



Southern Sentinel Observing Session Notes

Observing Session - Stardate January 2003

Date: 3 Jan - 6 Jan 2002 (Local)
Location: Stardate 2003 - NZ Star Party
Weather: Generally Clear and Calm conditions, No Cloud but occasionally hazy.
Seeing: Generally Limiting Magnitude 5.0, transparency 3/5, seeing 4/5
Moon: No Moon (New Moon)
Equipment: 13.1" F5 Dob with Paracorr, TeleVue Eyepieces, UHC Filter

Stardate 2003 Star Party. The weather was very good and the best night was Thursday before the official start of Stardate. Some excellent seeing made for excellent views of Saturn in particular but the views of Jupiter were very good as well.

The time at Stardate bought up a surprising first. I achieved the physically impossible for me and achieved two all night observing runs.

Most of the observation time was taken showing people the bright objects around the traps. After most of the people departed for bed, the real observing commenced and some good progress was made through Monoceros and Gemini. The event is more of a social occasion with a bit of observing thrown in.

The list of targets were any objects that were in the Herschel 400, Best of NSOG and Hartungs in the region around Orion and Monoceros. While not many objects were logged and the planetary viewing was not recorded, the observing through a variety of telescopes was excellent.

Objects seen were;

Object	Type	Altitude	Magnification	Eyepiece
NGC 2453	Open Cluster	58.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2452	Planetary Nebula	58.3°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2613	Galaxy	48.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2610	Planetary Nebula	44.9°	161x	TeleVue 12mm Nagler Type 2
NGC 2539	Open Cluster	53.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
Mel 71	Open Cluster	59.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3175	Galaxy	42.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3109	Galaxy	43.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2835	Galaxy	50.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2784	Galaxy	52.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2261	Bright Nebula	44.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2239	Open Cluster	47.9°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2237	Open Cluster	47.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 2158	Open Cluster	27.3°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
M 35	Open Cluster	27.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2266	Open Cluster	25.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 1907	Open Cluster	13.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2346	Planetary Nebula	53.8°	161x	TeleVue 12mm Nagler Type 2
NGC 2301	Open Cluster	52.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 1981	Open Cluster	49.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2129	Open Cluster	26.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 2903	Galaxy	26.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3672	Galaxy	34.9°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3585	Galaxy	46.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3513	Galaxy	46.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3511	Galaxy	46.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4

NGC 4106	Galaxy	49.4°	161x	TeleVue 12mm Nagler	Type 2
NGC 4105	Galaxy	49.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
IC 760	Galaxy	49.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
IC 3005	Galaxy	49.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2902	Galaxy	67.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2683	Galaxy	19.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2204	Open Cluster	64.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 1788	Bright Nebula	56.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2186	Open Cluster	44.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2395	Open Cluster	29.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2355	Open Cluster	30.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2194	Open Cluster	38.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2169	Open Cluster	37.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2141	Open Cluster	41.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 1817	Open Cluster	36.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 1999	Bright Nebula	59.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2024	Bright Nebula	54.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic	
NGC 2304	Open Cluster	31.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2372	Planetary Nebula	19.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 2371	Planetary Nebula	20.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3115	Galaxy	28.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 4373	Galaxy	38.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3717	Galaxy	45.3°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
IC 3290	Galaxy	38.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3521	Galaxy	39.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3193	Galaxy	27.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3190	Galaxy	27.9°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3187	Galaxy	27.9°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3185	Galaxy	28.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
Cr 70	Open Cluster	32.3°	0x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 936	Galaxy	48.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 1084	Galaxy	56.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 1052	Galaxy	56.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 1022	Galaxy	54.3°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 5189	Planetary Nebula	19.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4
NGC 3918	Planetary Nebula	23.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler	Type 4

All the eyepieces were used over the weekend especially the newly purchased Pentax 7mm. The 12mm Nagler was excellent on the Planets and the 17mm Nagler is very quickly becoming the stock eyepiece used. UHC was invaluable for the Rosette.

Tough objects ; Nothing of note.
 Memorable objects ; Too many to remember but the Rosette sticks out as a favourite using the UHC. Planets were also very good due to the good seeing in the early mornings. Nice galaxy grouping (NGC3190 group) in Leo.

Cheers.

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

-- The Southern Sentinel --