Journal of the British Astronomical Association

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The *Journal* is published six times per year, in February, April, June, August, October & December.

Library subscription (UK and surface mail overseas): £50.00. To purchase single copies or individual articles please see **www.britastro.org/journal**.

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Contributions

Papers should be sent by e-mail (preferred) or by post (three copies) to the Papers Secretary at the address shown inside the back cover of each issue. They will be refereed, and, if approved by Council, published as soon as reasonably possible. Those wishing to speak at a meeting should contact the Meetings Secretary.

All other contributions should be sent to the Editor. As well as *Letters to the Editor*, she will be pleased to receive contributions to *Observers' Forum*, particularly interesting astronomical photographs, drawings and images. Colour images are especially welcomed. Photos and media will be returned only if a suitable stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

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Deadlines

All material, including short letters and notes, must be received by the Editor by the following dates:

Issue	Date
2012 December	2012 October 25
2013 February	2012 December 20
Later dates apply, by arr	angement, to electronic advertising
copy for which space has	s been reserved.

Membership of the BAA

The annual subscription for ordinary membership of the Association for the 2012–2013 Session is £46.00. For details of concessionary rates, and other membership information, see page 266 of this issue. Subscriptions are due on 1st August each year. Members who pay UK income tax are encouraged to complete a Gift Aid certificate in order to benefit the Association, which is a registered educational charity. The annual subscription to posted BAA *Circulars* is £5 (UK).

Published by: The British Astronomical Association, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0DU Tel: 020-7734 4145

World Wide Web home pages: BAA: http://www.britastro.org/ Journal: http://www.britastro.org/journal/

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ISSN 0007-0297

Printed by the Magazine Printing Co., Enfield, EN3 7NT

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On the cover

'Curiosity' has landed!

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An artist's impression of NASA's Mars Science Laboratory *Curiosity* on the surface of Mars.The rover's mast rises to 2.1m above ground level. It supports two remote-sensing instruments: the Mast Camera for stereo colour viewing of surrounding terrain and material collected by the arm, and the ChemCam instrument, which is a laser that vaporises material from rocks up to about 9m away and spectroscopically determines what elements the rocks are made of. *Curiosity* carries ten instruments in all.

Inset: Curiosity descending on its large parachute, imaged from orbit by the *Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter*.

See Richard McKim's note on the facing page. (*NASA/JPL-Caltech*).



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