Galilean Nights Event ID: gn338

Number of telescopes: 1 Number of organisers: 5 Number of attendees: 850

Event photos: For pictures see: http://www.astron.nl/about-astron/press-public/news/over-800-people-

visited-astronomy-day-dwingeloo

Event Report:

During the Sterrendag Dwingeloo, over 800 people visited the Planetron Cinedome, CAMRAS(the foundations that manages the Dwingeloo Telescope), and ASTRON (Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy). This joint activity was organised in honour of the International Year of Astronomy 2009, Oktober Kennismaand and Oktober Kindermaand (the last two are Dutch annual activities in which organisations open their doors for the public in the month October).

During the day, visitors were able to attend many activities. At the Planetron people could attend a show, in which the stars, planets and constellations of the sky were described in the planetarium. In the exposition room of the Planetron, ASTRON gave information about the new LOFAR telescope, which is currently under construction in Exloo, Drenthe. Visitors could see the different types of antennas, and scientists from ASTRON and JIVE told fascinating stories about their work.

At CAMRAS, the foundation that manages the Dwingeloo telescope, visitors could join tours in the control room of the telescope. At times, the telescope was moved and during the day it was possible to listen to a pulsar, live. 301 people visited the telescope on the Sterrendag Dwingeloo.