

Sky Notes : January 2012

Happy New Year & wishing you clear skies for 2012

- **Moon** : First Quarter – 1st Full Moon – 9th Last (third) Quarter – 16th New Moon – 23rd First Quarter – 31st
- **Planets**
 - **Mercury** : Achieving a greater altitude in the morning to the southeast, but hard to record as the sky lightens.
 - **Venus** : Now becoming a brilliant sentinel in the evening sky, to the west after sunset.
 - **Mars** : Steadily improving, best observed after midnight.
 - **Jupiter** : Remains very prominent in the evening towards the east.
 - **Saturn** : Now visible before sunrise, low in the east.
- **Comets** : Comet C/2009 P1 (Garradd) should still be visible in the early evening, low to the west, in Hercules.
- **Meteors** :
 - **Quadrantids** : Quite a favourable shower, peaking on 4th, with blue & yellow meteor trails.