

Stargazing - Workshops - Storytelling - Exhibitions - Talks

Marlborough Dark Skies Fest



25th to 31st October 2021

Featuring the **Museum of the Moon**
A touring artwork by UK artist Luke Jerram

 @marlboroughdarkskiesfest

Welcome to Marlborough's first Dark Skies Fest!



A fun festival of events celebrating our dark skies takes place across the town from 25th October 2021 culminating in a jam-packed programme at the weekend of 30th - 31st October.

A galaxy of events includes stargazing and storytelling, sketching workshops and children's activities, exhibitions, tours, talks and more. And, of course, the beautiful and mysterious Museum of the Moon...

"We are really excited about the festival which will be a magical and memorable experience for all involved, especially for children."

Don Heath, Marlborough Town Councillor

Interest in dark skies has grown in recent years in response to increasing light pollution reducing our opportunities to see a truly starry night. Dark skies are important for our health, for nature and for preserving the character of our landscape.

This festival is a celebration of our beautiful dark skies here in the North Wessex Downs.

For further information, and to book please visit:
www.thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf/

Brought to you by Marlborough Town Council, the North Wessex Downs AONB and Marlborough College



Marlborough Town Council



With thanks for financial support from



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Wiltshire Council

Highlights

Professor Chris Lintott - Where, what and who:
Progress in Astronomy's big questions



Our keynote speaker **Professor Chris Lintott** (BBC Sky at Night, University of Oxford) takes a fresh look at the Universe around us, using the latest data and discoveries to explore how we're doing in the biggest questions of all - what did the Earth come to be, how did the Universe begin... and is there anyone out there?

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2PM

MUSEUM OF THE MOON

An opportunity to get up close to the Moon! Experience this incredible seven-metre inflated moon hanging in the stunning Chapel at Marlborough College. The installation is a fusion of lunar imagery, moonlight and surround sound created by UK artist **Luke Jerram** and award winning composer Dan Jones.


FROM 25TH TO 31ST OCTOBER
VARIOUS TIMES

Free event - booking essential

Outdoor Events



Solar observing at the Blackett Observatory
SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 9.45AM AND 10.45AM

Avebury lantern making and guided night walk 
SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 5PM

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury

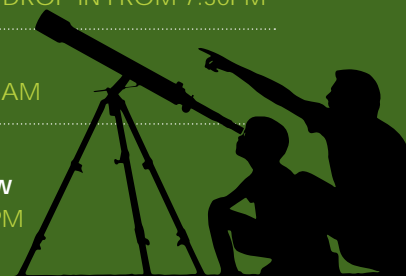
Stargazing at the Blackett Observatory
FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 7.15PM & 8.15PM
SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 7.15PM & 8.15PM

Stargazing on the Common
FRIDAY 29TH & SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER
DROP-IN FROM 7.30PM

Stargazing at Manton
SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER DROP-IN FROM 7.30PM

The Sun, our local Star
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 10AM

Nocturnal river walk
at Stonebridge Meadow
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 6PM





Events with this symbol are especially suited to families and children. See the online booking office for more information.



Events with this symbol will go ahead only with the right weather conditions. Check the online booking office before setting off.

For further information, and to book tickets please visit:

www.thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf/

Monday 25th-Thursday 28th October

Exhibitions

10am-3.30pm	ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY, ROBERT HARVEY	St Peters Church	free
-------------	---------------------------------	------------------	------

Art

10am-12 noon/3.30pm-5.30pm	MUSEUM OF THE MOON-ART INSTALLATION	Marlborough College Chapel	free
----------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------	------

Friday 29th October

Exhibitions

10am-3.30pm	ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY, ROBERT HARVEY	St Peters Church	free
-------------	---------------------------------	------------------	------

Art

10am-12 noon/3.30pm-5.30pm	MUSEUM OF THE MOON-ART INSTALLATION	Marlborough College Chapel	free
----------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------	------

Talks

6pm-7pm	WELCOME TO MARLBOROUGH DARK SKIES	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
---------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------	------

Outdoor Events

7.15pm/8.15pm	STARGAZING AT THE BLACKETT OBSERVATORY 	Blackett Observatory	free
---------------	--	----------------------	------

