

PETER BRUCE.  
G4WPB

RADIO

LIGHT

AMATEUR  
ASTRONOMY  
TODAY

EQUIPMENT - & WHAT YOU  
CAN SEE & IMAGE.



I JUST  
HAVE TO  
HAVE A  
DIG AT  
CROYDON

WHAT A  
WASTE  
OF  
ENERGY.  
  
AND IT'S  
LEGAL



The next time you  
hear “**Energy Saving**”  
or “**Energy Tax**”

Remember the  
Croydon Skyline  
Scheme.

Paid for from Lottery  
money with no regard  
to saving energy or  
preventing light  
pollution.

This beam could be  
seen from Bromley 9  
miles away.....

Your children will  
NOT see the night sky  
as you did as a child.

VIEW FROM MY GARDEN 2001

Mars 2001.



# Luna House



Looney Lighting.



**Nestles Building.**

**Could be seen from Bromley.**



**GET ON WITH IT**

**PETER.**

**RESULTS. –GOT NESTLE'S TO FIT NEW  
PROJECTORS.**

**LUNA HOUSE HAD TO BE FITTED WITH  
NEW LIGHT FITTINGS TO CUT GLARE.**

**IT WILL GET RESULTS IF YOU MAKE WAVES**

Sounds so bad with all that light.....

What in heavens name (no pun intended)  
can you see - let alone get a picture of.

# Meade LX200.10 inch SCT

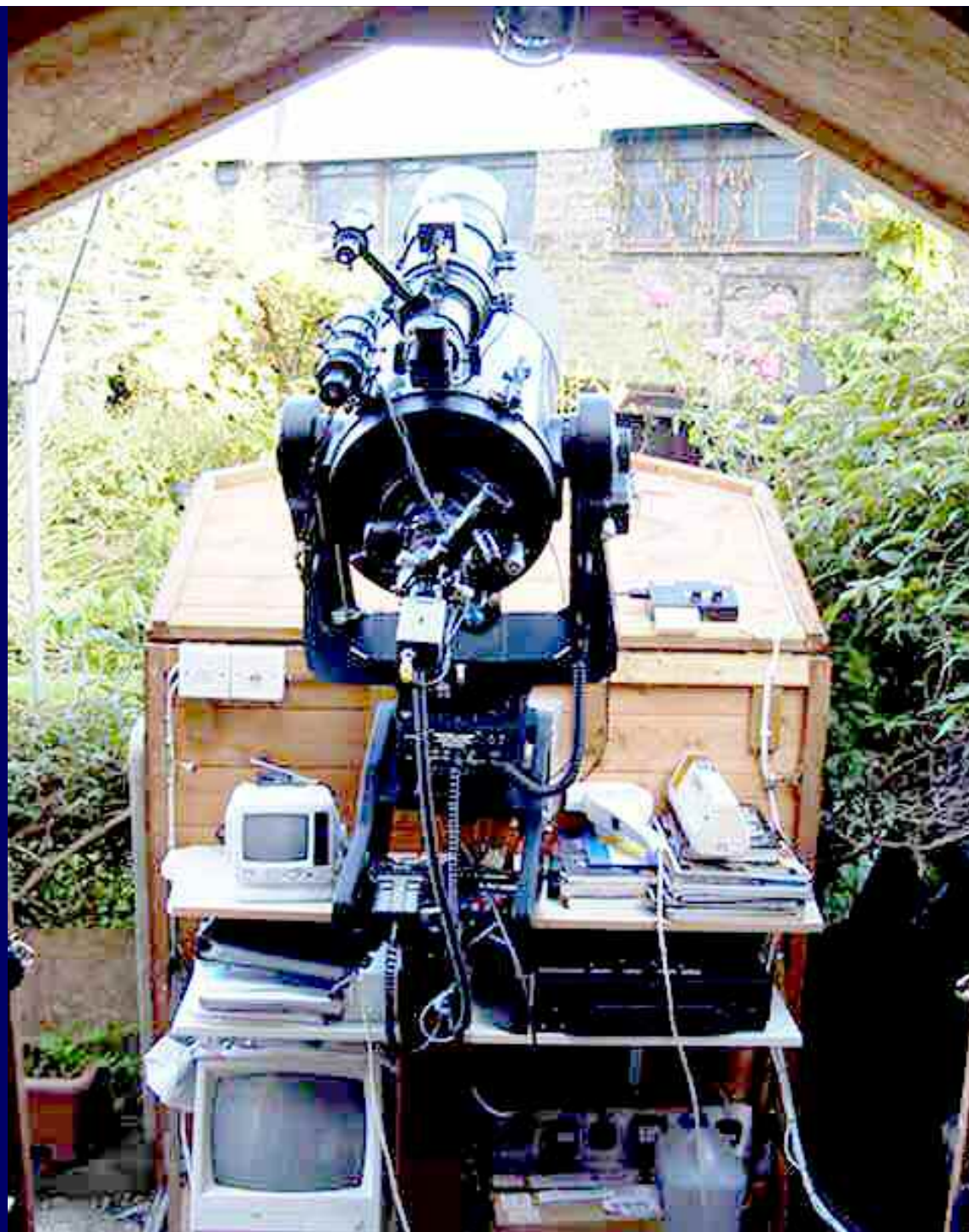
Home Observatory.





Shed (observatory) now open.







## Meade LX200 10”.

Shows all the bits and bobs on the scope.

