

# Observing with the Faulkes Telescopes

Dr. Paul Roche  
Dr. Sarah Roberts  
University of Glamorgan

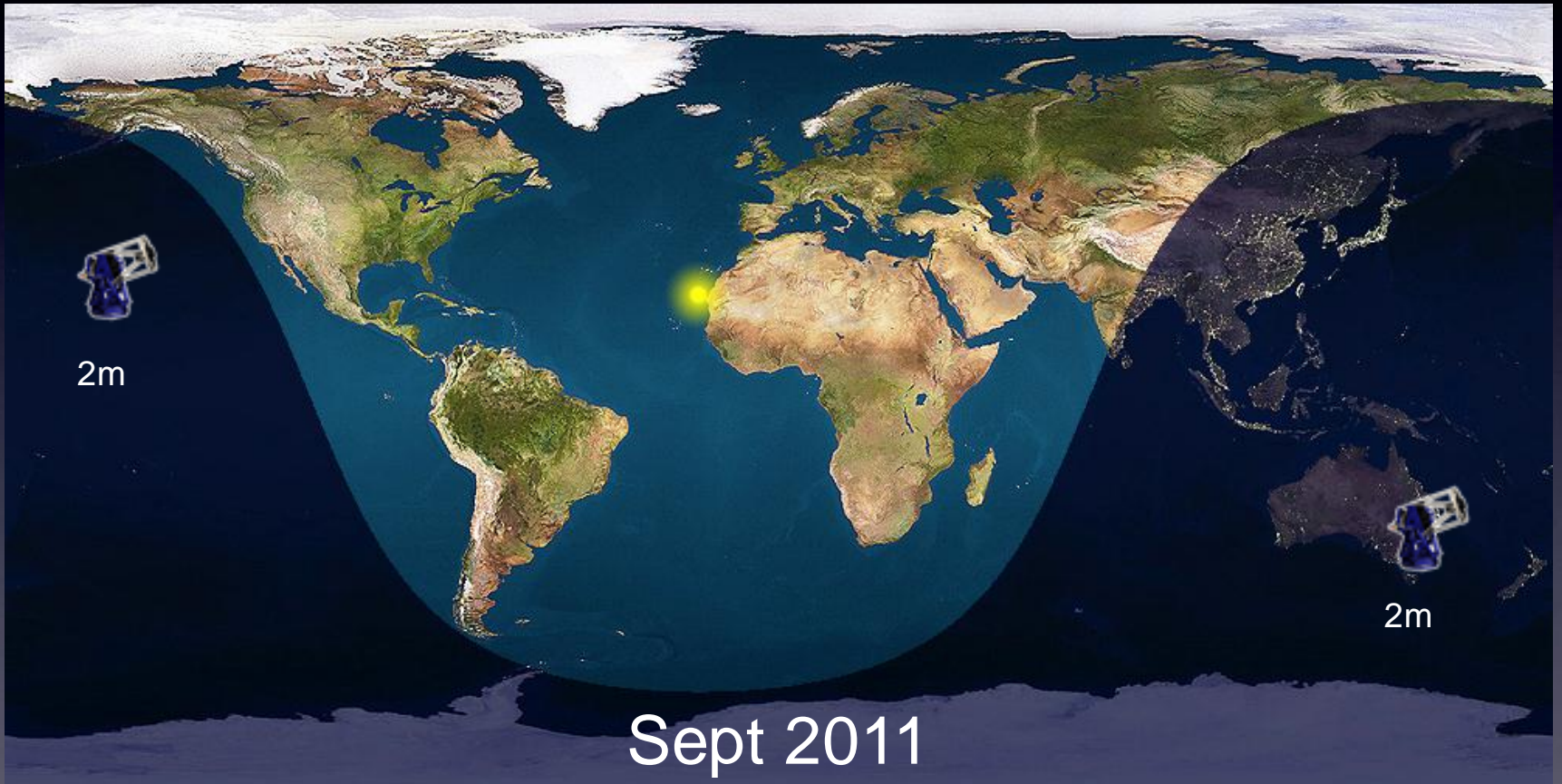
Faulkes Telescope Project



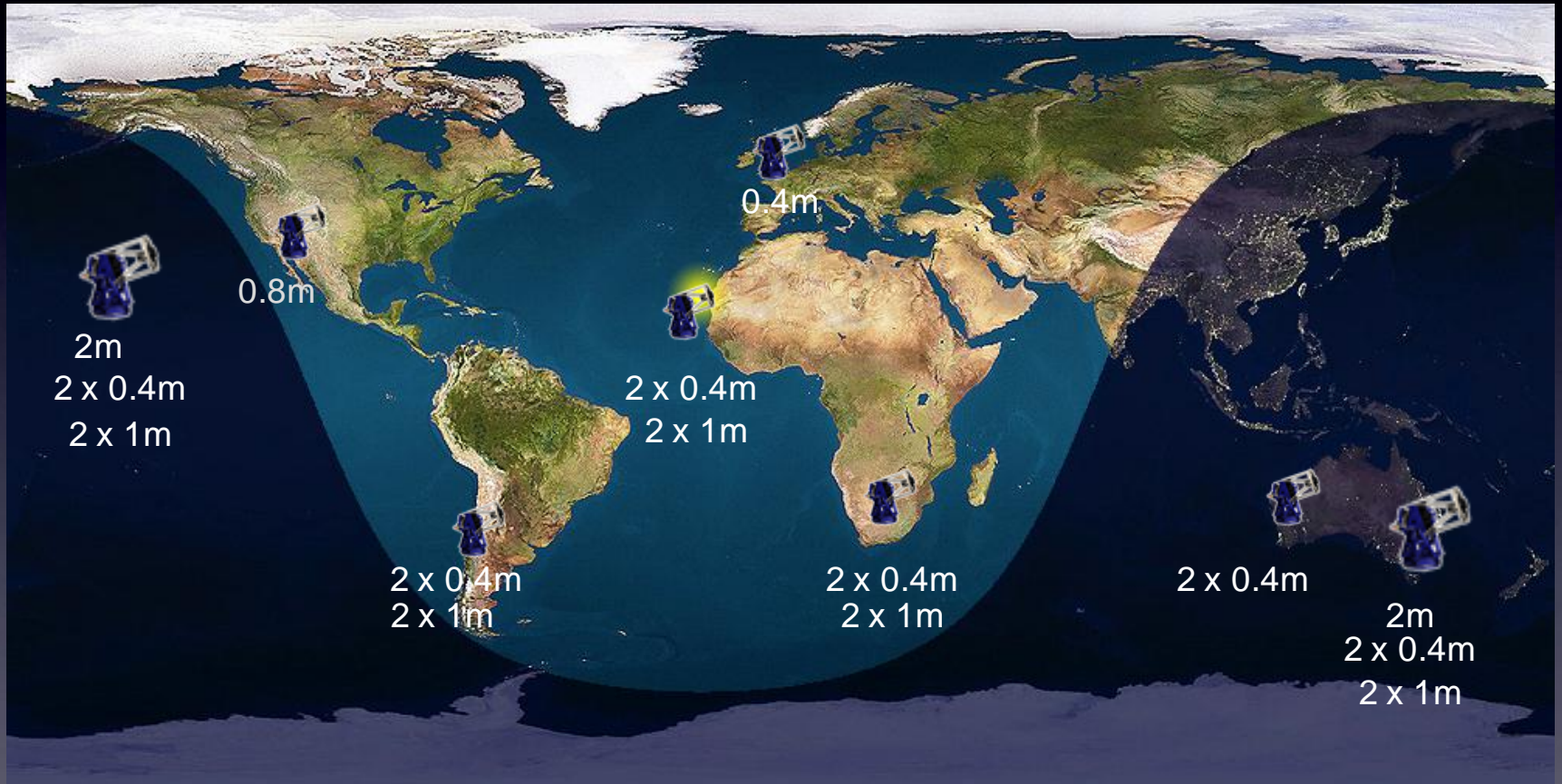
Prosiect Telesgôp Faulkes

- FT provides **1,500 hours** of live 2-metre telescope time each year
- Primarily UK but EU, Russia, USA, Israel etc.
- Support telescope use with online resources, astronomy masterclasses and teacher training (online and face-to-face)
- STEM focus, astronomy as the “hook”

