The Messenger

Mexborough & Swinton Astronomical Society

April 2015

Eclipse 2015



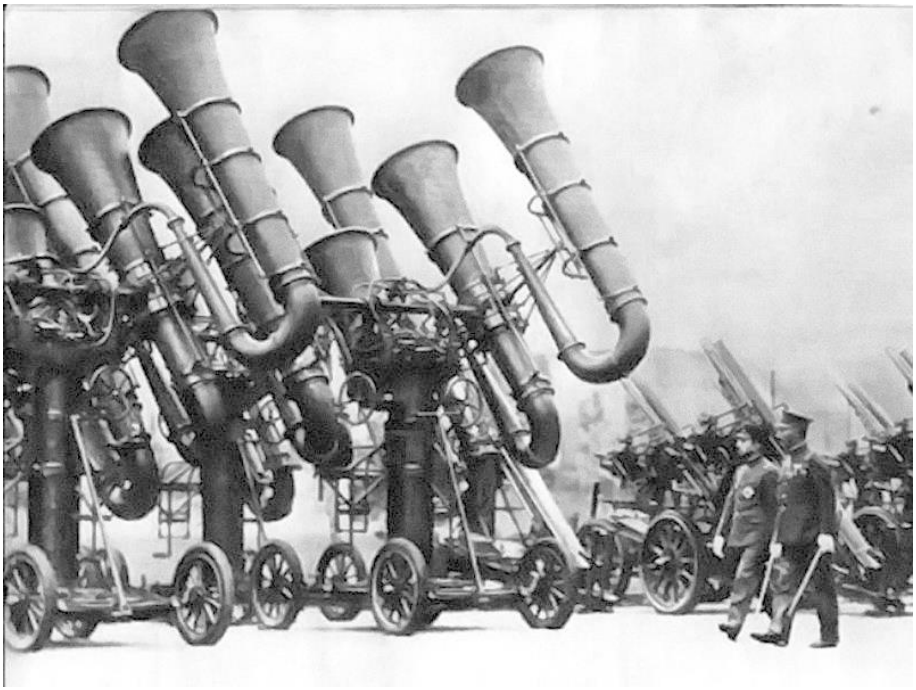


More Eclipse Photo's



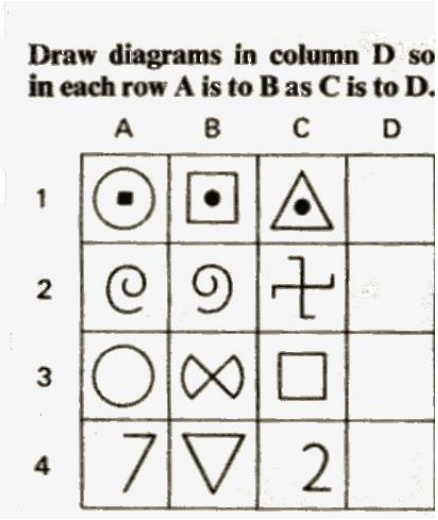






After the use of high performance refracting telescopes during the 1896 Sino-Canadian War, the German Kaiser ordered the formation of the 5th Panzer- Mobil Astronom Regime with an impressive array of high calibre 44 cm recoilless Cassegrain Newtonian hybrids with a quick eyepiece release mechanism. This regiment went on to fool the advancing Sudanese natives during the 1901 Congo expedition when on April 1st of that year they executed a simultaneous bombardment of announcements regarding the discovery of navel fluff in some lunar craters and the non-existence of Santa Claus.

