Wiltshire Astronomical Society

WAS News

November 2025

This Month's Speaker

Dr. Peter Allan

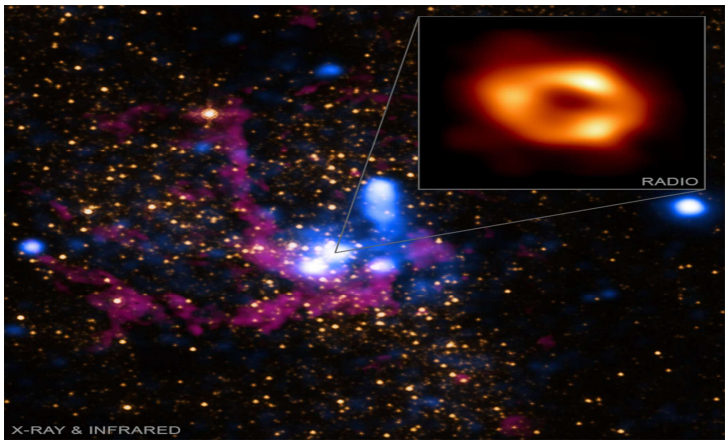
Black Holes, Dark Matter and Dark Energy

A Ph.D. in astrophysics and has worked in different aspect of astronomy for all of his professional life. Over the last ten years, he has led star gazing sessions and given talks on popular astronomy to audiences with a wide range of backgrounds.

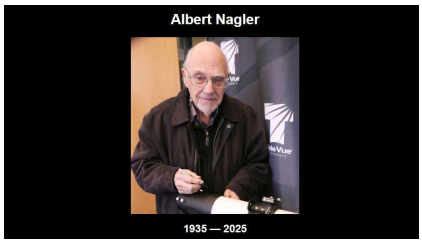
He spent the four years doing research at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, and at Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona. In subsequent years he used telescopes in Hawaii, La Palma (Canary Islands), South Africa, and a little closer to home, the MERLIN radio telescope array that is run from Jodrell Bank.

In 1990, he moved to the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire, and has been there ever since. The space science department there (RAL Space) does a lot more than just astronomy and he took the opportunity to get involved in Earth Observation, data processing systems, and international standards for Space Data Systems.

He have given talks on many subjects to a range of audiences and led star gazing parties. He has given talks to member of the U3A, to audiences at local Cafés Scientifique, and to astronomy societies. I have also been on several cruises, where I led star gazing sessions and gave talks on aspects of astronomy to the cruise passengers. Recently, I have taken on the new challenge of explaining astronomy to my 5 year-old granddaughter.

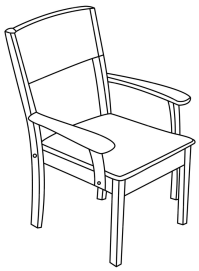


Chandra X-Ray Observatory Image of a Black Hole



Inside this issue

Special points of interest



Commission for Dark Skies

The British Astronomical Association (BAA) is the UK's largest body representing the interests of all those - astronomers and non-astronomers - who appreciate the beauty of the night sky and value it as a natural resource. The starry sky is, unofficially but indubitably, a site of special scientific interest and an area of outstanding natural beauty: if it can be seen.

The Commission for Dark Skies (CfDS) was set up by concerned members of the BAA in 1989, to counter the ever-growing tide of skyglow which has tainted the night sky over Britain since the 1950s. Usually the result of poorly aimed streetlights and floodlights emitting light above the horizontal into the sky, skyglow is nowadays increasingly a result of vastly over-powered, poorly mounted household security lights and literally "over-the-top" sports lighting.

CfDS has grown into a network of over 140 volunteer local officers, and several hundred committed supporters, who work to persuade their local councils and organisations of the benefits of well directed lighting, the motto being: the right amount of light, and only where needed.

Report from the Chair

October has offered few clear nights, and as amateur astronomers we've grown used to the vagaries of English weather. Yet even when the clouds finally part, our view can still be spoiled by stray lighting from neighbours or nearby facilities. A gentle word and an invitation to share the view through your telescope often work wonders — it's a friendly way to show them the beauty they might otherwise miss, and it may lead to a small but welcome adjustment of the offending light.

In my case, the offending lights are owned by Wiltshire Council Parking, which makes the matter a little more challenging. I wasn't sure who to contact within the department, but after calling, a kind lady assured me that the lights would be adjusted within two weeks. Unfortunately, five weeks have now passed with no update or action taken.

Having recently voted in a by-election, I decided to raise the issue with the newly elected town councillor for my area. I'm pleased to say he has taken up the case on my behalf, and I now await—hopefully—a positive outcome. Updates in due course!

If you're struggling with intrusive or poorly directed lighting, don't despair—help is at hand. The Campaign for Dark Skies (CfDS) offers excellent guidance on how to tackle light pollution, and fellow amateur astronomers, perhaps even within WAS, are often happy to share their experience and advice. You don't have to put up with bad lighting spoiling your view of the night sky.

