

**BBC**  
**Sky at Night**  
 MAGAZINE  
**CALENDAR 2008**

**W**elcome to the first *BBC Sky at Night* magazine calendar. Inside you'll find important astronomical events to remember in 2008, alongside some of the most exquisite images you've taken this year.

We're constantly astounded by the quality of the images you send into *Hotshots*, and in this calendar you'll find a selection of the best images we've received over the last year. They demonstrate the diversity of astro imaging, capturing everything from planets and nebulae to noctilucent clouds and aurorae.

As you move from month to month, you'll see that some images impress because of their composition, whereas others require technical prowess, like the cover image of

M31 by Graeme Coates. Graeme's image was chosen for the cover after winning our Hotshots of the Year 2007 contest, in which the monthly winners from each issue were put before a panel of judges. The judges were *The Sky at Night's* Patrick Moore and Chris Lintott, space artist David A Hardy, astro imagers Pete Lawrence and Damian Peach, and our news editor Sarah Reed.

Commenting on the winning image, Patrick said: "This image shows M31 better than any telescope could have done when I began presenting *The Sky at Night!*"

We hope you enjoy the calendar and that it inspires you to carry on taking stunning images in 2008.

**SEND IN YOUR IMAGES TO WIN A GREAT PRIZE EVERY MONTH**

You can post your pictures and videos to our usual address or alternatively email them to [hotshots@skyatnightmagazine.com](mailto:hotshots@skyatnightmagazine.com). Our regular monthly contest returns next issue and all the images we

receive are automatically entered into our annual competition. Digital images must be at least 8cm (3.2 inches) wide at 300dpi to print but we'll consider smaller images for the coverdisc.



**THIS YEAR'S WINNER**

**Graeme Coates, Oxfordshire**



"I'm flattered that my image has been chosen as Hotshots Photo of the Year, given the quality of the images published in

the magazine throughout 2007. I was pleased that I was able to get a good result with relatively short exposures on a small refractor, and from moderately light-polluted skies too."

**THIS YEAR'S RUNNER-UP**

**Imaging: Greg Parker, Hampshire**

**Processing: Noel Carboni, Florida, US**



"Since we began collaborating in 2006, Greg and I have produced

over 100 astro images together. We'd like to thank the judges for giving our image of the Rosette Nebula second place in your annual competition – it's certainly an honour to have the picture judged by Sir Patrick Moore and to be included in the 2008 calendar."



Our Hotshots 2007 winner bags a next-generation DMK 41AF02.AS monochrome CCD camera. Well done Graeme, and don't forget to send in any images you take!

**1st PRIZE**  
 IMAGING SOURCE CCD  
 WORTH OVER £600



This fantastic prize was kindly donated by **The Imaging Source**, which has been manufacturing imaging products for scientific, industrial and medical applications for more than 20 years. The Imaging Source has recently released a next-generation line of highly affordable, robust and stable CCD cameras designed to meet the needs of amateur astronomers.