Telescope accessories together with my “other scopes” have been added over time. This is one of 5 main scopes I have.

My wife is great.



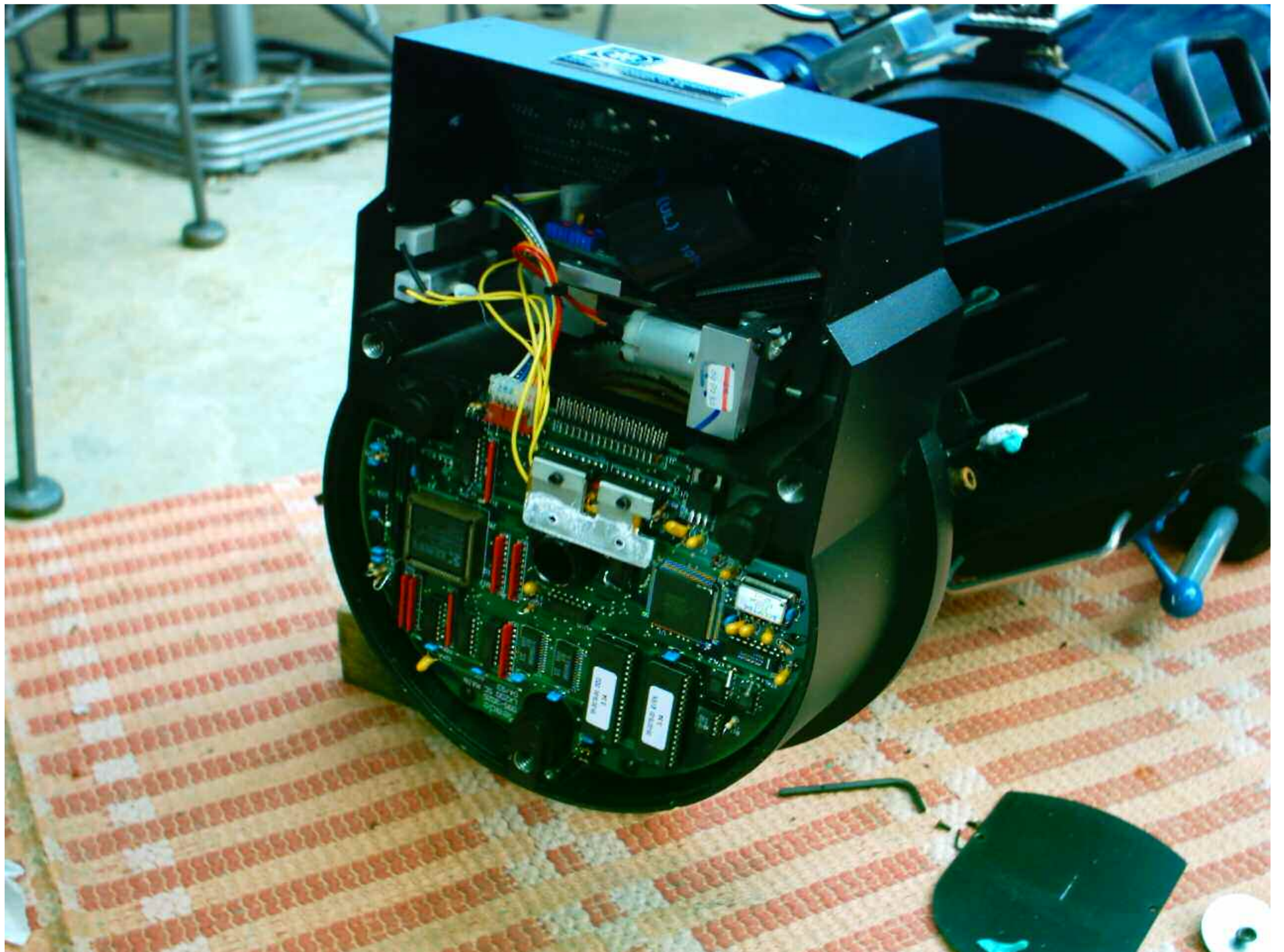
**REAR OF MAIN SCOPE  
SHOWING CRAYFORD  
FOCUSER, FLIP MIRROR &  
SPECIAL PELTIER COOLED  
ASTRONOMICAL CCD  
COLOUR CAMERA UNIT.**















**2<sup>nd</sup> home for 120+ days a year. I use a 10 inch rich field telescope + 6 inch refractor here for deep space objects.**

**The garden faces South. It's an ideal dark sky location.**





# JUST FOR FUN...



75 mm

Scope fitted

With colour

TV camera

To look at

Ships.

On a cold day when the seeing is good I can sit inside and pick out a ships name 10+ miles away....





**SO  
WHATS  
BEST?**

# MAGNIFICATION

25mm Eyepiece fitted to each scope in turn.

|                    |        |       |         |
|--------------------|--------|-------|---------|
| ETX 90.            | 1250mm | / 25= | x 50    |
| 10 Inch Celestron. | 1200mm | / 25= | x 48    |
| 10 Inch Meade.     | 1016mm | / 25= | x 40.64 |
| Helios 6 Inch.     | 750mm  | / 25= | x 30    |

So best Planet / Moon scope is,

ETX 90 / Celestron

Best BRIGHT deep sky scope is,

Helios 6 Inch.

