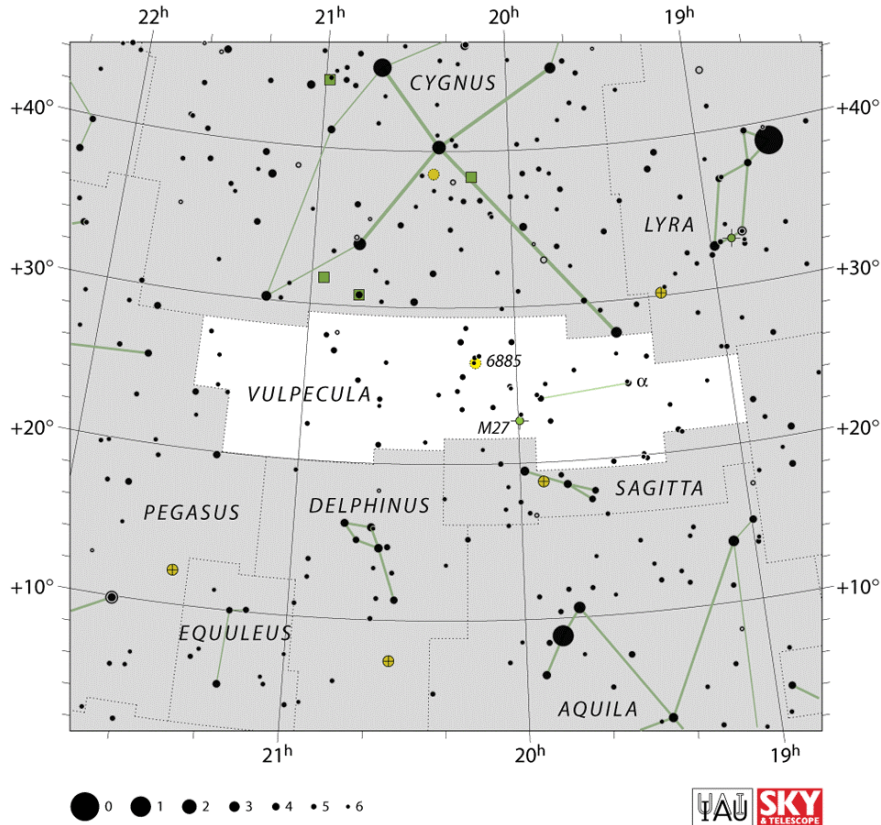


Constellation of the Month - Vulpecula

Your challenge is to observe, and record what you see ready for including in the Sky Notes presentation next month.



The Constellation of the Month will be selected from one that is readily visible most of the night during the month.

