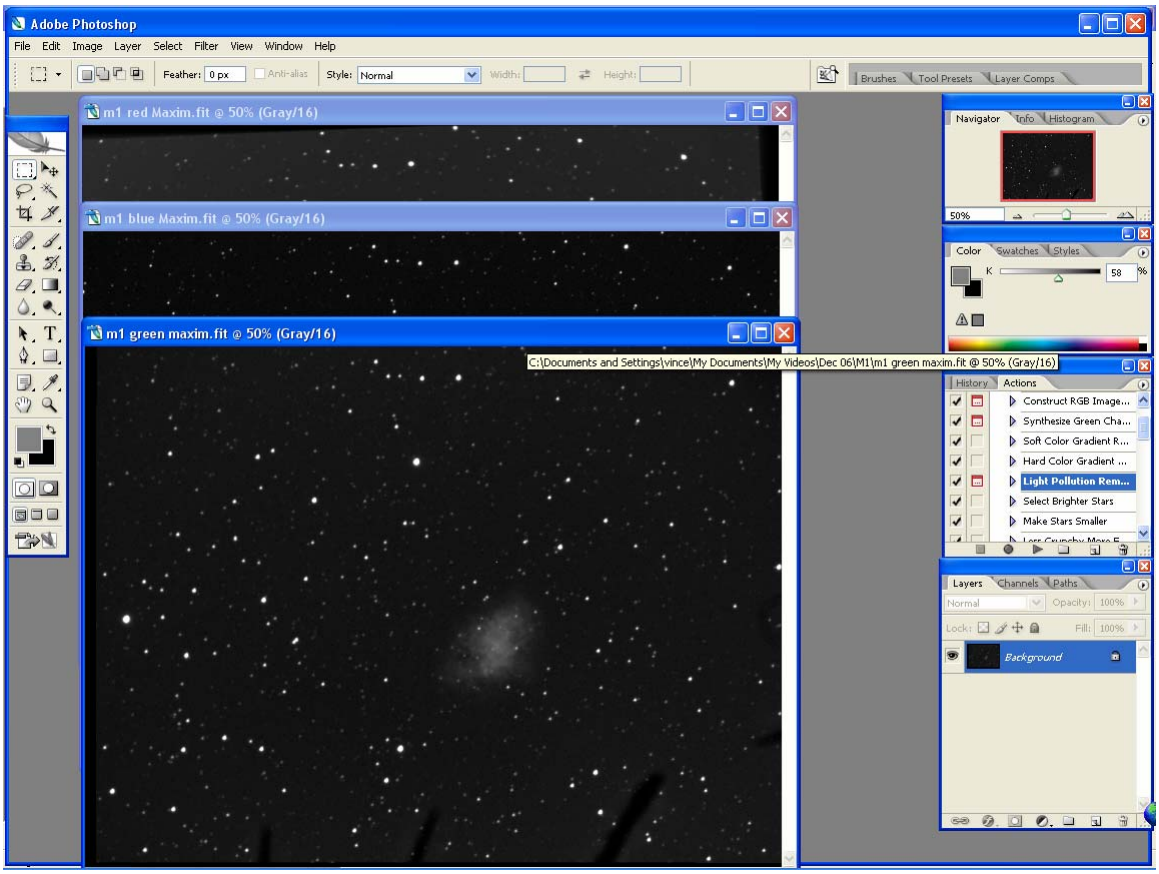
USING PHOTOSHOP RGB

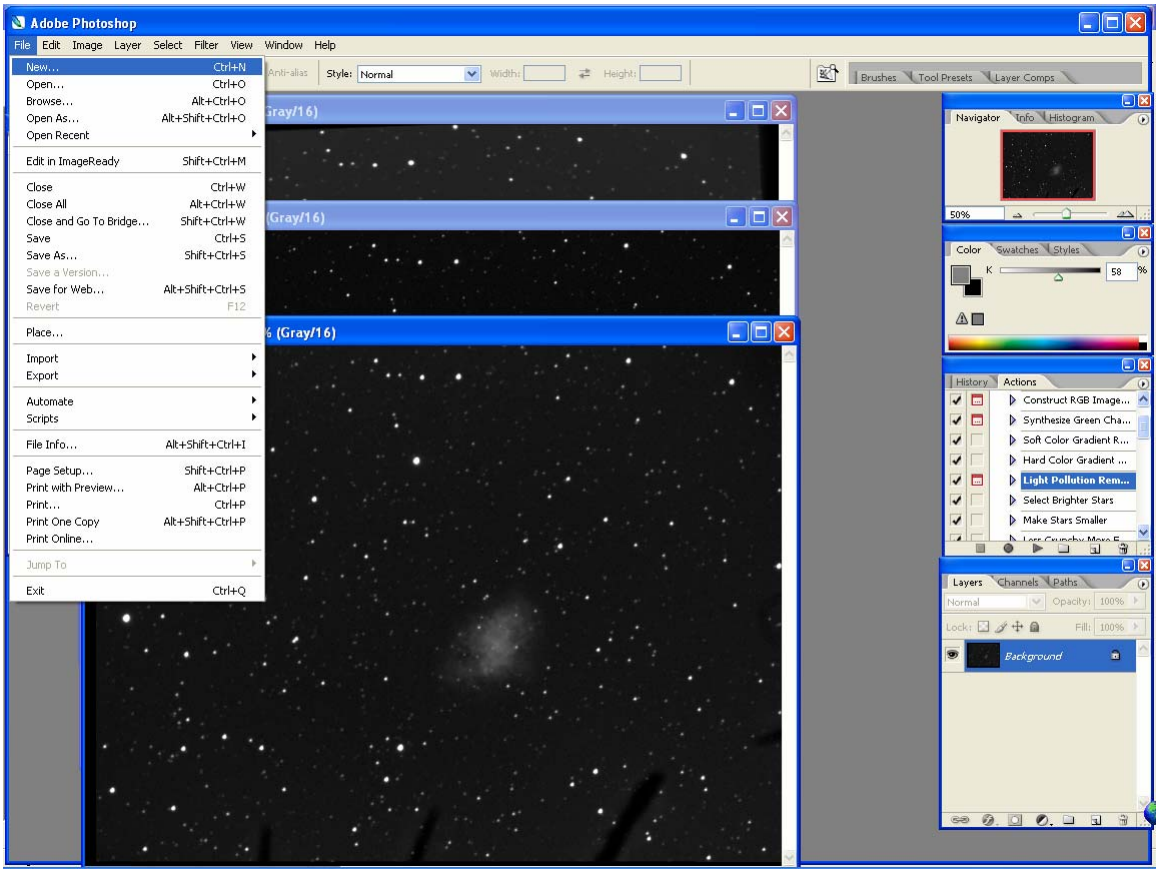
I will try to explain how to create a colour image using the RGB process in Photoshop. (R red, G green and B blue).
