



If you're interested in stargazing, come join us. Everyone is welcome. We have talks, learning workshops, visits and group observing sessions  
[BathAstronomers.org.uk](http://BathAstronomers.org.uk)  
 BathAstronomers



Daylight information for the month is:

Sunrise: 04:58 (1<sup>st</sup>)      04:56 (30<sup>th</sup>)  
 Sunset: 21:16 (1<sup>st</sup>)      21:29 (30<sup>th</sup>)

The Summer Solstice is traditionally celebrated at sunrise on the morning of 21<sup>st</sup> June. This longest day will last 16 hours and 37 minutes. The Sun will rise to over 61° above the horizon around lunchtime to reach its highest altitude of the year and dips just 14° below the horizon at night, keeping us in twilight throughout. This absence of true darkness lasts from end of May until end of July each year.



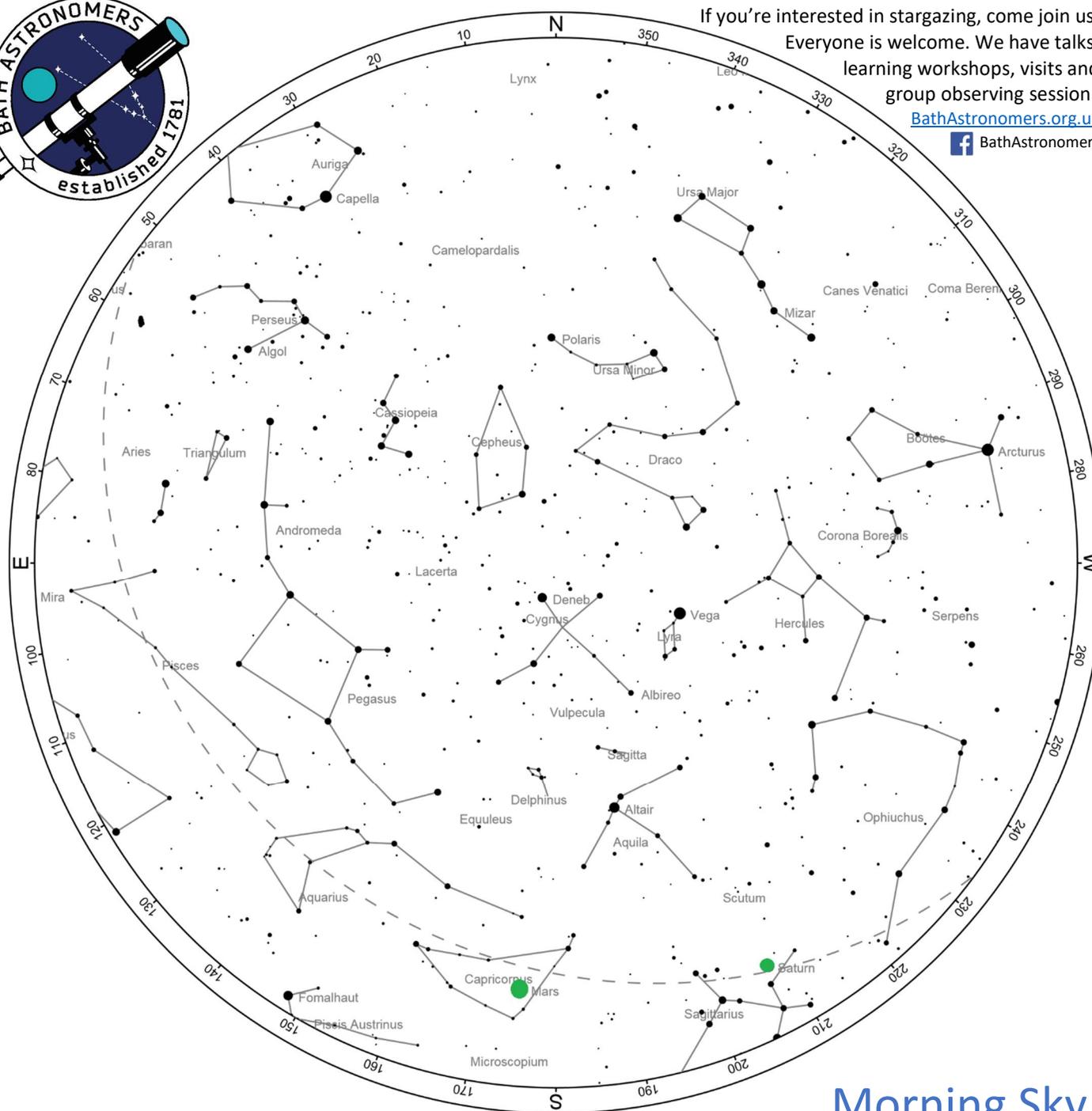
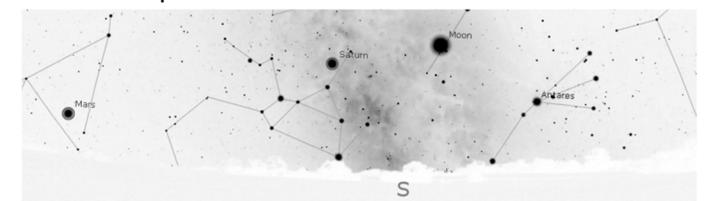
Last Quarter: 6<sup>th</sup> June  
 New Moon: 13<sup>th</sup> June  
 First Quarter: 20<sup>th</sup> June  
 Full Moon: 28<sup>th</sup> June



