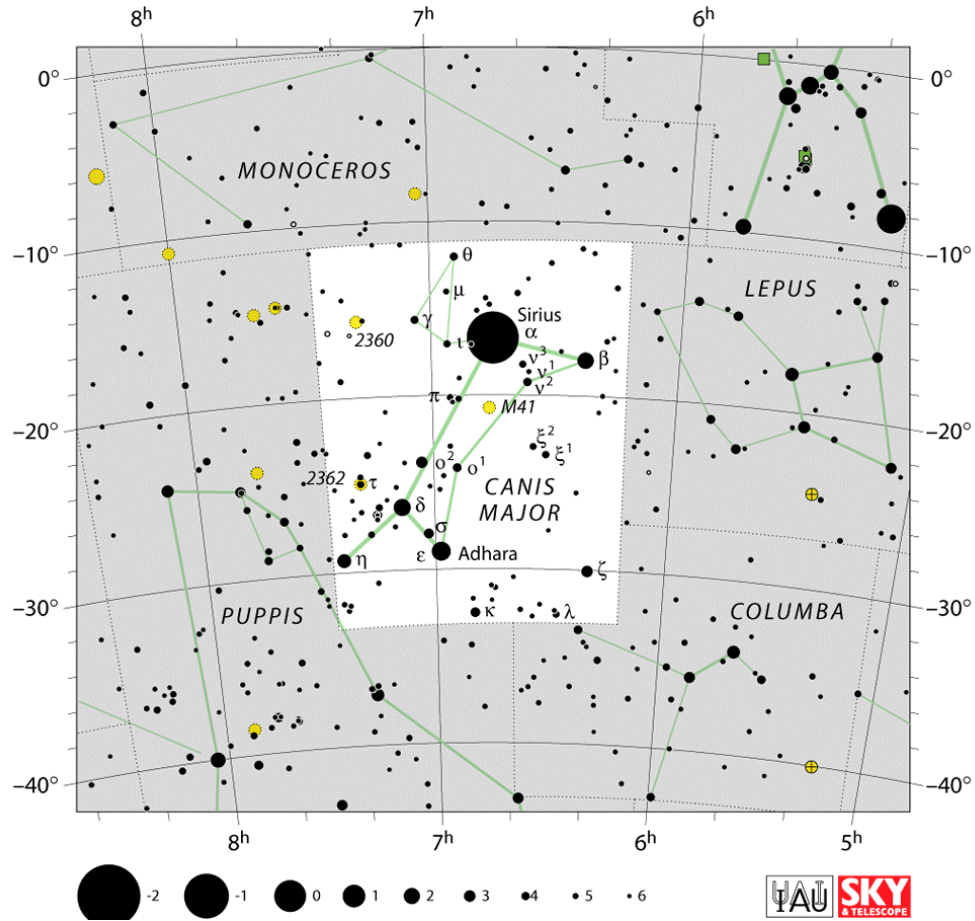


Constellation of the Month - Canis Major

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.