Best BRIGHT AND FAINT deep sky scope is,

Meade 10 Inch

Focal length of mirror / lens divided by focal  
length of eyepiece gives magnification.





ETX 90.

Beat this for size. Packs away into a pilot case and it's a fully mobile go-to telescope.....



The most compact  
ETX 90 telescope.





**ETX sits onto a standard camera tripod.**





Meade LX200 SN10. 10 inch scope.





Latitude scale.

GEM mount.



## **POLAR FINDER.**

FAN IS MY OWN  
ADDITION TO  
HELP CUT DOWN  
COOLDOWN  
TIME.







**6 inch Refractor – No frills -**





# CALESTRON C10-NGT.

10 Inch Newtonian telescope.

GEM mount.

Full go to scope.

NOTE.

Stand has been modified by me  
(10 inches cut off legs)

Could not see into eyepiece to  
see objects in the zenith.....

**JANET LOOKS SO MUCH  
BETTER THAN ME.....**





Needed with any telescope  
– Good eyepieces, don't  
skimp on them.

**TIME TRAVEL**

**/SELL TICKETS**



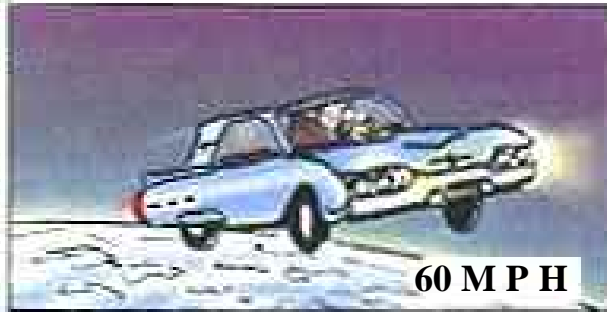
**MOON:**  
2. 1/2 DAYS

In our modern era of space flight, we've been able to reach other worlds relatively quickly. The Apollo missions reached the Moon in about 2. 1/2 days, the Voyager probes reached Jupiter in about 2 years but these spacecraft moved at great speeds



**JUPITER**  
2 YEARS

## Warp 9 in Star Trek – is a long long way off.....



**60 M P H**



**EARTH -- 240,000 Miles --- MOON**



**5. 1/2 MONTHS**

If we kept on driving another 35,000,000 miles at the same rate it would take 67 years to reach Mars at it's nearest.....



**MARS**  
67 YEARS

Travelling onto Jupiter would be a joyride of only 743 years. (see poor astronaut below). If you put the "pedal to the metal" you could shave off a couple of centuries.



**Jupiter.**  
743 years

If we kept on going at the same rate after 6,800 years you would reach the orbit of Pluto so the Planets aren't exactly "right round the corner".



**Pluto.**  
6,800 years

# HOW TO RECORD IMAGES.

SPECIAL COOLED COLOUR CCD CAMERA.

LOW LIGHT COLOUR / BW VIDEO CAMERA.

DRAW WHAT YOU SEE.

# STANDARD DIGITAL CAMERA.

SO WHAT CAN YOU IMAGE



# ANDROMEDA GALAXY

**M31** 2.3 MILLION LIGHT YEARS.







ANDROMEDA + COMPANION GALAXY.

M31 + M32



**M41**

**M42**

Orion  
Nebula

1500  
LIGHT  
YEARS.



M27 Dumbbell Nebula. 815 LIGHT YEARS.

