

# M79, Globular Cluster, Lepus

Continuing a series of photograph's of the Messier Objects



<https://www.spacetelescope.org/images/potw1751a/> ESA/Hubble

Messier 79 (also known as M79 or NGC 1904) is a globular cluster in the southern constellation Lepus. It was discovered by Pierre Méchain in 1780 and is about 42,000 light-years away from Earth and 60,000 light years from the Centre.

## Rugby & District Astronomical Society

[www.rugbyastro.org.uk](http://www.rugbyastro.org.uk)

Honorary President :	-	Chair:	Chris Longthorn
Treasurer:	Dennis Osborne	Secretary:	Richard Heath
Speakers Secretary:	Roland Clarke	Membership Secretary:	Dave Hopkinson
Webmaster :	David Riley	Sky Notes:	Chris Longthorn

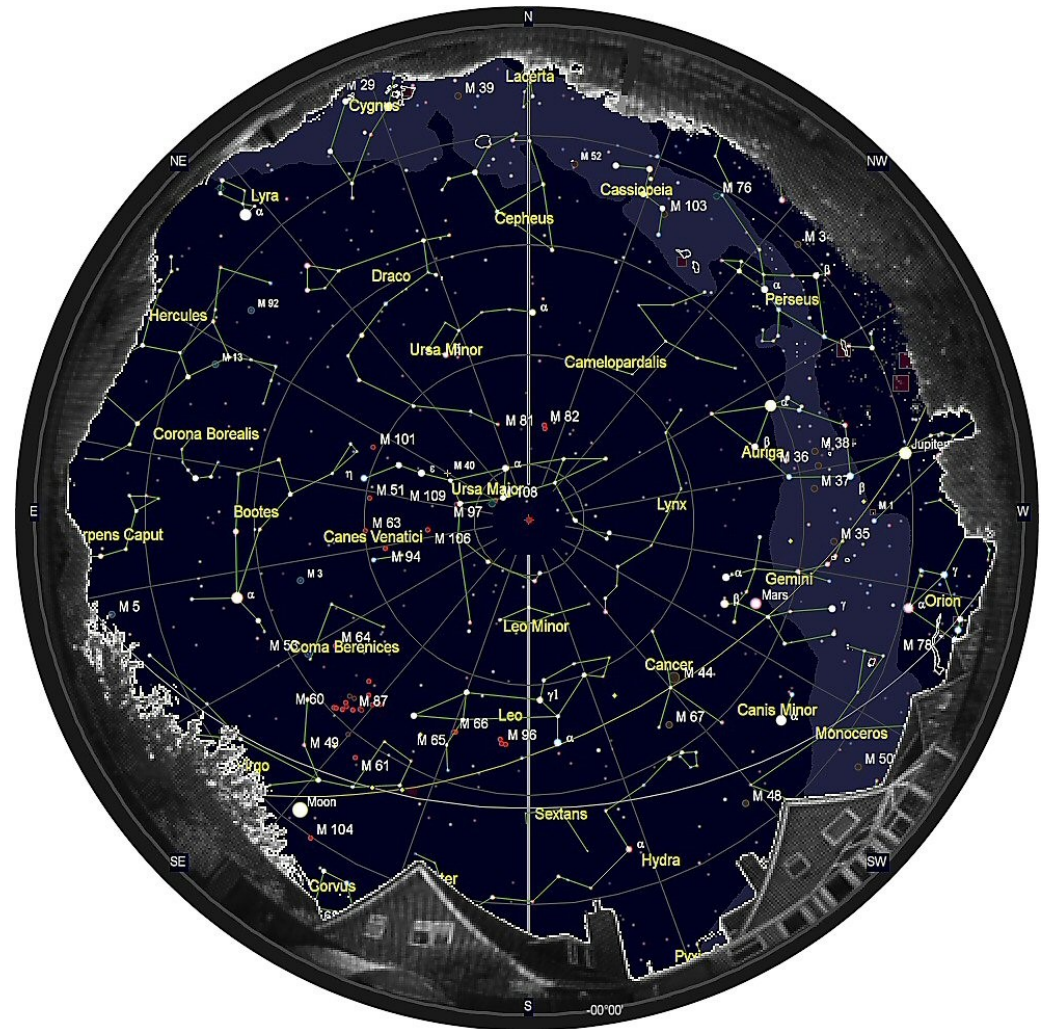
E-Mail: [rugby-astro@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rugby-astro@hotmail.co.uk)

