

CHECK LIST FOR ORGANISATIONS REQUESTING A PRESENTATION OR OBSERVING SESSION

When considering requesting a presentation / observing session, it would be extremely useful, to consider the following and as required supply us with relevant information.

Please note whilst presentations can be given any time of the year, practical observing sessions are only available from October-May due to the time in the evening when there is the required level of darkness. Depending on the level of attendance required from our members in support of the event then sessions starting before 19.00 may not always be possible. In addition the viewing of meteor showers, which is a popular request, is only generally possible after 10pm.

Due to the nature of British weather observing sessions are not always possible on the chosen evening and so a 'cloudy night' programme of presentation(s) only is usually the fallback.

Presentations

Please contact Peter Struve at peter.struve@sky.com or telephone 01793 481547 for bookings

Please supply full contact details including both telephone numbers and email address if available.

Location of presentation including directions and post code

Any particular subjects you would like covered, approximate age of the audience and any known level of knowledge, and for youth groups (for example Scouts / Girl Guides) whether there is a particular objective e.g. to cover a badge

Proposed date/s and time of presentation (it would be extremely useful to supply us with several possible dates leaving sufficient time for us to organise the event)

Whilst our speakers will bring their own laptops, we do need a projector (though we have access to our own projector if necessary), a projector screen (or appropriate ie white wall to project onto), and access to a mains power supply

Parking facilities on site for up to 2-3 cars (close to the venue if telescopes and equipment are required for display/ demonstration purposes)

Observing sessions

When requesting practical, outside observing sessions please bear in mind that we are subject to the weather and also in order to view planets and other astronomical objects nights when there is a full/ish moon should be avoided. We also require extra facilities:

A hard standing with close access to vehicles to set up (telescopes and associated equipment are heavy and bulky, and we require sufficient space to set them up)

It would be very helpful if any security and flood lighting could be switched

off in the observing area and any indoor lighting that impinges on the observing site during the actual observing session - the use of white light torches including mobile phones are to be avoided please since these affect night vision (astronomers tend to use red light for that reason)

It would be useful if we could visit the site prior to the planned observing session to check amongst other things the suitability of the sky e.g. no tall trees in the immediate vicinity.

Please ensure all persons are dressed warmly for observing events (coats, hats, gloves and suitable footwear)

Access to the site will be required at least half an hour before the observing session is scheduled to begin for setting up telescopes.