Contents

The 2006 Presidential Address
A light history of photometry

Refereed papers
Trouvelot's threads: the ‘murs enigmatiques’ of Etienne Leopold Trouvelot

The aurora 2005
Analysis of the first confirmed superoutburst of V337 Cygni in 2006 May

Notes and News
From the President
Perseids set for a favourable showing
Solar Section
Asteroids & Remote Planets Section
Another supernova for Tom Boles
Part-time Accountant required
Mercury in transit, 2006 November 8–9
A daylight occultation of Saturn

BAA Update
Meeting of the Variable Star Section, Edinburgh, 2005 May 5

New Members and Honorary Members
A gallery of Section Directors
200,000 variable star observations!

Letters
Finding Mercury in daylight
The apochromatic dialyte refracting telescope
Venus in 2004
The myth of daylight poor seeing

Observers’ Forum
NGC 246: an overlooked planetary nebula in Cygnus
DV UMa in outburst

Meetings
Ordinary Meeting, 2006 November 25
Ordinary Meeting and Christmas Lecture, 2006 December 16

Reviews
Nightwatch: a practical guide to viewing the Universe, 4th edn (Dickinson)
The comet sweeper: Caroline Herschel’s astronomical ambition (Brock)
The de Vaucouleurs atlas of galaxies (Buta, Corwin & Odewahn)

Sky notes for August & September
Membership information
Notice board, meetings diary & small advertisements

Officers and Council

Cover image

The European Space Agency GAIA mission (Global Astrometric Interferometer for Astrophysics) is scheduled for launch in late 2011. This combined astrometric/photometric facility is planned to extend to at least the year 2020 and is expected to set new standards in astrometry & photometry for many years to come. See Richard Miles’ Presidential Address ‘A light history of photometry’ on page 172. © ESA; illustration by Medialab)