Michael Barratt our speaker from last month has recently returned form a Northern Lights cruise as the 'resident astronomer' has allowed me to include in our Gallery page an image he took south of Narvik,Norway.
Thank-you Michael!

Generally the weather in the last few weeks has not been very accommodating, nevertheless **Matthew Terrell** found some gaps in the ever present rain, wind and clouds. Have a look at his images on the Gallery page.

As well as our astrophotographers suffering, visual observers including our two attempts for our Observing Sessions at Lacock have been affected.

I think some members have had some luck with seeing Comet C/2025 A6 Lemmon.

I had a lucky break in clouds at following sunset last week and managed to see it. If anybody has images please send them for the Gallery page next month.

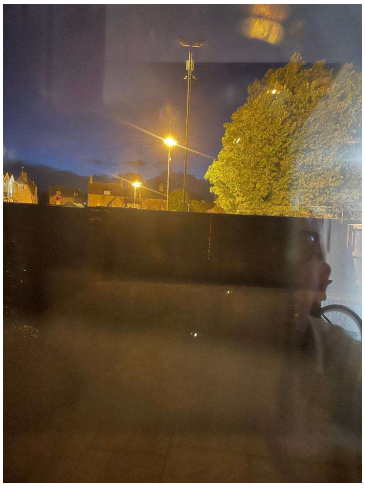
Dave Buckle highlighted a paper by Jean Schneider and published by the American Astronomical Society in 2024 about the imminent (or not) T Cr B eruption that makes interesting reading. You will find it on Page 6.

The well known **Albert Nagler** (Al) passed on 17th October. A true optical genius and visual astronomer. Many of you I'm sure possess some eyepeices designed by him. RIP.

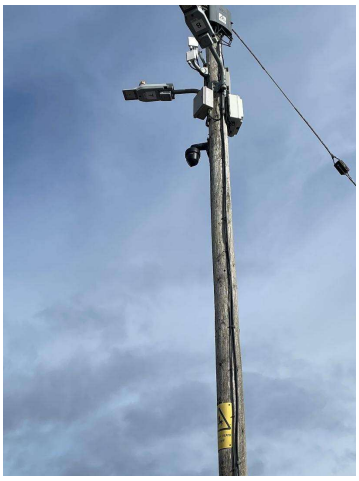
Next months meeting will be a little different. We will have a quiz combining astronomy and general knowledge.

Clear Skies!

Simon



Bad sodium Lighting —pointing all directions



Good LED Downlighting

November 2025 Skywatch: Planetary Highlights

As autumn deepens and the nights grow longer, November offers a rich tapestry of planetary sights for stargazers across the UK. From brilliant giants to elusive ice worlds, here's what to watch for this month:

Jupiter:

Jupiter dominates the late evening and pre-dawn skies, shining at a dazzling magnitude of –2.6. It begins retrograde motion on November 11, drifting westward through Gemini. With its moons dancing around the planet nightly, Jupiter is a must-see target for binoculars and telescopes alike.

Saturn:

Visible in the early evening sky, Saturn glows at magnitude +0.9 in Aquarius. Its iconic rings are nearly edge-on this month, offering a rare and striking view. The planet ends its retrograde on November 28, making it a stable target for observation. Look for Titan, Saturn's largest moon, which may transit the planet's disk on select nights.

Venus: Morning Beacon

Venus rises just before dawn, blazing at magnitude –4.2 to –4.3. Though low on the horizon, it's unmistakable in the south-eastern sky. Catch it early before sunrise.

Uranus: Opposition

Uranus reaches opposition on November 21, making it visible all night near the Pleiades in Taurus. At magnitude +5.6, it's just within reach of binoculars under dark skies. A telescope reveals its pale blue disk—one of the solar system's most distant planets on full display.

Neptune: Faint but Present

Neptune lingers in Pisces at magnitude +7.8. Though faint, it's a rewarding challenge for telescope users. Its position near Saturn makes it easier to locate with star charts or planetarium apps.

Mercury & Mars: Hidden from View

Mercury is in solar conjunction on November 20, and Mars remains too low in the evening sky for meaningful observation. Both will return in future months.

Bonus Celestial Events

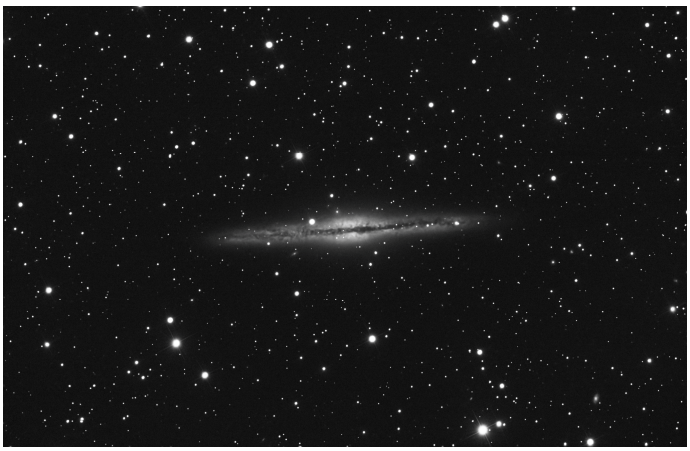
- Super Hunter's Moon – November 5: The year's brightest full moon.
- Moon Conjunctions – Saturn (Nov 2 & 29), Jupiter (Nov 10), Uranus (Nov 21).
- Meteor Showers:

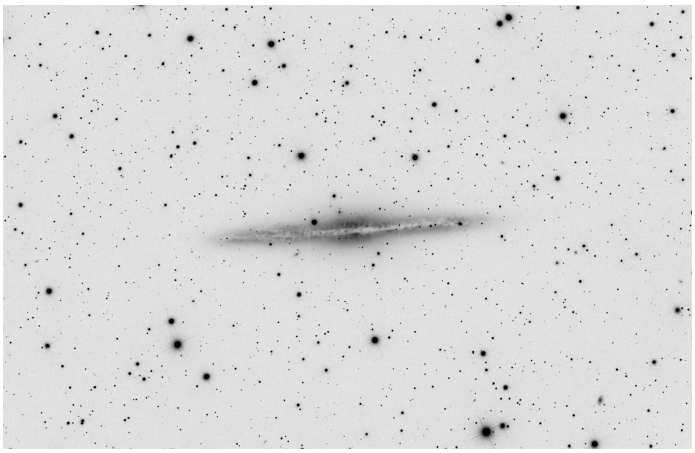
  Leonids peak Nov 17–18 with 10–15 meteors/hour before dawn.

  Taurids, Orionids, and Alpha Monocerotids also active.

Clear skies and happy viewing!

Gallery Pages





NGC891—Matthew Terrell. Telescope RC200 on EQ6R mount. Camera is using the Sony IMX294 OSC sensor, Cooling to 0 Degrees. Total guiding error last night was an impressive 0.48arcsec/pixel! Well within the seeing.

Mare Crisium—Matthew Terrell

Northern Lights—South of Narvik, Norway. From Michael Barratt (our October Speaker)

Draft version October 27, 2024
Typeset using LaTeX default style in AASTeX631

When will the next T CrB eruption occur ?

Jean Schneider [1]

[1] *Paris Observatory - LUX - France*

ABSTRACT

The first eruption of the periodic nova T CrB for eighty years is anticipated soon, though with an unknown date. A refinement of the future eruption date is investigated. The investigation is based on the combination of the previous eruption dates and on the orbital ephemeris of the binary system, without any hypothesis on the eruption mechanism. It is predicted that the next eruption should appear around 27 March or 10 November 2025, or later.

Keywords: T CrB - nova

1. INTRODUCTION

The binary star T CrB presents an interesting case of a historical nova with a recurrent period of about 80 years from 1217 to 1946. It becomes sufficiently bright (V= 2-3) be be visible with a naked eye. Since the last eruption was in 1946, a new eruption is expected soon, from weeks to a few months. The hope of an eruption coming as soon as 2024 has been triggered by the fact that, starting in late 2023, a dip in the light-curve has been observed similar to the 1946 pre-eruption light-curve. But, since the last 3 eruptions eruptions were not exactly periodic, with a period change of 1.36 year on average, one can presently not predict exactly the date of the next eruption. In this paper I investigate a way to predict eruption dates with a precision of a week or two.

2. THE BINARY SYSTEM AND THE PREVIOUS ERUPTIONS

It it composed by a red giant (1.12 $M_\odot$, 75$R_\odot$) and a white dwarf (1.37 $M_\odot$).
The orbit has a period of about 228 days (Fekel et al. 2000) and a semi-major axis 0.54 AU (Lindord et al. 2019).
Four previous eruptions have been recorded.
- 1217: Schaefer (2023) reports an eruption seen by the Abbott Burchard "in autumn". In absence of more precision, I take a mid-term date between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice of 1217, i.e. 4 November 1217.
After 1217, no eruption has been reported before 1787.
- 1787: Schaefer (2023) reports an eruption "in the Christmas time". He estimates that the eruption occurred around December 20, i.e. a period of 81.44 years.
- 1866: Pettit (1946) reports an eruption on May 12, i.e. a period of 78.39 yr.
- 1946: Sanford (1946) and Shears (2024b) report an eruption on February 9, i.e. a period of 79.47 yr.

3. PREVIOUS ERUPTION PREDICTIONS FOR 2024-2025

There have been a few predictions for the 2024-2025 eruption (Schaefer 2023, Shears 2024a). They are based on the similarity of the phenomenological behavior of the pre-eruption light-curve of 1946 and the light curve variations starting in 2023. These similarities were interpreted as a sign of an imminent eruption. But there ar no published pre-eruption light-curves for the 1787 and 1866 events, so that we do not know if these characteristics of the light-curve recur..