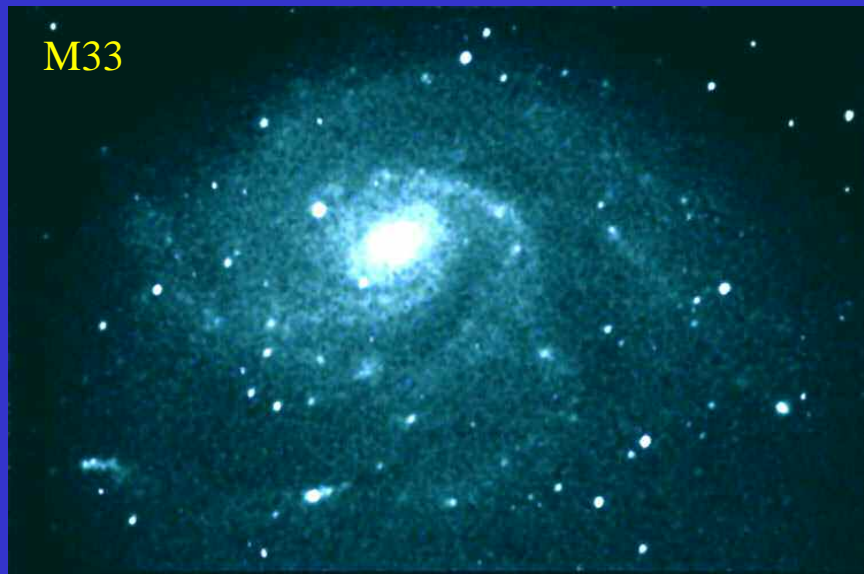


M51

15 MILLION LIGHT YEARS AWAY

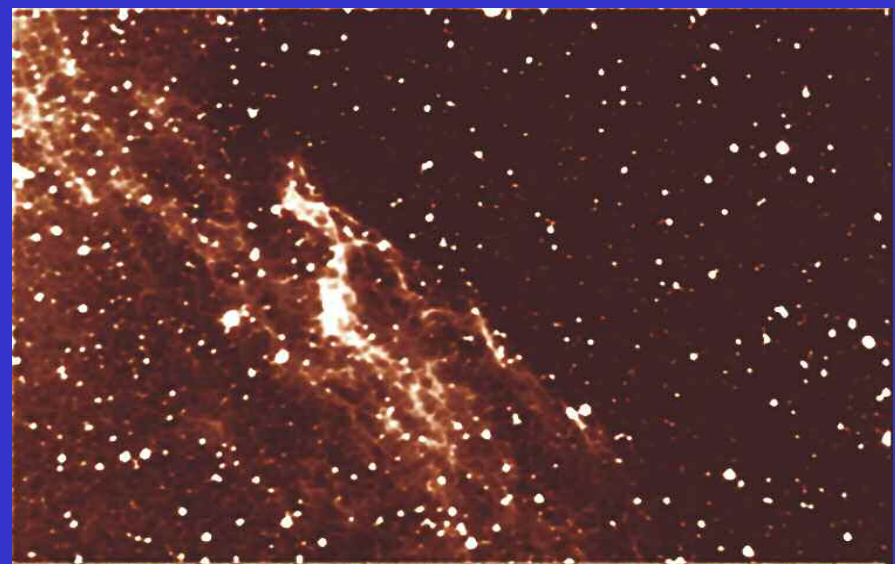


1,140 LIGHT YEARS



M33

2..3 MILLION LIGHT YEARS.



VEIL NEBULA

M57. RING NEBULA

1,140 Light Years away.

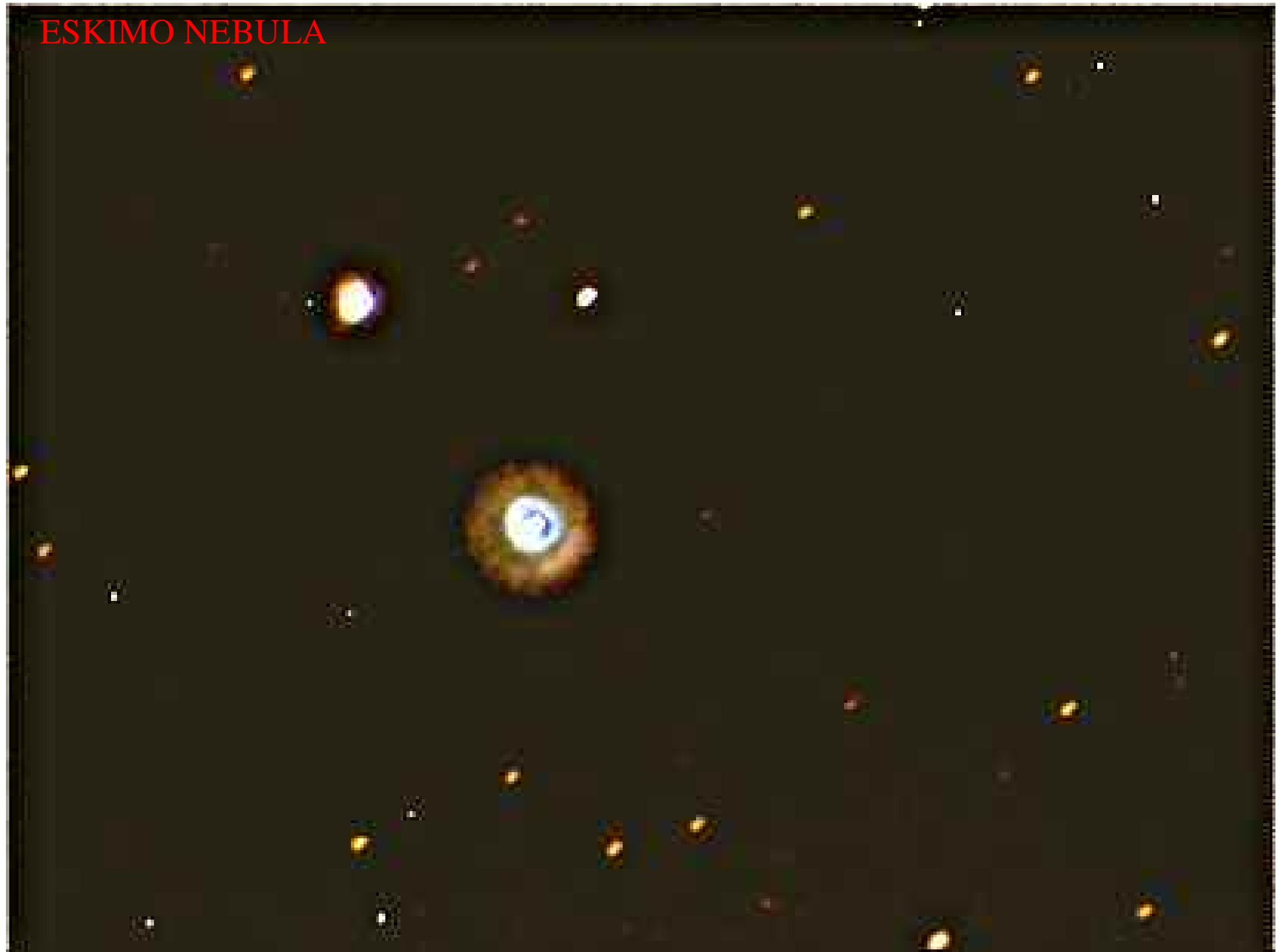


18 Miles /sec.

@ 1,140 Light Years.....



