted - Cash deposits incur bank charges**
- Account Name: **ASSA Natal Centre**
- Bank: **Nedbank**
- Account No. **1352 027 674**
- Branch: **Nedbank Durban North**
- Code: **135 226**
- Reference: **SUBS 22-23 SURNAME and FIRST NAME**
- Proof of Payment: [treasurer@astronomydurban.co.za](mailto:treasurer@astronomydurban.co.za)

## SKY GUIDE 2023 - Limited number available !!!

- Contact: Mike @ [Mike@astronomydurban.co.za](mailto:Mike@astronomydurban.co.za)
- Price: **R 100.00**
- Reference when paying: **SG 2023 SURNAME and FIRST NAME**



## RESIGNATIONS from ASSA:

Please send an email immediately notifying the Secretary at [secretary@astronomydurban.co.za](mailto:secretary@astronomydurban.co.za) stating your wish to resign from the society.

## COMMITTEE POSITIONS & CONTACTS:

• Chair	Debbie Abel	<a href="mailto:Debbie@astronomydurban.co.za">Debbie@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Vice Chair	TBC	
• Secretary	Francois Zinserling	<a href="mailto:Secretary@astronomydurban.co.za">Secretary@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Treasurer	Francois Zinserling	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@astronomydurban.co.za">Treasurer@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Guest Speaker Liaison	Piet Strauss	<a href="mailto:Piet@astronomydurban.co.za">Piet@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Observatory & Equipment	Alan Marnitz	<a href="mailto:Alan@astronomydurban.co.za">Alan@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Observatory Assistant	TBC	
• Publicity & Librarian	Claire Odhav	<a href="mailto:Claire@astronomydurban.co.za">Claire@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Out-Reach - Public	Cheryl Venter	<a href="mailto:Sheryl@astronomydurban.co.za">Sheryl@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Out-Reach - Schools	Sihle Kunene	<a href="mailto:Sihle@astronomydurban.co.za">Sihle@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• St. Henry's Marist College Liaison	Moya O'Donoghue	<a href="mailto:Moya@astronomydurban.co.za">Moya@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• 'nDaba Editor	John & Corinne Gill	<a href="mailto:John@astronomydurban.co.za">John@astronomydurban.co.za</a>
• Website & Facebook	John Gill	<a href="mailto:John@astronomydurban.co.za">John@astronomydurban.co.za</a>

## ELECTRONIC DETAILS:

- Website: [www.astronomydurban.co.za](http://www.astronomydurban.co.za)
- Emails : [AstronomyDurban@gmail.com](mailto:AstronomyDurban@gmail.com)
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/astronomydurban/>