To start with take 3 exposures at the telescope through the 3 RGB filters. Depending which filter set you are using you may need to refocus between each filter.

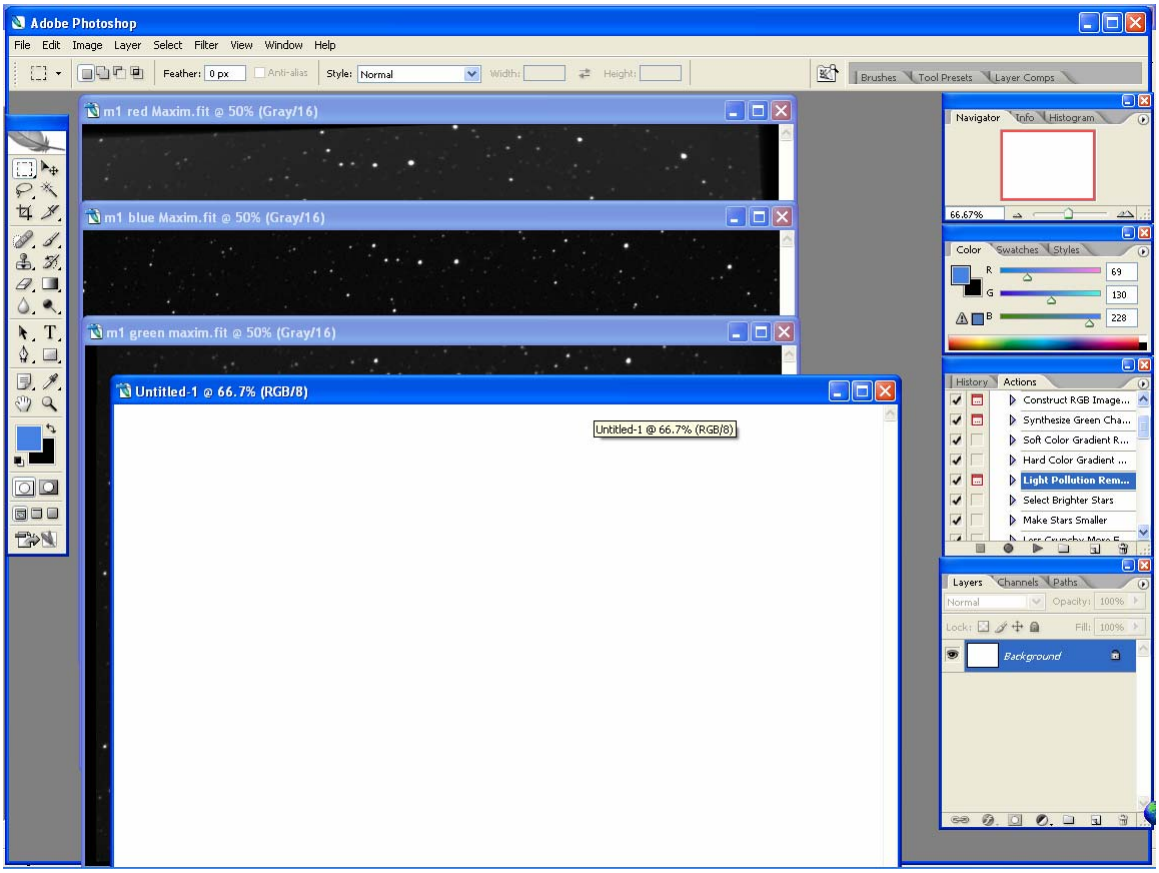
1. Open all 3 files in Photoshop.



