

## HAS Meeting Notices October 2009

1. **HAS Committee Member** - an additional member to join the committee would be a great benefit to help run the Society. Any member (junior or senior) who would like to be considered please contact an existing committee member.
2. **Telephone Alert Lists** - now available for all those paid-up members who asked to be included.
3. **Raffle Prizes** - our very successful raffle continues to generate useful income for the running of the Society. Any prizes which can be donated by the members would be gratefully received.
4. **IYA 2009: HAS Being Saturn on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October\*** - Inverness is to host Saturn for the day, as part of the national initiative to model the Solar System throughout Scotland. The Glasgow Science Centre will represent the Sun, and planets and other bodies will be located at true scale distances from Glasgow. Modelled to the true scale of nearly 15 metres across, Saturn will be projected onto the Eastgate building in Falcon Square from twilight until 8:30pm. **We need volunteers to man the gazebo in Falcon Square and to support a public observing session at JSL Observatory that night. Please get in touch with a committee member tonight or soon after the meeting.**
5. **IYA 2009: Twitter Events** - Get yourself your own (free) Twitter account and follow us, and other societies & enthusiastic individuals, at @HighlandsAstro. Guidelines on how to set up a Twitter account are on our website.
6. **Observing Sessions: JSL Observatory** - All sessions open at 8:00pm with last admission at 10:00pm. Finish time is around 11:00pm. Please check website for the most up to date information.

Fri 16th Oct	-	members & guests only	supervisor:	Antony
*Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	-	public & members	supervisor:	Pauline
Fri 23rd Oct	-	members & guests only	supervisor:	Eric
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	-	public & members	supervisor:	Antony
7. **Doors Open Event** - very successful with nearly 70 visitors on the afternoon
8. **HAS Open Day, Eastgate Centre** (Saturday 19th September) - a great day and a fantastic observing evening. 38 visitors enjoyed the spectacularly clear and stable skies. The enthusiasm from members who attended - young and old(er) - was truly infectious!
9. **HAS Seeing Stars article** was published in last Friday's Inverness Courier and will shortly find its way onto our website. It was titled "Last of the Summer Triangle" and was written by Pauline Macrae.
10. **HAS Stargazey Pie** - Antony is taking a break from compiling this excellent monthly article and we desperately need people to take over the reins for a while. Could you let a committee member know if you are able to help out with one or two "Pies"?
11. **Next meeting** will be Tuesday 3rd November when the speaker will be Pauline Macrae of HAS speaking about "The Universe in 3-D". Note that the **"Youngstars"** sessions for children is held before every main meeting, running from 7:00pm until 7:30pm.
12. **Lunar Phase Posters** are available from the front desk at £1 each.
13. **Messier Challenge** - the nights are getting dark much earlier and now is the time to start preparing your equipment and practising your observing skills to catch the early season Messier objects. Challenge Sheets for recording your observations can be obtained via the "Documentation" page on our website.
14. **HAS Christmas Dinner, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 7:00pm for 7:30pm** - Bogbain Bistro has been booked and a commitment along with £10 deposit is now required from all interested members. Please register your interest, along with your deposit, with Pat Williams tonight or as soon after the meeting as possible.