



Six views of the Martian moon Phobos, captured by NASA's Odyssey orbiter in March 2020, using the Thermal Emission Imaging System (THEMIS) Credit: jpl.nasa.gov/

What to look out for in the night sky

August

Mars - rapidly brightening and expanding throughout the month

Neptune - reaches its highest point, due south, from mid-month

3 August - Full Moon This Moon is known as the Sturgeon Moon, Green Corn Moon or Grain Moon.

11, 12 August - Perseids Meteor Shower The Perseids produce up to 60 meteors per hour. The shower runs from 17 July to 24 August, peaking this year on the night of the 11/12 August. Best viewing will be after midnight, meteors visible anywhere in the sky.

13 August - Venus at Greatest Western Elongation This is the best time to view Venus as it will be at its highest point above the horizon, in the eastern sky, just before sunrise.

19 August - New Moon The Moon will not be visible in the night sky and so this is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters as moonlight will not interfere.

September

Mars - morning object in Pisces, brighter than Jupiter at the end of the month

Saturn - located just east of Jupiter and well placed, despite low altitude

September brings the return of the **International Space Station** sightings for the UK. There is a link to a website below, with details of sightings over Kettering.

2 September - Full Moon This Moon is known as the Corn Moon.

11 September - Neptune at Opposition The giant planet's face will be fully illuminated by the Sun. It will be brighter than at any other time of the year and visible all night long. This is the best time to view and photograph Neptune but due to its extreme distance from Earth it will only appear as a tiny blue dot, unless you use a very powerful telescope.

17 September - New Moon The Moon will not be visible in the night sky and so this is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters as moonlight will not interfere.

22 September - September Equinox The Sun will shine directly on the equator and there will be equal amounts of day and night throughout the world. This is also the first day of autumn in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of spring in the Southern Hemisphere.

Throughout the summer months **The Summer Triangle** is visible. The three bright stars **Vega, Deneb and Altair** make up this Triangle, visible in the Eastern sky.



Comet **Neowise**, seen from the International Space station and from Earth, 5 July 2020
Credit: NASA Earth Observatory

Forthcoming Club Events – Meetings are currently suspended

[Meetings are held in **The Lounge, Geddington Village Hall, Queen Street, Geddington NN14 1AZ**

Please visit www.naastronomy.com to check final meeting information. Visit the NAA Facebook pages for discussion, photos and events.]

Club Committee

President: Nick Freville

Chair and Speaker Co-ordinator: Sue Yendell

Treasurer: Eleanor Patrick

Secretaries: Jane Napier Tel: 07960 262401

Anne Douglas email: adouglas2@sky.com

Committee Members: Mervyn Lloyd, Frank Tasker

Useful websites

Spot the International Space Station:

https://spotthestation.nasa.gov/sightings/view.cfm?country=United_Kingdom®ion=England&city=Kettering#.Xxl13ihKhPY

<https://www.nasa.gov/>

<https://astronomynow.com/uk-sky-chart/>

<https://www.skyatnightmagazine.com/advice/skills/astronomy-guide-viewing-planets-night-sky/>

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