At this point you can process each file individually to get the maximum details out or wait till the image is finished processing. This is up to the individual and experience will dictate which steps you will be taking.

2. Create a new file exactly the same size as the open file and ensure that the colour mode is RGB and that the file is name whatever name you wish. (RGB …)

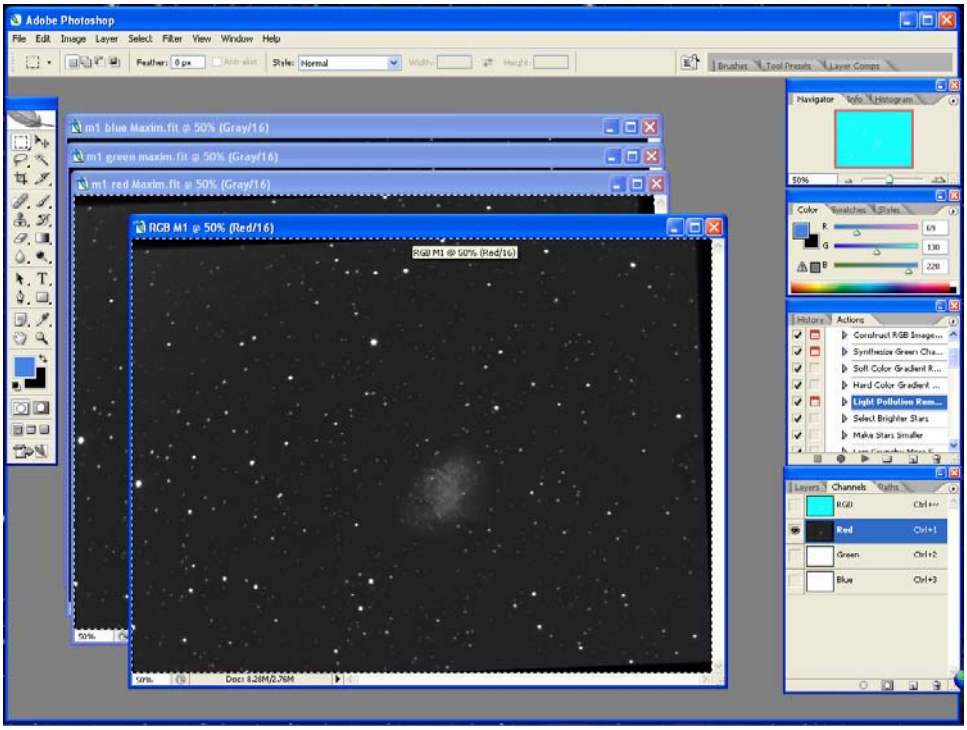




