

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER 2010

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Stargazers night out this weekend

The Mount Canopus Optical Observatory is throwing open its doors to the public this Saturday and inviting stargazers to see the heavens like never before.

The Open Night is this Saturday night (16th October 2010) from 7-10pm.

There will be talks from leading astronomers, views from the one metre telescope via a colour video camera and stargazers will be able to see the moon, planets and stars through telescopes with expert guides from the Astronomical Society

Dr Stefan Dieters, from the UTAS School of Maths and Physics, said if the weather permits, visitors would be able to see the Moon, Venus and Jupiter.

“It is also possible visitors will view what we term ‘deep sky objects.’

“These include star clusters, glowing gas clouds and galaxies- these amazing sights will be visible through several telescopes.”

The Observatory’s large research telescope will be used to show live video imagery of the night sky.

Visitors will also be treated to talks and displays covering the astronomical research done by the University.

What: Open Night at Mt Canopus Optical Observatory

When: 7pm to 10pm, Saturday 16 October 2010

Where: Mt Canopus Observatory, Canopus Drive on "Canopus Hill"
Cambridge

Who: All are welcome to come along

Cost: \$2 each or \$5 per family (donation)

More information: (03) 6226 2439 UTAS School of Maths and Physics

For interviews, please contact Dr Stefan Dieters, UTAS School of Maths and Physics, on (03) 6226 6230

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