

AstroUpdate — June 2019

Hi and welcome to the Stella Starwoman June AstroUpdate and a special welcome to all new subscribers!

This month it's time to prepare for the upcoming solar and lunar eclipses of July – the overall theme is work-life balance, something many of us struggle with. We also take a look at the fallout from the ongoing Pluto-Saturn-South Node conjunction and how that might be playing out in your life. Wishing you all a happy winter solstice!

New Moon in Gemini — Creative Visualisation



The June new moon falls on the 3rd in maverick air sign Gemini, ruler of the mind. Napoleon Hill, author of 'Think and Grow Rich' wrote: "Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, the mind can achieve." and that just about sums up the creative and quasi magical powers of Gemini. Of course it cuts both ways – if you think you're useless and are going to fail, you probably will!

Early June is the perfect time to focus on your deepest dreams and desires; but before taking action or spending your hard-earned cash, do your research and check the small print.



Pluto - Saturn - South Node in Capricorn
Destroying to Rebuild



When the gods battle with each other in mythology, the old order is always defeated before the new order can reign. You may have heard about the current alignment between Pluto, Saturn and the South Node in earth sign Capricorn, active for most of 2019, but particularly between March and October. This alignment affects all of us, but particularly those with personal planets in Capricorn and Cancer.

The players

Pluto = god of the underworld (death, destruction, renewal, rebirth)

Saturn = lord of time and karma (structure, discipline, hard work, boundaries)

South Node = release of the past, endings, purging

Put the three together and the overall theme is destroying in order to rebuild.



Change on the world stage

The metaphor of demolishing or renovating a house in order to rebuild something new and better is one we can apply to our own lives and events in the world at large. As Pluto, Saturn and the South Node align in the heavens, old established structures are breaking apart, political laws and ideologies are being exposed as outdated and politicians and leaders seen as incompetent or out of touch with the electorate.

FRANCE: A devastating fire in Paris's 850 year old Notre Dame Cathedral leads to a promise to rebuild and millions of pounds of donations. The South Node is associated with ritual purification and cleansing, making images of fire particularly relevant.

NEW ZEALAND: A horrific gun massacre in a Christchurch mosque, broadcast live on Facebook, leads to an immediate change in gun laws in New Zealand and forces social media networks to change policies to protect their users.

AUSTRALIA: Six Federal Election candidates are forced to resign over their homophobic, sexist and racist behaviour and comments, with others narrowly escaping the same fate. Susan Harris-Rimmer, Queensland law professor remarked: 'I'm amazed these people are being asked to resign, because a lot of this stuff would have been seen as normal a few years ago.'

USA: The Mueller Report shows the US is no longer 'the land of the free' with revelations that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election through a social media campaign promoting the election of Donald Trump.

Chris Hughes, Sagittarian and co-founder of Facebook, calls on Taurean CEO Mark Zuckerberg to break up the company because of its unprecedented power and issues with data, privacy and election interference.

UK: Brexit negotiations dismantle Britain's 40 year relationship with the EU and reveal divisive splits in the country along regional, class and political lines.

Purging and purifying in order to rebuild

Astrologer Kelly Surtees discusses how the Pluto, Saturn, South Node conjunction operates at a personal level: *"It's as if the cosmos speaks and asks that you destroy or release work, plans, stuff, ambitions that you love or are attached too. There's a method to this madness, which is to help create the empty space – time, energy, internal space – so that the real work, that of truly knowing and daring to live from your innermost self, can begin."*

And since we're talking about the South Node, Saturn and Capricorn, all of which are associated with the past, family and ancestors, this year we have the opportunity to



reflect upon, understand and release any negative patterns connected to family lineage or inherited behaviour. The keywords are purging and purifying.

Ring of Brodgar - Neolithic Lunar Observatory



In September, I'll be visiting the Orkney Islands off the coast of Northern Scotland, to check out the stone circles, burial mounds, astronomical and stellar alignments, learn about the local legends and folklore and hopefully enjoy some Scottish hospitality.