# Current network



# Future network

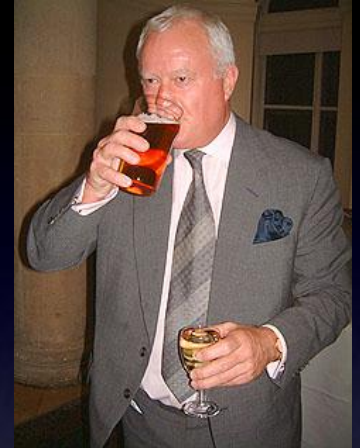


# Brief history

- 2000 - funded by Dill Faulkes, UK research council and government

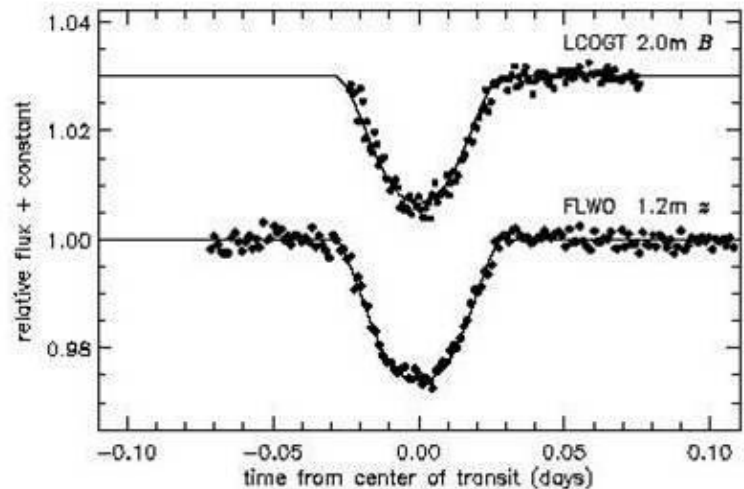
## Why?

- Inspirational projects in STEM
- Address failing interest in these areas
- 2005 – LCOGT (California) took over
- LCOGT run both telescopes, building networks of 0.4m and 1m telescopes
- FT – runs education programmes for UK and Europe

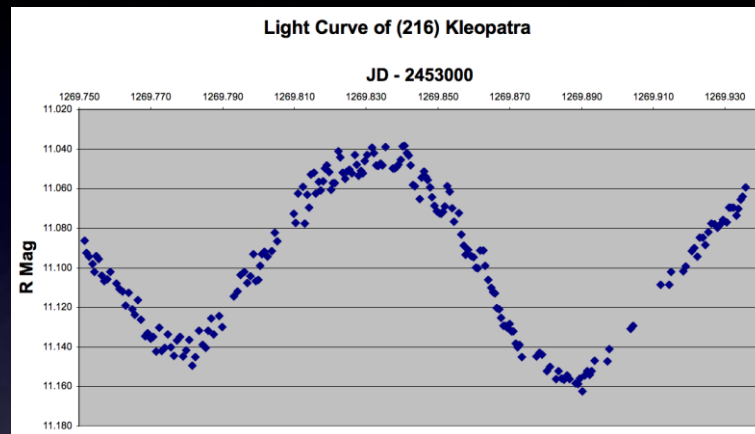
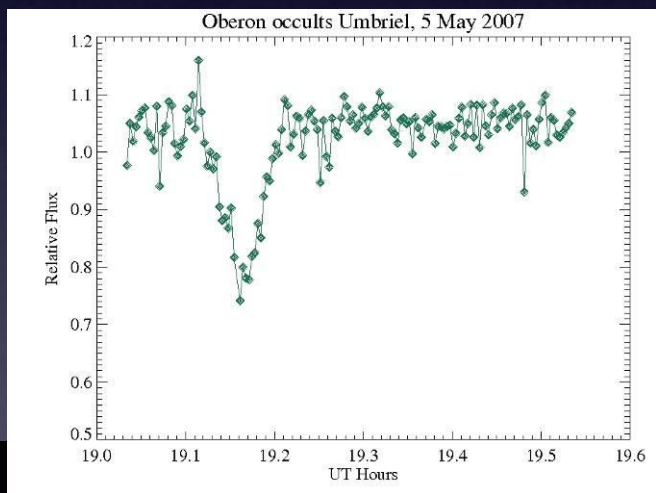




