

# Upper Yarra U3A Astronomy Program

Series of 12 Meetings Schedule, July – December 2014

## Meeting Structure:

- \* Start 13:00 Three 20 minutes Session (broadly based as below), each followed by 10 minutes Question Time and Discussions
- Session a: Great Courses Video (followed by Coffee Break)
  - + Our new Video Series is called "Modern Perspectives on Our Solar System" by Frank Summers
- Session b: Constellations of the Southern Sky
- Session c: Current Phenomena
- \* Finish at 14:30

- First Meeting Date: Thursday 10 July
  - a Lecture 1 - 21st Century Solar System
  - b Constellation OCTANS - Octant
  - c This Week's Sky
- Second Meeting Date: Thursday 24 July
  - a Lecture 2 - Geometry of the Heavens
  - b Constellation CRUX - Southern Cross
  - c This Week's Sky
- Third Meeting Date: Thursday 7 August
  - a Lecture 3 - Truth and Beauty
  - b CIRCINUS - A Compass
  - c This Week's Sky
- Fourth Meeting Date: Thursday 21 August
  - a Lecture 4 - The Laws of Motion
  - b CORONA AUSTRALIS - a Crown
  - c This Week's Sky
- Fifth Meeting Date: Thursday 4 September
  - a Lecture 5 - Predictions and Theory
  - b CRUS - the Crane
  - c This Week's Sky
- Sixth Meeting Date: Thursday 18 September
  - a Lecture 6 - Evidence to Discoveries
  - b INDUS - An Indian
  - c This Week's Sky
- Seventh Meeting Date: Thursday 2 October
  - a Lecture 7 - The Space Age System
  - b MICROSCOPIUM - Microscope
  - c This Week's Sky
- Eighth Meeting Date: Thursday 16 October
  - a Lecture 8 - The Star of our System
  - b MUSCA - The Fly
  - c This Week's Sky
- Ninth Meeting Date: Thursday 30 October
  - a Lecture 9 - Natural Wonders
  - b NORMA - a Set Square
  - c This Week's Sky
- Tenth Meeting Date: Thursday 13 November
  - a Lecture 10 - Impacts and Cataclysms
  - b PAVO - the Peacock
  - c This Week's Sky
- Eleventh Meeting Date: Thursday 27 November
  - a Lecture 11 - To the Centres of Planets
  - b PISCIS AUSTRINUS - Southern Fish
  - c This Week's Sky
- Twelfth Meeting Date: Thursday 11 December
  - a Lecture 12 - Structure of Atmospheres
  - b SCUTUM - A Shield
  - c This Week's Sky

The Meeting Place is the CFA Rooms, 37 Yarra St  
Yarra Junction Alfred Klink

## List of Southern Constellations

OCTANS (Octant), CRUX (Southern Cross), CIRCINUS (Compass), CORONA AUSTRALIS (Southern Crowns), GRUS (Crane), INDUS (an Indian), MICROSCOPIUM (Microscope), MUSCA (The Fly), NORMA (Set Square), PAVO (Peacock), PISCIS AUSTRINUS (Southern Fish), SCUTUM (Shield).

**Eugene Delporte** drew the boundaries of all constellations along vertical and horizontal lines of right ascension and declination; however, he did so in 1930 for the epoch B1875.0, which means that due to precession of the equinoxes, the borders on a modern star map (e.g., for epoch J2000) are already somewhat skewed and no longer perfectly vertical or horizontal. This skew will increase over the years and centuries to come.

"The aspiration to truth is more precious than its assured possession."  
Gotthold Ephraim Lessing