



JERSEY ASTRONOMY CLUB

SIR PATRICK MOORE ASTRONOMY CENTRE,
LES CREUX COUNTRY PARK,
ST. BRELADE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER

Email: jerseyastronomyclub@ymail.com

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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Astronomy Club will take place on Monday 8th December, when Tony Bellows will be giving an illustrated talk on "The Star of Bethlehem".

As usual, if skies are clear, we will open the dome.

Lending Library

Have you any old astronomy books or magazines that you no longer want? Please bring them along to the next meeting, as we are starting to organize an astronomy lending library.

If you want any books returned to you in the future, please email your name and address to the club email address, and we will produce a "property of..." label to be stuck inside the cover of the book.

Learning to Operate a Telescope

A number of people expressed an interest in learning how to operate the club telescope. We are looking to organize training nights early next year, which will be in addition to the usual club meetings.

If we can get enough people trained in the use of the telescope, then we will be able to open the telescope more frequently when the opportunity of a clear sky presents itself.

If you already have the skills, and would like to help others, please let us know at the club email address.

One of the stunning images of Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko sent back by Rosetta's lander Philae



Credits: ESA/Rosetta/Philae/CIVA



Earth moves through the meteoroid stream of particles left from the passages of a comet. The stream comprises solid particles, known as meteoroids, ejected by the comet as its frozen gases evaporate under the heat of the Sun when it is close enough – typically closer than Jupiter's orbit.

The Leonids are a fast moving stream which encounter the path of Earth and impact at 72 km/s. Larger Leonids which are about 10 mm across have a mass of half a gram and are known for generating bright meteors. An annual Leonid shower may deposit 12 or 13 tons of particles across the entire planet.

They appear as shooting stars as they burn up in the earth's atmosphere, and can be seen with the naked eye.

Did you spot any of the Leonids? Please email jerseyastronomyclub@ymail.com with any observations – what date, what time, and how many you saw?

Notices for Sale / Wanted

If you have any astronomical items for sale, or are looking for any items to buy, please let us know, and we can put it here and on Facebook.

New Look Website

Please look at our new website: <http://jerseyastronomyclub.weebly.com/>