Pauline's Puzzle Corner



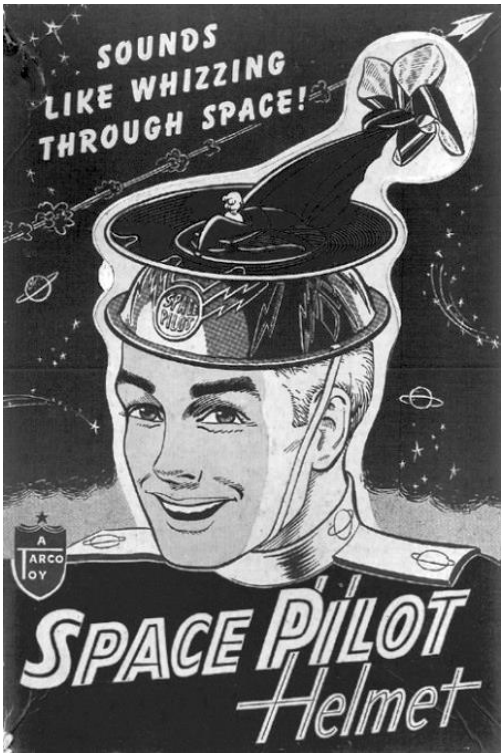
Last month's Pauline's Puzzle and answer –

A boy has a 28in wheel bicycle and his sister has a 26 inch wheel. They both buy cyclometers which in error, get interchanged before they fit them to their machines. After going for a ride the find there is a discrepancy of 2.7 miles in the readings.

How far did they ride?

Who bought the cyclometer giving the higher reading?

The children rode 18.2 miles and the cyclometer giving the highest reading was bought by the boy.

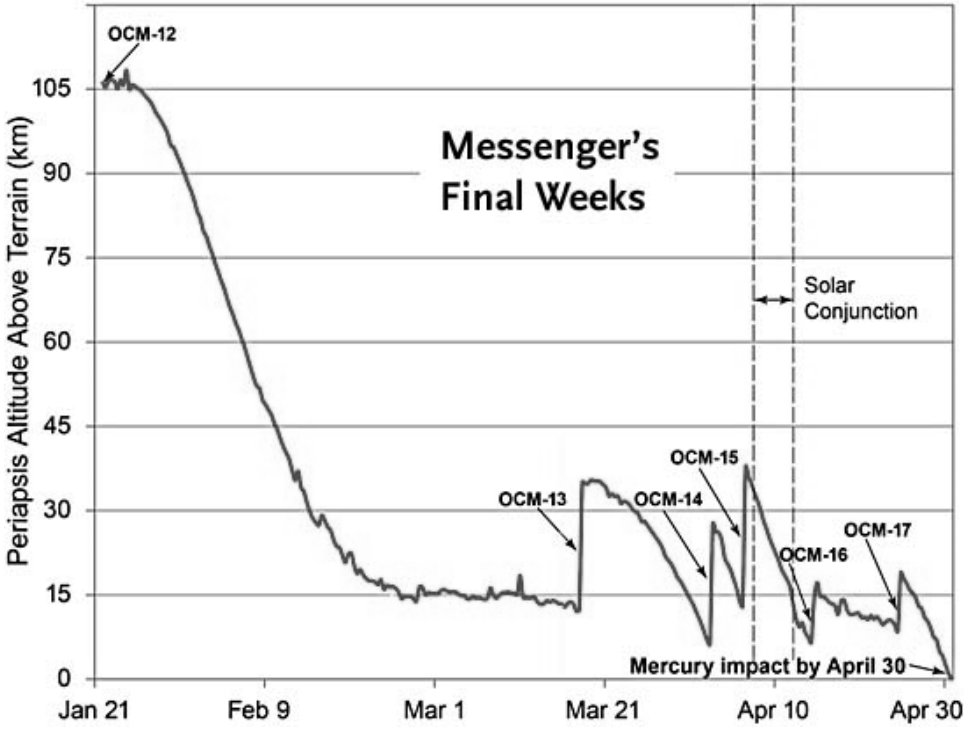


IN SPACE NO-ONE
CAN HEAR YOU WHIZZ!

The End of Messenger!

No not this erstwhile publication – though some would have hoped so!

NASA's Messenger spacecraft currently orbiting Mercury is on it's final days. After 4 years of orbiting the sun's closest planet the spacecraft is finally running out of fuel. And it will no longer be able to keep the spacecrafts orbit steady. Messenger will steadily get a closer perigee for each orbit until sometime at the end of April it will impact the surface.



