

The BAA Observers' Workshops

Come and join us at these Workshops, which are designed to encourage the amateur astronomy enthusiast to enjoy practical observing and to introduce project work that may prove useful to the scientific astronomical community. The majority of the talks will be aimed at the relative newcomer who may be looking for guidance after purchasing a telescope, but there will be some lectures on more advanced techniques for more experienced amateurs seeking new challenges.

The talks are to be given by many of the most experienced amateur observers in the United Kingdom, all of whom have much experience in their field. Come and tap into this expertise!

The Workshops will be spread over the year and at locations around the country. The provisional programme is shown below. Each of the Workshops stands alone, so if you cannot attend all three, try to make one or two when you can. If this series is successful, more Workshops will be arranged for 2004.

All are welcome, whether BAA members or not. For more details, updates and enquiries, please see the Association's Website at www.britastro.org and look under 'Meetings'.

Nick Hewitt, Meetings Secretary

Workshop 1 Saturday 2003 February 15, 11am – 6pm The Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge

Introduction to the BAA Observers' Workshops	Guy Hurst / Nick Hewitt	
Imaging comets	Martin Moberley	Former President, BAA
Why observe variable stars?	Karen Holland	Variable Star Section, BAA
Measuring double stars	Bob Argyle	President, the Webb Society
Visual observations of Jupiter	John Rogers	Director, Jupiter Section, BAA
Astrometry of minor planets	Nick James	CCD Adviser, Comet Section, BAA
Observing variable nebulae	Nick Hewitt	Director, Deep Sky Section, BAA

Workshop 2 Saturday 2003 April 26, 9.15am – 6pm BAA Weekend, King Alfred College, Winchester

Nova patrolling	Guy Hurst	President, BAA
Atmospheric phenomena	Mike Frost	Chairman, Coventry and Warwick AS
The Moon in all her aspects	Jeremy Cook	Former Director, Lunar Section, BAA
Visual observation of meteor showers	Neil Bone	Director, Meteor Section, BAA
Solar observing with small telescopes	Lee Macdonald	Newbury Astronomical Society
Drawing the deep sky	Stewart Moore	BAA Deep Sky Section and Webb Society
Eclipsing binaries – a beginner's guide	Tony Markham	Eclipsing Binary Secretary, BAA VSS
Observing the transit of Venus in 2004	Robin Gorman	Hampshire Astronomical Group
Starting out in spectroscopy	Maurice Gavin	Former President, BAA

Workshop 3 Saturday 2003 September 6, 10am – 6pm The Priory Street Centre, York

Visual observations of comets	Jonathan Shanklin	Director, Comet Section, BAA and SPA
Observing variable stars with binoculars	Melvyn Taylor	Binocular Secretary, Variable Star Section, BAA
Photometry of variable stars and minor planets	Richard Miles	Assistant Director, Asteroids Section, BAA
Auroral forms and how to report them	Dave Gavine	Aurora Section, BAA
Micrometry and filter observations of Mars	Richard McKim	Director, Mars Section, BAA
Photographic measurements of meteors	Steve Evans	Photographic Co-ordinator, Meteor Section, BAA
Video recording of occultations	Andrew Elliott	Occultation Co-ordinator, Lunar Section, BAA