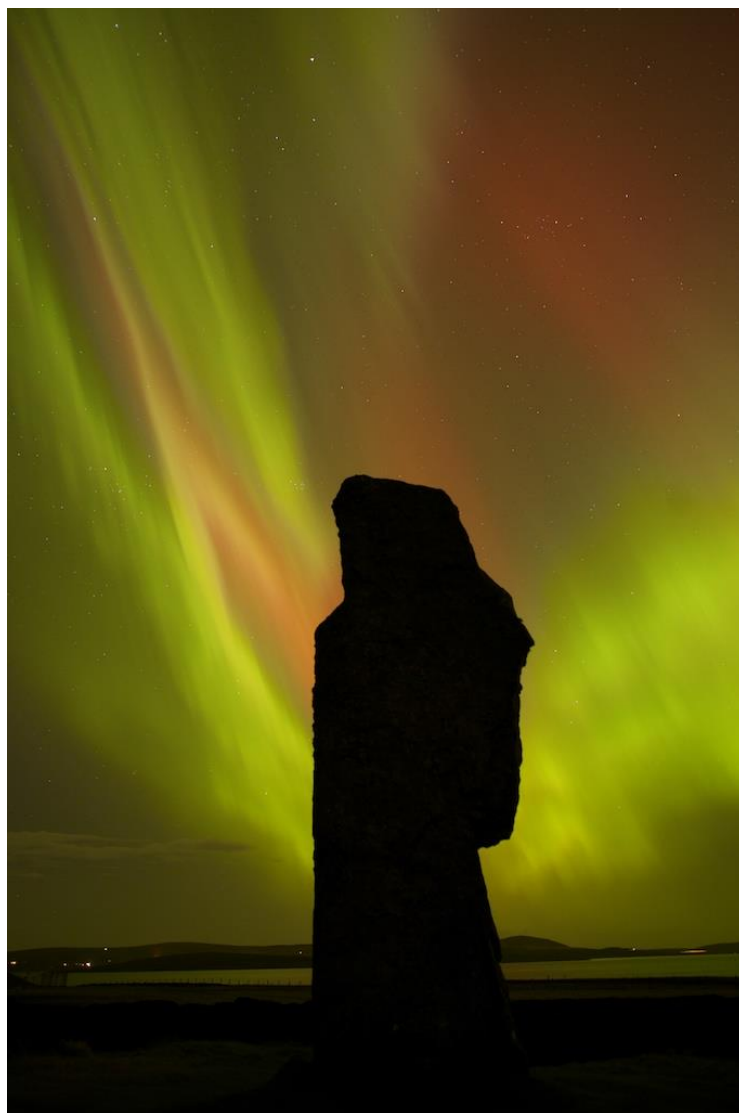
The Ring of Brodgar, pictured above, is part of an enormous ritual complex dating back to Neolithic times - 4500 years ago. Considered to be one of the most awe-inspiring prehistoric sites in Scotland, the Ring of Brodgar lies on a promontory between two lochs.

Professor Alexander Thom, Scottish engineer, Oxford professor of engineering science and expert in the field of archaeo-astronomy, concluded after years of research, that the Ring of Brodgar and many of the other megalithic sites in Orkney were astronomical observatories, similar to Stonehenge. He said they showed remarkable geometric precision despite having been built long before the age of Pythagoras.



According to Thom: “The Brodgar site is the most perfect example of a megalithic lunar observatory we have left in Britain. The ring and ditch were probably placed on this hill at first because from here there are four far-sights marking the approximate position for the rising and/or setting of the moon at the major and minor standstills (i.e. when the moon is at its maximum north or south position or latitude).”

The Ring of Brodgar stone circle is complete, and at 104 metres in diameter, one of the largest in the country. The stones are set in a circular ditch up to 3m deep and 9m wide, hewn out of the solid bedrock by its ancient architects.



And at 59 degrees north of the equator (Sydney is 33 degrees south, Melbourne 37 and Hobart 42) you can even see the northern lights (Aurora Borealis) when conditions are right. What an amazing experience. I can't wait to explore all this beauty and history and share my findings!



July Eclipses – Work-Life Balance



Eclipse season is just around the corner – here's a heads up on preparing for these cosmic wild cards.

