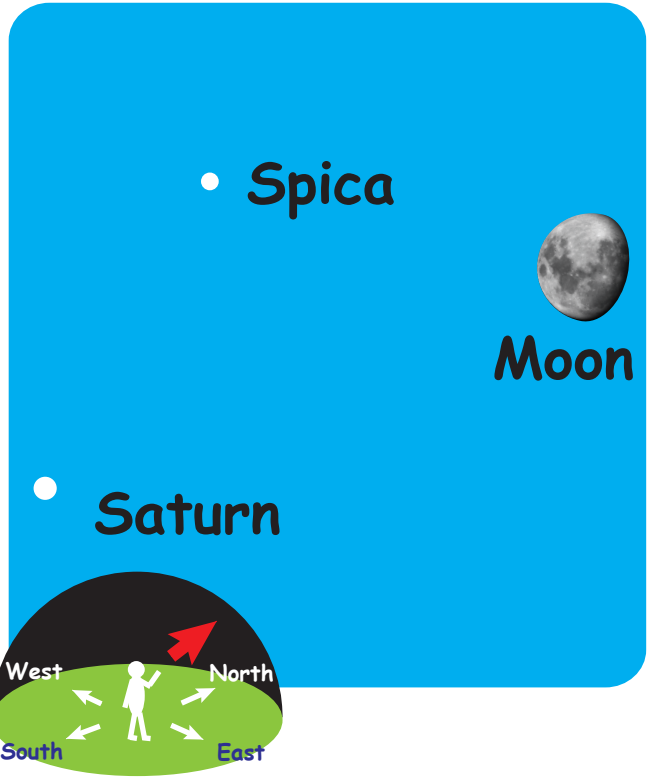
Amazing Space!

April - June 2012

Getting started in astronomy is as easy as looking up.This newsletter shows you how to find the planet Saturn, the Moon and constellations without a telescope.

May 4: Use the Moon to find Saturn

Look below and to the right of the Moon in the early evening sky. The pale yellow star is the planet Saturn.



June 1: Use the Moon to find Saturn

Look below and to the right of the Moon in the early evening sky. The pale yellow star is the planet Saturn.

This newsletter is brought to you by:

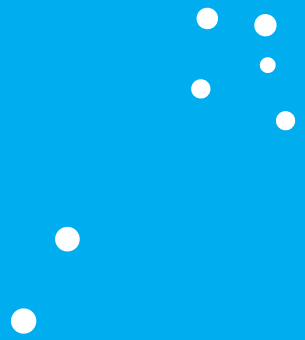
Paul Floyd's Astronomy & Space Website
www.nightskyonline.info

www.extravision.com.au

www.canberraplanetarium.com

Constellations

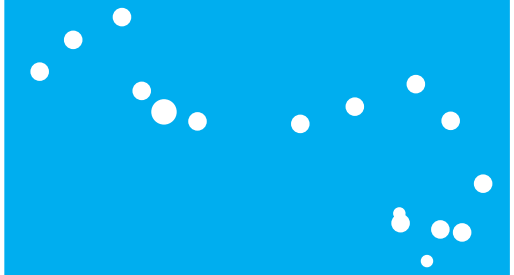
Crux 'The Southern Cross' and 'The Pointers'



Look above the Southern horizon at the end of evening twilight (April-June).

Constellations are imaginary pictures in the sky. Can you imagine a giant Scorpion or a Cross in the night sky?

Scorpius 'The Scorpion'



Look low above the South Eastern horizon at 7.30 pm in early May and 6.30 pm in early June.

Find the Moon

April - June 2011

Crescent Moon
April 26
May 26
June 24

First Quarter Moon
April 29
May 29
June 27

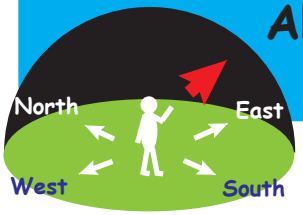
Gibbous Moon
April 2
May 1 / 31
June 30

Full Moon
April 7
May 6
June 4

West North East

Don't forget to look for June's Partial Lunar Eclipse and an even rarer Transit of Venus. Miss the latter and you will have to wait until 2117 to observe the next transit!

Above: Moon at mid-eclipse



June 4: Partial Eclipse of the Moon

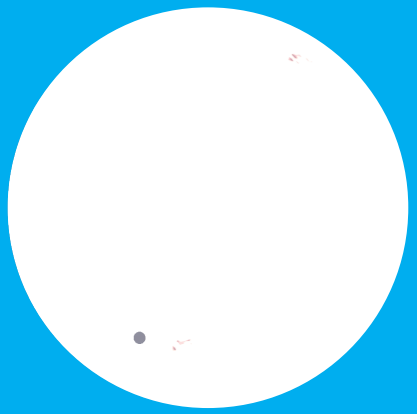
Lunar eclipses occur when the Moon's orbital motion carries it through the Earth's shadow.

The next total Lunar eclipse visible from Eastern Australia will occur on 15 April 2014.

Partial Lunar Eclipse Event times

Partial Eclipse starts:	7.59pm
Mid-eclipse:	9.03pm
Partial Eclipse ends:	10.07pm

All times Australian Eastern Standard Time.



Above: The Transit of Venus underway

For more information on how to safely observe the Transit of Venus, and start and finish times for your location, go to www.transitofvenus.nl

A flip book showing the Transit of Venus can be downloaded here: http://nightskyonline.info/?page_id=1987

Warning: Never look directly at the Sun without specialist eye protection. Permanent eye damage will result.

June 6: Venus transits the Sun

A transit occurs when Venus's orbital motion carries it across the Sun as seen from the Earth. This occurs rarely due to the slight difference in Venus's orbit around the Sun compared to the Earth's (both tilt and speed).

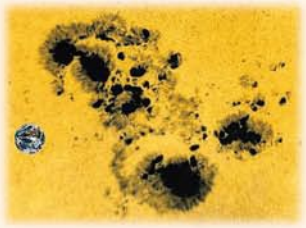
GET READY FOR TWO BIG SOLAR EVENTS

TRANSIT OF VENUS
06.06.2012

SOLAR ECLIPSE
14.11.2012

© Dr. Serge Koutchmy

Total solar eclipse



Sunspots in comparison to Earth

Sattelite image of a solar eclipse

Scenery during eclipse totality

Sun with giant prominence

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- Solar Eclipse Glasses
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  $2.50 each for 15+ (free P&H)
  $2.00 each for 31+ (free P&H)

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