



# Notice board

## Meetings diary

Items for this diary should be sent to the Journal Editor [hazelmgee@btinternet.com] as soon as dates and locations are known. Details of all astronomical meetings of regional or national interest are welcome. The Editor's decision on inclusion or otherwise of any meeting in this listing is final.

**Saturday–Sunday 2012 Feb 11–12**  
**Eighth annual 'Stars & Snowdrops'** open weekend, Hanwell Community Observatory, Oxon. Details: [www.hanwellobservatory.org.uk](http://www.hanwellobservatory.org.uk)

**Saturday 2012 March 10**  
**Deep Sky Section Meeting**, 10:00–17:30, Humfrey Rooms, Castilian Tce., Northampton NN1 1LD. See below for further details.

**Saturday 2012 March 17**  
**Back to Basics Workshop**, 10:30–17:30, St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury, Hungerford, RG17 9SR. Prior booking essential – a form is included with this *Journal*, or download from [www.britastro.org/newburyb2b](http://www.britastro.org/newburyb2b)

**Thurs–Monday 2011 March 22–26**  
**Isle of Wight Star Party**, at the Brighstone Holiday Centre, Isle of Wight, PO30 4DB. Details: [www.iowstarparty.org](http://www.iowstarparty.org)

**Wednesday 2012 March 28**  
**Ordinary Meeting & Special General Meeting**, 17:30–20:00, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1.

**Friday 2012 March 30–Sunday April 1**  
**BAA Winchester Weekend** at Sparsholt College, Winchester, Hants. Details and booking form at [www.britastro.org/winchester2012](http://www.britastro.org/winchester2012).

**Saturday 2012 March 31**  
**Saturn Section Meeting**, at Sparsholt College, Winchester, Hants., as part of the BAA Winchester Weekend. Day visitors welcome, but must book through the BAA office.

**Friday 2012 April 20**  
**Campaign for Dark Skies: Joint Conference** with De Montfort University, Leicester. Further details from Bob Mizon or Martin Morgan–Taylor, <http://www.britastro.org/dark-skies/lo.htm>

**Saturday 2012 April 28**  
**BAA Out of London Meeting**, 10:00–17:30, De Montfort University, Hugh Aston Bldg, Leicester LE2 7DR. 'Deep skies and cosmological effects'.

**Saturday 2012 May 5**  
**Historical Section Meeting**, 10:00–17:00, Soho House, Soho Ave., Handsworth, Birmingham B18 5LB. 'Astronomy in the industrial age (1700–1900)'.

### BAA Back to Basics Workshop – Newbury

The BAA Back to Basics workshop is for beginners and people wishing to develop their skills in another area of astronomy. This meeting is being hosted by the Newbury Astronomical Society on Saturday March 17 at St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury, Hungerford, Berks. RG17 9SR.

The day starts at 10:30 with registration, ending at 17:30. The topics covered will be observing the Sun, Moon & planets, astro-imaging, and helping you understand what equipment you need to get started. The cost (including lunch and refreshments) is £8.00 for BAA members & £10.00 for non-members. Full details (and a map) are on the Web at [www.britastro.org/newburyb2b](http://www.britastro.org/newburyb2b) and a booking form is enclosed with this *Journal*.

**Wednesday March 28, 17:30–20:00**

**at the RAS Meeting Room, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BQ**

## Ordinary Meeting & SGM

**Prof. Raman Prinja (UCL) –**  
*Stellar outflows: spreading the stuff of life*

**Dr Matthew Malek (Imperial College) –**  
*Neutrino astronomy: seeing the cosmos in a  $\nu$  light*

**and Nick James – Sky notes**

*The Ordinary Meeting will be preceded by a Special General Meeting, at which the rate of the annual subscription for next year will be decided.*



## Deep Sky Section

# Deep Sky Section Meeting 2012

After a visit to Newbury in 2011 Deep Sky Section is returning to Northampton in 2012. The meeting, hosted by the Northamptonshire Natural History Society, will take place on Saturday March 10 at the Humfrey Rooms, 10 Castilian Terrace, Northampton NN1 1LD. For directions to the venue see <http://www.nnhs.info/general/location.htm>. There are plenty of public car parks near the venue and Northampton is easily reached by train from London and the North.

2012 marks the 25th anniversary of supernova 1987A in the Large Magellanic Cloud and several of the talks will have the death of stars as a theme. The programme is still being finalised but speakers and topics confirmed so far include:

Stewart Moore:	a review of the deep sky year
Robin Leadbeater:	the spectra of dying stars
Bob Winter:	the death of stars
Martin Lunn:	dating Cassiopeia A and its implications
Chris Longthorn:	observing from New Mexico skies
Andrew Robertson:	building and using a large Dobsonian telescope

The professional talk will be given by Dr Matthew Malek of Imperial College, London, on 'Cosmic Genesis: a unique view of the birth of a neutron star'.

Coffee and tea will be available from 09:30 with the meeting starting at 10:00. The entrance fee of £10 (payable at the door) includes tea and coffee throughout the day along with a buffet lunch. It is hoped that the BAA, the Webb Deep Sky Society and Aurora Books will have sales stands at the meeting.

All BAA members and friends are very welcome.

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**Stewart Moore**, *Director*