

# The Astronomical Society of Edinburgh

Winter 2002 - 2003



## The City Observatory

Calton Hill, Edinburgh  
Phone: 0131 556 4365  
<http://www.astronomyedinburgh.org/>

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## Councillors

Alison Duncan (Vice-President), George Grant (Vice-President),  
Alan Ellis, Dave King, Des Loughney,  
Peter MacDonald, Horst Meyerdierks, David Small

## Membership

Anyone interested in astronomy is eligible for membership. Application forms and further information may be obtained at the City Observatory (when open), or from the Secretary.

The annual subscription is payable on the 1st of October, the rate being determined by the Council. At the time of printing it is £15. There is a reduced rate of £7 for those under 18 or 65 and over.



# Astronomical Society of Edinburgh

<http://www.astronomyedinburgh.org/>

The Society was founded in 1924 and has run the City Observatory since 1938. We exist to advance the education of the public about the science of Astronomy and to promote astronomical research chiefly in Edinburgh and its neighbourhood.

All members (especially beginners) are encouraged to participate in the Society's activities.

Visitors are welcome at our meetings and are invited to speak to members of the Society's Council if they are interested in joining us.

Lecture meetings are held throughout the year - normally the first Friday of each month - covering a wide range of topics many of which are suitable for beginners. Members are invited to share their observations either during the main meeting or more informally over a cup of tea afterwards.

The Observatory houses a 6" Cooke Refractor in the Playfair Building and the Society owns a number of other instruments including a specialised 'Solar' telescope. The Society also has an out of town observing site where we have an excellent 12" reflector.

Two observing groups meet monthly during the winter: the Astrophotography & Imaging Group and the Messier Group. These are open to all members of the Society, from complete novices to seasoned astronomers.

We also have active observers of aurorae, meteors, noctilucent clouds, occultations, variable stars, deep sky objects and planets. Other members are interested in the history of astronomy and some consider themselves 'arm-chair astronomers'. If you would like to know more then ask a Council Member.

A comprehensive collection of books and periodicals is housed in the Observatory covering all aspects of astronomy from introductory level up. These are available for consultation or borrowing by members when the Observatory is open.

The Society publishes a Journal, usually twice a year, under the editorship of Dave Gavine. It is free to members and contains articles of general astronomical interest. Dr Gavine always welcomes contributions from members - especially reports of observations.

Members are issued with the latest edition of the Federation of Astronomical Societies' "Astrocalendar" which contains monthly sky charts and notes on eclipses, visibility of planets and other astronomical events.

The Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, has kindly allowed us use of their computing facilities to host our webpages. Members may join an e-mail list which is used to discuss observing outings and other matters of interest.

The Society is a Scottish Charity SCO22968

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For further information please contact the Secretary (0131 556 4365) or see our website.