

Thanet Astronomy Group

Astronomy for Everyone in Plain English

What to see June 28th 1:00pm–4:00pm

Stars (The Sun)

We would like to invite anyone that would like to see the Sun close up, to visit West Bay Cafe 1:00pm-4:00pm Saturday June 28th. We have several telescopes equipped with solar filters available to use.

The Sun is about 4.6 billion years old and just one of the billions of stars in the Milky Way, our galaxy. Its diameter is 1.4 million kms. If we measure one rotation as its day, then the Sun takes a little over 25 Earth days to rotate once.

The temperature at its core is 15,000,000°C At the surface, known as the Photosphere, the temperature is 5,500°C. The Sun mainly consists of 70% Hydrogen and 28% Helium, the rest is mainly Carbon and Iron.

Each second the Sun compresses 600,000,000 tons of Hydrogen and converts it into 596,000,000 tons of Helium, known as nuclear fusion. By so doing it loses 4,000,000 tons of mass every second, some diet! This will continue for about 5 billion years.



The Sun and its surrounding stars, 1pm 28th June



Sun spots seen through a telescope

Thanet Astronomy Group News

July was special for Thanet Astronomy Group. We have been accepted as members of the Federation of Astronomical Societies. Our club meeting was lively and well attended, and included on the agenda was the announcement of our acceptance into the FAS, of which we are very proud.

During the meeting at the West Bay Cafe we experienced a beautiful sunset, and later Saturn, Mars, Jupiter and the Moon were seen by all through our telescopes. Some saw Saturn Mars and Jupiter for the first time and were blown away by close up views.

Contact us if you need help or more information.

Website www.ThanetAstronomyGroup.com

Email ThanetAstronomyGroup@gmail.com

West Bay Cafe, Saturdays 1-4pm.