## ESKIMO NEBULA



NGC 2357 - ONLY 127 MILLION LIGHT YEARS





M13

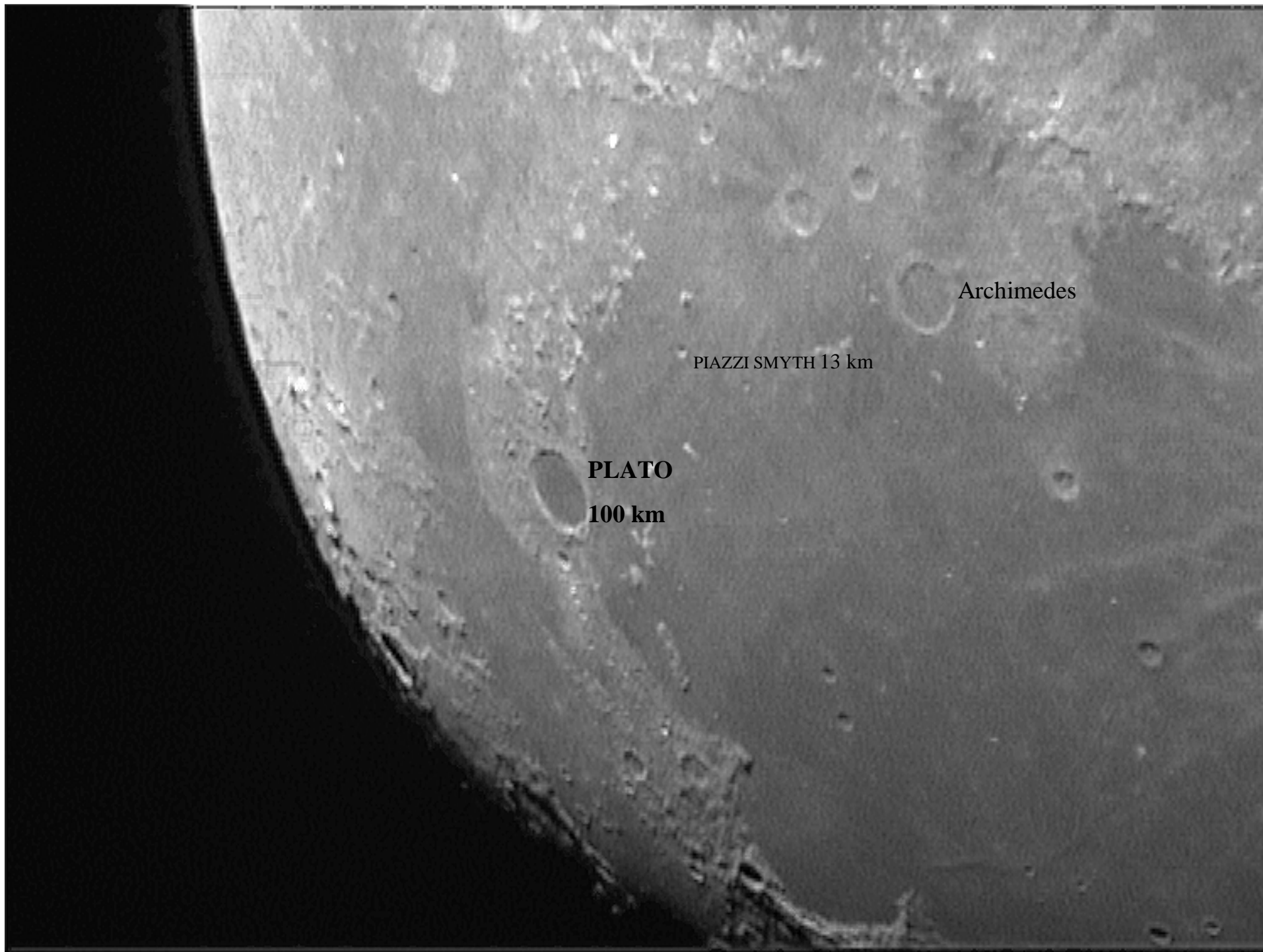


# LIMB OF MOON

M82. 17M LIGHT YEARS.





