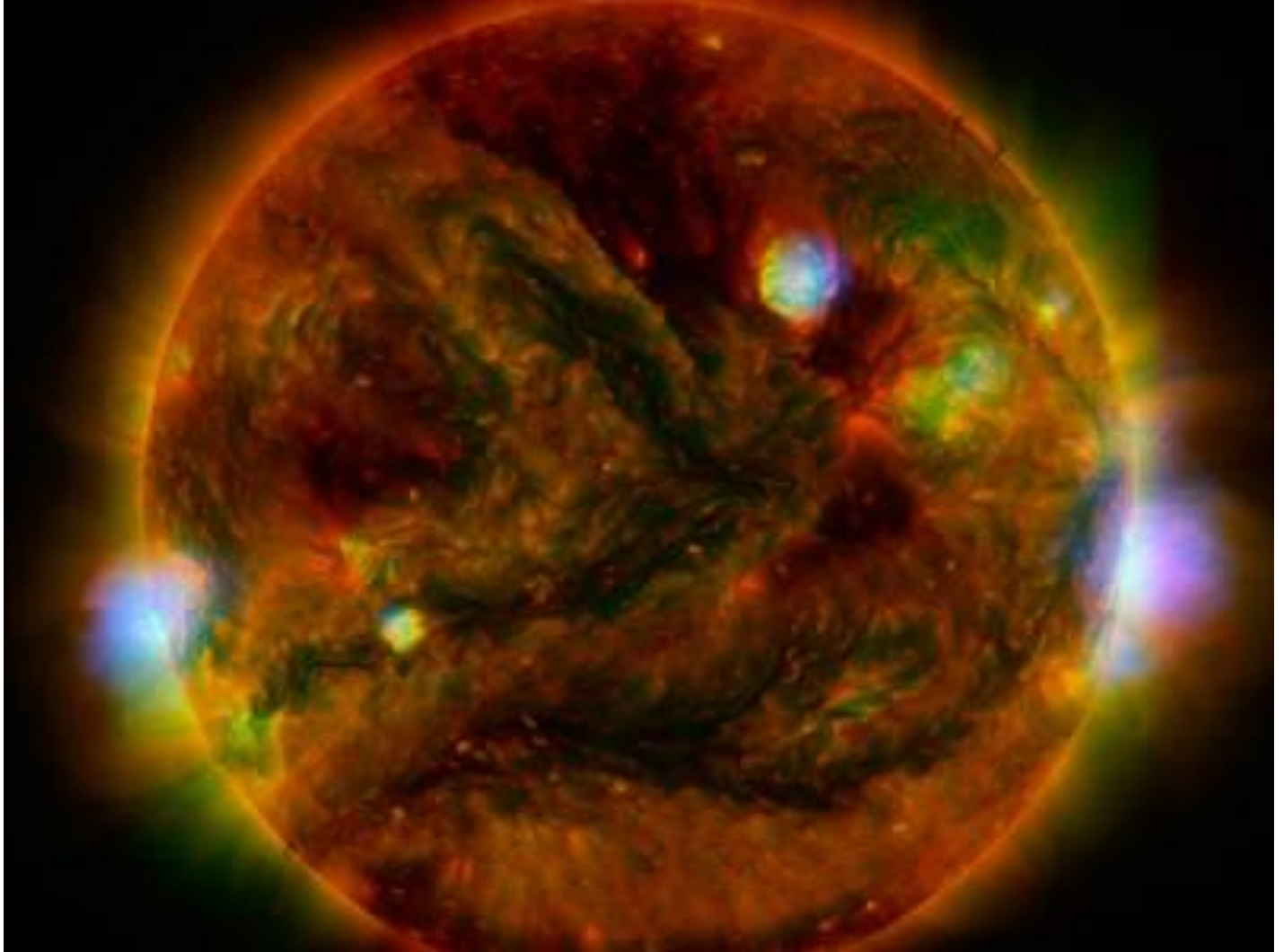




September to October 2021



Active regions of the Sun shown by combining observations from Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR, shown in blue), low-energy X-rays from Japan's Hinode spacecraft (shown in green) and extreme ultraviolet light from the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO, shown in yellow and red). *Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/GSFC/JAXA*

What to look out for in the night sky

14 September - Neptune at Opposition The giant blue planet will be at its closest approach to Earth. It will be at its brightest for the year and visible all night long.

14 September - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation The planet will be at its highest point, above the western horizon, just after sunset.

20 September - Full Moon This full moon was known by Native American tribes as the Corn Moon or Harvest Moon. The Harvest Moon is the full moon that occurs closest to the September equinox each year.

22 September - September Equinox The Sun will shine directly on the equator, causing equal lengths of day and night. This is the first day of Autumn in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of Spring in the Southern Hemisphere.

4 October - Double Transit of Ganymede and Callisto Shadows With a telescope, you may be able to see these moons of Jupiter crossing the planet.

8, 9 October - Draconids Meteor Shower This is a minor meteor shower, producing only about 10 meteors per hour. It is unusual in that the best viewing is in the early evening instead of early morning. The shower runs

annually from 6 - 10 October but peaks on the night of 8 October. A nearly new Moon will leave dark skies and meteors can appear anywhere in the sky.

20 October - Full Moon This full moon is known as the Hunters' Moon, Travel Moon or Blood Moon.

21, 22 October - Orionids Meteor Shower This is an average shower, producing up to 20 meteors per hour. The shower runs from 2 October to 7 November but peaks this year on the night of 21/22 October. The full Moon will block out all but the brightest meteors but you should still be able to catch some good ones. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Orion but can appear anywhere in the sky.

25 October - Mercury at Greatest Western Elongation The planet will be at its highest point above the horizon in the eastern morning sky.

29 October - Venus at Greatest Eastern Elongation The planet will be at its highest point above the horizon in the western evening 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 7 September 7.30pm for 7.45pm

Tuesday 21 September 7.30pm for 7.45pm

Tuesday 5 October 7.30pm for 7.45pm

Tuesday 19 October 7.30pm for 7.45pm – Guest Speaker

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

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

Full membership: £30 (Concessions £19)

Club contact details

You can contact us via the website: www.naastronomy.com or contact one of our Secretaries:

Anne Douglas Tel: 07729 775843

Jane Napier Tel: 07960 262401

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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