7.30pm-9.30pm (drop in)	STARGAZING ON THE COMMON 	The Common	free
-------------------------	--	------------	------

FRID 29 & SAT 30 OCTOBER 7PM	NIGHT TOWER TOURS	St Peters Church	free
------------------------------	-------------------	------------------	------

Saturday 30th October


Exhibitions

10am-3.30pm	ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY, ROBERT HARVEY	St Peters Church	free
10am-5pm	ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY, PETE RICHARDSON	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
10am-5pm	DARK SKIES INFORMATION AND DISPLAY SPACE	Town Hall Court Room	free


Art and Workshops

10am-1pm/3.30pm-5.30pm	MUSEUM OF THE MOON-ART INSTALLATION	Marlborough College Chapel	free
Every 30 mins 10am-3.30pm	STARRY NIGHT ART WORKSHOPS 	Youth & Community Centre	free
10am/11.30am/1pm	BLAST OFF!-WORKSHOP 	Town Hall Council Chamber	free
10am-4pm (drop in)	SPIN ART-WORKSHOP 	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
10.30am-12.30pm (drop in)	ROCKETS AND ROVERS-WORKSHOP 	St Marys Church Hall	free
11.40am/12.30pm/2pm /2.50pm/ 3.40pm/4.30pm	HERTZ-WORKSHOP	St Marys Church	£2 u18 free
11.30am/12.30pm/2pm/3pm	MOBILE PLANATARIUM OR COSMIC ODYSSEY 	Masonic Hall/Wesley Hall	free
4pm-5.30pm	ASTRONOMY SKETCHING WORKSHOP	Town Hall Assembly Room	£5 u18 free

Talks and Storytelling






10am-11am	DARK SKIES AND WHY THEY MATTER	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
11.30am-12.30pm	NIGHT BLIGHT AND THE COUNTRYSIDE	Quaker Meeting House	free
12noon-1pm	TO INFINITY AND BEYOND - ASTRONOMICAL Q&A	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
1pm-2pm	WATCHING SPACE DUST	St Marys Church Hall	free
1.15pm/2.15pm	I SEE THE MOON AND THE MOON SEES ME (STORYTELLING) 	Marlborough College Chapel	£1
2pm-3.30pm	PROFESSOR CHRIS LINTOTT TALK & BOOK SIGNING	Marlborough College Mem Hall	£5 u18 free
2.30pm-3.30pm	A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN ASTRONOMY	Town Hall Council Chamber	free
3pm-4pm	ON BOARD THE ISS	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
4pm-5.30pm	STUMBLING AROUND IN THE DARK	St Marys Church Hall	free
4.30pm-5.30pm	HOW DO YOU SOLVE A PROBLEM LIKE DEBRIS-AH?	Town Hall Assembly Room	free

Outdoor Events

9.45am/10.45am	SOLAR OBSERVING 	Blackett Observatory	free
----------------	--	----------------------	------

cont/d overleaf...

Saturday 30th October cont/d...





5pm	AVEBURY LANTERN MAKING AND NIGHT WALK  	Avebury World Heritage Site	£5 u5 free
7.15pm/8.15pm	STARGAZING AT THE BLACKETT OBSERVATORY 	Blackett Observatory	free
7.30pm-9.30pm (drop in)	STARGAZING ON THE COMMON 	The Common	free
7.30pm-9.30pm (drop in)	STARGAZING AT MANTON 	Manton	free

Sunday 31st October



Exhibitions

10am-4pm	ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY, PETE RICHARDSON	Town Hall Assembly Room	free
10am-4pm	DARK SKIES INFORMATION AND DISPLAY SPACE	Town Hall Court Room	free

