

Cornwall Astronomy Society

25th Anniversary 2020

Press release for Sky at Night and astronomy Now magazines.

Cornwall Astronomy Society celebrates its 25th birthday in December 2020 being founded in 1995 by an enthusiastic group who held meetings in Ship Inn Porthleven.

Over the years as numbers grew, close to 50 for a number of years, the Society met twice a month at Goonhilly Earth Station (BT in those days), the Godolphin Club Helston and currently (Covid 19 permitting) holds the first meeting of the month at Degibna Chapel Helston which has an adjacent National Trust carpark which gives the opportunity for telescopes to be set up given suitable weather. The second meeting of the month being held at the WI Hall in Mabe which is better suited for talks.

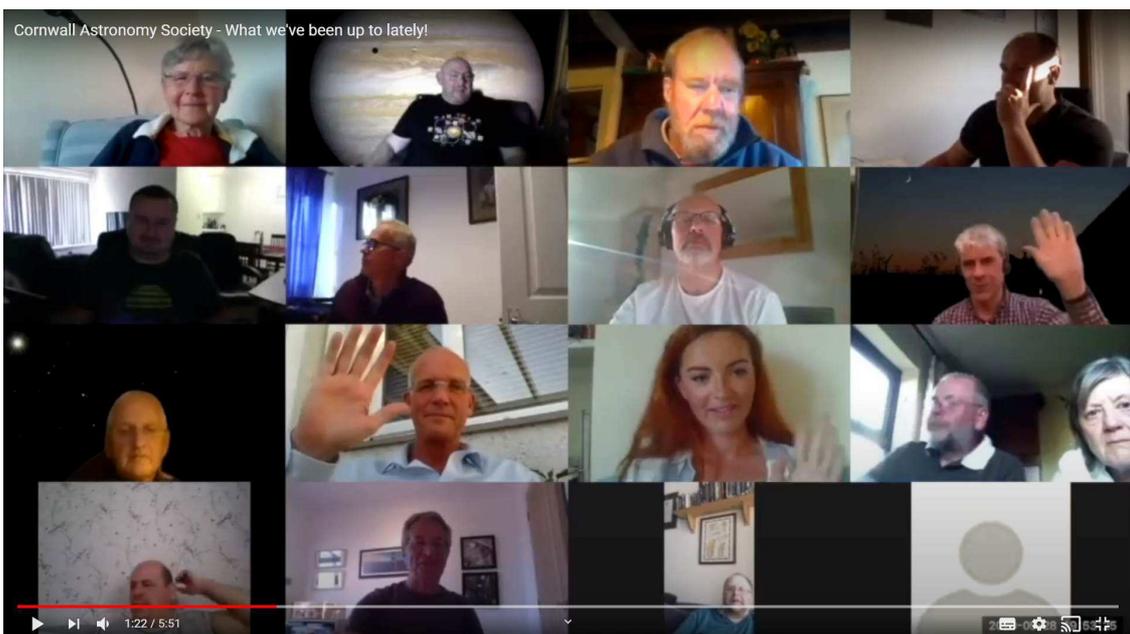


The Society has always focused on outreach events at schools, local shows, village events and on numerous occasions has provided speakers to groups such as the WI and U3A.

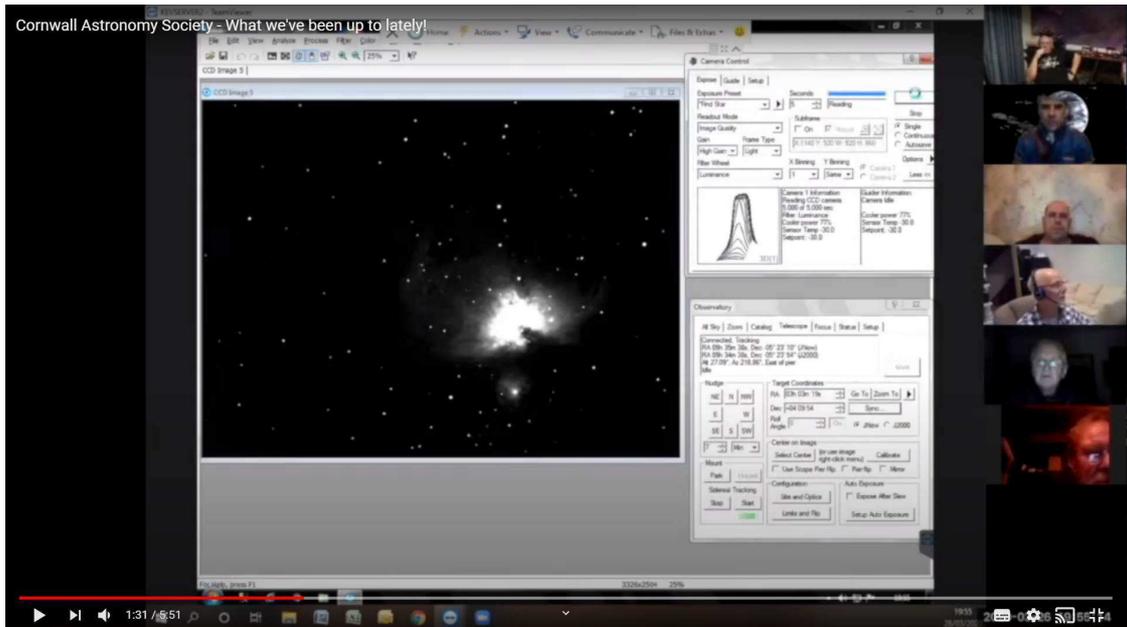


In the current situation all this is on hold but hopefully we shall get back in due course to doing what we like best in promoting Astronomy to others as a hobby and science.

Thanks to the efforts of several members we have been able to host our meetings on Zoom since March this year. Meeting attendances of 18 or so are often achieved, compromised on occasions by slightly flaky internet connections due to rurality.



Being almost as far south west as one can get we have always relied on the membership to make a major contribution to the programme and we have not been disappointed in having had a number of very interesting short talks on diverse topics in addition to our “routine events”, debate evening, quiz night, members 2 minute talks and a virtual Perseid BBQ(it was cloudy!!) We were able to live image the remnants of Comet C/2019Y4 (ATLAS) using members telescopes at Porthleven and St Ives in a Zoom meeting.



We were also lucky enough to secure a brilliant talk from Professor Nathan Mayne of Exeter University.

Our website at www.cornwallas.org provides more information.

Robert Beeman.

Publicity Officer.