

# Thanet Astronomy Group

Astronomy for Everyone in Plain English

**What to see Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 9pm**

**Planet** (Venus)

**Star** (Capella)

**Constellations** (Cassiopeia)

This month I'll start with the planet **Venus**, then we will look at a nearby star **Capella**. Then we will end with a bright and easy to learn constellation **Cassiopeia**.

The planet Venus is the third brightest object in the night sky, the only brighter objects are the Moon and the Sun.

So at about 9pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> April...

look west about 278° on your compass and up at an angle of about 25° above the horizon. You will see what looks like a very bright star, but it is not a star at all. It is the **Planet Venus**. Venus is the second planet from our Sun and has a year of 224.7 Earth Days. It has no moons and is the only planet in the Solar System to rotate clockwise. Its Day is 243 Earth Days long, which makes its Day longer than its Year!



*From Left to Right – Venus – Capella - Cassiopeia*

Now look a little to the right and a little higher at about 294° on your compass and up at an angle of about 42° above the horizon. You will see the **Star Capella**. This star is the third brightest star in the northern hemisphere, so it is very easy to find, especially when you have Venus as a nearby pointer. Although Capella looks like one star by eye, it is actually four stars close together..

To see our third object, **Constellation Cassiopeia**, look just a little left of North and a little lower at about 339° on your compass and up at an angle of about 26° above the horizon. You will see Cassiopeia. This constellation looks just like a [W] hanging in the sky and is made up of 5 bright stars.

**Contact us if you need help or more information.**

Website [www.ThanetAstronomyGroup.com](http://www.ThanetAstronomyGroup.com)

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Or see us at, West Bay Cafe, CT8 8QZ. Saturdays 1-4pm.