Art and Workshops

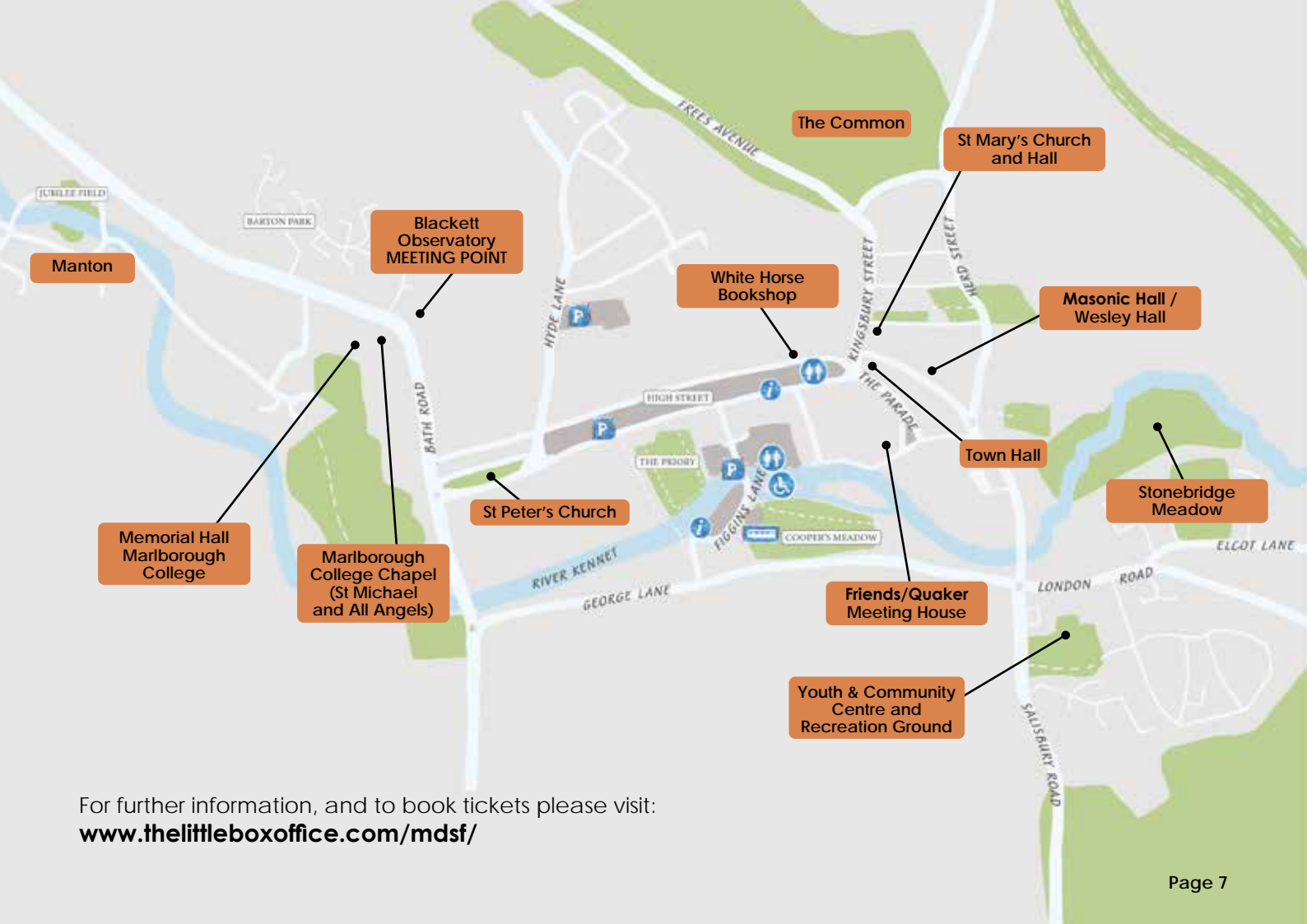
10am-1pm/3.30pm-4pm	MUSEUM OF THE MOON-ART INSTALLATION	Marlborough College Chapel	free
10am/11.30am	MAKE ME AN ASTRONAUT 	St Mary's Church Hall	free
11.30am/12.30pm/2pm/3pm	MOBILE PLANATARIUM OR COSMIC ODYSSEY 	Youth & Community Centre	free
1pm/2.30pm	IN THE NIGHT SKY 	St Mary's Church Hall	free
1pm/1.45pm/2.30pm/3.15pm	PRACTICAL SKETCHING WORKSHOP 	Town Hall Council Chamber	free

