



Southern Sentinel Observing Session Notes

Observing Session - Saturday 26th April 2003

Date: 26 Apr 2002 (Local)
Time: 2130-2330 NZDT (UT +12)
Location: Pauanui, Coromandel Peninsula.
120 Minutes From Home.
Weather: Clear, Cool but with Still and Breezy periods.
Seeing: Limiting Magnitude 5.5, transparency 3.5/5, seeing 2.5/5
Moon: No Moon (Small Waxing Moon, Set)
Equipment: 13.1" F5 Dob with Paracorr, TeleVue Eyepieces, UHC Filter

The day was fine in the Coromandel but wind was going to cause problems with the seeing. The telescope had an excellent cool down period again.

The conditions were cooler than the previous evening and there was quite high wind in the tops of the pines. This would produce bad seeing for the evening and I was restricted to low power.

After concluding observing objects between Denebola, Vindemiatrix and Porphyrion, I switched to the area around Mel 111, the Hair of Berenice. Plenty of galaxies in this area and due to seeing and visibility stopped short of the galaxies to be found in Canes Venatici. A smattering of other objects were observed in Virgo and a large spiral in Volans.

Objects seen were;

Object	Type	Altitude	Magnification	Eyepiece
NGC 4884	Galaxy	21.4°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4874	Galaxy	21.4°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4725	Galaxy	24.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4559	Galaxy	23.5°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4448	Galaxy	23.3°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
Mel 111	Open Cluster	26.0°	0x	(None)
NGC 4494	Galaxy	26.1°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4565	Galaxy	26.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4251	Galaxy	24.9°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4185	Galaxy	24.6°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4169	Galaxy	23.9°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4136	Galaxy	23.2°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4150	Galaxy	22.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4278	Galaxy	23.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4274	Galaxy	23.5°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4245	Galaxy	23.5°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4310	Galaxy	23.9°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4314	Galaxy	23.2°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4414	Galaxy	21.9°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4657	Galaxy	20.9°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4656	Galaxy	21.0°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4631	Galaxy	20.6°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
M 53	Globular Cluster	34.5°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 5053	Globular Cluster	34.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
M 64	Galaxy	31.3°	161x	TeleVue 12mm Nagler Type 2
NGC 5248	Galaxy	43.2°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 5363	Galaxy	45.8°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

NGC 5317	Galaxy	46.1°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 5566	Galaxy	45.4°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4845	Galaxy	51.5°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4753	Galaxy	54.2°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4517	Galaxy	52.3°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4437	Galaxy	52.3°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 5979	Planetary Nebula	55.4°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4039	Galaxy	66.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 4038	Galaxy	66.7°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 2443	Galaxy	35.2°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic
NGC 2434	Galaxy	35.0°	72x	TeleVue 27mm Panoptic

Plenty of objects to view and this session completes a very good weekend of viewing. Almost all the objects set up in the target list were observed and a few others to boot. I ran out of Dictaphone memory since the previous evenings notes took up nearly 30 minutes at high quality.

Approx 170 objects logged with descriptions, probably easily the most prolific weekend yet at the telescope.

Tough objects ; None of note. There were faint galaxies but all were spotted and logged.

Memorable objects ; NGC4565 edge on galaxy and NGC2442/3 in Volans.

Cheers.

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

-- The Southern Sentinel --



NGC2442/3 in Volans