

Editor's Page

Planets in the Night Sky!

Welcome to the
Winter Edition of
Nature's Web!



Dear Reader,

Welcome everyone to the winter issue of Nature's Web. We are delighted to feature Terry Farnell in this newsletter. He is a landscape photographer on Sherkin Island and has taken many wonderful images of the island. We often meet Terry on the road, day and night, having been out for hours trying to get a shot! Check out his work at www.sherkinphoto.com! You can also check out nature news from around the world on page 11 and enjoy a giggle with the jokes on page 13. We would love to hear your views, comments and suggestions for future articles. Have a good read!

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Photo: © Robbie Murphy

For a few hours after sunset on 1st December last we were treated to a spectacular sight in the southern sky. Luckily our brother Robbie was on hand with his camera so we have a photograph of the event to share with you!

Venus (bottom of photo), the brightest planet in the night sky, had a close encounter with Jupiter (top right of photo), the second brightest planet. Right next to these planets was the young crescent moon, which had a wonderful glow from the light reflecting from Earth. All this produced a wonderful night-time display.

The next time that Venus, Jupiter and the moon will be as close and as visible as they were on that night, will be on 18th November 2052! But you only have to wait until December 31st 2008 to see Venus paired with the crescent moon again.

There are other sights to look out for in the night sky over the next few weeks. On New Year's night Saturn will be rising in the east after midnight (maybe you could have a quick look after the celebrations are over!). Mercury will also be visible above the western horizon after sunset on 20th December. It should be visible in the night sky until the middle of January.

SEAFOOD

RECIPE

Spanish Style Pancakes



Photo courtesy of BIM

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What you need:

- 250g of diced cooked seafood e.g. prawns, salmon and monkfish
- 1 clove garlic - crushed
- 1 onion - finely chopped
- parsley - finely chopped
- freshly milled black pepper

Batter:

- 150g flour
- 1 egg
- 150 ml milk
- Oil to fry

What to do:

- Make the batter in the usual way
- Add in the diced fish, garlic, onion and parsley. Season
- Heat the oil in a frying pan. Place a dessertspoon of mixture in the pan
- Cook until golden brown. Continue until all the mixture is used
- Drain each pancake well and serve immediately sprinkled with chopped parsley
- Drain each pancake well and serve immediately sprinkled with chopped parsley and grated cheese.

Serves 4