



Southern Sentinel Observing Session Notes

Observing Session - Saturday 13th July

Date: 13 Jul 2002 (Local)
Time: 2300-0030 NZST (UT +12)
Location: Wenderholm Regional Park - North Auckland
-- Kms, 45 Minutes from home
Weather: Cold, No Cloud but with a light southerly breeze
Seeing: Limiting Magnitude 5.5, transparency 4/5, seeing 4/5
Moon: No Moon (Just after New Moon)
Equipment: 13.1" F5 Dob with Paracorr, TeleVue Eyepieces, UHC Filter

Finally Auckland has had some fine clear skies...yes it's true...and I got outside for the observing. Heading North Michelle and I met Dave Moorhouse and his friend Guy, at Wenderholm Regional Park.

Conditions were very good...clear and dark, no moon and a light southerly, but it was cold. Transparency was very good and seeing was better than expected.

Objects seen were;

Object	Type	Altitude	Magnification	Eyepiece
NGC 6891	Planetary nebula	39.3°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 6905	Planetary nebula	30.4°	161x	TeleVue 12mm Type 2 Nagler
NGC 4372	Globular cluster	32.3°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 5139	Globular cluster	29.9°	161x	TeleVue 12mm Type 2 Nagler
NGC 5128	Galaxy	27.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 3918	Planetary nebula	21.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 362	Globular cluster	34.6°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 456	Bright nebula	34.4°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
B 68	Dark nebula	64.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
B 72	Dark nebula	64.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
B 86	Dark nebula	74.3°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 7293	Planetary nebula	42.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
M 22	Globular cluster	75.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
M 57	Planetary nebula	20.1°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 6741	Planetary nebula	51.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
B 87	Dark nebula	85.2°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
M 27	Planetary nebula	25.4°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic

The best object seen for the first time was the Planetary Nebula [NGC6905, mag 11.9 size 40"] The Blue Flash. Conditions allowed for observations of some Barnard dark nebulae, the toughest being the Snake (B72).

After a long time between drinks...I thoroughly enjoyed myself under the heavens especially after a good win by the All Blacks.

Paul Kemp
13.1" Reflector
Auckland, New Zealand
36° 55' 16" South, 174° 43' 30" East

-- The Southern Sentinel --