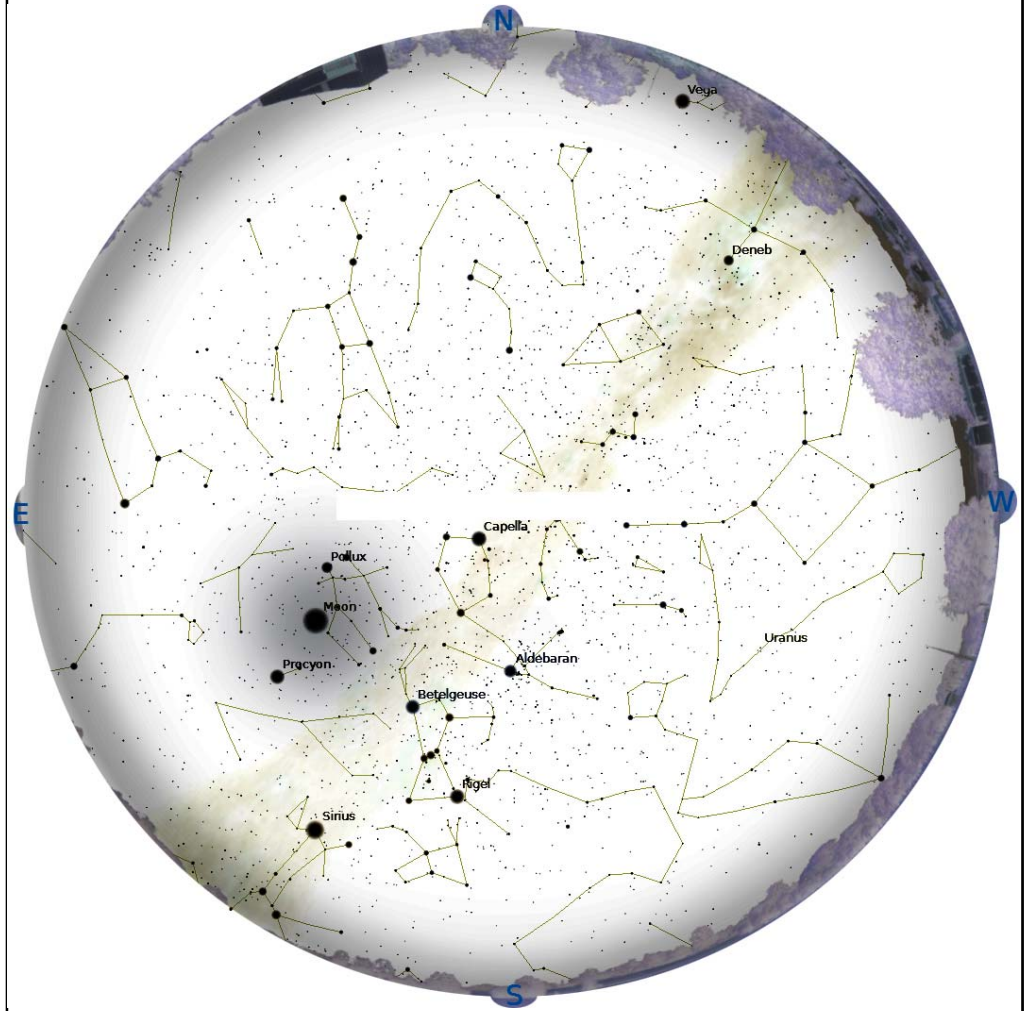


Rugby & District Astronomical Society

Sky Notes

by Chris Longthorn

December 2016, no 89



Rugby & District Astronomical Society

www.rugbyastro.org.uk



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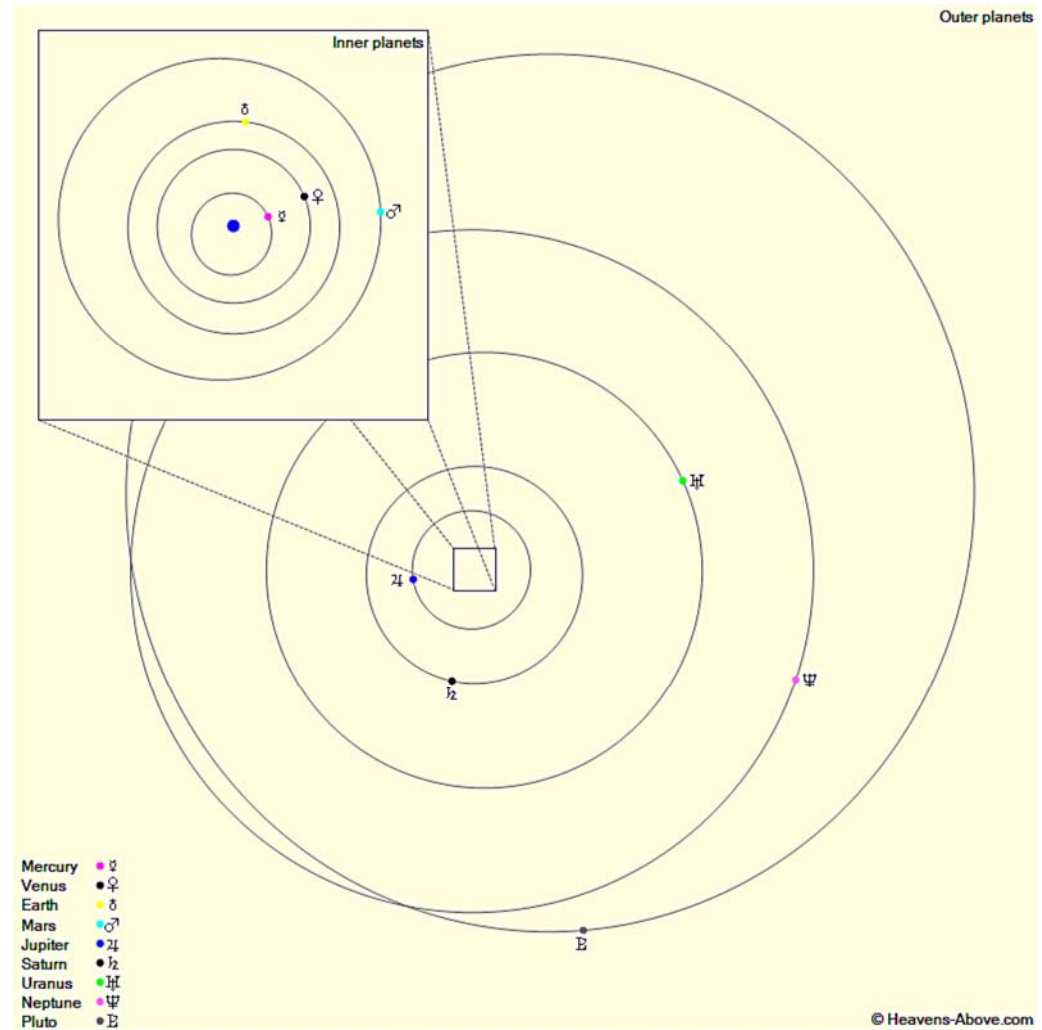
The night sky at 23:00 U.T.C., December 15th 2016

