

# Edmond Halley Encyclopedia Article

## Edmond Halley

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# Edmond Halley

**1656-1742**

English astronomer and physicist famous for predicting the 1758 return of Halley's comet and for the instrumental role he played in the publication of Isaac Newton's *Principia*. Halley established the Southern Hemisphere's first observatory and published the first telescopically based star catalog of the southern skies. He conducted research on tidal phenomena (1684-1701), proposed a core-fluid-crust model to explain the westward drift of Earth's magnetic field (1692), and was the first to detect the proper motions of stars (1718).