



# Southern Sentinel Observing Session Notes

Observing Session - Tuesday 24th June 2003

Date: 24 June - 25 June 2002 (Local)  
Time: 2100-0015 NZDT (UT +12)  
Location: Symes Rd, Maramarua Forest, North Waikato.  
60 Minutes From Home.  
Weather: Very Clear, Cool and Calm conditions. Occasional Cloud early on.  
Seeing: Limiting Magnitude 6.0, transparency 4.5/5, seeing 2/5  
Moon: No Moon (Waning Moon)  
Equipment: 13.1" F5 Dob with Paracorr, TeleVue Eyepieces, UHC Filter

The evening produced a very calm and still evening. Dave Moorhouse and Guy Thornley and I decided to head south on a week night. While it had rained a bit during the day we decided to go anyway, as there was no cloud around and the satellite pictures looked good.

We arrived at the forest, just before 9 PM.

The skies were superb with the visual magnitude star limit exceeded 6th magnitude, not difficult to estimate using a laptop and the good old naked eye. Occasional cloud scooted through and one shower did cause a little concern especially for Dave, as his scope did not have a shroud.

The transparency was something to see, the best I have seen yet but the seeing was lousy. No high power tonight. The Kendrick Dew Heaters made their debut tonight and were great, no dew anymore.

Again no real pattern to the evening, due (*Obviously the new dew heaters don't get rid of 'dew' in my reports!*) to the impromptu observing session. I am currently preparing for a systematic observing and logging of both the SMC and the LMC. Meanwhile I observed objects from the list generated from Hartung's Astronomical Objects.

Objects seen were;

Object	Type	Altitude	Magnification	Eyepiece
NGC 6165	Planetary Nebula	67.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6164	Planetary Nebula	67.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 5367	Bright Nebula	76.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 5139	Globular Cluster	65.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6630	Galaxy	52.2°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6539	Globular Cluster	44.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
IC 1276	Globular Cluster	43.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6366	Globular Cluster	49.9°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
M 14	Globular Cluster	47.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
M 24	Open Cluster	53.6°	19x	25mm Crosshair
B 92	Dark Nebula	53.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
B 93	Dark Nebula	55.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
M 18	Open Cluster	54.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3586	Bright Nebula	27.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3584	Bright Nebula	27.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3582	Bright Nebula	27.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3581	Bright Nebula	27.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3579	Bright Nebula	27.7°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3576	Bright Nebula	27.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4

NGC 3603	Open Cluster	28.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 3766	Open Cluster	28.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6326	Planetary Nebula	75.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
IC 4651	Open Cluster	77.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6352	Globular Cluster	78.5°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 6578	Planetary Nebula	71.0°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
ESO 097-G013	Galaxy	49.6°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
NGC 4103	Open Cluster	35.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
IC 5148	Planetary Nebula	43.1°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
Mars	Planet	26.8°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4
Pluto	Planet	63.4°	114x	TeleVue 17mm Nagler Type 4

Good to be out observing again. June has been a traditionally a poor month for observing. The good weather in June was around the Full Moon. Typical. Dew heaters eliminated the dew on the finder and greatly improved the ability to find objects.

Objects that were worth mentioning were;

The Circinus Dwarf Galaxy (ESO 097-G013) a bright local group galaxy that while not packed with features is bright in a very starry field.

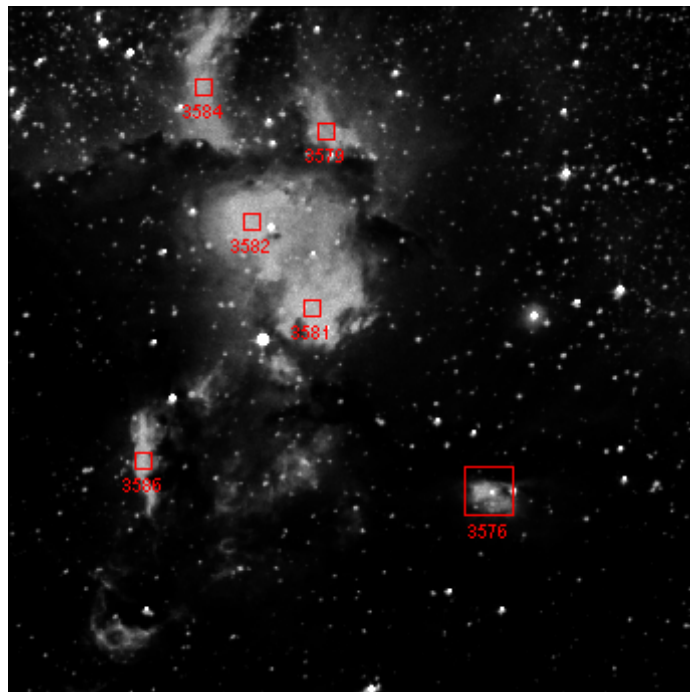
Nebulosity surrounding NGC3581 was a highlight also, on a better night I will return here with the UHC & OIII filters.

Sagittarius Star Cloud and the two Barnard dark nebulae, B92 & B93. Outstanding with the 13 Inch and through the Stellarvue 80mm.

Mars and Pluto finished off the night. The seeing was poor but the polar cap was very definite.

Cheers.

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



NGC3581 Emission Nebula Grouping