2016 December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Venus 43.2° E Moon S Dec 19:56	2	3 Moon-Venus 12:34
4	5 Moon-Mars 10:39	6 Moon D Node 17:35	7  First Quarter 09:03 ISS, -3.1, 17:55, 61°, SSE	8	9 ISS, -3.3, 17:47, 76°, S	10 Saturn Sun 11:03 ISS, -3.1, 16:55, 66°, SSE
11 Mercury East 03:59 ISS, -3.3, 17:39, 80°, S	12 Moon Perigee 23:27 ISS, -3.2, 16:47, 79°, S ISS, -2.7, 18:23, °, SW	13 Moon-Aldeb 04:14 Geminids 23:57 ISS, -3.2, 17:31, 72°, S	14  Full Moon 00:05 Moon N Dec 21:43 ISS, -3.2, 16:39, 79°, S ISS, -2.3, 18:16, 40°, SSW	15 ISS, -2.6, 17:24, 54°, SSW	16 ISS, -2.9, 16:31, 67°, SSW	17 Iridium 91 18:28, -7.9, 41°, 32° (NNE)
18 Moon- Regulus 18:14 R&DAS Xmas meal—Steam Turbine, 19:30	19 Moon A Node 04:46	20	21  Last Quarter 01:56 Winter Sol 10:45	22 Ursids 08:00 Moon-Jupiter 16:37	23	24
25 Moon Apogee 05:55	26	27	28 Mercury Infer 18:41	29  Moon S Dec 03:30 New Moon 06:53 Iridium 60 17:23, -8.2, 61°, 52° (NE)	30	31

Sky Events Calendar by Fred Espenak and Sumit Dutta (NASA's GSFC)
ISS, Iridium Data and Solar System Map courtesy of Heavens-Above (www.heavens-above.com)

The Planets, mid month.



Mercury is in Sagittarius with a magnitude of -0.1, a phase of 45%, and a diameter of 8". It rises at 09:56, transits at 13:32, and sets at 17:10. It is visible low in the west after sunset.

Venus is in Capricornus with a magnitude of -4.2, a phase of 63%, and a diameter of 19". It rises at 11:14, transits at 15:20, and sets at 19:27. It is visible in the evening sky.

Mars is in Aquarius with a magnitude of +0.8, a phase of 89%, and a diameter of 6". It rises at 11:42, transits at 16:30, and sets at 21:19. It is visible in the evening sky.

Jupiter is in Virgo with a magnitude of -1.9 and a diameter of 34". It rises at 02:16, transits at 07:45, and sets at 13:13. It is visible in the morning sky.

Saturn is in Ophiuchus with a magnitude of +0.4 and a diameter of 15". It rises at 07:52, transits at 11:46, and sets at 15:41. It is currently too close to the Sun to be observed.

Uranus is in Pisces with a magnitude of +5.8 and a diameter of 4". It sets at 02:35, rises again at 13:04, and transits at 19:48. It is visible in the evening sky.

Neptune is in Aquarius with a magnitude of +7.9 and a diameter of 2". It rises at 12:02, transits at 17:16, and sets at 22:31. It is visible in the evening sky.