# Research-Based Learning



## ESP occultation



## Asteroid rotation



## Uranian occultations

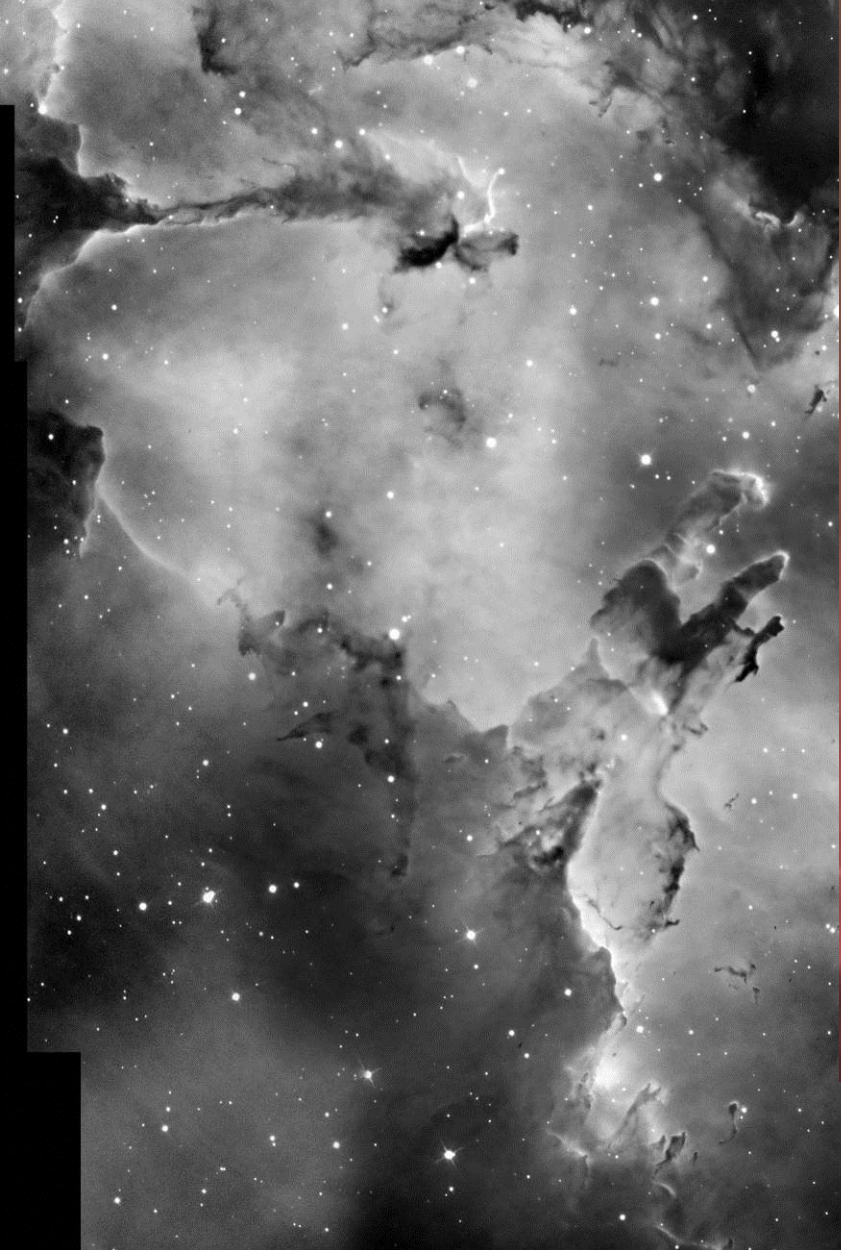
# Activities & Research Projects

- Classroom activities
  - Suggested activities – Moodle VLE
  - Schools run these or their own related projects, with little/no input from us
- Research
  - Work with pro/am astronomers
  - Targets publicised through FT
  - Students act as data-gatherers
  - Astronomers analyse data and publish results

