

PAA Meeting on June 5, 2026

The **Monthly Meeting** of the **Peterborough Astronomical Association's (PAA)** will take place **June 5th** as a **“Hybrid Meeting”**, both **online** and **in-person** at our traditional physical location of the **Rotary Education Centre/Guest Services Building, Riverview Park Zoo**. Nothing can stop the spread of information and knowledge by the members of the PAA, including our ability to accommodate those that can't physically be at the meeting. **To participate** via Zoom, just make sure that **in advance**, you opened a (free) Zoom account on whatever iPhone or tablet or device you wish to participate with and then **contact** https://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/zoom_register.php for the **password and link** to our evening's classes and presentations. If you wish to participate **in-person**, you are more than welcome to do so at the Zoo.

Our **“Novice Astronomy Classes”** are focused on the practical aspects of learning about astronomy. You will be introduced to astronomy related subjects at a very basic level, but in a logical sequence. In this month's Novice Astronomy Class, we continue with the **Solar System Series** with an exciting journey to the giant of our planetary family, **Jupiter**. Dominating the night sky with its brilliant glow, Jupiter has fascinated observers for centuries, from early astronomers tracking its motion to modern spacecraft uncovering its many secrets. More massive than all the other planets combined, Jupiter is a colossal world of swirling storms, powerful magnetic fields and intriguing moons. Its Great Red Spot, a storm larger than Earth itself, has raged for generations beneath bands of colourful clouds. Yet Jupiter is far more than just a beautiful object in the eyepiece. This gas giant may have played a crucial role in shaping the architecture of our solar system and protecting the inner planets from countless impacts. Intrigued? Join us on June 5th to explore the remarkable wonders of the solar system's largest planet.

During the interactive segment of the class, we will examine how **tenacious life** can be and its ability to exploit **extreme environments**.

Tune in to be enlightened! If you are even remotely interested, be on-line by **6:00 p.m.** to see what you can learn about exploring the Universe around you. The classes will run about 45 minutes each session, before our regular meeting resumes. There's no obligation to stay for the meeting that follows, but you are more than welcome to if you wish.

Shortly **after 7:00 p.m.** we will have a **presentation** by PAA Sponsor, **Ray Khan**, entitled **“Smart Telescopes: How a New Generation of Gear Is Reshaping Amateur Astronomy”**. Smart telescopes have quietly transformed our hobby. For decades, light-polluted city skies kept astrophotography out of reach for most amateurs. That's no longer true. These devices have lowered the cost barrier, made deep-sky imaging genuinely accessible, and pulled a new wave of people into astronomy — many of whom would never have picked up a traditional scope. Along the way, classic visual observing has taken a back seat to a new style of stargazing built around smart telescope technology. In this talk, we'll look at how we got here, what's been gained (and lost), and where the technology is heading next. Ray is the owner/operator of **Khan Scope Centre**, Canada's Premier astronomy retailer, on Dufferin St. in Toronto, and his 40 years of experience in the hobby will inform his presentation this evening. Whether joining us on-line or in-person you will not be disappointed and you will learn a lot! Why not check this out? You don't need to be a member to see this presentation or anything else listed. The price is right...it costs you nothing but your time.

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The **Sky This Month** will be posted on our club website for all to access.

There will also be the usual opportunities to have your questions answered, at no charge. All we ask is that you either come and see us in person at the Zoo or register in advance at https://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/zoom_register.php. This is an all-ages meeting, and the venue is totally barrier free at the Zoo or just relax at home and “live and learn” as they say. Also, you don’t need a telescope to participate, but a curious mind helps.