There are two solar eclipses each year and two or more lunar eclipses, occurring when the sun, moon and earth align energetically, which this year is in the zodiac signs Cancer and Capricorn. The 2019 eclipses are closely tied in with current Pluto-Saturn-South Node alignment which symbolises 'destroying in order to rebuild'. Given that eclipses also shake up the established order, July looks set to be an interesting month.

The first eclipse, a new moon solar eclipse with the sun and moon in Cancer is on the 3rd July. The second eclipse, a full moon lunar eclipse with the sun in Cancer and Moon in Capricorn is on the 17th July. The Cancer-Capricorn polarity (they're opposite signs in the zodiac) teaches us about the balance between domestic and professional life. Cancer is all about food, family, home, parenting, security and private life, while Capricorn is all about business, outer world success, status and public life. In the tarot deck, the Emperor is a Capricorn archetype and the Empress Cancer.

The 2019 eclipses in Cancer and Capricorn will reveal any imbalances between our work and domestic life, prompting us or forcing us to make any necessary changes. In recent decades, most of us have spent less time at home and more time at work. Less time cooking, home-making, child-rearing, caring for the land and community and more time working, making money, climbing the corporate ladder and buying stuff. Less time relaxing with friends and family and looking after our health and wellbeing.



and more time striving and competing and endangering our health. Less time caring for the environment and more time exploiting it. We've valued Capricorn activities at the expense of Cancer, even though both are equally important.

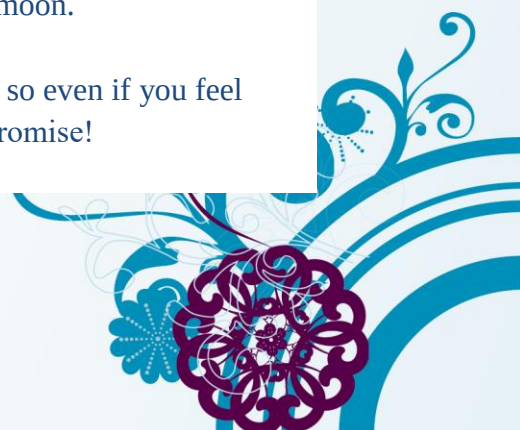
The 2019 Cancer-Capricorn eclipses offer us a chance to shift our focus and understand what's really important in life. Think about what that might mean for you.

Full Moon in Sagittarius - Keep Your Cool



The June full moon falls on the 17th in fire sign Sagittarius. As we power down towards the winter solstice on the 22nd, a planetary opposition between Pluto, Saturn, Mars, Mercury and the moon's nodal axis brings all sorts of emotions to the surface on top of the usual heightened emotions experienced at a full moon.

Intransigence is the keyword and tempers will be running hot, so even if you feel you're right, don't burn your bridges and be prepared to compromise!



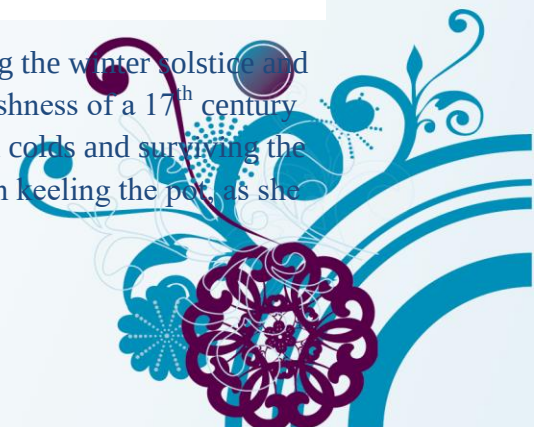


Winter by William Shakespeare (1609)

*When icicles hang by the wall
And Dick the shepherd blows his nail
And Tom bears logs into the hall,
And milk comes frozen home in pail,
When blood is nipped and ways be foul,
Then nightly sings the staring owl,
Tu-who;
Tu-whit, tu-who: a merry note,
While greasy Joan doth keel the pot.*

*When all aloud the wind doth blow,
And coughing drowns the parson's saw,
And birds sit brooding in the snow,
And Marian's nose looks red and raw
When roasted crabs hiss in the bowl,
Then nightly sings the staring owl,
Tu-who;
Tu-whit, tu-who: a merry note,
While greasy Joan doth keel the pot.*

In Australia on June 22nd, the sun moves into Cancer, marking the winter solstice and shortest day of the year. Shakespeare's poem invokes the harshness of a 17th century winter - keeping warm and well fed; dealing with coughs and colds and surviving the wintry weather. And don't you love that image of greasy Joan keeling the pot as she whips up a warming broth.