Talks and Storytelling

11am-12 noon	INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMICAL SKETCHING	Town Hall Council Chamber	free
11am-12 noon	COSMIC RECYCLING	White Horse Bookshop	free
12.30pm-1.30pm	MOTHS AT THE MEADOW	White Horse Bookshop	free
1pm-1.45pm	JOURNEY INTO SPACE 	Friends/Quaker Meeting House	free
1.15pm/2.15pm	I SEE THE MOON AND THE MOON SEES ME (STORYTELLING) 	Marlborough College Chapel	£1
2pm-3pm	SEVEN WAYS THE UNIVERSE TRIES TO KILL YOU	Friends/Quaker Meeting House	free
2pm-3pm	FROM SMART PHONE TO SMART OBSERVATORY	White Horse Bookshop	free
3.30pm-4.30pm	THE ASTRONOMY OF STONEHENGE	White Horse Bookshop	free

Outdoor Events

10am-11am (drop in)	THE SUN, OUR LOCAL STAR 	Recreation Ground	free
6pm-7.30pm	NOCTURNAL RIVER WALK  	Stonebridge Meadow	free



Manton

Blackett
Observatory
MEETING POINT

Memorial Hall
Marlborough
College

Marlborough
College Chapel
(St Michael
and All Angels)

St Peter's Church

The Common

St Mary's Church
and Hall

White Horse
Bookshop

Masonic Hall /
Wesley Hall

Town Hall

Stonebridge
Meadow

Friends/Quaker
Meeting House

Youth & Community
Centre and
Recreation Ground

For further information, and to book tickets please visit:
www.thelittleboxoffice.com/mdsf/

Art and Workshops

Blast off!

Come and learn the science of a rocket with the **Space Detectives**. Learn and understand how rockets were developed as well as how they interact with gravity to blast off into space! Then design, build and launch our own air powered rocket.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 10AM, 11.30AM, and 1PM

Spin art

Fun art for families with professional artists from **No Added Sugar**. Drop in and use a spin machine to make your very own unique stars to take home.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER drop-in between 10AM - 4PM



Photo © No Added Sugar

Starry night - art workshop

Fun art for children with professional artists from **No Added Sugar**. Take part in creating 2 large collaborative Starry Night paintings that will later be on public display. You will need to book a 20 minute session to take part.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 10AM - 4PM

Rockets and rovers

How do you get a robot buggy from Earth to the surface of Mars in one piece and then drive around without crashing? This workshop will explore the challenges involved. Your Chief Engineer for the mission is **Simon Holbeche** of Bath Astronomers.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER

Drop-in anytime between 10.30AM - 12.30PM

Planetarium OR Space odyssey

Come on this mystery tour with **The Commission for Dark Skies**; either to a mobile planetarium (Covid allowing) experiencing the wonder of the universe, or alternatively on a cosmic odyssey, a fun interactive journey through the cosmos.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 11.30AM, 12.30PM, 2PM, & 3PM

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 11.30AM, 12.30PM, 2PM, & 3PM

hertz - secret sound of the stars

Have fun playing with two of hertz's star machines, using the cosmic music of two real stars to transform sand into beautiful vibrating shapes. An interactive artwork by **Juliet Robson** in collaboration with a meteorologist, a mathematician and an astrophysicist.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER

Various times from 11.40am



hertz © WeTheCurious, Bristol-Juliet Robson

Astronomy sketching workshop

A hands-on workshop with **Mary McIntyre**. Learn how to create astronomy sketches using pastels. All materials will be provided.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 4PM

Make me an Astronaut

Ever wanted to know what it takes to become an astronaut? With the **Space Detectives**, we discover the skills and abilities required to do just that. Are you made of the "Right Stuff?"

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 10AM and 11.30AM

In the night Sky

Become a Dark Sky Ranger with **the Space Detectives** and know just how important it is to care for our dark skies. Discover star patterns as well as making your own edible creations!

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 1PM and 2.30PM

Practical sketching workshop

Astronomical sketching with **Sally Russell** where you can try your hand at drawing the Moon and other astronomical targets. All materials will be provided.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 1PM, 1.45PM, 2.30PM and 3.15PM

St Peter's Church night tower tours

A magical tour to include some anecdotal history about St Peter's Church, Cardinal Wolsey and the town.

