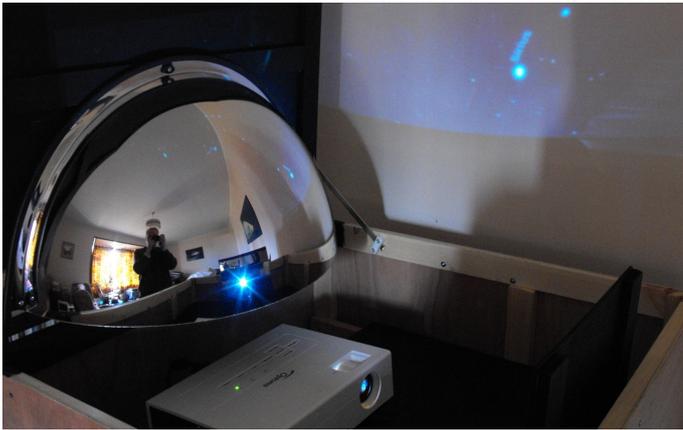




# Galloway Forest Astronomical Society

**Newsletter #29, November 2018**

## Planetarium: progress report

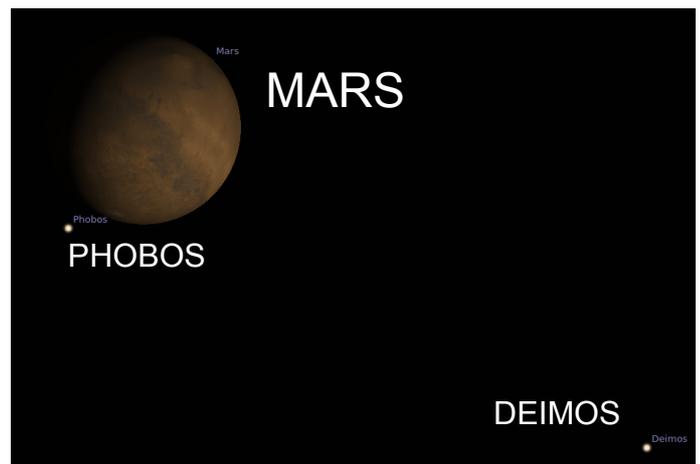


We have been struggling to find a suitable Full-HD projector to go with our new planetarium dome projection system, shown here being tested with our old projector. The way it works is that the image or video we want to display is reflected onto a plane mirror then focussed on the hemispherical mirror, finally producing the image on the planetarium screen.

We have finally managed to identify and order a projector that we are sure will satisfy our needs and we should be carrying out the first tests of the upgraded system this week. Look out for a report on our first school visit in the next Newsletter.

### Members and Friends meeting

Weather permitting we will meet at **Newton Stewart Tennis Club, York Road, Newton Stewart**, on either **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> or Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** starting from **6:30 pm**, for an observation session. We'll email members if we need to cancel on Saturday. Mars is available in the southern sky with its moons Phobos and Deimos as shown in this screenshot from Stellarium. Neptune is close to Mars but will be a challenge to locate and view at magnitude around 8. Moonrise is not until 1:00 am so observing conditions should be good. The Andromeda galaxy is almost overhead in the south-east. Comet 38P/Stephan-Oterma should be near its brightest and it may be available during the evening.



### GFAS Membership

Subs for 2018/19 are now due, please pay soon. Members can join in our members' meetings for free and can borrow GFAS equipment for their own use.

Subs rates remain at: Adults £15.00, Family £25.00, Juniors FREE!

### Final Co-Op grant payout

Many thanks to the Co-Op Community Fund for supporting our Telescope Rescue / Planetarium Project. Total raised for us was £4,300 - a fantastic result. The final payment will be made on 24<sup>th</sup> November in a presentation session at the Newton Stewart Co-Op in Victoria Street.

We'll email members the final details of the event as soon as we get them in case you'd like to join in the fun. Meanwhile, thanks to all the Co-Op shoppers for their generous support.



## Galloway Forest Astronomical Society

Registered Scottish Charity SC035033.

Chairman: Antony Berretti;

Secretary: Doug Snell, 5 Elm Grove, Newton Stewart, DG8 6JT

W: [www.gf-astro.org](http://www.gf-astro.org)

E: [members@gf-astro.org](mailto:members@gf-astro.org)

Facebook: [@GallowayForestAstronomicalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/GallowayForestAstronomicalSociety)

