

Dear All,

We are pleased to announce that the next Dark Sky evening at Jamaica Inn will take place on Saturday 17th February 2018, led by Caradon Observatory. It will be in three parts:

- A free stargazing session from 6.30pm
- A dinner event at 7pm – carvery and dessert for £16.50 per person
- Another free stargazing session from 8.30pm onwards

There's no need to book in advance for the free stargazing sessions (do wrap up warm) but please call Jamaica Inn on 01566 86250 to book the dinner.

The first free stargazing session will start at 6.30pm with an array of telescopes, including a 12 inch telescope on loan from First Light Optics in Exeter. Weather permitting, there will be the opportunity to see Orion the hunter, one of the best known constellations in the winter sky.

The dinner event starts at 7.00pm and will include an introduction to Bodmin Moor's International Dark Sky Landscape designation and a talk on star formation in Orion with examples of stellar nurseries, nebulae and stars that will one day go supernova. There will also be a chance to see the Magic Planet, an interactive globe that depicts the topography of planets, and a question and answer session.

Outside observing will continue at 8.30pm with further opportunities to see Orion, which includes two of the brightest stars in the night sky, Rigel and Betelgeuse. Let's hope for a clear sky!

The evening is one of a series showcasing the exceptional quality of the night sky over Bodmin Moor, which was designated as an International Dark Sky Landscape last year after a successful bid by Cornwall Council and Caradon Observatory. More information about the designation is available at www.cornwall.gov.uk/darksky.

Kind regards,

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