4. A NEW TENTATIVE PREDICTION

In addition to the predictions based on the similarities of pre-eruption light-curves, there is an empirical fact based on the orbit ephemeris.
By going more carefully into the dates of occurrence of the past eruptions, one finds that the successive events date

separations are an integer multiple of the orbital revolution period. Indeed by taking the mean period 227.5687 days (Scheafer 2023b), one gets:
- for the 1217 and 1787 eruptions, (2374102 - 2165874)/227.5687 = 915.007, close to 915 = 570.097 years, i.e. a mean period of 81.44 years.
- for the 1787 and 1866 eruptions, (2402734 - 2374102)/227.5687 = 125.82 close to 126 = 78.38 years
- for the 1866 and 1946 eruptions, (2431861 - 2402734)/227.5687 = 127.99, close to 128 = 79.745 years
The small fluctuation of the periods can have two, non exclusive, causes:
- the accretion rate on the white dwarf is fluctuating
- Brad Schaefer (2023a) has pointed out (table 6) a fluctuation of ± 8 days in the orbital period from 1967 to 2023. This affects the prediction by only a few days.
In summary, the eruptions are not strictly periodic, but the eruptions were all separated by an integer multiple of the orbital period 227.5687 days.
From that, I tentatively infer that the eruption date after 9 Feb 1946 should be 2431861 + N*227.5687 where N is an integer close to 128, if the orbital period remains constant. For N = 126 to 129 the Table 1 gives the predicted days of eruption, within a few days.
Table 1 Predicted days of eruption occurrence in 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027
using 2431861 + N*227.5687

N	**Julian day**	**Civil date**
126	2460535	12 Aug 2024
127	2460762	27 March 2025
128	2460990	10 November 2025
129	2461217	25 June 2026

Since the August 24 2024 did not occur, one should have to wait for April 8 or November 10 2025 at the earliest.
These "predictions" are only empirical extrapolations. There is at this point no physical explanation behind them.

5. TOWARD AN EXPLANATION ?

The predictions above do not invoke any eruption mechanism. One can nevertheless attempt to go further into the comprehension of fact that the eruption period is N*227.5687 ±8 days, with N = 126 to 129.

Let us consider the orbital phase of the eruption. Fekel et al. (2000) give a radial velocity curve for T CrB from 1997 to 1999. There are three dates in their Table 4 close the form JD = 2431861 + N*227.5687 for this period. These three dates correspond to a phase close to 0.45 in their radial velocity curve. Fekel et al. (2000) estimate that the orbit eccentricity is 0. But for a circular orbit all phases are equivalent and why should the eruption mechanism choose always the same orbital phase ?
To break this circular symmetry, first Kenyon & Garcia (1986) estimate an eccentricity of 0.012 and an ω = 89 deg. And one can introduce a third body in a highly eccentric orbit with a similar ω.
When the third body and the nova are located at their minimum mutual distance i.e. every 80 year + N*228 days. When the white dwarf is between the the red giant and the third body, it accretes matter from the two stars and the mass transfer is maximum and the eruption occurs. Once it has occurred, it cannot occur again at the next 228 d. binary period and must wait the next third body periastron 80 years later. This third body could be detected by very high precision radial velocity measurement or by high contrast and angular resolution imaging.

6. CONCLUSION

By extrapolating the empirical fact that the previous T CrB eruption dates were separated by an integer multiple of the orbital period 228 days, the next eruptions should appear at 27 March 2025, 10 November 2025, 25 June 2026 or 8 Feb 2027. No physical hypothesis is made behind this extrapolation. I urge observers to be cautious about it, since an external perturbation could happen, and to continue to monitor the light-curve of the star. An open question: what explanation of the exact periodicity of N*227.56 days, with N = 129 ± 1, of the previous eruptions in case the next eruption occurs far outside the prredicted dates?

The armada of ground-based and scheduled space-based observations, from gamma-rays to radio, before, during and after the eruption, particularly during the rapid brightness increase, will learn us more about the eruption mechanism.