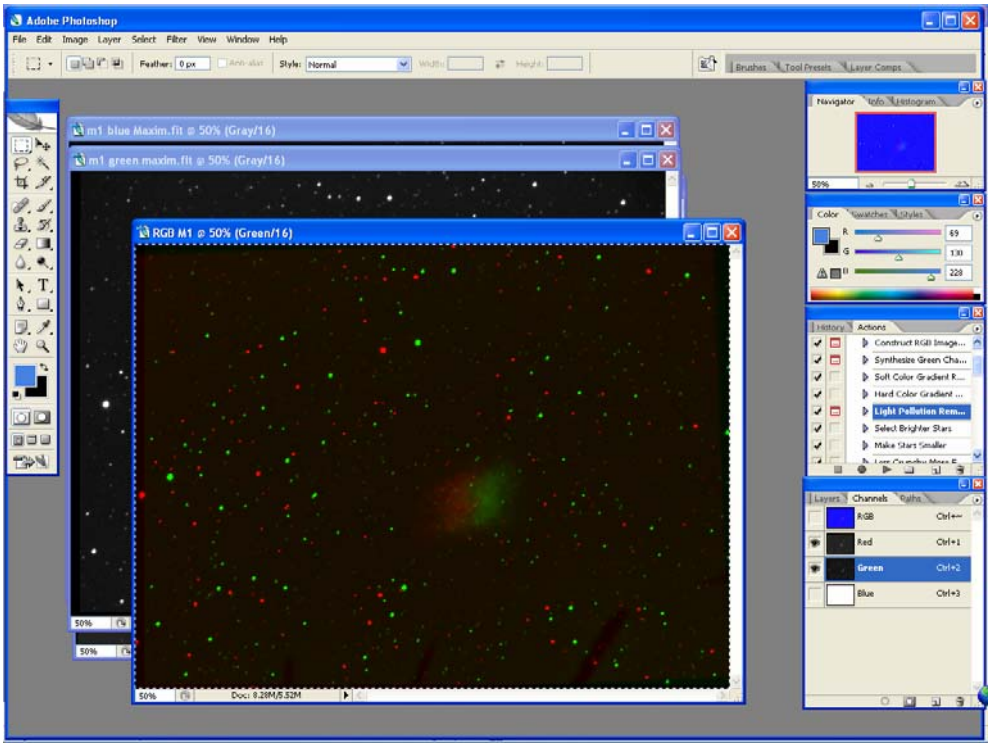
If you click in the right hand side on the “Channel” tab you will see 4 blank layers RGB, Red, Green and Blue. You will need to copy each individual file in each layer.

Ensuring that each layer is perfectly registered with the previous layer.

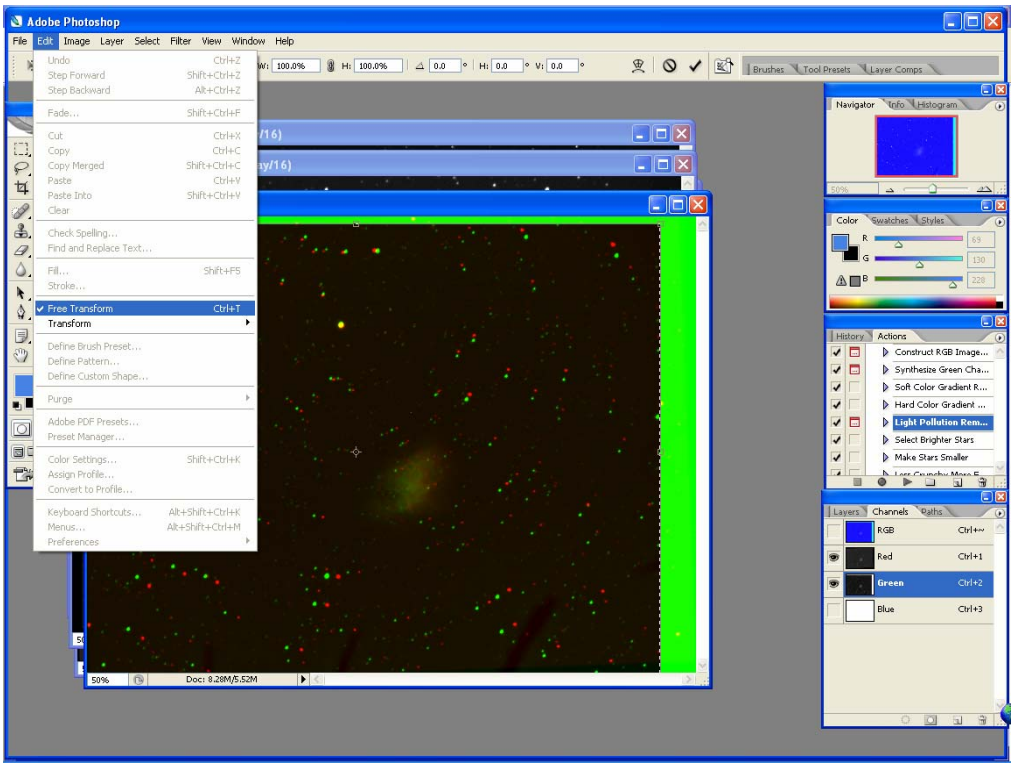
Start by selecting the red layer (Select, All) and then (Edit, Copy). Select the file RGB … and copy the red layer in the Red Channel.