Rugby & District Astronomical Society

www.rugbyastro.org.uk

| | | | |
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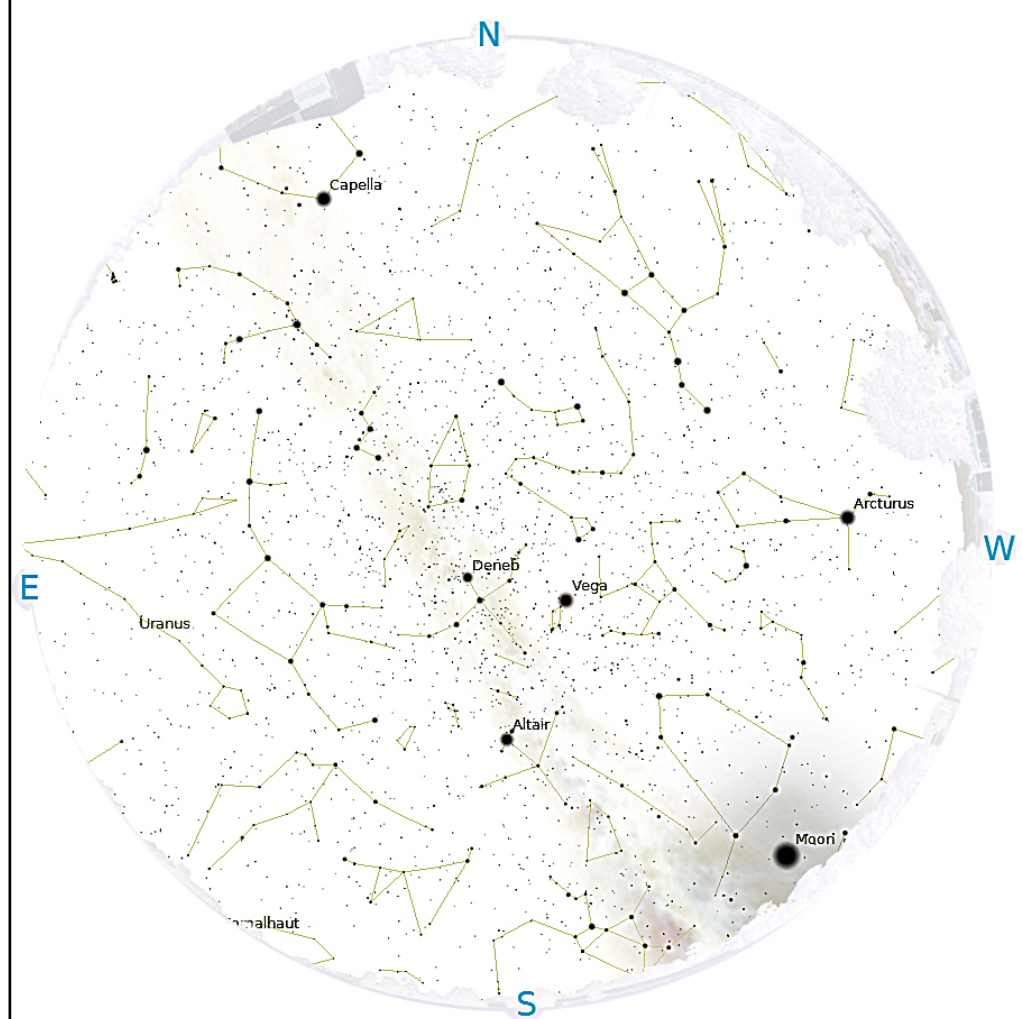
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Rugby & District Astronomical Society Sky Notes

