



www.derbyastronomy.org

Do you want to know more about astronomy?

Do you want advice on how to use a telescope?

Do you want to learn more about the Universe?

Do you want to learn how to find your way around the night sky?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions then why not come to one of the Derby & District Astronomical Society's Introduction to Astronomy evenings? These informal evenings are a great opportunity for beginners to put forward any questions they may have. They will be held on the third Friday of the month (21st October, 18th November & 16th December) (if successful then these meetings will become a regular part of our meeting programme). The meetings will start at 7:30 pm and will be held at the *Friend's Meeting House* on St. Helen's Street in Derby. Limited on-street parking is available on St. Helen's Street but it is recommended that attendees park at one of Derby's main car parks. The nearest car park is on Chapel Street and there is a secure Parksafe car park on Bold Lane, the latter being 10 minutes walk from the Friend's Meeting House. To help towards the costs of running the society there is a room collection fee which currently stands at £3 for non-members.

The Evenings will include:

- Latest Astro news
- A short introduction to the night sky
- A look at what there is to view in the night sky for the next month
- A constellation of the month (a more in-depth look at a prominent constellation visible for the next month)

Each month there will also be a short presentation on one of the following topics

- Telescopes - different types, how to use and advice on buying
- History of Astronomy – a general topic including famous astronomers, observatories and discoveries
- The Solar System – how it formed, details of the planets, moons, asteroids and comets
- Cosmology – How the Universe formed, how it currently appears and what the future holds
- Stellar Evolution – how stars are born, live and die
- The Milky Way – A look at our own galaxy
- Meteors & Meteorites – a look at meteor showers, what they are, when to view and how to collect meteorites
- Space Exploration – space missions and how they have advanced our knowledge of the Universe
- Astroimaging – advice on where to begin and how to move to a more advanced setup.
- Exoplanets – from discovery to the possibility of life in the Universe

We aim to have at least one telescope available at each meeting (hopefully two or three different types) and if the weather is suitable there will be a chance to do some observing.