The annual Summer Triangle of stars, is visible and comprises stars Deneb (in the constellation of Cygnus), Vega (Lyra) and Altair (Aquila). It is joined by two planets this year, Mars and Saturn, creating a made up, short-lived asterism we might like to call the Big X. After the Eta Aquariids in late May, the formal meteor showers take a break but with hundreds of tonnes of material hitting Earth each day, sporadic meteors come to the fore. From 3am each morning, there is the possibility of high altitude noctilucent clouds. These electric blue ice clouds appear above the NE horizon before dawn whilst high pressure systems predominate over the UK.

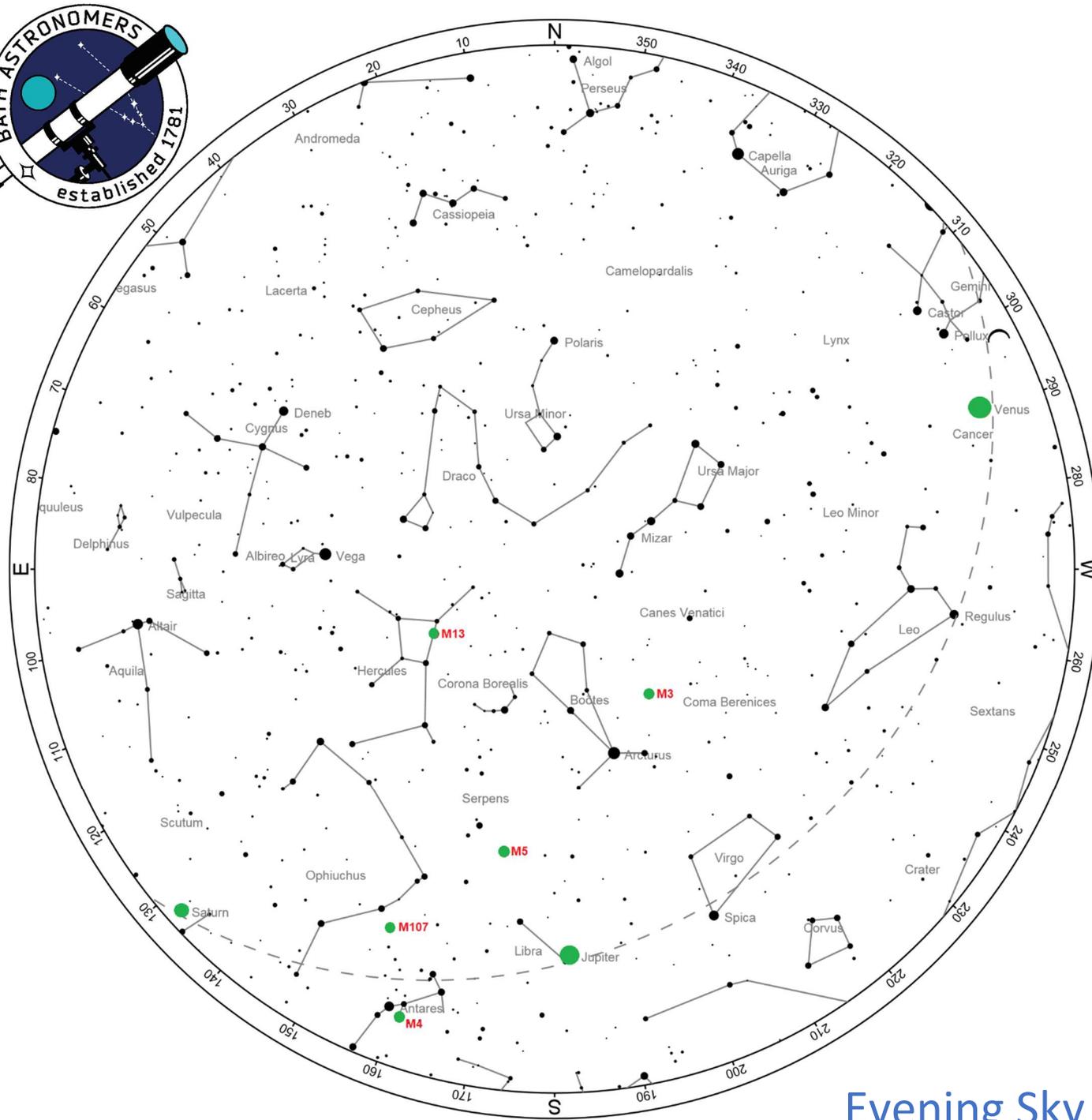


On the morning of 27<sup>th</sup>, the arrangement of planets has bright reddish Mars and white Saturn aligned with the Moon above the South horizon (see image below). On the morning of 28<sup>th</sup> low in the SSW, the Full Moon and Saturn will pass within 1° of each other.



## Morning Sky in June 2018

Location: Bath, UK, 51.3758°N, 2.3599°W  
 Time: 16 June 2018 04:00 (UTC +01:00)



Location: Bath, UK, 51.3758°N, 2.3599°W  
Time: 15 June 2018 22:30 (UTC +01:00)

## Evening Sky in June 2018



The International Space Station will be visible flying overhead the first 5 days of June from 10:45pm; check a phone app for detail timings. For many years, stargazers have also been watching the bright, reflected flashes from Iridium satellites; the fleet are being deorbited this year so look out for them before they disappear. June has 4 evening passes where the flashes should be particularly bright. These are on 15<sup>th</sup> at 23:15 in Cassiopeia, 18<sup>th</sup> at 23:32 in Coma Berenices, 20<sup>th</sup> at 22:55 in Cepheus, and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 22:29 in Leo.



