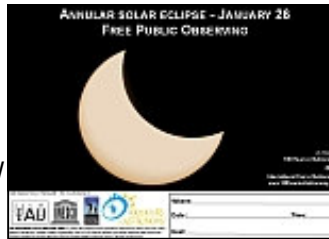


Welcome everyone. We do hope you all had a relaxing New Years break and are now working hard on your preparations for the start of 100 Hours of Astronomy in April.

New Years day around the globe saw groups out and about with their telescopes celebrating the start of IYA 2009 and introducing astronomy to the general public. From all accounts, many groups chose to showcase the Sun and its completely 'spotless' disk. Those with hydrogen alpha filters fared somewhat better, with reports of spectacular prominences leaving audiences captivated and calling out, "WOW" in amazement.

DAWN of IYA 2009 website has posted many wonderful pictures and blogs from numerous events that took place on New Years day around the world. Take a look for yourself and visit their website <http://dawn-ia2009.blogspot.com>



The Sun will again be on show this month, this time with an annular solar eclipse traversing the Indian Ocean and western Indonesia on January 26. It starts in the South Atlantic at 06.06UT. For further information on the eclipse and its path across the globe, visit the NASA Eclipse website <http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse.html>

For those of you lucky enough to be living along the path of this eclipse and possibly looking for a practice run for your 100HA public events in April, we have put together an advertising poster for your use. Please visit our resource page and download your copy.

100 Hours of Astronomy Website - Register Your Event

After a few minor hiccups, the 100 Hours of Astronomy website and the new live Event Registration Google Map database is operational and working well. It is great to see everyone's events 'pin pointed' on the worldwide map and to see it growing so fast. If you haven't already done so, please make sure you register your event. If you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see on the website or if you are experiencing any difficulties with the event registration process, please don't hesitate to contact us - your feedback is most welcome.



We wish to thank the dedicated team below for the time they have spent putting the website together and for doing their very best to fix problems as they arise. Their expertise has been invaluable - great job guys!

Meet the 100 Hours of Astronomy Website Team



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100HA Research Observatory Live Webcast Update

The research observatories chosen to take part in the 100HA live webcast can be viewed on our events webpage. Plans are now underway for this exciting event which will start on April 3, 09.00UT in Hawaii and travel westward around the globe. We will keep you up to date with progress on the event as more information comes to hand.

100HA Science Centre Live Webcast Update

Information regarding this event has just been updated on our website. Full details from the 5 science centers taking part and the topics covered for the live webcast are featured.

100HA Resources

Our resource page is slowly expanding with resources being added everyday. We will keep you informed as new resources become available.

More tips for planning a successful 100HA Event

1. If you are holding your event on private property or from a business address make sure you contact the owners the day before just to check everything is ready to go and your visit has been confirmed
2. Organise with your observing team to meet early on the day to set up equipment. Make sure you set your telescopes well apart to allow enough room to stop telescopes from being bumped or damaged.
3. Set up a sign to advertise your event to passers-by. A small black-board is very useful & allows for quick changes when required.