

- Various* *Editors/secretariat* 3  
 Corrections to the previous Bulletin; member Strang van Hees deceased; Royal honours for member Vesters.
- Program for the Field Trip of 18 June 2011* *Spruijt / Secretariat* 4  
 This year we will visit the old city of Leiden (Leyden). In the Boerhaave Museum we will look at pocket sundials under the expert guidance of Zonnewijzerkring member Van der Beld and curator Hooijmaijers. As an alternative, visits to the Siebolt House or to the National Museum of Antiquities – which, as it happens, houses the oldest sundial in The Netherlands – are planned.  
 After lunch in the old city centre, we will take a canal boat trip. Later, we can enjoy the other exhibits in the Boerhaave.
- Sun images* *J.P.C. Hoogenraad* 7  
 Many will be familiar with the principle of the camera obscura, but few will realize how often one can observe it in operation. An example is sunlight through foliage. The spots of light on the ground, a rock, a car, hardly ever have the shape of the holes that helped form them; instead, they are projections of the light source that created them – they are ellipses, sometimes circles.  
 The author explains the effect, and includes images of two examples.
- The crescent moon* *J.P.C. Hoogenraad* 8  
 The phases of the moon, and especially whether the line connecting the horns of the crescent is really at right angles to the line connecting the moon and the sun, have from time to time been the subject of heated debate.  
 The author explains why things look the way they do, giving examples from temperate zones and tropics.  
 In a sidebar he proves that the projection of a circle is an ellipse.
- Chronicles of De Zonnewijzerkring* *Secretariat* 11  
 A summary of the Society's activities. There are now 107 full members.
- The clock of Sant Pol de Mar* *Hoogenraad / editors* 11  
 Two sundials embellish the office of the lottery, but are they any good, gnomonically speaking? For one thing, they have no gnomons. What is also suspicious is that the dials are exactly alike, even though they face directions 90 degrees apart. It is said that the original clock tower was destroyed by French troops under Philip V, but that may not be enough of an excuse.  
 Town council and tourist office of Sant Pol de Mar are convinced that it really means that visitors are welcome all hours of the day.
- The sundial of Jacob de Succa* *W. Leenders* 12  
 This main paper is on the oldest known full-fledged sundial in Flanders. Jacobus de Succa made the horizontal table dial in 1601 and dedicated it to the then sovereigns of the Southern Low Countries, Albrecht and Isabella. The instrument is a combination of a pole style dial for equal hours, and a nodus dial for equal hours, antique hours and Italian hours. In addition, the node dial reads the date and the beginning of the seasons as well as the length of the day. Moreover, with the help of an index, azimuth and altitude of the sun may be read.  
 On a wooden support rests a decorated copper plate on which lies the circular sundial face, also in copper. The coats of arms (p.12) are for Austria, Spain, the southern Netherlands and Burgundy.

The line pattern is quite accurate with regard to the pole style dial; slightly less so for the other functions.

After a description of the rulers Albrecht and Isabella and the maker of the sundial De Succa, the author discusses the sundial thoroughly. Using an existing high-quality photograph as well as his own measurements on the original, he examines the accuracy of the various hour line patterns and furniture.

This is the first gnomonical description of the instrument. According to the author, additional research into the circumstances under which it came into being would be valuable.

*The sun, wrist watch, cocktail stick, wedge compass* J.P.C. Hoogenraad 20

As every boy scout knows, you can find north using the sun and a watch. However, this method performs poorly at best when you forget that you are on daylight saving time, that you are not on the standard meridian for your time zone, and that the real sun is hardly ever in the horizontal plane.

Hoogenraad calculates the errors involved and greatly improves the method.

In winter, tilting the watch into the equator plane gets you nowhere because the sun would be shining on the back plane; but surprisingly the error made by leaving the watch horizontal is relatively small in winter. In summer, however, a wedge is to be recommended.

That is, if you renounce the use of your mobile phone.

*The Roman numeral for 'four' on clock faces* B.P.U. Holman 23

One often sees the Roman numeral 'IIII' for 4, instead of the formally correct IV. Most agree that the use of 'IIII' gives the clock face a more balanced look. Of course, the same holds for sundial faces.

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