



>>> **Ayrshire Astronomical Society Newsletter**

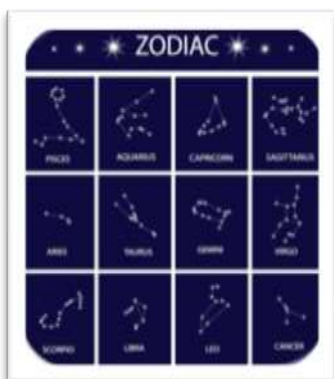
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Next Meeting:

18th September

At Prestwick Academy



Cosmic Calendar for the next month:

Moon phases for July/August 2017

9 th July Full moon	7 th August Full moon
16 th July Last quarter	15 th August Last quarter
23 th July New Moon	21 st August New Moon
30 th July First quarter	29 th August Last quarter

Forthcoming Events:

22nd July

Belleisle Parklife 1 – 5pm

Solar Astronomy

Great outdoor event for kids!



News

A bit of history. On this day in 1985, the European Space Agency launched the Giotto space probe to get a closer look at Halley's Comet. About nine months later it became the first space probe to observe a comet close up. It came within 360 miles of its surface.



Space Junk Solution?

A tiny satellite has reached orbit last week that will make history when it comes back to Earth later this summer.

The D-Sat Cubesat, which was launched by Milan-based start-up D-Orbit, soared into space atop India's PSLV rocket. D-Sat is fitted with an independent thruster system known as D-Orbit Decommissioning Device. It is designed to help mitigate the growing space junk problem.

When D-Sat's mission comes to an end in August, the device will guide the satellite to a controlled destruction in Earth's atmosphere. It is an intelligent motor that you install on satellites before launch and it enables the satellite to be removed at the end of life in a very quick and controlled way.

Meet an Astronaut

Astronaut Michael Foale had a talk at the Ayrshire College in Kilmarnock. A number of the AAS members were attending. It was a great and informative evening with many amazing footage of his time on board the MIR station.



AAS Library

Open for business!

THE LIBRARY IS A RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS -PLEASE SUPPORT IT AND MAKE USE OF IT

The Library list is alsoP available on the website under “links” and can be downloaded



The library is now full up - if you would like to obtain a list or borrow an item

– contact Alex at the next meeting or give him a call on 01563 520887.

Unfortunately Alex does not have email, however messages via library@ayrastro.com will reach him the old fashioned way after a short delay but please contact him directly if at all possible.

THE LIBRARY IS WAITING FOR YOUR CALL!!