



THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

**KEEPING IN TOUCH – Please pass on to all your members
Week Ending 5th February, 2012**

1. A 'Heads Up' for the Transit of Venus - 6th June, 2012

Thinking ahead to the upcoming Transit of Venus and November's exciting Partial Eclipse, RASNZ has designed and recently taken delivery of a shipment of **Safe Solar Viewers**. These handy viewers have been safety tested here in New Zealand for use during the Transit of Venus on the 6th of June and the Partial Eclipse on November 14th this year.

It is hoped that they will allow the public of New Zealand to get their first and last glimpse of the Transit of Venus from where ever they happen be on the day and to experience the thrill of this year's solar eclipse

Your society or group may like to place an order to sell the viewers to the local community - *a perfect way to fundraise, to promote your group, or to use during your own organised events.*



There is nothing like exciting astronomical 'goings on' to stir the public's imagination and to get everyone along to check out what your group gets up to....

Our Solar Viewers will go on sale at the end of February – a helpful information pamphlet will be supplied with every viewer sold. Look out for the advertising brochure and ordering info.

Contact: Glen Rowe - pres@rasnz.org.nz

2. Transit of Venus Accommodation - Tokomaru Bay, Gisborne

If you are looking for somewhere to stay in the Gisborne area during the Transit of Venus celebrations, check out the Te Puka Tavern, Tokomaru Bay, Gisborne. The newly built units look directly over the Eastern Bay and offer affordable, comfortable accommodation with a good restaurant and bar on site. It is advisable to book early to secure a good spot for this event.

Contact: Peter or Carolyn tepuka@gisborne.net.nz

Web: www.tepukatavern.co.nz



3. RASNZ Education Group - Astronomy Outreach Workshop - Friday 15 June 2012

This full day workshop is aimed at anyone interested in astronomy outreach and education on any level within New Zealand and globally. We will be seeking to create new paths for moving forward with astronomy outreach in NZ. The Workshop is to be held on Friday 15 June 2012 at the recently opened Carterton Events Centre in conjunction with the RASNZ 2012 Annual Conference.

The full day workshop includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Registration fee has been kept to a bare minimum at just \$40.00 per participant. To register your interest or for further information,

Contact: Ron Fisher from the RASNZ Education group - education@rasnz.org.nz

4. RASNZ DarkSkies Group Newsletters & International Starlight Conference

The RASNZ DarkSkies Group produce an intermittent newsletter to keep interested people up to date with lighting events in New Zealand and around the world. For the latest, download the PDF here www.rasnz.org.nz/darkskies/newsletters.htm

Contact: Steve Butler - s_butler@xtra.co.nz

The Third International Starlight Conference will be held at Lake Tekapo - 11 to 13 June, 2012

To Register or for further info, **Contact:** Rosalie Reilly rosalie.reilly@canterbury.ac.nz



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