Happy Birthday Cancer!



From the 22nd June to the 24th July this year the Sun travels through cardinal water sign Cancer. Cancer is the fourth sign of the zodiac with keywords “I feel” and “I fluctuate”. Cancer’s symbol is the crab, an instinctive creature dwelling in the watery depths in the safety of its shell. Cancers are extremely sensitive. They love to mother and nurture others and have a strong attachment to home, family and community. At best Cancers are in touch with their feelings and display kindness, love and compassion. They are highly emotional, usually love food and have a reputation for taking care of friends, family and workmates. Many Cancerians are great cooks and homemakers.

Negatively, the Cancer individual can be moody, dependent, illogical, manipulative and insecure. Cancer rules the stomach, breasts and solar plexus. When Cancers are out of balance they suffer from digestive upsets, water retention and breast problems. The Cancer colours are silver and pastel shades and women born under this sign often love antique jewellery and lingerie! Cancer is ruled by the Moon, so those with a prominent Moon in their chart often display Cancer qualities. Cancer’s greatest lesson is to live in the present and to deal with mood swings and feelings of fear and insecurity.



June & July Moon Calendar

Launch projects a couple of days after the New Moon, bring them to completion in the period from just before the Full Moon to the Third Quarter phase and wind them down and reflect on developments in the week before the next New Moon. The period between the New Moon and the Full Moon is the waxing moon (moon getting bigger and fuller). The period between the Full Moon and the New Moon is the waning moon (moon getting smaller and thinner).

Use this moon table to select the most favourable days to slow or increase hair regrowth. Full instructions can be found in my [Lunar Hair Care](#) guidelines but to get you started I've marked the best dates for waxing/shaving to slow regrowth in yellow and the best dates to cut hair for thicker, lusher growth in green. If you're serious about Lunar Hair Care – why not purchase a moon calendar, available at most esoteric book stores, then you'll know exactly what time of day the moon changes from one zodiac sign to the next, meaning you can fine-tune your activities with confidence.

JUNE

Date	Sign	Element	Moon phase
1 st -2 nd	Taurus	Earth	
2 nd -5 th	Gemini	Air	New Moon 3 rd
5 th -7 th	Cancer	Water	
7 th -9 th	Leo	Fire	
9 th -11 th	Virgo	Earth	First Quarter
11 th -13 th	Libra	Air	
13 th -15 th	Scorpio	Water	
15 th -18 th	Sagittarius	Fire	Full Moon 17 th
18 th -20 th	Capricorn	Earth	
20 th -23 rd	Aquarius	Air	
23 rd -25 th	Pisces	Water	
25 th -27 th	Aries	Fire	Third Quarter
27 th -30 th	Taurus	Earth	
30 th -2 nd July	Gemini	Air	



JULY

Date	Sign	Element	Moon phase
1 st -2 nd	Gemini	Air	
2 nd -4 th	Cancer	Water	New Moon & Solar Eclipse 3rd
4 th -6 th	Leo	Fire	
6 th -8 th	Virgo	Earth	
8 th -10 th	Libra	Air	First Quarter
10 th -13 th	Scorpio	Water	
13 th -15 th	Sagittarius	Fire	
15 th -17 th	Capricorn	Earth	Full Moon & Lunar Eclipse 17th
17 th -20 th	Aquarius	Air	
20 th -22 nd	Pisces	Water	
22 nd -25 th	Aries	Fire	
25 th -27 th	Taurus	Earth	Third Quarter
27 th -29 th	Gemini	Air	
29 th -31 st	Cancer	Water	
31 st -2 nd August	Leo	Fire	New Moon 1 st August

Thanks for being part of AstroUpdate. If there's something you'd like to see featured, or have something you think would interest others, please contact me at stella@stellastarwoman.com

Happy Stargazing

Stella Woods

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