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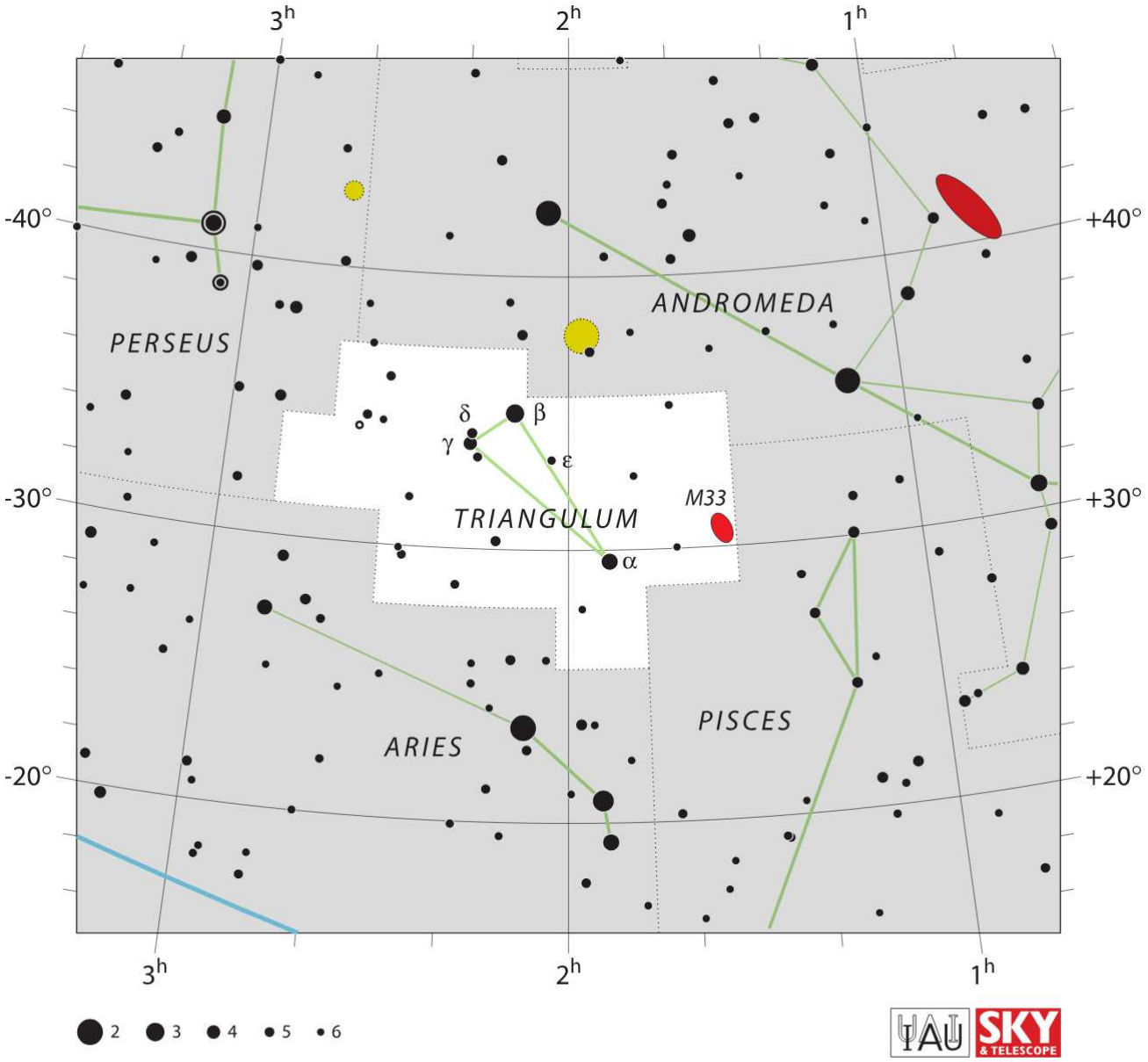
Constellation Focus—Triangulum



Constellation Focus: Triangulum – The Little Triangle with a Big Secret

Tucked quietly between Aries and Andromeda, the constellation Triangulum is one of the smallest and simplest patterns in the night sky. True to its name, this modest group of stars forms a neat, narrow triangle – one of the earliest and most recognisable geometric constellations. Although easily overlooked, Triangulum holds a special place in astronomy, both historically and scientifically.

A Simple Shape with an Ancient Story

Triangulum was known to ancient astronomers long before modern constellations were formalised. The Greeks saw it as the **Delta of the Nile**, while later cultures connected it with the **Greek letter Delta (Δ)** due to its shape. The Romans called it *Trigonum* or *Deltoton*, and in some traditions it represented the island of Sicily, sacred to the goddess Ceres. Despite its modest appearance, this constellation has captured imaginations for millennia.

Finding Triangulum

To locate Triangulum, look **between Andromeda and Aries**, high in the southern sky on clear November evenings. From the UK, it's best seen during autumn and early winter, when it climbs well above the horizon. The three brightest stars – **Beta, Delta, and Alpha Trianguli** – form a sharp, elongated triangle pointing roughly toward Perseus. Although faint compared to neighbouring constellations, its simple shape makes it surprisingly distinctive once spotted.

The Distant Island of Stars – The Triangulum Galaxy (M33)

What makes Triangulum truly special lies not in its stars, but in the deep-sky treasure it conceals: the **Triangulum Galaxy**, also known as **Messier 33 (M33)**. This **spiral galaxy**, located about **2.7 million light-years away**, is the **third-largest member of our Local Group**, after Andromeda (M31) and the Milky Way.

Under a dark sky, M33 is just visible to the naked eye – a faint, misty patch of light. Through binoculars or a small telescope, its delicate spiral structure begins to reveal itself, and long-exposure photographs show its graceful arms filled with star-forming regions and nebulae. For astrophotographers, M33 is a rewarding target, especially given its face-on orientation and subtle beauty.

