

**Triton and Pluto. The Long Lost Twins of Active Worlds**, edited by Adrienn Luspay-Kuti & Kathleen Mandt (IoP Publishing), 2025. Pp. 292, 26 × 18.5 cm. Price £120 (hardbound; ISBN 978 0 7503 5616 9).

The icy worlds of Triton and Pluto are remarkably similar and yet their evolutionary paths have diverged. Both are technically dwarf planets and share many properties with Kuiper Belt objects. This reference book is both a synthesis of what was known about them up to and including 2023 as well as an exploration of where future studies may usefully lead. It comprises 12 chapters authored by 48 contributors, each chapter being a stand-alone account of the subject area it covers. The book is one of the latest publications in the AAS–IoP Astronomy series, which now number 59 texts, all available on-line as e-books.

The book has been edited to a high standard with relatively few errors given the complexity of some sections. Although e-books are searchable and indexable, regrettably the physical books do not have an index. There is some repetition between the various chapters — unsurprising, especially given the paucity of information available for Triton. Chapter topics include origins, interiors, cryovolcanism, morphology and geology, atmospheres and their interactions with the surface, the ionosphere and magnetosphere, and subsurface oceans (especially Triton). Three of the latter chapters deal with open questions needing answers and future measurement, but need referencing outcomes of recent decadal surveys. Interestingly, the chapter on ‘Planning for Long-Lived Missions’ includes human considerations and has wider relevance for the astronomical community. A cross-disciplinary chapter on the chemistry of cosmic ices of relevance to Triton and Pluto and their overlap with TNOs and comets would have been a useful addition. Currently there are no active space missions targeting Triton, Pluto, or TNOs. Hopefully this publication will serve as a focus improving the chance that a future such mission proposal will be accepted. —RICHARD MILES.

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#### OBITUARY NOTICE

*Sir Francis Graham-Smith FRS (1923–2025)*

Known to his friends at the Royal Greenwich Observatory (RGO, for many years home of this *Magazine*) as Graham Smith, he was a pioneer in radio astronomy, beginning with wartime work in telecommunications — as did many in that nascent field — becoming a professor at the University of Manchester in 1964. From 1976 to 1981 he was the Director of RGO with the principal task of creating the Northern Hemisphere Observatory on La Palma in the Canary Islands. (While at Herstmonceux he enjoyed playing badminton with two of the present Editors of this *Magazine* — RWA & DJS!) He was Astronomer Royal from 1982 (ironically the post that was once held *automatically* by the head of the RGO) until 1990, but remained active in astronomy until very recently. He was born on 1923 April 25 and died peacefully on 2025 June 20. A full obituary may be expected in *Astronomy & Geophysics* since Graham was President of the RAS from 1975 to 1977.