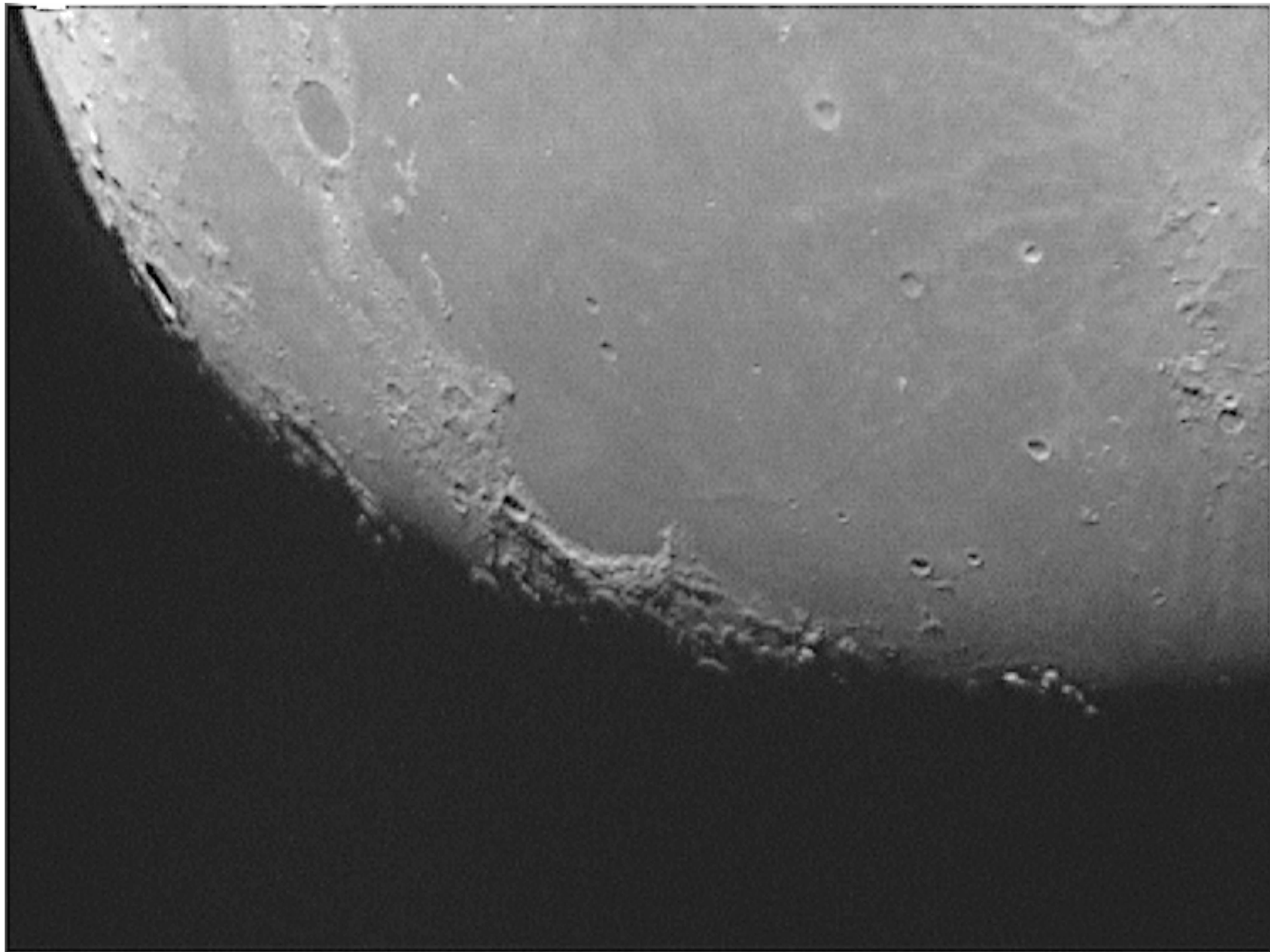


**PLATO**  
**100 km**

PIAZZI SMYTH 13 km

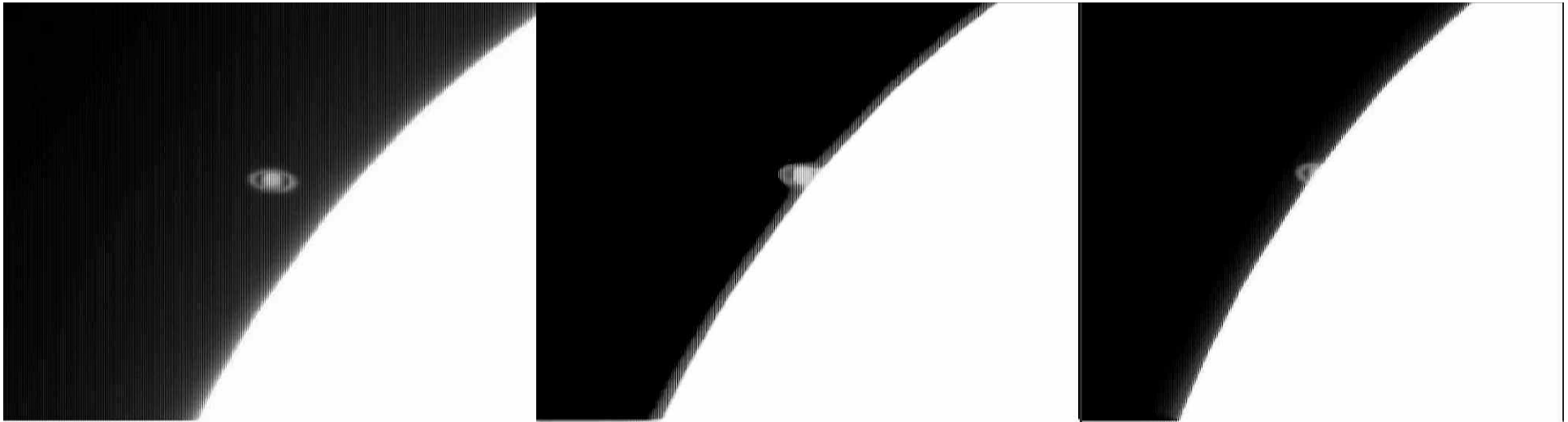
Archimedes





**SATURN.** – An amateur image with this detail was not possible 8 years ago.





**Sequence of images taken Nov 2001.**

Saturn is occulted by the Moon  
The images above show the  
planets entry.