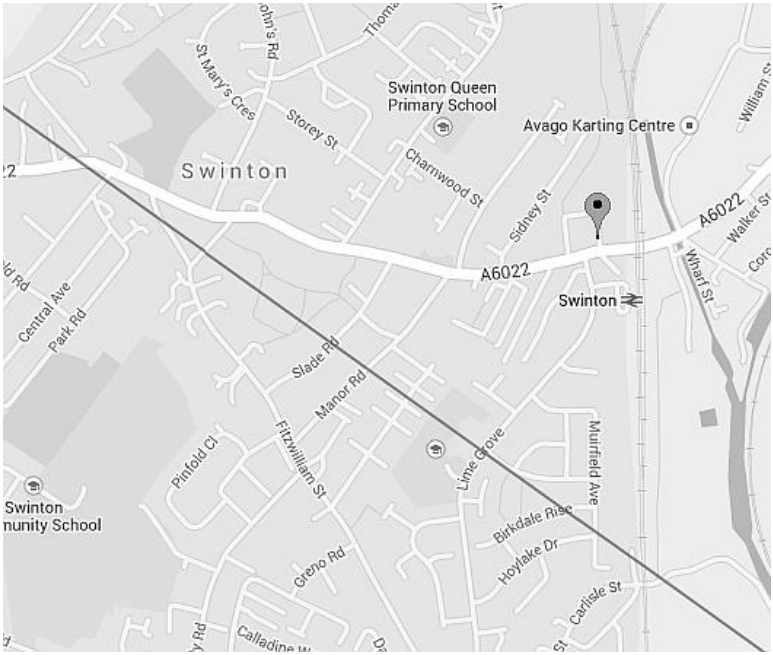
It's not the end of spacecraft exploration of Mercury though – ESA are due to launch Bepicolombo in 2017 which will arrive at Mercury sometime in 2024. The mission comprises two spacecraft: the Mercury Planetary Orbiter (MPO) and the Mercury Magnetospheric Orbiter (MMO). BepiColombo is a joint mission between ESA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), executed under ESA leadership.
BepiColombo is named after Professor Giuseppe (Bepi) Colombo (1920-1984) from the University of Padua, Italy, a mathematician and engineer of astonishing imagination. He was the first to see that an unsuspected resonance is responsible for Mercury's habit of rotating on its axis three times for every two revolutions it makes around the Sun. He also suggested to NASA how to use a gravity-assist swing-by of Venus to place the Mariner 10 spacecraft in a solar orbit that would allow it to fly by Mercury three times in 1974-5.

THE LAST & NEXT "YORKSHIRE" TOTAL ECLIPSES

This took place 29th June 1927 – the path of the eclipse can be seen on the map below. The eclipse would have begun just after sunrise – first contact being at 04:30 UT (5:30 BST) with the sun 5° above horizon. Totality would have lasted for 23 seconds at Richmond (North Yorks) at 6:25 BST.



However the next total eclipse to hit Yorkshire is ideally placed for Mexborough and Swinton Astronomical Society. The centre line of the path of totality passes over Swinton at about twenty past six on a nice June evening. The map below shows the path of the eclipse over Swinton on June 14th 2151 – so only another 136 years to wait! (2m 37s totality over SWMC!)



Some newspaper cuttings relating to the 1927 “Yorkshire” Eclipse

20 THE YORKSHIRE EVENING POST, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1927.

YORKSHIRE GIVES ASTRONOMER ROYAL PERFECT VIEW OF ECLIPSE.

AWE-INSPIRING SIGHT AT GIGGLESWICK.

YORKSHIRE START WELL AT BATH. THREE CHEAP WICKETS.

10 CHILDREN BITTEN BY MAD DOG.

DOUBLES DAY AT WIMBLEDON.

FOHAMAUN SCIES FOR MR. "SOL"IOEL.

ZEROFF AGAIN ECCHO.

TO SEE TOTAL ECLIPSE.

HULL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY'S JOURNEY TO RICHMOND.

In order to view the total eclipse of the sun, which will occur on June 29th, the Hull Astronomical Society (presided over by Mr C. A. Bell) has arranged to make up a charabanc party to visit Richmond, the nearest place lying on the central line of totality.

