The best time to view the Moon is a few days either side of its first quarter phase on the 2nd February. Venus is in the western sky after sunset and moves from the constellation Aquarius to Pisces at the start of the month. Prominent in the sky this month are the constellations of Canis Major (the Great Dog) which includes Sirius – the brightest star in the sky, Orion (the Hunter), which includes the recognisable southern hemisphere asterism of the “Saucepan”. Crux (the Southern Cross) is low in the south-eastern sky although it can be easily confused with the false cross. Crux can be located by looking for the two adjacent Pointer stars in the constellation Centaurus (the Centaur).