The last image on the left  
shows the planet Saturn as it  
just exits the Moons limb.

The images were hard to get.  
The exposure required was like  
trying to see a glow worm next  
to a searchlight.....



# Jupiter 3 event.

Great Red Spot.

Shadow of Moon.

Transit of Moon over Jovian disk.



CD of Event.



Tues 5/8/03, LX200, 10" f30, Planetcam.  
Peter Bruce, Croydon, UK.



Mars. 12/Aug 2003. Image. Peter Bruce.



IMAGE BY PETER BRUCE.



Peter Bruce.  
18 Aug 23:47 pm, LX200 10" f30, Special Barlow.  
Mars Image Magnitude 2.77  
Phase 0.9926  
Dra A resec 24,7600



Mars. 19th August 2003.  
LX200, 10" f30



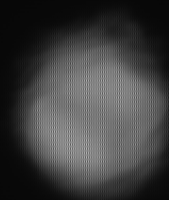
MARS.

Best image so far, LX200, 10" w/f30.  
Processed by single block.  
19th August 2003.  
Phase 0.9906. Magnitude 2.7500. Dra A resec 24,5300.  
South at top east at right.

# MARS.

SEQUENCE OF IMAGES FROM 5<sup>TH</sup> TO  
19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2003.

OPPOSITION 27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2003.



# **M A R S.**

**THE 3 COLOUR IMAGES  
WERE TAKEN FROM 20<sup>TH</sup>  
TO THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2003.**

**THE IMAGE ABOVE  
CLEARLY SHOWS HOW  
HARD THIS OBJECT IS TO  
FOCUS AND CAPTURE.**



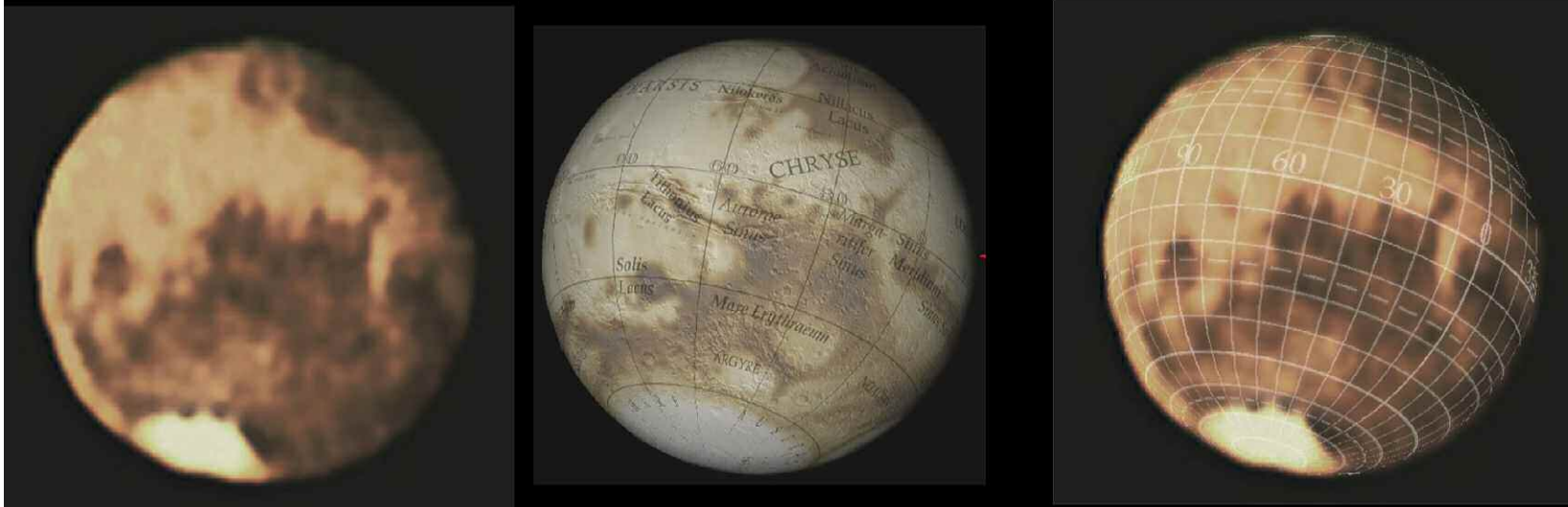
# MARS – THE BEST IMAGE



This image is now in the final best 15 sent into the Sky at Night. I am pleased with that alone. Final results on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2004.....

**Peter Bruce. West Croydon. Surrey.**

# **MARS – South at bottom. Original image left compared to fly by space craft image of same scale.**

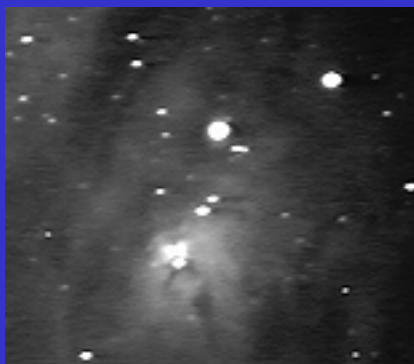


**The difference in some features is due to the micro-fine Martian dust which is blown by the wind and covers / or exposes surface features. This changes the Martian features reflectivity.**