by Chris Longthorn

August 2013, no 52



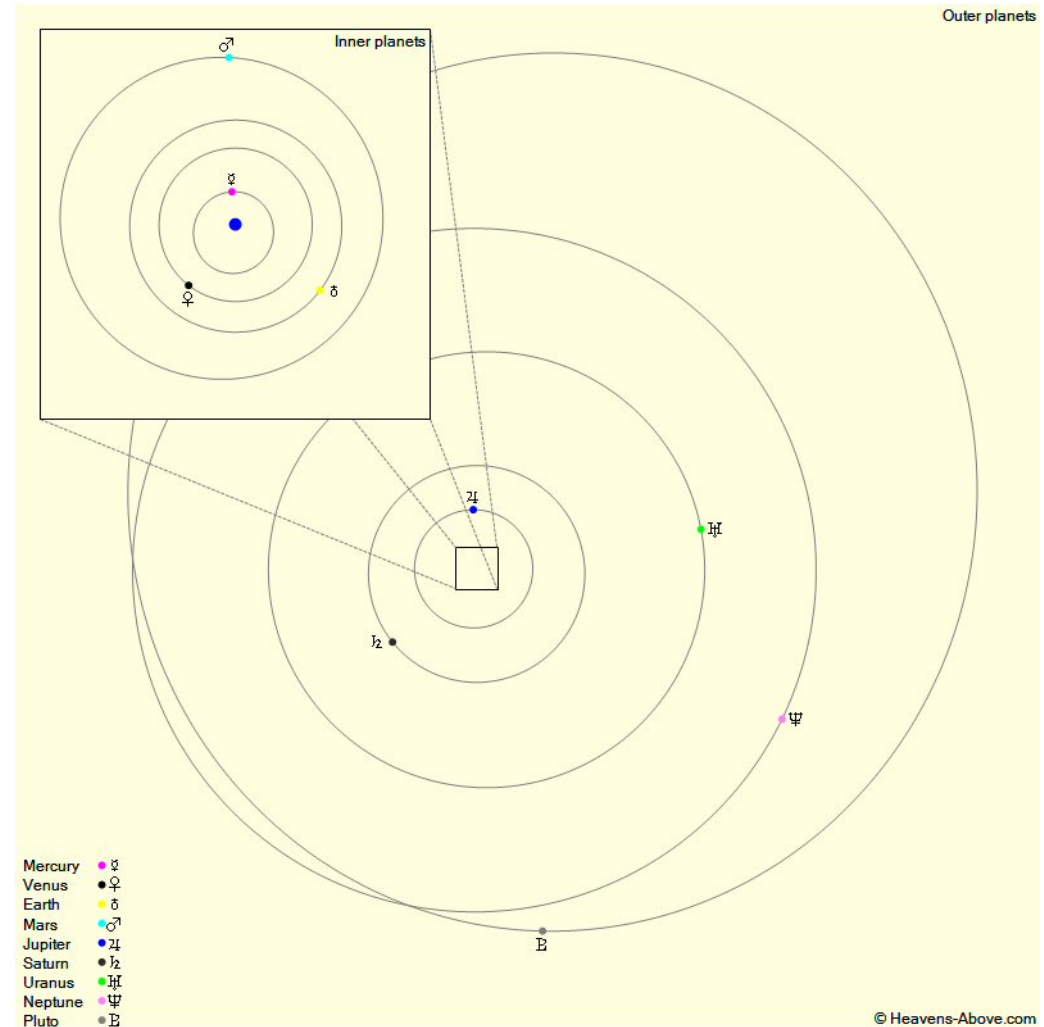
The night sky at 22:00 B.S.T., Aug 15th

Event Calendar, August 2013

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | 1 ISS 01 Aug -3.4 02:00:45 71° SSE | 2 R&DAS camping trip to Wales (2nd—5th). | 3 Jupiter 4° N. of Moon ISS 03 Aug -3.4 01:58:42 79° SSE |
| 4 Mars 5° N. of Moon ISS 04 Aug - 3.4 02:45:50 63° SSW | 5 Mercury 7° S. of Pollux Mercury 4° N. of Moon | 6 New Moon (21:51) | 7 Algol at mini- mum (02:13) | 8 | 9 Algol at minimum (23:02) R&DAS Ten Pin Bowling | 10 Venus 5° N. of Moon |
| 11 | 12 Algol at mini- mum (19:51) Spica 0°.6 S. of Moon. Perseid meteor shower maxi- mum (60/hr). Moon waxing 35%. Perseid meteor shower maxi- mum (60/hr). Moon waxing 35%. R&DAS Perseid Observing at Barby | 13 Perseid meteor shower maxi- mum (60/hr). Moon waxing 35%. Saturn 3° N. of Moon | 14 First quarter Moon (10:56) | 15 | 16 Iridium 50 05:37:38 Mag - 8.4 Alt 71° Az 204° (SSW) | 17 |
| 18 R&DAS monthly meet- ing, Thomas Morris: Binary Stars | 19 | 20 | 21 Full Moon (1:45) | 22 | 23 | 24 Mercury at superior con- junction |
| 25 | 26 | 27 Algol at mini- mum (03:54) Iridium 76 21:36:05 Mag - 8.2 Alt 53° Az 72° (ENE) | 28 Last quarter Moon (9:35) | 29 | 30 Algol at minimum (00:42) | 31 Jupiter 4° N. of Moon |

The Planets, mid month.



Mercury is in Cancer with a magnitude of -1.4, a phase of 90%, and a diameter of 5". It rises at 04:45, transits at 12:32, and sets at 20:18. It is visible low in the east before sunrise.