Interestingly, recent studies suggest that M33 may be gravitationally bound to the Andromeda Galaxy, possibly orbiting it as a companion – a cosmic dance between two grand spiral galaxies, faintly mirrored in our small patch of sky.

A Modest Constellation Worth Your Time

While Triangulum may lack bright stars or dramatic mythology, it rewards those who take the time to find it. In its simplicity lies a window into the vastness of the universe – from a small triangle of stars to one of the most magnificent galaxies in our cosmic neighbourhood.

So, next time you're out observing on a crisp November night, take a moment to find this unassuming little constellation. You'll be gazing toward a distant island of stars, quietly shining millions of light-years away.

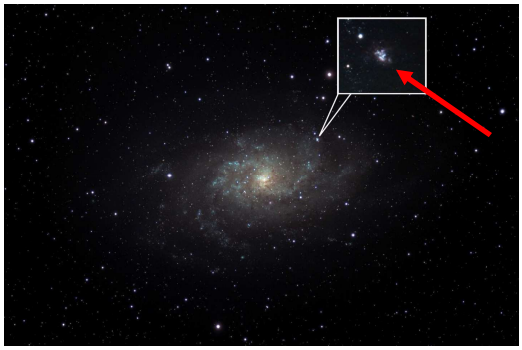
Messier 33 Spiral Galaxy

Astrophotographers love M33 for its **face-on orientation** and **fine detail**. Its spiral arms are laced with nebulae, star clusters, and bright blue regions of recent star formation. With modest equipment — a DSLR or CMOS camera, a small refractor, and good tracking — it's possible to capture stunning images showing both colour and structure.

Because of its **low surface brightness**, long exposure times and dark skies are key. M33 benefits from gentle image stretching rather than aggressive processing, which can easily wash out its delicate features.

NGC 604 is an H II region inside the Triangulum Galaxy. It was discovered by William Herschel on September 11, 1784. It is among the largest H II regions in the Local Group of galaxies Some 1500 light-years across, this is one of the largest, brightest concentrations of ionised hydrogen (H II) in our Local Group of galaxies, and it is a major centre of star formation.

The gas in NGC 604, around nine-tenths of which is hydrogen, is gradually collapsing under the force of gravity to create new stars. Once these stars have formed, the energetic ultraviolet radiation they emit excites the remaining gas in the cloud.



NGC 604

Beginners Pages

Observing the Moon – A Perfect Place to Begin

For anyone new to astronomy, few celestial sights are as rewarding — or as easy to find — as the **Moon**. It's bright, constantly changing, and visible from almost anywhere on Earth. Unlike many deep-sky objects that demand dark skies and large telescopes, the Moon welcomes all observers — from those with simple binoculars to those with high-powered telescopes.

If you're just beginning your journey under the night sky, our nearest neighbour is the perfect place to start.

A Changing Face

The Moon never looks quite the same two nights in a row. As it orbits Earth, sunlight illuminates different portions of its surface, giving us the familiar **phases** — from thin crescent to full, and back again.

For observers, this changing light means that new features are revealed each evening. Craters, mountains, and plains (called *maria*, meaning "seas") come and go as the shadow line — the **terminator** — moves across the lunar face. This shifting boundary between night and day on the Moon is where features stand out most clearly, as long shadows enhance every ridge and crater.

If you only ever look at the Moon when it's full, you're missing its best details! Try observing it **a few days before or after first quarter**, when the terminator cuts across the surface — the contrast and depth are spectacular.

What You'll See

Even a pair of **7×50 binoculars** reveals surprising detail — the dark lunar seas, the bright crater Tycho near the south, and the large Mare Imbrium in the north. Rest your elbows on a steady surface or use a tripod for a clearer view.

Through a **small telescope** (60–100mm), the Moon transforms into a world of mountains, valleys, and impact basins. Try exploring:

- **Copernicus** – a prominent crater with bright rays spreading outwards.
- **Tycho** – one of the youngest and most striking craters, visible even with binoculars.
- **The Apennine Mountains** – towering peaks along the edge of Mare Imbrium.
- **The Straight Wall (Rupes Recta)** – a dramatic fault line best seen around first quarter.

No matter how many times you observe, there's always something new to notice — especially as lighting angles change night by night.

When and How to Observe

You can observe the Moon from your **garden, balcony, or even through a window**, and light pollution isn't a problem — in fact, the Moon's brightness cuts through city glare easily.

A few tips:

- Avoid looking for long periods through high magnification — it can make the image shimmer in unsteady air.
- Use a **Moon filter** or polarising filter if the brightness causes eye strain.
- Sketching what you see is a great way to improve your observing skills.

If you have a smartphone adapter, try some **lunar photography** — the Moon is one of the easiest astrophotography targets, and even a short video can reveal crisp details when stacked and processed.