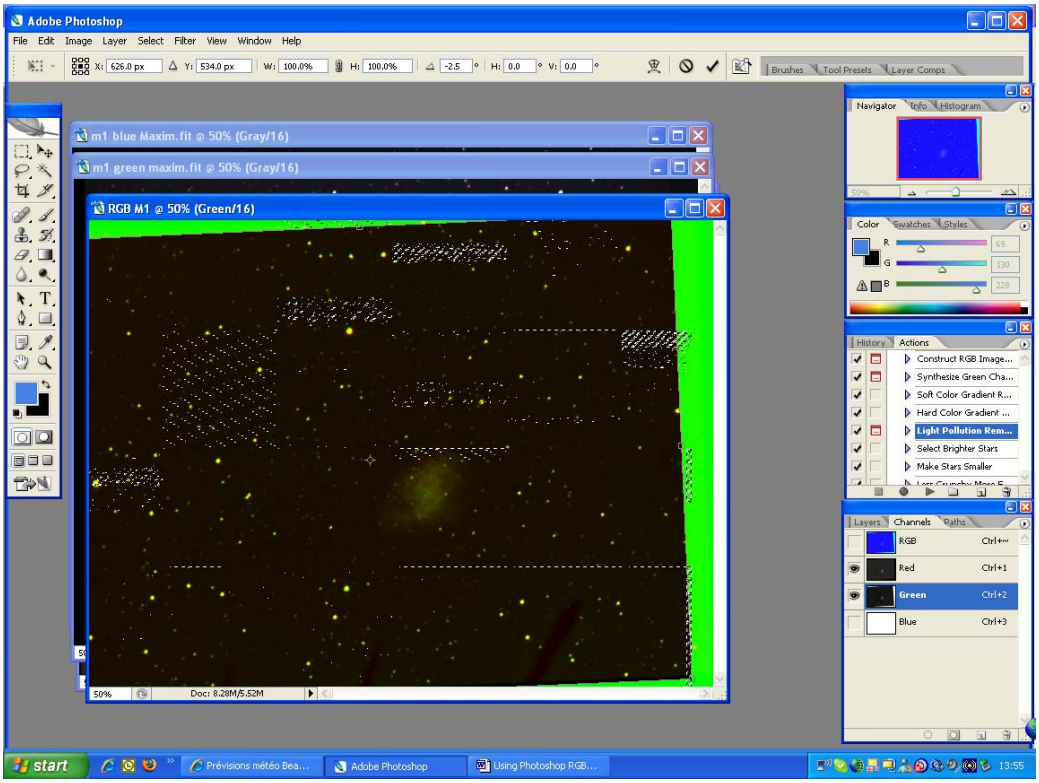
Select the Green layer (Select, All) and then (Edit, Copy). Select the file RGB … and copy the Green layer in the Green Channel. You will now have a 2 colour image unregistered.
Ensure that you have an “eye ball” selected in both channel. Red and green.



