

Introduction to Astronomy

**A series of five lectures by Dr Adrian Jannetta FRAS
Berwick Voluntary Centre, Tweed St, Berwick**

Saturdays 27th Oct -24th Nov 2018, 10am -12 noon

A short astronomy course covering everything in the universe! From the Sun and planets to exoplanets orbiting other stars and supernovae exploding in distant galaxies and supermassive black holes...you'll never look at the night sky the same way again! This course, which is aimed at beginners to astronomy, will be a mix of practical advice and background theory.

27TH OCT PART 1 --- OUR PLACE IN THE COSMOS

A journey from Berwick to the edge of the universe!

- The solar system
- Nearby stars
- The Milky Way
- Galaxy clusters and superclusters
- Filaments, walls and voids
- Dark matter, gravity and dark energy
- The cosmic horizon

3RD NOV PART 2 --- ROCKY PLANETS AND ICY MOONS

A detailed look at some of the smaller worlds of our solar system

- Mercury, Venus and Mars
- Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto
- Titan and Enceladus

PTO

- Pluto and Charon

10TH NOV PART 3 --- THE NIGHT SKY

A tour of the late autumn night sky with an emphasis on visual astronomy and observing with the naked eye, binoculars and small telescopes.

- Types of telescope and how to choose one!
- The Andromeda Galaxy.
- The Pleiades star cluster.
- Using The Plough as a signpost.
- Targets for binoculars and small telescopes.

17TH NOV PART 4 --- GIANT PLANETS AND DISTANT WORLDS

The giant outer planets contain most of the planetary mass of the solar system. Here we look at this huge planets and recent discoveries beyond the orbit of Pluto. How far does the influence of the Sun extend?

- Gas giants: Jupiter and Saturn
- Ice giants: Uranus and Neptune.
- The Kuiper Belt and Oort Cloud
- Where is the edge of the solar system?

24TH NOV PART 5 --- ASTEROIDS, COMETS AND METEORS

Comet 46P Wirtanen is coming in December! In preparation for this potentially bright comet:

- What is a comet?
- Comet orbits, dusty trails and meteor showers
- Observing Comet Wirtanen
- Vermin of the sky: the asteroids
- Potentially hazardous asteroids

The cost of the series is £30 including refreshments. All are welcome and no previous knowledge is assumed.

If you supply us with your personal data (name, address or email), we will hold this in accordance with our privacy policy, available [here](#) or by request to BEA, 7 Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1HX.

To book online, [please click here](#)

To book by mail, please fill in the booking form below, and mail to BEA, 7 Ravensdowne, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1HX along with a cheque in favour of BEA.

If you have any queries, please email berwickea@gmail.com or phone Cian McHugh on 01289 303254

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(Astronomy)