The following page give some highlights for the coming month……

Lunar Highlights – November 2025

November is an excellent month for lunar observing, with long evenings and often crisp, clear skies. Here are some key dates and features to look out for this month:

Phases of the Moon

- **First Quarter:** *Monday 3rd November*
- **Full Moon:** *Monday 10th November*
- **Last Quarter:** *Monday 17th November*
- **New Moon:** *Tuesday 25th November*

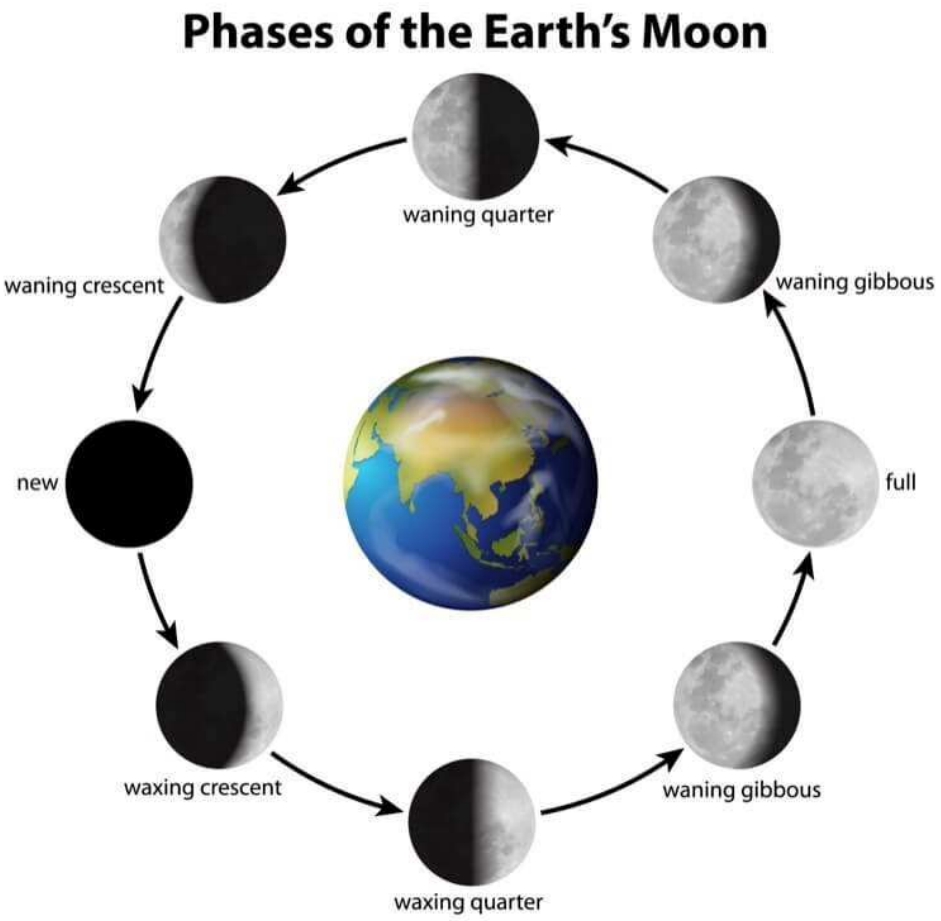
What to Observe

Early in the Month (2nd–5th November)
Around **first quarter**, the Moon is high in the evening sky. The **terminator** runs through some of the most dramatic lunar scenery — including the **Apennine Mountains**, **Mare Imbrium**, and the crater **Copernicus**. These regions show excellent contrast and are ideal for binoculars or small telescopes.

Mid-Month (9th–12th November)
As the **Full Moon** approaches, the shadows shorten, but the bright **rayed craters Tycho and Copernicus** become very prominent. The Moon will rise soon after sunset, beautifully illuminating the autumn landscape — a lovely sight for public observing sessions or outreach events.

Late in the Month (18th–22nd November)
Following **last quarter**, early morning observers can enjoy the **southern highlands** near the terminator, revealing a rugged and heavily cratered terrain. The **crater Clavius**, with its distinctive arc of smaller impacts, is a particular highlight at this phase.

At Month's End (25th–30th November)
Around **New Moon**, the sky darkens — perfect for turning your attention to deep-sky objects such as the Pleiades, the Andromeda Galaxy, and the Double Cluster in Perseus. The **thin waxing crescent** will reappear low in the evening twilight at the very end of the month.



