

Dear Member,

We hope this email finds you safe and well. It is a further update on the Society's current and planned future activities which are, of course, contingent on external factors.

In our 1st June email we advised that the Welsh Government's restrictions on gatherings and social distancing requirements mean that the Society will be unable to hold fortnightly talks at Cardiff University for many months to come, and we were therefore planning, for the foreseeable future, to hold our talks online using the Zoom video conferencing platform on which guidance is available on the home page of the Society website <https://www.cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk/>.

In advance of each talk we shall, as usual, send you an email reminding you of the date and time of the next talk and providing, where possible, extra details about the talk and the speaker. More importantly, these emails will contain instructions on how to attend the relevant Zoom talk. Reminders about forthcoming talks will also appear on the Society's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CardiffAS/>

Our first Zoom talks (which will be the final talks of the 2019/20 season) are as follows:

- *Weird Worlds: The new science of exoplanets* by The Sky at Night's Professor Chris Lintott on **Saturday, 27th June** at 5.00 p.m. (further information on this talk will be emailed to you early next week); and
- *When Galaxies Collide* by Dr Megan Argo, University of Central Lancashire, on **Thursday, 9th July** at 7.30 p.m.

In addition to this, we have been successful in starting the 2020/21 talks much earlier than usual. Indeed, we have arranged for next season's first talk to be held on Thursday, 30th July – only three weeks after the last talk of this season! And on 27th August we will receive a presentation from the discoverer of radio pulsars, Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell.

Details of the programme of initial talks for 2020/21 will be posted on the CAS website within the next few weeks and, if possible, will be attached to next month's email update.

As you know, the Society's 2020 AGM will be held on Thursday, 23rd July. The agenda and other relevant papers will be emailed to you early next month.

You are also reminded that CAS member Marc Delaney has kindly set up a series of informal Zoom-based astronomy discussion sessions on alternate Tuesday evenings. Further information on this is on the Society website, and, if you wish to participate in these sessions, please contact Marc at: marc.a77del@ntlworld.com.

The Society's Observatory at Dyffryn Gardens remains closed and we are waiting to learn when (controlled) public access to this National Trust site will again be possible. As we have stressed previously, though, the re-opening of Dyffryn Gardens would not mean that the CAS Observatory and the Cory Education Centre would be accessible for star parties and other events. In the meantime, Society officers have been able – with the kind permission of our friends at Dyffryn Gardens – to visit the Observatory to check that it is in good shape.

We will continue to keep you advised of future activities by email, the website and Facebook.

With our best wishes for the future.

Cardiff Astronomical Society Committee and Trustees

P.S. Gwyllo y Ser on S4C 19th June 2020

Unfortunately, within a few hours of transmission someone on the crew had a positive Covid-19 test and filming had to be halted. It is being rescheduled and we will advise members of a new date/time.