FRIDAY 29 & SATURDAY 30 OCTOBER 7PM

Exhibitions

Exhibition of Astrophotography by Robert Harvey

MONDAY 25TH OCTOBER TO SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER
10AM - 3.30PM



© Robert Harvey

Gallery of Astrophotography by Pete Richardson

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER
10AM - 5PM
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER
10AM - 4PM



© Pete Richardson

Dark Skies Information and Display Space

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 10AM - 5PM
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 10AM - 4PM

Talks and storytelling

Welcome to Marlborough Dark Skies

Charles Barclay, Director of the Blackett Observatory introduces us to the wonders and importance of the night sky.

FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 6PM

Dark Skies and why they matter

Bob Mizon explains why minimising light pollution is important not only for stargazing, but also for our health, biodiversity, the battle against energy waste and slowing climate change.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 10AM

To infinity and beyond – Astronomical Q&A session

Charles Barclay will take questions from the audience on any aspect of Astronomy. Come with questions that have always puzzled you or on which you would like an opinion.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 12 Midday

Watching space dust

Simon Holbeche of Bath Astronomers follows the dust from supernova to your garden.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 1PM



© Simon Holbeche

A history of women in Astronomy

Historically, astronomy has been very male dominated, but this talk by **Mary McIntyre** celebrates the trailblazing women who worked in the field and highlights the challenges they faced.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2.30PM

On board the ISS

Come on a virtual mission to the International Space Station in this talk. **Jo Richardson** gives an insight into life and work on board the ISS.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 3PM

Stumbling around In the dark

Robert Harvey shows how to use an ordinary digital single lens reflex camera to make stunning images of stars, planets, earth's moon, the Milky Way, meteors and comets.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 4PM

How do you solve a problem like debris-ah?

Nick Howes from BMT Defence and Security will talk about the threat of so-called "Mega Constellations" of satellites and the risk of collisions in space, and what can be done.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 4.30PM

Introduction to Astronomical sketching

Sally Russell introduces astronomical sketching and tells us how she got started, her experience and background, as well as what art materials and techniques to use to get started on astronomical sketching.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 11AM

Cosmic Recycling

Gavin James and **Jonathan Genton** will transport you out across the cosmos, taking in nebulae, clusters and galaxies along the way. The theme of recycling is explored at the universal level, from star birth, dramatic star death and everything in between.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 11AM

Moths at the Meadow

Join **Anna Forbes**, (Action for the River Kennet) for a talk on the fascinating moths and other nocturnal wildlife of Stonebridge Wild River Reserve.

**SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER
12.30PM**



© ARK - Elephant Hawk Moth

Journey Into Space

In this talk aimed at young people, we journey with **Steve Tonkin** from the Sun, through the Solar System and into Deep Space.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 1PM

I see the Moon and the Moon sees me

Storytelling for children - Myths and legends about the moon from all over the world with storyteller **Roger Day**.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 1.15PM and 2.15PM
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 1.15PM and 2.15PM

From smart phone to smart observatory

Gavin James takes a beautifully illustrated and practical look at a range of photographic techniques to capture the heavens.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2PM

Seven ways the Universe tries to kill you

In this talk of cataclysmic events by **Steve Tonkin** we go from gamma-ray bursts to asteroid impacts.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2PM

The Astronomy of Stonehenge

Stonehenge is astronomically aligned but how, and why, do we know this? Come to this talk by **Simon Banton** to discover more.

SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER 3.30PM



BAA

www.britastro.org



British Astronomical Association
Supporting amateur astronomers since 1890

**Proud to support
Dark Skies for everyone**

Supporting the Marlborough Dark Skies Festival



THE WHITE HORSE BOOKSHOP

Books & Art Materials

www.whitehorsebooks.co.uk 136 High Street, Marlborough SN8 1HW



GO STARGAZING

GOSTARGAZING.CO.UK is the UK's premier stargazing website. Find the best places to stargaze at the best times!

-  Stargazing locations
-  Dark sky calendar
-  Public stargazing events
-  Hints, tips & how-tos
-  Stay & gaze accommodation
-  Event notifications