



Galloway Forest Astronomical Society

Newsletter #49, November 2023

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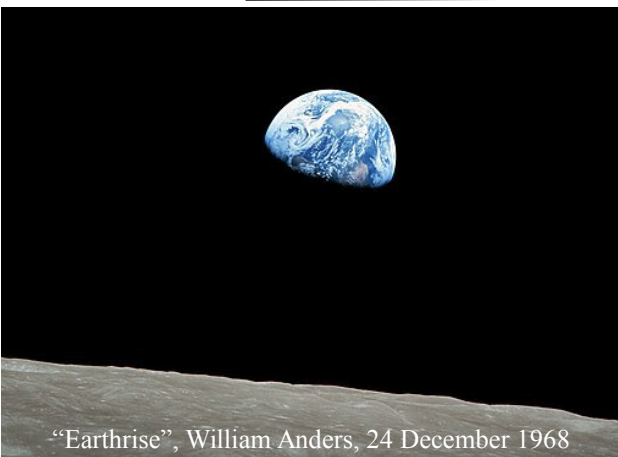
GFAS AGM 2023

The 2023 AGM was held on Saturday 11th November, and the members present approved our new constitution, accepted the accounts and elected the new management committee, so we're good to go for another year.

Planetarium Visits Restarted

We made our first school visit with the inflatable dome to Colmonell Primary School on Thursday 16th November. We did three sessions, covering the whole school from the nursery class right up to P7. The P5-P7 group were especially bright and some of them were asking questions that challenged our astronomers to answer, so well done the school staff! We had a team of only three volunteers for this visit but we coped quite well. Pictured are Robin Rice and Andy Sawers.

There were two minor drawbacks this time: first, the school hall blinds couldn't be closed so there was a fair bit of daylight outside the dome which lowered the contrast inside: and second we connected the air blower directly to the air inlet as you can see in the photo, which meant that there was a lot of background noise inside inside the dome. As a compensation the dome reinflated quickly and stayed fully inflated during each of the three sessions, so the battle of the blower noise continues!



"Earthrise", William Anders, 24 December 1968

Upcoming Events

We have a joint meeting with the **U3A Wigtownshire Astronomy Group** in **Wigtown County Buildings** on **Tuesday 5th December, 7:00 - 9:00 pm**, with a presentation from Andy Sawers FRAS, called "Apollo 8: First to the Moon", using the 4K projector and our 150 inch screen.

Our next Dome visit is to **Ballantrae Primary School** on **Thursday 7th December**, setting up before 9:00 am. We will do three sessions finishing at 12:30 pm and packing up to be away about 1:15 pm. We can use one more volunteer for this visit, so if you'd like to come along please get in touch. Volunteers' travel expenses will be met at 45p per mile.

GFAS Membership

We always welcome new and returning members, especially juniors who join for free. Subs remain at £15.00 Adult, £25.00 Family, £0.00 Juniors or Students in full-time education. Just email members@gf-astro.org for a form.



Galloway Forest Astronomical Society

Registered Scottish Charity SC035033.

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Fb page: [@GallowayForestAstronomicalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/GallowayForestAstronomicalSociety) / Group: [@gfas chat](https://www.facebook.com/gfas.chat)

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