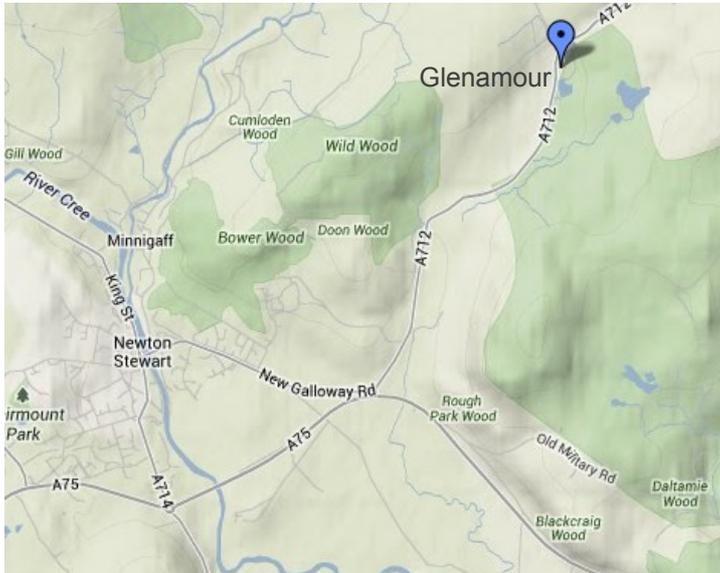




# Galloway Forest Astronomical Society

## Newsletter #2, December 2013



### Members and Friends Meeting

Members, prospective members and friends are cordially invited to meet at the Observatory at Glenamour, DG8 7AE, on the A712 north-east of Minnigaff, **from 3:30 pm on Sunday 1st December**. There will be an opportunity to view the society's facilities during daylight and, if the weather is suitable, to carry out some observations after sunset. If the weather is cloudy we will try again on **Saturday 7th December at 6:00 pm**.

The observatory is not heated. It will likely be cold going on freezing. Please wear warm clothing and stout footwear! We have a chemical toilet only so although we are trying to improve things a wee bit for this meet, please do your best to come prepared.

### GFAS Website

The website is now live, you can find it at [www.gallowayforest-astro.org.uk](http://www.gallowayforest-astro.org.uk). You'll know you've found the page when you see this spectacular picture of the Horsehead nebula, taken by Brian and Robin Rice using our equipment. Brian and Robin will explain how the gear works when we meet on Sunday 1st December.

There isn't much on the site yet but it will grow. Any suggestions or contributions welcome – send them to me to begin with, to [gallowayastro@gmail.com](mailto:gallowayastro@gmail.com), until we get website-linked email addresses sorted out.



### Stargazing Live! Event



Our first public meeting will be on **Saturday 11th January**, linked to the Stargazing Live! Series on BBC 2 on 8th, 9th and 10th January. We will be meeting in **Blairmount Park, Newton Stewart, DG8 6JD**, and we will have the use of the football pavilion facilities, courtesy of Newton Stewart FC, to whom our thanks. Our theme for the event is "The Milky Way and other Galaxies". More details will be coming soon.

### Homeless Astronomers

Our big challenge in 2014 is to find a new home for the observatory and flit there from Glenamour. We will either have to dismantle, move and re-erect the existing building or remove the equipment and build a new home for it – exactly where, we don't yet know – all by the end of 2014. We are currently getting cost estimates and preparing bids for funding. As always, suggestions and offers of help will be much appreciated.