

Journal for Occultation Astronomy

FORMERLY OCCULTATION NEWSLETTER



XXIX ESOP 2010

By Alex Pratt

York, England 20th to 24th August 2010

29th European Symposium on Occultation Projects



Symposium Abstracts

Saturday 21st August – XXIX ESOP 2010

Dr Marek Zawilski – Four occultation phenomena from the past observed in northern England.

Each country can name its extraordinary celestial phenomena observed in the past. In northern England, there were many unusual occultation phenomena observed in the previous centuries, but four of them will be reviewed in detail.

Occultation of Jupiter by the eclipsed Moon on November 23, 755

In the medieval chronicle written by Simeon of Durham in the 12th century, we can find an account borrowed from another, lost source, devoted to a lunar eclipse and a bright star that first was seen on the

left side of the Moon, crossed it, and then was seen on right side. The phenomenon was said to have been on November 24, 756. As we can calculate today, the situation took place one year earlier and in the evening of November 23. The mistake of the date can be attributed to a simple writing error concerning the year and day. The bright star can be easily identified as the planet Jupiter. Although the original description is not precise, in general the circumstances were correctly described. It seems to be an account about the occultation of the planet by the eclipsed Moon. If so, it was the only such event definitely observed on the Earth in the past!

However, taking the results of modern calculations into consideration, one can determine the details: in fact, the Moon occulted Jupiter as seen from northern England but the disappearance took place at the illuminated limb of the Moon slowly emerging from the shadow of Earth. The reappearance also occurred at the bright limb when the partial eclipse

Dear reader,

as most of you are aware, there have been some problems regarding the production and distribution of Occultation Newsletter during the last couple of years. Just like every member, John Graves produced ON in what spare time he had voluntarily without compensation. Due to familiar reasons, he is no longer able to produce ON. Thank you very much, John, for editing/assembling ON for so many years. During the past few months, we have had some communications with members of IOTA's European Section and a solution has been found. Three members of IOTA/ES will produce ON, from now on called Journal of Occultation Astronomy (JOA) with the assistance of country- / state-coordinators. Hans-J. Bode and Brigitte Thome are members of an editorial staff of a German magazine being published every month whereas Michael Busse is the owner of a small marketing company experienced also with the layout of a magazine. These three persons will work together to produce JOA four times a year – whenever the necessary amount of articles have been obtained. We encourage contributions from all readers. For receiving articles, we have established the following procedures: Every European country will have a coordinator who will collect occultation-related (or of general interest) articles and transfer them to our JOA-ftp-server. Pawel Maksym, Alfons Gabel (Europe) and David Dunham (USA and rest of the world, with help from one or two other IOTA members) will keep in touch with these coordinators and supervise all activities.

Hans-J. Bode David Dunham

■ JOA Vol.1, No.1 ■ For IOTA subscription purposes ON Vol.14, No. 2
JANUARY 2011 · \$ 5.00 · \$ 6.25 OTHER · (ISSN 0737-6766)

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Writing articles for JOA:

The rules below should be regarded while writing an article; using them will greatly facilitate the production and layout of ON!

If your article does not conform to these rules, please correct it.

There are 3 different possibilities for submitting articles:

- pdf-articles (must be editable – these can be converted)
- unformatted Word *.doc-files containing pictures/graphs or their names (marked red: <figure_01>) at the desired position(s)
- *.txt-files must contain at the desired position the name of each graph/picture

The simplest way to write an article is just use Word as usual and after you have finished writing it, delete all your format-commands by selecting within the push-down-list "STYLE" (in general it's to the left of FONT & FONTSIZE) the command "CLEAR FORMATTING". After having done this you can insert your pictures/graphs or mark the positions of them (marked red: <figure_01>) within the text.

txt-files: Details, that should be regarded

- Format-commands are forbidden
- In case of pictures, mark them within the text like <picture001> where they should be positioned

Name of the author should be written in the 2nd line of the article, right after the title of the article; a contact e-mail address (even if just of the national coordinator) should be given after the author's name.

IMPORTANT: Use only the end-of-line command (press ENTER) if it's really necessary (new paragraph, etc.) and not when you see it's the end of the line!

Sending articles to JOA:

Each country / state has a coordinator who will translate your article to English – if necessary.

In case there is no one (new country) please send a mail to the editorial staff at: info@occultations.info

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