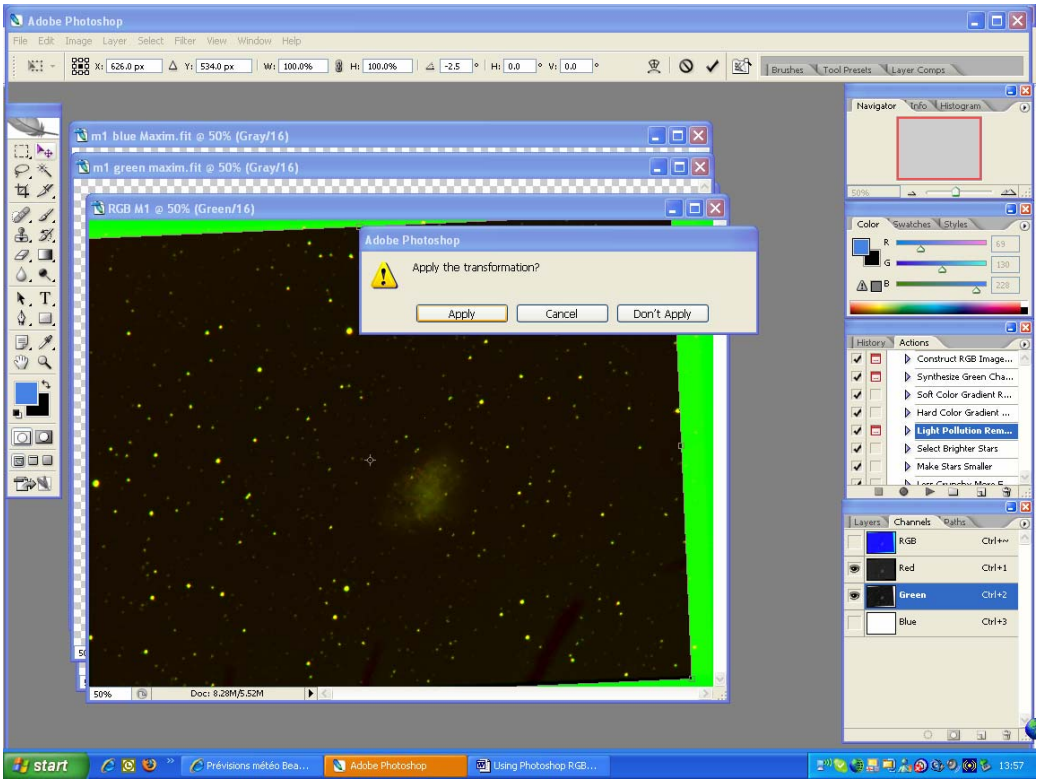
You now need to align the red and the green channel. You can move the top layer by using your mouse or the arrows (up, down, left and right) on you key board. To rotated the top layer you use Edit and Free Transform. Position your cursor to the left or the right of the picture and a curved arrow will appear. You will then be able to rotate the top layer.



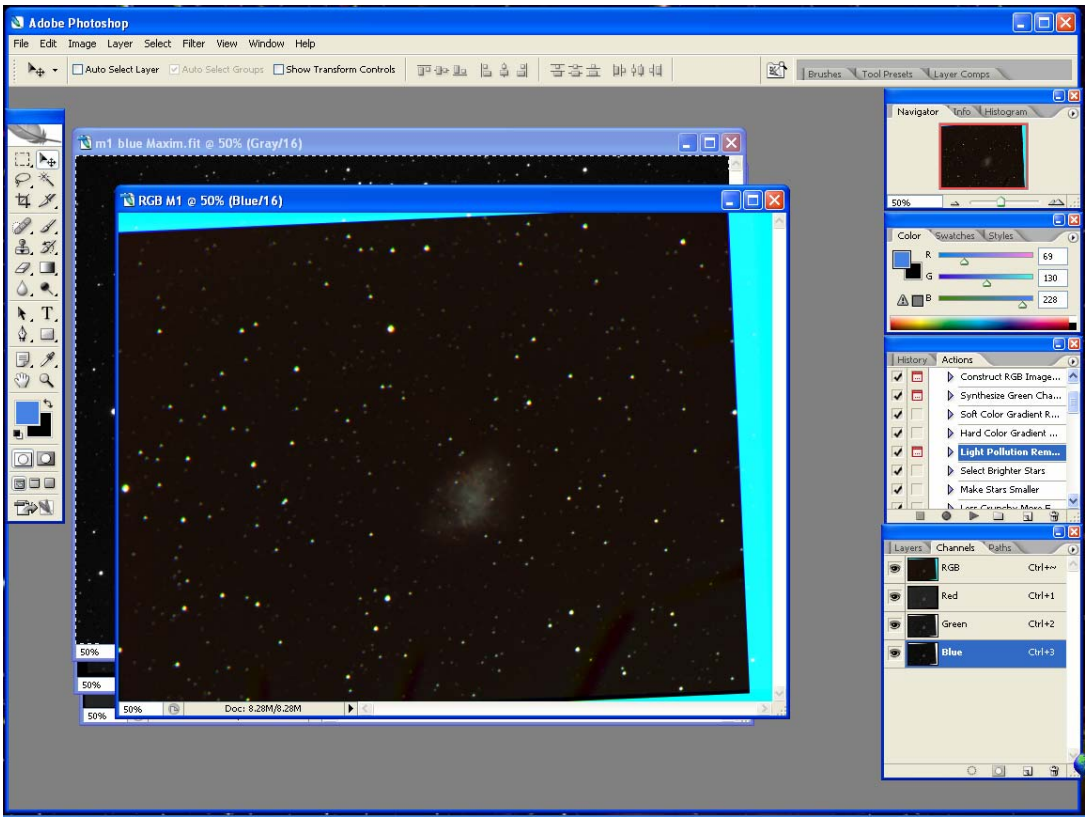
When everything is registered correctly the picture should look something like that.