©R&DAS 2025

# Rugby & District Astronomical Society

## Monthly Sky Notes

### No. 183, March 2025, by Chris Longthorn



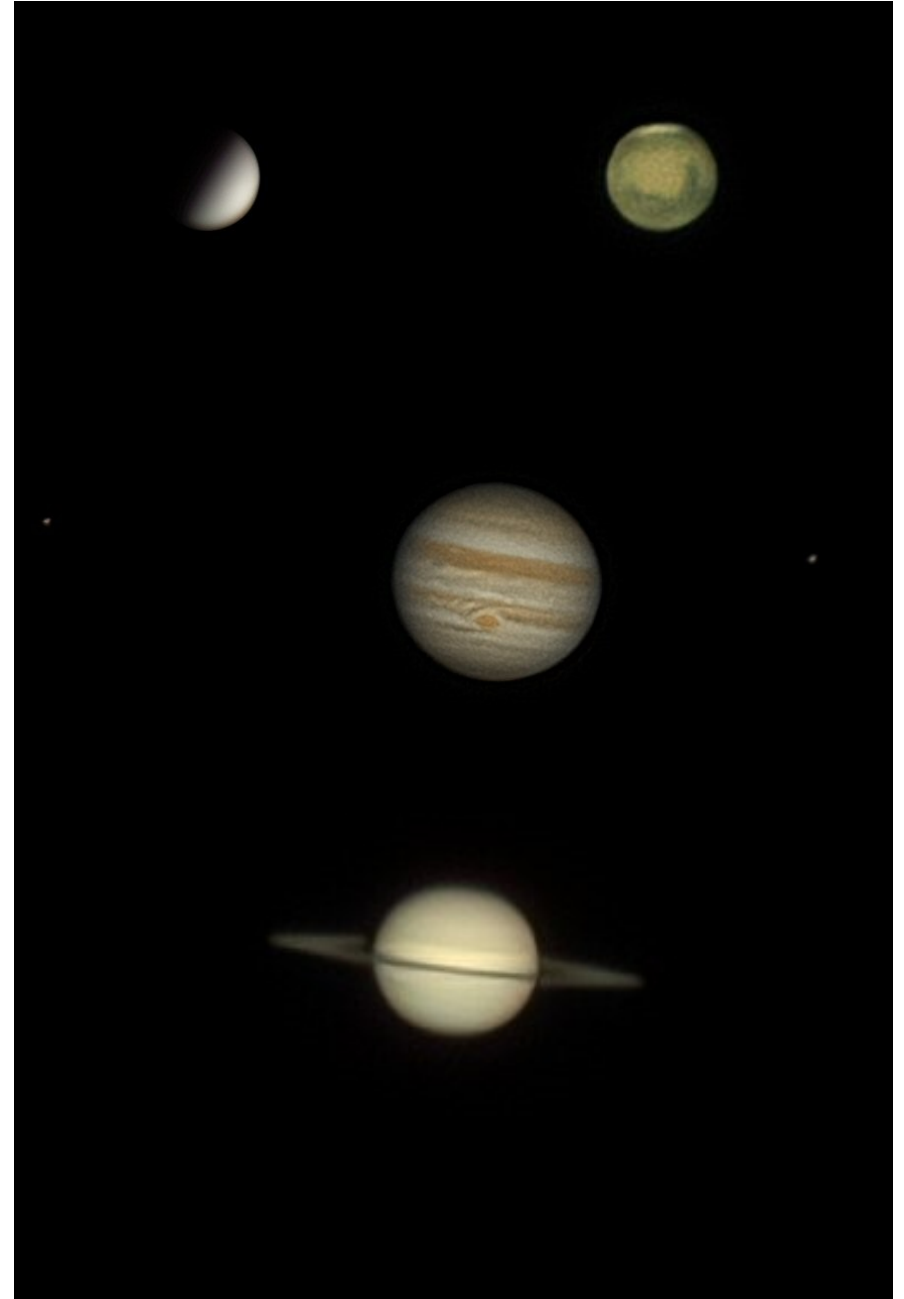
The night sky at 23:00 U.T.C., March 15th, 2025

## Sky Events for March 2025

- 01 04:03 Mercury 0.4°N of Moon: Occn.
- 02 19:30 Observing At Barby
- 05 12:32 Pleiades 0.6°S of Moon
- 06 16:32 FIRST QUARTER MOON
- 08 06:00 Mercury at Greatest Elong: 18.2°E
- 09 00:27 Mars 1.7°S of Moon
- 12 10:00 Saturn in Conjunction with Sun
- 14 06:55 FULL MOON
- 14 06:59 Total Lunar Eclipse; mag=1.178
- 15 19:42 ISS, -3.1, 37°, SSE
- 16 20:29 ISS, -3.2, 51°, SW
- 17 19:40 ISS, -3.7, 58°, SSE
- 18 18:51 ISS, -3.3, 45°, SSE
- 18 20:27 ISS, -3.8, 74°, SW
- 19 19:38 ISS, -3.8, 76°, S
- 19 22:00 Neptune in Conjunction with Sun
- 20 09:02 Vernal Equinox
- 20 20:25 ISS, -3.9, 75°, S
- 21 19:36 ISS, -3.8, 81°, S
- 22 11:30 LAST QUARTER MOON
- 22 20:23 ISS, -3.6, 56°, SSW
- 23 01:00 Venus at Inferior Conjunction
- 23 19:30 R&DAS Monthly Meeting
- 23 19:33 ISS, -3.7, 68°, SSW
- 24 20:00 Mercury at Inferior Conjunction
- 24 20:20 ISS, -2.8, 35°, SSW
- 25 19:31 ISS, -3.1, 47°, SSW
- 28 19:30 Observing At Barby
- 29 10:47 Partial Solar Eclipse; mag=0.938
- 29 10:58 NEW MOON
- 29 19:30 Observing At Barby

