



November to December 2021



Star Formation in the Constellation Gemini

Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA, J. C. Tan, R. Fedriani

What's happening in the night sky?

4 November - New Moon

4 November - Uranus at opposition The planet will appear at its biggest and brightest for the year, visible to the naked eye from dark locations but best seen through a telescope or binoculars.

4, 5 November - South Taurids Meteor Shower (peak) The new moon will leave dark skies this year for what should be an excellent show (best between midnight and 3.00am).

11,12 November - North Taurids Meteor Shower (peak) Up to five meteors per hour should be visible.

17,18 November - Leonids Meteor Shower (peak) This shower produces up to 15 meteors per hour at its peak although active throughout the month. The nearly full moon may hinder viewing but you should still be able to catch a few good ones. Best viewing is after midnight.

19 November - Full Moon This Moon is known as the Beaver Moon, Frosty Moon or Dark Moon.

4 December - New Moon

4 December - Total Solar Eclipse The path of totality for this eclipse will be limited to Antarctica and the southern Atlantic Ocean and so a TV will be required!

13, 14 December - Geminids Meteor Shower (peak) One of the best meteor showers, producing up to 120 multicoloured meteors per hour at its peak. The shower runs annually from 7 -17 December. Best viewing will be after midnight.

18 December - NASA's James Webb Space Telescope Launch The launch is scheduled to lift off from the Guiana Space Centre in Kourou, French Guiana, on an Ariane 5 ECA rocket.

19 December - Full Moon This moon is known as the Cold Moon, Long Nights Moon or the Moon Before Yule.

21 December - December Solstice This is the first day of winter (winter solstice) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of summer (summer solstice) in the Southern Hemisphere.

21, 22 December - Ursids Meteor Shower (peak) This shower should produce about 5 -10 meteors per hour at its peak but runs from 17 – 25 December. The nearly full moon may block all but the brightest meteors but you may still be able to catch a few good ones. Best viewing will be just after midnight and meteors can appear anywhere in the sky.

Meetings

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

Please visit www.naastronomy.com to check final meeting information.

Tuesday 09 November 7.30pm for 7.45pm **Mike Frost, visiting speaker**

Tuesday 16 November 7.30pm for 7.45pm **Club Member Presentation**

Tuesday 23 November 7.30pm **Committee Meeting at The Piper**

Tuesday 7 December 7.30pm for 7.45pm **Christmas Social Evening – booking essential**

Meetings with guest speakers: £3 (£4 for non-members)

General meetings: £2 (£3 for non-members)

Full membership: £30 (Concessions £19)

Club contact details

President: Nick Freville Tel: 01536 723211

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Chair and Speaker Co-ordinator: Sue Yendell Tel:

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Treasurer: Mervyn Lloyd Tel: 07706 181770

Joint Secretaries: Jane Napier Tel: 07960 262401,

Anne Douglas email: adouglas2@sky.com

Committee Member: Frank Tasker Tel: 01536 390040

You can also contact us via the website:

www.naastronomy.com



SpaceX Cargo Vehicle approaches ISS, 20 Aug 2021 (Credit: NASA)

Useful websites

<https://www.space.com>

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

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

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

<http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2021.html>

Spot the International Space Station:

https://spotthestation.nasa.gov/sightings/view.cfm?country=United_Kingdom®ion=England&city=Kettering#.Xx113ihKhPY

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