



THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

KEEPING IN TOUCH – Please pass on to all your members Week Ending 31 January 2010

1. The Australian/New Zealand Workshop on SKA Data and Signal Processing – Auckland February 15, 2010

This workshop provides a forum for the professionals from New Zealand and Australian academia and industry to discuss the issues and challenges in data and signal processing as well as other topics of advanced computing and networking related to the SKA and radio astronomy in general. The workshop aims to establish a framework for New Zealand research and industry in engaging with Australian SKA Research and Development related to data and signal processing.

When: 10:00 - 17:00, February 15, 2010

Where: Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Web: <http://www.ska.ac.nz/events/australia-new-zealand-workshop-on-ska-data-and-signal-processing>

Contact to register: Dr Slava Kitaev, slava.kitaev@aut.ac.nz

This meeting is generously sponsored by the New Zealand Foundation for Research, Science & Technology and registration has been waived, however participants are asked to indicate their attendance by Monday 8th of February for catering purposes. The workshop will be available in live video via the Internet. Interactive participation via the Internet will be also available for people not able to attend in person. Please enquire at the time of registration for technical details.

2. Jack Newton renowned astrophotographer to visit NZ - Christchurch, February 18, 2010

The Canterbury and South Canterbury Astronomical Societies are proud to announce, a free public presentation by astrophotographer and supernova hunter Jack Newton.

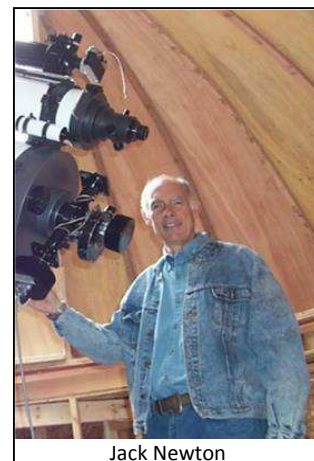
Jack is a Canadian amateur astronomer recognised worldwide for his publications and images in amateur astro photography, both in film and CCD. Newton took his first astro photograph when he was 13 years old and has been lecturing since 16. His ground-breaking work in deep sky imagery and CCD images of the sun places him among the great pioneers of modern day astro photographers.

When: 19:30 - 21:00, Thursday February 18, 2010

Where: Canterbury University, Christchurch

Web: (CAS) <http://www.cas.org.nz> or (SCAS) <http://www.scastro.co.cc>

Contact: Robert Mctague, email: langwood@xtra.co.nz phone: (03) 688-3735



Jack Newton

3. Coromandel Astronomy Group & The Stargazers B&B

Congratulations to Alastair Brickell leader and chief of the Coromandel Astronomy Group for opening the STARGAZERS Bed & Breakfast observatory and Astronomy tours. STARGAZERS is nestled in a protected valley in Kuaotunu 16km north of Whitianga on the beautiful Coromandel Peninsula and offers an ideal dark sky site to observe the stunning southern night sky in all its glory with a range of optical tools on offer.

To check out what the STARGAZERS B&B have to offer or to make a booking

Web: <http://www.stargazersbb.com>

Contact: Alastair Brickell abrickell@xtra.co.nz

We wish Alastair and the Coromandel Astronomy Group the very best of luck with this new venture.



Alastair Brickell and STARGAZERS
Waikato Times, "A night with the stars" Jan 8, 2010

4. Astrophotographer of the Year 2010 – Entries close July 16, 2010

After the huge success of Astronomy Photographer of the Year 2009, the Royal Observatory Greenwich, U.K have opened entries to this year's competition. As we have many experienced astrophotographers within our societies, we do hope some of you take the opportunity to enter this competition and showcase New Zealand's astrophotography talent.

For further information and entry details check out their website.

<http://www.nmm.ac.uk/visit/exhibitions/astromy-photographer-of-the-year>

**ASTRONOMY PHOTOGRAPHER
OF THE YEAR 2010**



Don't forget to visit the RASNZ Affiliated Societies webpage <http://www.rasnz.org.nz/AffSocs/index.htm>