Sky Events Calendar by AstroPixels.com with edits by author.  
ISS Data courtesy of Heavens-Above ([www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com))

## February Image of the Month



The Visible Planets (Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn) 2024/2025, by The Author



## Object of the Month for March



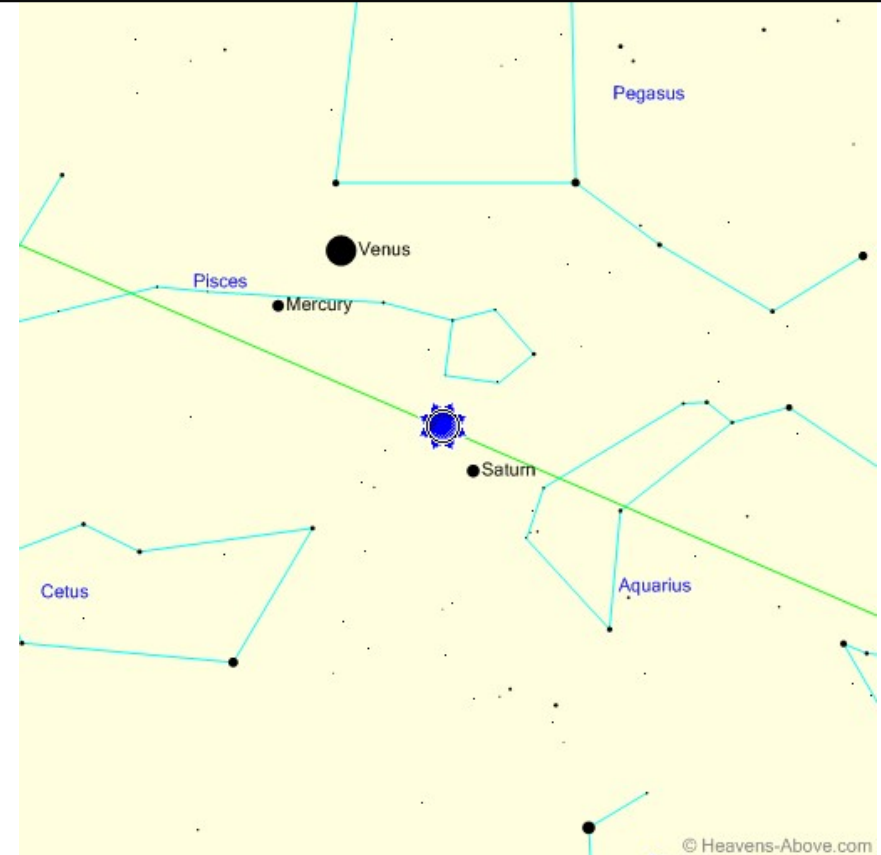
© Telescope Live Ltd - All rights reserved

Messier 46 or M46, also known as NGC 2437, is an open cluster of stars in the slightly southern constellation of Puppis. It was discovered by Charles Messier in 1771. Dreyer described it as "very bright, very rich, very large." It is about 5,000 light-years away. There are an estimated 500 stars in the cluster with a combined mass of 453 solar masses and it is thought to be a mid-range estimate of 251.2 million years old..

Messier 47 (M47 or NGC 2422) and also known as NGC 2478 is an open cluster in the mildly southern constellation of Puppis. It was discovered by Giovanni Batista Hodierna before 1654 and in his then keynote work re-discovered by Charles Messier on 1771. It was also independently discovered by Caroline Herschel.

Open Clusters M46 (bottom) and M47 (top).