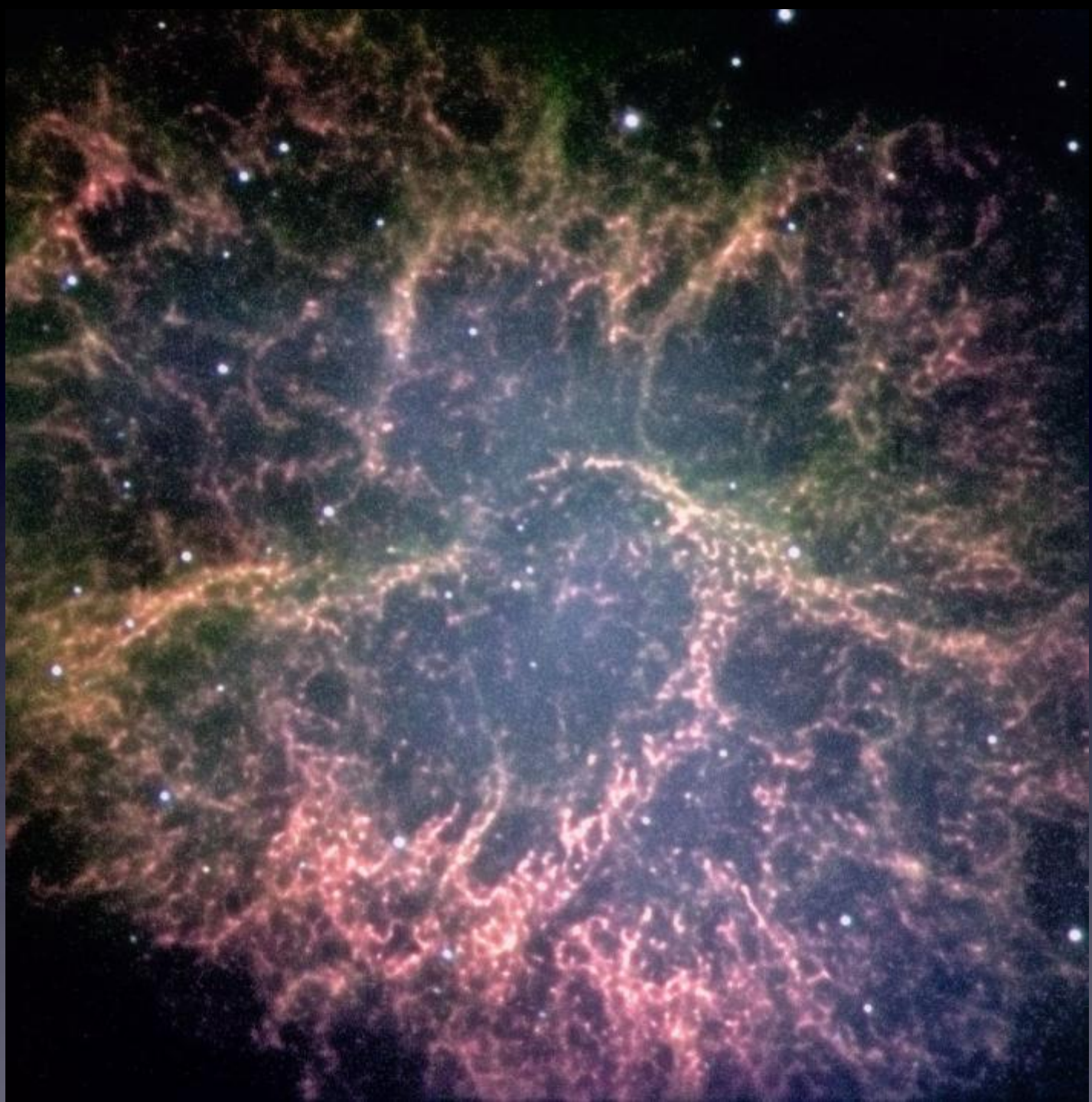


- Research collaborations with professional and amateur astronomers (UK and international)
- Engage students and teachers with real scientific research projects
- Strong links with several research and science education projects (GTTP, GHOU, EUHOU, IASC etc.)
- Schools progress from “pretty pictures” to “real science”

e.g. 2011 summer student – discovered 29 new asteroids, comet fragmentation event









<http://faulkes-telescope.com>

<http://down2earth.eu>