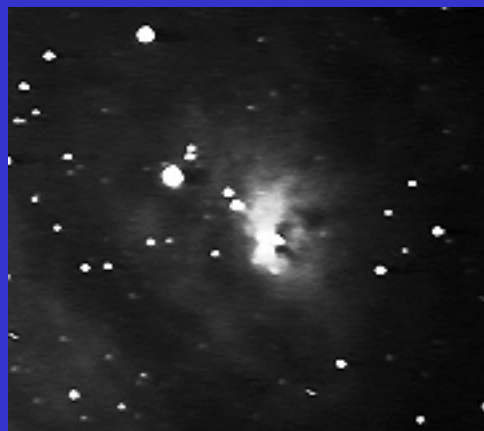
**Since the NASSA fly-by space craft took the centre image things have changed.**

**The South polar ice cap is shrinking fast as the Martian summer takes hold and at this opposition of Mars no major dust storms took place. The 2001 opposition had a dust storm that obscured all of the planets surface feature – nothing at all could be seen over the whole planet.....**

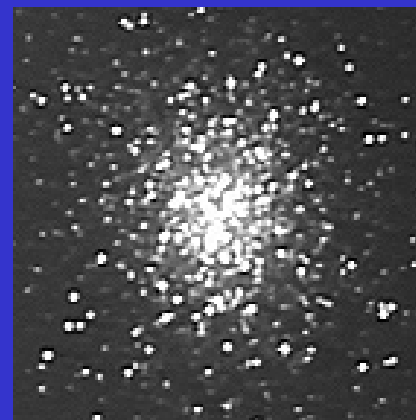
**DEEP SPACE IMAGES** – VERY SPECIAL VIDEO CAMERA – STACKS IMAGES.



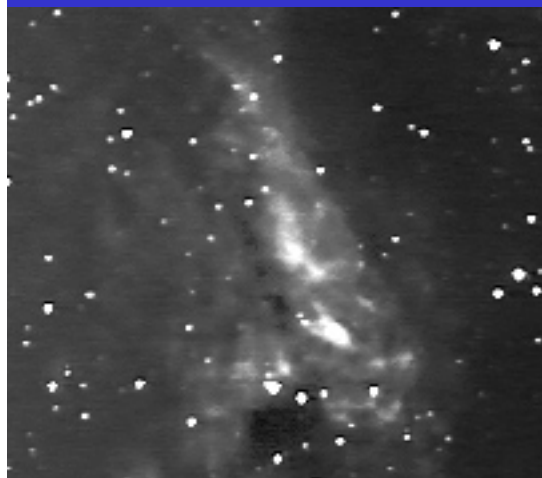
LAGOON NEBULA



TRIFFID NEBULA



HERCULES CLUSTER



SWAN NEBULA



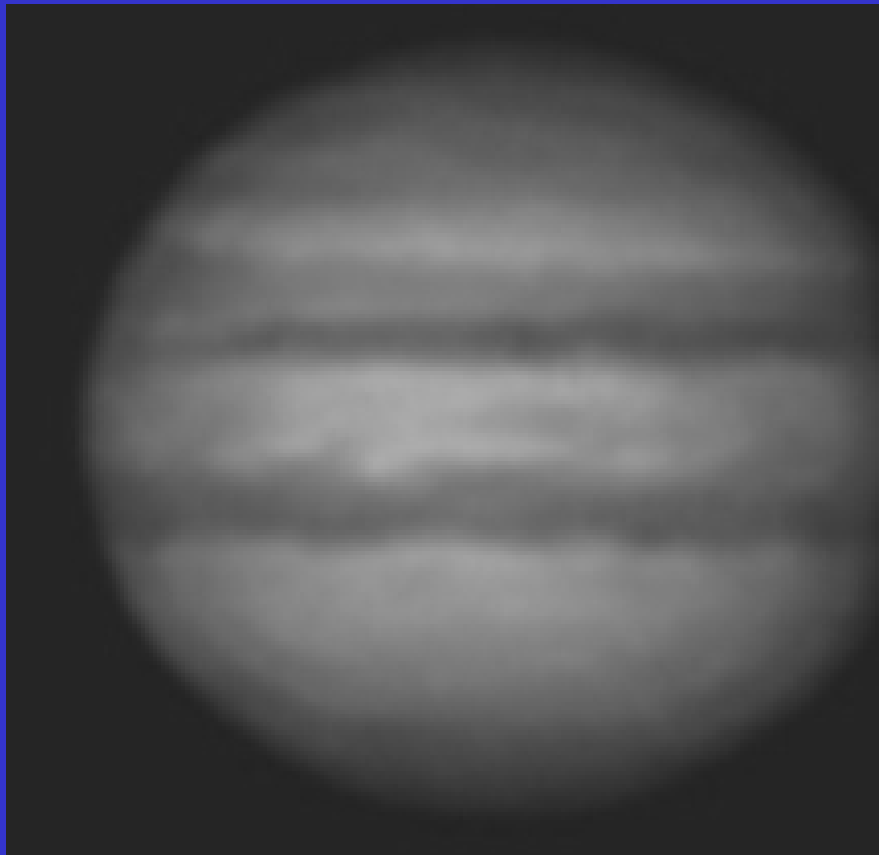
RING NEBULA.



**VIDEO**



PLANETS — SPECIAL VIDEO CAMERA. — STACKED FRAMES.



JUPITER



SATURN 26/2/03  
STELLACAM EX  
PETER BRUCE.

VIDEO

OK

So how easy is it to  
set up and use.