



# Galloway Forest Astronomical Society

## Newsletter #5, February 2014

### Fundraising: grants secured

We have now received cash grants totalling £917.00 to support the Stargazing Live! Event held on January 11th and for the purchase of some new equipment items to improve the digital astrophotography side of things. Our thanks to the Holywood Trust and to Dumfries & Galloway Council for their support.

### Minnigaff Beaver Scouts Feb 26th

We will be welcoming the Minnigaff Beavers to the observatory at Glenamour on February 26th at 6:00 pm, weather permitting. We are expecting up to 20 Beavers with their leaders and helpers. The youngsters, in two groups, will get a look at the telescopes and a naked-eye tour of the night sky constellations and their positions.

If the weather is unkind, we will lay on a slide-show, with a theme of the constellations, in Newton Stewart Community Centre instead.



### Members and Guests night Wednesday March 12th



Members and their guests are invited to a hands-on introduction to the use of the society's telescopes and digital photography equipment, along with a slide-show presentation on the constellations and cosmography (the whereabouts of the constellations in the sky, basically) on **Wednesday 12th March at 7:30 – 9:30 pm** in the **Belted Galloway Visitor Centre** in Riverside Road, Newton Stewart, **DG8 6NQ**. Members free: Guests £5.00 each. £3.00 a head for teas/coffees at half-time.

**Bring your own kit!** If you have your own equipment and you would like some help from our experienced astronomers in making the best use of it, please feel free to bring it with you.

It will be interesting (weather permitting) to see what sort of observations we can make from the back of the Belted Galloway, right in the middle of town. We are very grateful to Gordon Andrews of the Belted Galloway for agreeing to make the visitor centre available to us out-of-hours.

### Membership Cards

Simple membership cards are available now from the Secretary. Non-email members should have received theirs in the post by now and the others will be available at the members night. Please remember to pick yours up from the secretary (who keeps forgetting).

### Website

Remember to drop-in to the website from time to time – there are now some very interesting videos on it, including a how-to-do-it all about webcam astrophotography (!)

<http://www.gallowayforest-astro.org.uk>

