

Observations have been received from Clive Brook, Marie Cook, Nigel Longshaw and Gerald North . Observing time for March has been revised upwards to 747 min (RB, CB, AC, MC, FF, NL) although some of these observations were made in parallel. For April 254 min worth of observations were made (CB, MC) and for May (CB, MC, NL, GN) 214 min of observations.

We have received some extra observations for use in the investigation of whether a 1954 Aug 11 Herodotus observation by Walter Haas was a real TLP or simply a trick of illumination/seeing. In addition to earlier mentioned observations from 2002 Mar 25 when illumination (only) was set to re-occur, for the 1954 TLP, at 20:47UT, Nigel Longshaw initially attempted observations at 20:27-21:05 but was hindered by poor weather. He reported that conditions cleared and he was able to continue observing 22:50-23:40UTC (seeing III), but although Herodotus was half shadow filled, its shadow was as dark as that of Aristarchus. On May 23 at 21:02 another repeat illumination (only) occurred and Nigel took a second look 21:02-21:45UTC. His seeing was III this time, but transparency was poor, nevertheless he still estimated the darkness of the shadow of Herodotus to be the same as that of Aristarchus. Peter Foley was also observing (20:05-21:10) and noticed that the shadow in Herodotus was a bluish grey shade from 9-12 o'clock (presumably S at 12 o'clock?) in position. However Peter regards this appearance as normal, resulting from seeing induced flaring of the bright wall and also possibly as the result of Aristarchus ray material reaching into the floor of Herodotus. The only other Herodotus observation of interest was made by Marie Cook on 2002 May 24th at 23:40UTC when she noted a dark patch on the W floor of Herodotus - however checking back though earlier observations she noticed a similar patch.

It seems that poor weather may have hindered attempts to monitor the brightness of lunar features close to Full Moon. However a few days latter, on 2002 May 30 UTC 02:30-02:44 Clive Brook commented that he though Aristarchus was perhaps dimmer than normal.

August is not a good month for observing the Moon due to its low altitude above the horizon, smoke from forest fires, stubble burning in fields, and quite likely you have probably gone off on holiday. However below are some observing suggestions for mostly repeat illumination events of former TLP, although I've included a couple of repeat illumination & libration events in bold (albeit at very low altitudes), and observing times for meteor strikes (also in bold). If you are clouded out on a particular day, but find you can see the Moon on another day, then providing its at least ~20 deg clear of the horizon, please observe any features of your choice.

2002 Aug 12 UTC 20:20-21:20	Earthshine - look for Perseid impact flashes - Moon very low
2002 Aug 13 UTC 20:20-21:30	Earthshine - look for Perseid impact flashes - Moon very low
2002 Aug 21 UTC 20:00-21:00	Torricelli B (1985 Sep 27 M.Mobberly) - Moon very low
2002 Aug 23 UTC 00:00-01:00	Plato (1980 Sep 24 G.Blair)
2002 Aug 23 UTC ~00:00	Torricelli B (1985 Sep 28 P.Foley)
2002 Aug 24 UTC ~00:00	Aristarchus (1978 Nov 15 P.Foley)
2002 Aug 24 UTC 00:00-03:00	Plato & Pico (1980 Sep 25 G.Blair)
2002 Aug 24 UTC ~21:00	Plato (1980 Sep 25 Grant Blair) - Moon very low
2002 Aug 28 UTC ~00:00	Aristarchus (1978 Nov 19 J.Pedler)
2002 Aug 28 UTC 01:00-05:00	Aristarchus (1978 Nov 20 P.Foley)

Please post all letters/TLP reports to: *Mr & Mrs Cook, 6 Lakeland Drive, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 8LD*. If you see possible TLP, my contact times (in local UK time) are as follows: WEEK DAYS any time up till 2:15AM on: (USA) [202 633 9748](tel:2026339748), WEEK DAYS after 3AM or WEEKENDS (any time) on: (USA) [703 751 3365](tel:7037513365). Tony Cook, PO Box 37012, Center for Earth and Planetary Studies, National Air and Space Museum, MRC-0315, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. USA. Email: tcook@nasm.si.edu