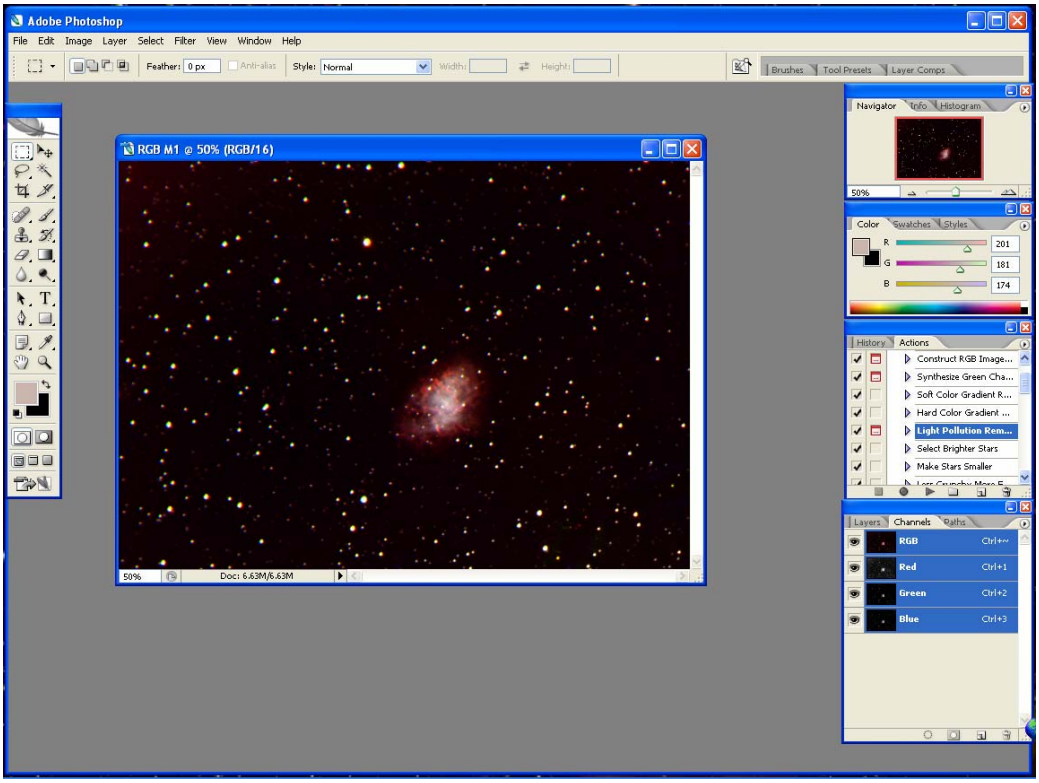
You now need to Apply the Transformation. In Tool click on the cursor and the Apply Transformation window will appear. Apply it.



Once you have applied the transformation you need to do the same thing again but this time using the Blue layer. Don't forget to copy the Blue layer in the Blue Channel. All 3 layers copied and registered together should look something like that.



Deselect all and congratulation you have completed your first RGB. You can now use the various tools in Photoshop to improve the colour, contrast of your picture.



With a little bit of processing your picture will look something like that.

You can improve the details in your picture by adding a Luminance layer.
The Luminance layer is a monochrome picture of the object you are imaging.

The Luminance layer can be further improved buy using an HA filter.