## The Sun, mid-March



© Heavens-Above.com

Event	Time	Altitude	Azimuth
Minimum altitude:	00:14	-39.8°	360°
Astronomical twilight begins:	04:25	-18.0°	69°
Nautical twilight begins:	05:06	-12.0°	78°
Civil twilight begins:	05:45	-6.0°	86°
Sunrise:	06:19	-0.8°	92°
Maximum altitude:	12:14	35.7°	180°
Sunset:	18:10	-0.8°	268°
Civil twilight ends:	18:44	-6.0°	275°
Nautical twilight ends:	19:24	-12.0°	283°
Astronomical twilight ends:	20:05	-18.0°	292°

All data courtesy of Heavens-Above ([www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com))

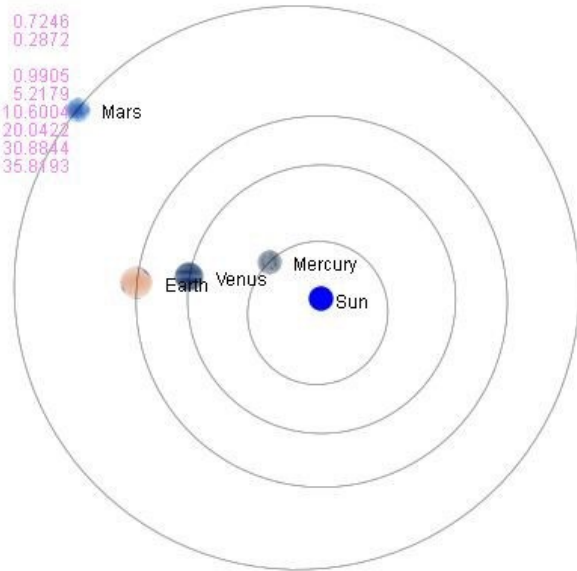
# The Planets, mid March, 2025

## Inner Solar System

2025-03-15 (UTC)

23h00m

	Sun	Earth
Mercury	0.3431	0.7246
Venus	0.7195	0.2872
Earth	0.9947	
Mars	1.6610	0.9905
Jupiter	5.1074	5.2179
Saturn	9.6080	10.6004
Uranus	19.5407	20.0422
Neptune	29.8923	30.8844
Pluto	35.2217	35.8193

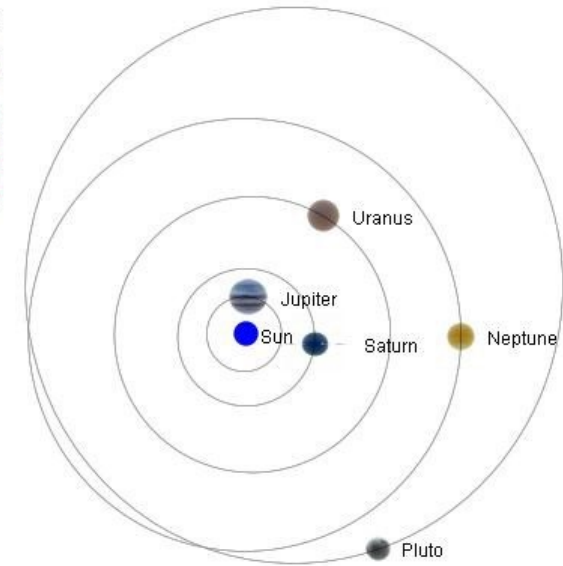


## Outer Solar System

2025-03-15 (UTC)

23h00m

	Sun	Earth
Mercury	0.3431	0.7246
Venus	0.7195	0.2872
Earth	0.9947	
Mars	1.6610	0.9905
Jupiter	5.1074	5.2179
Saturn	9.6080	10.6004
Uranus	19.5407	20.0422
Neptune	29.8923	30.8844
Pluto	35.2217	35.8193



	Mercury	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
Right ascension	0h 27m 52.2s	0h 8m 20.4s	7h 24m 36.6s	4h 48m 46.3s	23h 34m 46.9s	3h 25m 51.2s	23h 58m 51.4s
Declination	6° 42' 10"	10° 13' 6"	25° 6' 53"	22° 4' 34"	-4° 48' 52"	18° 29' 46"	-1° 29' 59"
Range (AU)	0.705	0.285	0.999	5.234	10.599	20.057	30.886
Elongation from Sun	13.2°	12.9°	112.8°	77.3°	4.4°	57.5°	3.1°
Brightness	2	-4.1	0.1	-2.1	1.2	5.8	8
Equatorial Diameter	9.55"	58.48"	9.37"	37.67"	15.68"	3.51"	2.21"
Phase Angle	139.2°	162.0°	33.5°	11.0°	0.5°	2.5°	0.1°
Constellation	Pisces	Pisces	Gemini	Taurus	Aquarius	Taurus	Pisces
Meridian transit	12:56	12:37	19:51	17:16	12:02	15:53	12:27
Rises	06:22	05:44	11:22	09:10	06:28	08:11	06:35
Sets	19:30	19:29	04:23	01:25	17:36	23:35	18:18
Altitude	-26.2°	-24.2°	45.3°	19.5°	-40.8°	4.7°	-36.2°
Azimuth	328.2°	334.4°	251.2°	281.2°	339.8°	294.5°	333.4°