

# Celebrate 400th Anniversary of Galileo's use of his first telescope - in card!



2009 year has been designated as the Year of Astronomy. A great event in itself, but it is made even more formidable by the fact that in 1609 Galileo Galilei perfected a telescope introduced the year earlier in Holland, and directed it to the starry sky.

His discoveries - craters on the moon, the phases of Venus, and the moons around Jupiter - were a scientific sensation at the time - and justified a new astronomy - which subsequently changed our view of the world.

## The Historical Galilean Telescope



We have now introduced an historically faithful Cardboard replica of this original Telescope. The kit corresponds in size and power to optical telescopes of that time and is based on the single preserved Telescope. The original was made from leather with a decorated gold embossing ceremonial copy of Cosimo II de 'Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany (12 May 1590 - 28 February 1621) ruled from 1609 to 1621.

**Our Kit is punched from cardboard sheets with 5-colour printing, complete with glass lenses for 12-times magnification and a table or wall mount with a length of cm.**

**Galileo Galilei** (15 February 1564 – 8 January 1642) was an Italian physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and role in the

Scientific Revolution. His achievements include improvements to the telescope and consequent astronomical observations, and support for Copernicanism. Galileo has been called the “father of modern observational astronomy”, the “father of modern physics”, the “father of science”, and “the Father of Modern Science.” The motion of uniformly accelerated objects, taught in nearly all high school and introductory college physics courses, was studied by Galileo as the subject of kinematics. His contributions to observational astronomy include the telescopic confirmation of the phases of Venus, the discovery of the four largest satellites of Jupiter, named the Galilean moons in his honour, and the observation and analysis of sunspots. Galileo also worked in applied science and technology, improving compass design.

Galileo's championing of Copernicanism was controversial within his lifetime. The geocentric view had been dominant since the time of Aristotle, and the controversy engendered by Galileo's presentation of heliocentrism as proven fact resulted in the Catholic Church's prohibiting its advocacy as empirically proven fact, because it was not empirically proven at the time and was contrary to the literal meaning of Scripture. Galileo was eventually forced to recant his heliocentrism and spent the last years of his life under house arrest on orders of the Roman Inquisition.