Venus is in Virgo with a magnitude of -4.0, a phase of 79%, and a diameter of 13". It rises at 09:14, transits at 15:25, and sets at 21:35. It is visible in the evening sky.

Mars is in Gemini with a magnitude of +1.6, a phase of 97%, and a diameter of 4". It rises at 02:50, transits at 11:04, and sets at 19:18. It is visible in the morning sky.

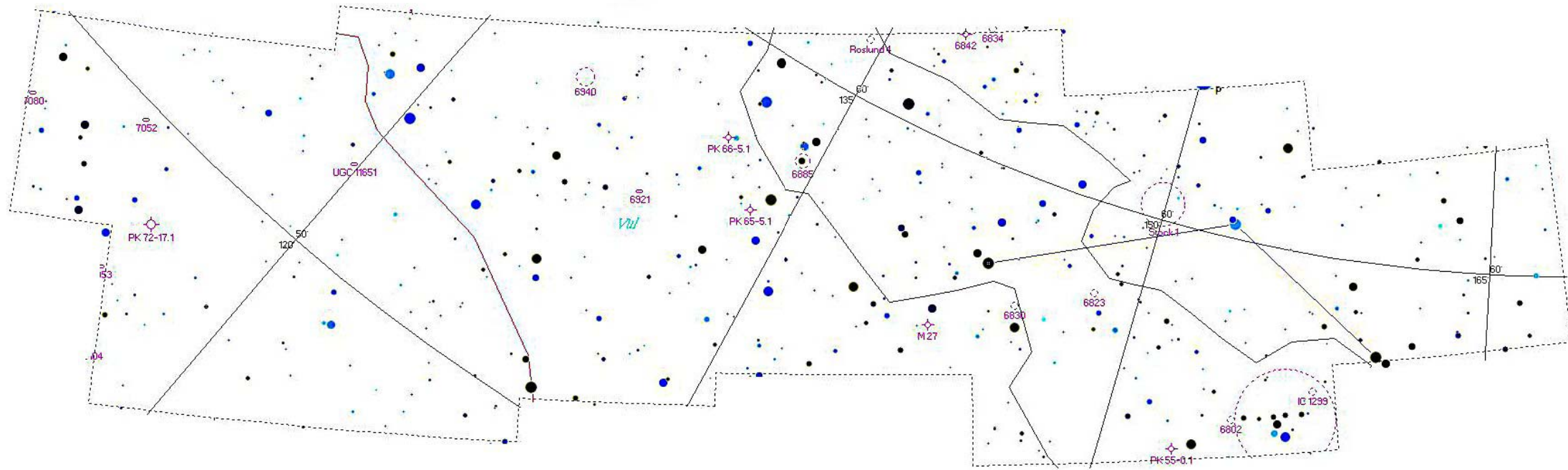
Jupiter is in Gemini with a magnitude of -2.0 and a diameter of 34". It rises at 02:01, transits at 10:17, and sets at 18:33. It is visible in the morning sky.

Saturn is in Virgo with a magnitude of +0.7 and a diameter of 16". It rises at 12:43, transits at 17:46, and sets at 22:49. It is visible in the evening sky.

Uranus is in Pisces with a magnitude of +5.8 and a diameter of 4". It transits at 04:16, sets at 10:41, and rises again at 21:48. It is visible in the morning sky.

Neptune is in Aquarius with a magnitude of +7.8 and a diameter of 2". It transits at 01:56, sets at 07:03, and rises again at 20:45. It is well placed for observation throughout the night.

Detailed Map of Vulpecula



Vulpecula is the 55th constellation in size, occupying an area of 268 square degrees.

It is located in the northern hemisphere and can be seen at latitudes between $+90^\circ$ and -55° .

The neighbouring constellations are Cygnus, Delphinus, Hercules, Lyra, Pegasus and Sagitta.

Vulpecula contains one Messier object – Messier 27 (M27, NGC 6853, Dumbbell Nebula) – and has four stars with known planets.

The brightest star in the constellation is Anser, Alpha Vulpeculae, with an apparent visual magnitude of 4.44.