The young crescent Moon should be visible on the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> June just after sunset. Mercury has a slightly higher altitude but appears closer to the Sun so be very, very careful. Its position will improve throughout the month to sit between Venus and the Sun. Venus and Jupiter dominate the evening sky in the West and South respectively. Saturn reaches its brightest this year (opposition) on 27<sup>th</sup> of the month presenting the biggest target for binocular and telescope users.



Jupiter is the best observed through a telescope and with its rotation period of 10 hours, offers good opportunities to see the Great Red Spot. If the spot isn't visible to you on a particular night, the following day it'll appear 4 hours earlier and so within a couple of days, there's a good chance you'll have seen it. There are several Galilean (Jupiter's) moon transits in the month including Io on 8<sup>th</sup> from 23:30, Europa on 13<sup>th</sup> from 23:30, Ganymede's dark shadow 18<sup>th</sup> from 21:20, and Io on 24<sup>th</sup> from 22:00.

The Spring is a good time for looking at brighter deep sky objects such as the Globular Clusters that orbit the Milky Way up to 100,000 light years away. Try M3, M4, M5, M13 Great Cluster, and M107. Note the difference between them in terms of structure and density. In the vicinity you'll also find M9, M10, M12, M14, M19, & M62



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Heavens-Above.com. All times are given as  
British Summer Time.