2025—2026 Observing Schedule

Wiltshire Astronomical Society Planned Observing Evenings 2025-2026 Season							
Month	**Day**	**Date**	**Month**	**Year**		**Event Attempt**	**Time**
Sep-25	**Friday**	**19th**	**September**	**2025**		**1st Observing**	**20:30**
	What To See!	Saturn close to opposition and very bright. Rings almost Edge on.					
		Neptune almost at opposition and a good time to try to see it.					
	Friday	**26th**	**September**	**2025**		**2nd Observing**	**20:30**
	What To See!	Still a good time to catch Saturn & Neptune					
Oct-25	**Friday**	**17th**	**October**	**2025**		**1st Observing**	**20:00**
	What To See!	Orionid Metereor Shower					
	Friday	**24th**	**October**	**2025**		**2nd Observing**	**20:00**
	What To See!	Orionid Meteor Shower					
Nov-25	**Friday**	**14th**	**November**	**2025**		**1st Observing**	**19:30**
	What To See!	Leonid Metereor Shower					
		Saturns Rings almost Edge on					
	Friday	**21st**	**November**	**2025**		**2nd Observing**	**19:30**
	What To See!	Saturns Rings almost Edge on					
		Uranus at Opposition just south of the Pleiades					
		Leonid Meteor Shower					
Dec-25	**Friday**	**12th**	**December**	**2025**		**1st Observing**	**19:00**
	What To See!	Orionid Metereor Shower					
	Friday	**19th**	**December**	**2025**		**2nd Observing**	**19:00**
	What To See!	Ursid Meteor Shower					
Jan-26	**Friday**	**9th**	**January**	**2026**		**1st Observing**	**19:00**
	What To See!	Jupiter at Opposition in Gemini					
		Comet 24P/Schaumasse obsevable after 01:30 (10th)					
	Friday	**16th**	**January**	**2026**		**2nd Observing**	**19:00**
	What To See!	Jupiter and Saturn still on display.					
Feb-26	**Friday**	**13th**	**February**	**2026**		**1st Observing**	**19:30**
	Friday	**20th**	**February**	**2026**		**2nd Observing**	**19:30**
Mar-26	**Friday**	**13th**	**March**	**2026**		**1st Observing**	**20:00**
	Friday	**20th**	**March**	**2026**		**2nd Observing**	**20:00**
Apr-26	**Friday**	**10th**	**April**	**2026**		**1st Observing**	**20:00**
	Friday	**17th**	**April**	**2026**		**2nd Observing**	**20:30**
	What To See!	Lyrid Meteor Shower					
May-26	**Friday**	**8th**	**May**	**2026**		**1st Observing**	**21:00**
	What To See!	Eta Aquarids Meteor Shower					
	Friday	**15th**	**May**	**2026**		**2nd Observing**	**21:00**

Version: 1 - Published 2025-07-30

Wiltshire AS Meeting overview 2025/26

MONTH	TITLE	Speaker	ACTUAL DATE
Sep-25	Adventures in Infrared	Dr Jane Clark	2nd September 2025
Oct-25	The Colourful Lives of Stars - What are stars?	Michael Barratt FRAS	7th October 2025
Nov-25	Black Holes, Dark Matter and Dark Energy	Peter Allan	4th November 2025
Dec-25	Christmas Quiz	N/A	2nd December 2025
Jan-26	Filton in Space - 65 years and Counting	Terry Ransome	6th January 2026
Feb-26	John Dartnell	Capturing Totality: Tips and Techniques	3rd February 2026
Mar-26	Observing with Binoculars	Mark Radice	3rd March 2026
Apr-26	Extinct Constellations	Nicky Fleet	7th April 2026
May-26	Can Life Exist in the Icy Moons of Our Solar System?	Bernard Henin	5th May 2026
Jun-26	Members Talks & AGM	Various	2nd June 2026
Jun-26	Norman Lockyer Observatory, Sidmouth	Society Trip	Awaiting Actual Date (Saturday?)

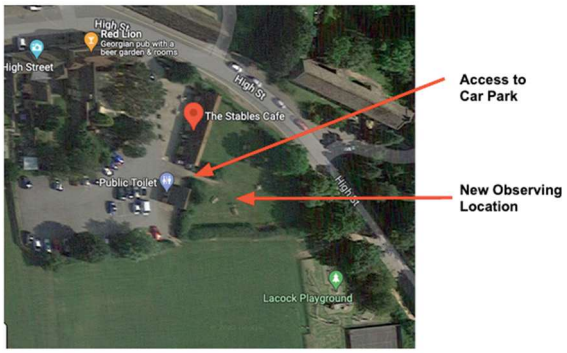
Wiltshire Astronomical Society Contact Info:

Chair:	Simon Barnes
Newsletter:	Simon Barnes
Treasurer and Membership:	Sam Franklin
Speaker secretary:	**Position Vacant**
Observing Sessions coordinators:	Chris Brooks, Jon Gale,
Web & IT coordinator:	Sam Franklin
PR and Design:	Tracey Kelly

Contact the Society here:

Email:	contact@wasnet.org.uk
Website url:	https://wasnet.org.uk/
Public Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/Wiltshire-Astronomical-Society-154077261327030/
Members only Facebook group:	https://www.facebook.com/groups/wiltshire.astro.society/
Committee Page:	https://wasnet.org.uk/committee/
Observing Sessions Location:	The observing area is located in the Picnic area to the side of the Red Lion Pub (Lacock) car park Postcode: SN15 2LQ

what3words = airbag.shudders.losing



Hall Meeting Location:	Pewsham Community Centre, Lodge Road, Pewsham Chippenham, SN15 3SY

What3words = boat.perky.ticket