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FOR SALE

Coronado MaxScope 90 H α solar telescope OTA, serial no. 900002, with double-stacked external etalon (<0.5Å bandpass), BF-15 blocking filter, Sol Ranger finder, 2 sets of CEMAX eyepieces + Barlow, and clamshell, in original carrying case, all in excellent condition (almost as new). £7,950 (no offers – price reduced from £8,950)

This is a one-off instrument for the connoisseur and collector: 'for the connoisseur' as Gerry Hogan (wife of Coronado's founder and principal optical designer the late David Lunt, 1942–2005) told me it gave the best view she had ever had in more than 10 years of testing finished H α filters and telescopes, and 'for the collector' as it bears the serial no. 900002, its being the very first off the production line (after the prototype). (I'd pre-ordered it before its availability was even announced!). My (lowered) price is less than two-thirds what I paid for it: a need to raise funds is forcing this very, very reluctant sale! Production costs of H α scopes have of course fallen since 2003, when I bought it, but the internal etalons of today's scopes are a cost-saving compromise (which is why 'pre-Meade' Coronado scopes seldom come onto the market and when they do they are usually described as such). Carriage not included in the price (collection preferred).

Philip Pugh, in his book *Observing the Sun with Coronado Telescopes* (Springer, 2007), describes the MaxScope 90 as: 'a professional grade hydrogen alpha telescope designed to capture minute details on the solar surface ... In many cases the images obtainable from this telescope surpass some of the best solar images taken only 15 years ago through much larger instruments. To some degree, the telescope seems limited only by the type of camera being used. ... The build of the telescope does not skimp on materials or manufacturing in any way ... It is a modern masterpiece of design, optical technology, and visual beauty.'

I'm afraid that I'm not an imager and so can't post any pics taken with it. However, anyone seriously interested in the scope (at the reduced price I've listed it) would be most welcome to come down Eastbourne and assess it at first hand.