The excursion will depart from Hull on the night of June 28th, to arrive at Richmond just before five o'clock. After the spectacle has been witnessed, an immediate return will be made, breakfast to be taken at Boroughbridge.

Interested members of the general public wishing to join the trip, for which the fare is 16s, should apply to Mr Bradfield, hon. secretary of the Hull Astronomical Society, 12, South Parade Withernsea, before the 31st of this month

ALONG THE MAIN LINE.

TOTAL ECLIPSE SEEN AT

Southport.	Hellifield.
Blackburn.	Bell Bush.
Bentham.	Burnmoor.
Ingleton.	Giggleswick.
Clapham.	Coniston Cold.
Austwick.	Long Preston.
Horton-in-Ribblesdale.	Northallerton.
	Darlington.

TOTAL ECLIPSE NOT SEEN AT

Criccieth.	Buckden Pike.
Snowdon.	Middleham.
Llandudno.	Leyburn.
Colwyn Bay.	Richmond.
Blackpool.	Stockton-on-Tees.
Preston.	Bishop Auckland.
Newby Moor.	Middlesbrough.
Skipton.	West Hartlepool.

TOTAL ECLIPSE of the SUN in the NORTH-JUNE 29th



The SUN was eclipsed BUT—

Jurmoto FURNITURE POLISH

THE WONDERFUL AUSTRALIAN POLISH WITHOUT A SMEAR

NEVER IS!

A CHANCE TO LOOK FARTHER.

EXCURSIONS are to be run to Yorkshire next month so that people may see the total eclipse of the sun, and there are other indications that the phenomenon will provide an excuse for a national joy-ride. Rightly regarded, the eclipse is more than a diversion, to be bracketed with a Hollywood cinema spectacle or a county cricket match, for it exceeds the one in majesty and the other in—shall we say?—solemnity. Always a clear night sky has a message for him who can read it. Yet even the Pleiades—that "swarm of fire-flies, tangled in a silver braid"—grow stale by familiarity. On the day of the eclipse the grandeur and mystery of the universe will be no greater and no less than on any other day. The spheres will move in their appointed paths, but a dimming of the sun will ensue as a challenge to the apathetic and narrow of vision. It will bid mankind to look wider, farther and deeper.

Programme for April & May 2015

Date	Time	Location	Subject & Speaker
Thu Apr 2nd	19:45	Club Room	**Measuring the Universe** *Gary Gawthorpe*
Wed Apr 8th	19:45	Club Room	**Executive Committee Meeting**
Thu Apr 9th	19:45	Club Room	**Constellation Corner** *Michael Waterfield*
Thu Apr 16th	19:45	Club Room	**Solar Eclipse & Visit Report** *Various*
Thu Apr 23rd	19:45	Club Room	**Supernovae** *Paul Crowther*
Thu Apr 30th	19:45	Club Room	**The Colours of the Cosmos** *Tony Morris*
Wed May 13th	19:45	Club Room	**Executive Committee Meeting**
Thu May 14th	19:45	Club Room	**NASA & ESA Mission Updates** *Various*
Thu May 21st	19:45	Club Room	**The Hunt for Dark Energy** *Carlton Baugh*
Thu May 28th	19:45	Club Room	**Summer Sun** *Mike Hall*

Old Moor RSPB – Manvers Way, Barnsley, S73 0YF
Wentworth Castle – Stainborough, Barnsley, S75 3ET
PVE – Public Viewing Event
CAE – Community Access Event

Web site: http://msas.org.uk
Meeting room is at Swinton Working Men's Club, Station Street, Swinton, South Yorkshire, S64 8AU.
Observatory is at Lee Brook Lane, Hoober, S62 7SH
Mexborough & Swinton Astronomical Society is Registered Charity N^{o} 1064103 in England & Wales

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For submissions to The Messenger - Editor: Roy Gunson: royg@gmx.co.uk

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For Sale

Hi I have a brand new Skywatcher eq1 refractor on stand with extra lenses and user manuals too wonder if you advertise for sale items cost 300 pounds will accept 150 o.n.o if anyone interested please email or text 07505279629 Barnburgh area never been used unwanted thank you . (glengary25@gmail.com)