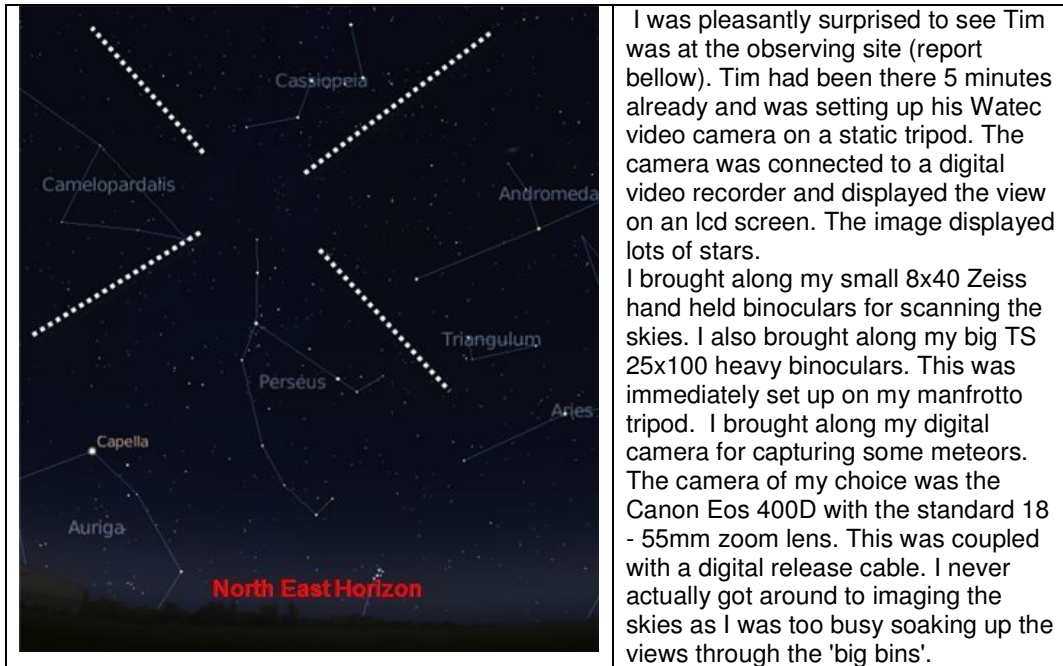


Perseids 2011 August 11th

From Percy

I arrived at around 22:30 hrs. I decided to go because the skies looked promising and clear. Although the weather prediction was not very hopeful, I was being positive. When I reached the observing site, the clouds had rolled in somewhat with a few breaks in the clouds.



Not long after, Steve arrived shortly followed by two more members from the club (I didn't catch their names sorry).

I managed some view of the Owl cluster and Double cluster in Cassiopeia/Perseus. I also had a lovely view of the multiple star system Alcor/Mizar in Ursa Major. Four stars were clearly on view with beautiful colour and tight stars. The goods views is a testament to the quality of the TS binoculars. These binoculars can be purchased from dealers for around £300, under several different badges. I shared the view of the moon with the others. Although it was extremely bright for the eyes, it was surely a 3D experience. I did manage one short and faint meteor to myself. Tim left as the clouds rolled in. Steve and the two club members and myself were left waiting for the clouds to break and it did briefly. I did bring my green laser pointer to try and identify some of the low clouds. This is a very useful tool for pointing out objects in the sky. But, make sure it is not pointed at any planes.

We managed a few man-made satellite and for the first time this year I viewed Jupiter and four moons. I just managed to glimpse a couple of belts of Jupiter.

Steve and I packed up around 01:00 hrs with a total cloud cover. All in all not the best of meteor watches but, we had a good time talking astronomy and Seti and 4 meteors.

Hopefully, it is clear tonight (Aug 12/13). I shall be driving up to Cookhamdean Common again. Feel free to join me. Don't forget your comfy observing chair to relax in.

Signing out for now...Percy

Perseid Report from Tim

After a hesitant start, I decided to go and arrived at 2230. The Moon was shining through a hole in the cloud. Percy arrive shortly afterwards, and this brought a clearing from 2245 to about 2315 during which I saw one bright Perseid close to the radiant at 2300 BST. I estimated magnitude -1 but it could have been brighter. I will show the video at a meeting.

At 2330 I departed. Another clearing then followed for Steve and Percy who stayed a bit longer at Cookhamdean Common, National Trust car park.
Good night..

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