

Comet Garradd 2011 August 22, 2300 – report.

I went out after tucking the kids into bed. It must have been around 22:30hrs when I managed to get the comet locations from the net. I grabbed my sky atlas and went onto the upper patio.

I used my 8x40 and 10x50 Zeiss bins to locate the comet, it was very hard indeed from my light polluted skies in Burnham. The comet must be around 8 -9 magnitude. It was bordering the region between Sagitta and Delphinus.

Once I suspected the comet, I pointed my 20x77 Miyauchi Night Owls and confirmed the position of the comet. I took it one step further and got the big bins out my trusted TS 25x100 and looked at the comet. It is quite large (about half the size of M27) and a bright concentration in the middle. I did not see any tail, not bright enough to see visually I guess in small instruments.

The map is from an Australian website. Their skies are upside down. Flip the image over to correct for our hemisphere once copied onto your pc.

<http://www.rasnz.org.nz/Comets/2011Garradd.htm>

Have fun hunting down the comet. It took me around 10 minutes. This comet calls for some comet watches over the coming weekend (weather permitting) I guess.

Regards
Percy

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