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SUMMER NEWSLETTER JULY 2022

Dear friends,

It's *that* time of year again! Time for me to bring you the news for the coming CaDAS season.

Thankfully, we have finally returned to some semblance of normality, and our meetings are again taking place at Wynyard Planetarium.

I've managed to complete the programme of speakers in time for this newsletter. I'm pleased to say that we have three new guest speakers, visiting us for the first time, as well as three old friends and three of our own members.

Regarding the latter; I always try, when possible, to provide talks on "practical astronomy" topics in the winter months, when we have dark skies. This season, we have three of those! Our founder and Honorary Vice-President, Dr. John McCue, is talking on "Observing the Moon", and our own Keith Johnson on astrophotography, of which he is one of the UK's master practitioners. Our Chairman, Dr. Jürgen Schmoll, is speaking on a topic yet to be decided.

The three returning old friends are Rod Hine of Bradford AS, Dr. Julian Onions of Nottingham University, and our favourite jovial Scotsman, Dr. Colin Steele of Manchester University.

Two new speakers from the academic world are Dr. Anna McLeod of Durham University and Thom Shutt of York University.

Brian Jones, Editor of the reincarnated Yearbook of Astronomy - to which Yours Truly is now an annual contributor - was again not able to come last season, due to ongoing Covid concerns, so he's now coming next May - fourth time lucky now! I'm looking forward to that one; while I've been in regular communication with Brian for the last five years, and come to regard him as a friend, I've yet to actually meet him! (And I've no idea what his bizarre title means either!)

If you have any queries about any of our events, please contact me; my details are given above.

Alternatively, contact Julia Goudge, our General Secretary, at general-secretary@cadastro.org.uk.

1. Monthly Meetings 2021-22

The following are the details of this season's monthly meetings. As usual, all meetings are on Friday evenings, starting at 7.15 p.m.

Amateur or non-academic talk

Academic subject, but "not too technical" presentation

- 9 September 2022 "My Favourite Dishes" #
by Rod Hine of Bradford AS
- 14 October "Massive Stars and Where to Find Them" ##
by Dr. Anna McLeod of Durham University
- 11 November "A Day on Each Planet" #
by Dr. Colin Steele of Manchester University
- 9 December "Crazy Interstellar Rockets" #
by Dr. Julian Onions of Nottingham University
- 13 January 2023 "Observing the Moon" #
by Dr. John McCue FRAS, Founder of CaDAS
- 10 February "Astrophotography" #
by Keith Johnson of CaDAS
- 10 March Title t.b.a. #
by Dr. Jürgen Schmoll, Chairman of CaDAS
- 14 April "Asteroseismology" ##
By Thom Shutt of York University
- 12 May "Astronomical Scrapbook – with Apple Pies and Dinosaur Wee" #
by Brian Jones of Bradford A.S., Editor of the Yearbook of Astronomy
- 9 June AGM plus members' short talks.

3. Scarborough Summer Star Festival

Scarborough A.S. are finally able to hold their Summer Star Festival again this year, after an enforced absence of three years. This is taking place from Thursday 18 to Monday 22 August, at Adderstone Field in Dalby Forest – one of the best dark sky observing sites in the North-East of England. Pre-booking is essential.

For details, see [StarFest 2022 | Scarborough & Ryedale Astronomical Society \(scarborough-ryedale-as.org.uk\)](https://www.starfest2022.org.uk/).

4. The Yearbook of Astronomy Convention

Brian Jones, Editor of the reincarnated Yearbook of Astronomy, is hosting a new one-day convention this year, which he hopes to make an annual event. This is taking place on Saturday 29 October at a venue in Bradford. Again, pre-booking is required; the admission fee is £17.50, which includes a buffet lunch.

There is a programme of four speakers, three of whom are known to us: Our old friend Rod Hine of Bradford AS, the brilliant Peter Rea, who spoke to us just a few months ago, and the lovely Mary McIntyre, who gave us an excellent Zoom talk last year.

For details, see [Yearbook of Astronomy Convention 2022 | Starlight Nights \(starlight-nights.co.uk\)](https://starlight-nights.co.uk).

So far, Brian has had a disappointing response from societies; I sincerely hope that a few of our members might wish to support this event, as Bradford isn't exactly a long way to go! Brian has done a fantastic job of reviving the Yearbook, after the previous publisher just abandoned it following the death of Sir Patrick, and his efforts truly deserve to be supported.

5. Jack Youdale Observatory and Wynyard Planetarium

For details of Planetarium shows and public observing evenings - whenever they become possible again - visit www.wynyard-planetarium.net. You can also call the Planetarium on 01740 630544.

6. Telescopes for Loan

CaDAS now owns several assorted telescopes, which are available for loan to Society members. A formal procedure has now been put in place, whereby you can borrow one for a specified period of time – again, after meetings become possible again. Anyone who has been a member for at least one year is eligible. For details, contact the Committee.

7. The CaDAS Web Site

Just in case anyone hasn't yet seen it, we have an excellent society web site: www.cadas-astro.org.uk.

The Webmaster is Don Martin, a long-time stalwart of the Society, who has done a splendid job of setting up and maintaining the site. Don can be contacted at webmaster@cadas-astro.org.uk.

8. And Finally...

And finally, I hope you won't mind me indulging in a little self-promotion again – and apologies if I'm boring anyone. For the benefit of any newer members, who might not know, I have self-published a science fiction novel, *Moonsafe Red*; I'm selling print copies for £7.99. For details, and how to order a copy if anyone is interested, see www.spaceandsanity.com/moonsafered.html. You can also read a number of reviews, by searching for it on www.goodreads.com. My great friend Paul Money – himself a published author – has paid me the absolute ultimate accolade, saying it's “up there with Sir Arthur and Asimov”!!!

Moonsafe Red is also now available for Kindle, at a mere £3.99. Search for it on the Amazon Kindle store, where you can also read the opening few pages as a sample.

Alternatively, of course, I'll be bringing a few copies to the meetings, when we're able to resume them.

That's all for now, folks. See you all soon. Wishing you clear skies.

Neil M. Haggath