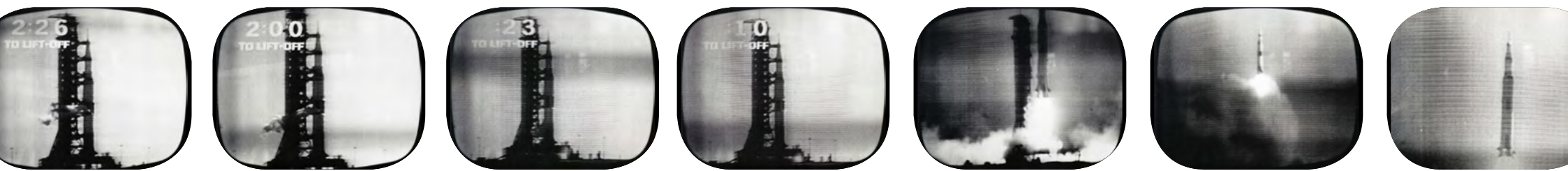


A composite image featuring two figures in white space suits on a lunar surface. On the left, an Apollo 11 astronaut stands with a large gold visor reflecting the moon's surface. On the right, a young child in a similar suit stands on a metal ladder, holding a telescope. A sign on the child's chest reads "THE FIRST MAN ON THE MOON". The background is the dark, cratered surface of the moon.

MOON LANDING MEMORIES

50 PERSONAL STORIES
TO MARK 50 YEARS
SINCE THE APOLLO 11
MOON LANDINGS



UK Research
and Innovation



PROFESSOR BARRY C SMITH

Leadership Fellow for Science in Culture, Arts & Humanities Research Council

In July of 1969, the Moon landing of Apollo 11 brought the world together. All over the globe people watched and waited for the promised sight of a man on the Moon: an extraordinary feat of human endeavour and a staggering technological achievement.

Technology played its part on earth too linking people through the television images and reporting this historical moment to the world. Having seemed almost unimaginable a decade earlier when President John F. Kennedy set out the challenge to send humans to the Moon and return them safely, the scenes from the Moon's surface filled people with a sense of wonder and

optimism about human progress: what else was our species capable of if it could go to the Moon and back? It is now 50 years since the Apollo 11 Moon landing, and it is still the furthest human beings have ventured from their home planet. The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) working together with the UK Space Agency have marked the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing with a crowd-sourced campaign to gather people's memories and images of the hours Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin spent on the lunar surface. So many people remember where they were when they saw the coverage. Unlike tragedies or disasters, this was an awe-inspiring moment of collective human memory.

This joint AHRC and UK Space Agency campaign help us to explore the cultural significance, the ideas of human advancement and the profound sense of the place of the mission in the history of humankind. We received hundreds of memories from people across the UK and have selected 50 to mark the 50 years since the Eagle landed in Tranquility Base. As well as appearing in this e-book, the submissions will be exhibited at the U.K. Space Centre as part of their anniversary programme.

Thank you to everyone involved in this campaign and especially to those of you who shared your Moon landing memories.





SUE HORNE

Head of Space Exploration, UK Space Agency

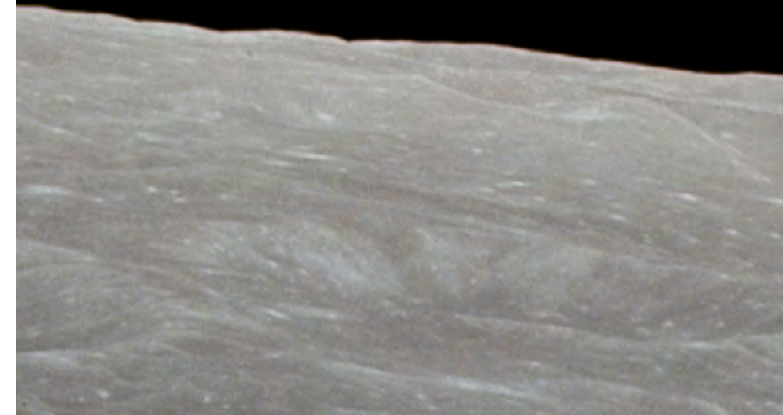
These are wonderful accounts of people's memories of their involvement in the Moon landing and the inspirational effect the Apollo missions have had on people's lives.

There are so many stories I can relate to, as I was also five, and was allowed to watch television at school (unimaginable) to see the historic footage. For the following years I would rush to my grandmother's house to see the latest images from the Apollo missions and Viking and Voyager. People think that technology is moving fast now but I look back at my grandmother's generation, born when cars had only just been invented and she saw the first man on the Moon.

The human space exploration programme is multi-national and we will return to the Moon and

go beyond. Perhaps the most important lesson from Apollo is that if the human race puts its mind and resources to achieve something, we can do it. In these days where there seems to be so much doom and gloom and negative news, we should remember this. One of the enduring images from the Apollo mission is Earthrise, a photograph of Earth that was taken from lunar orbit by astronaut William Anders on December 24, 1968, during the Apollo 8 mission. All astronauts return saying that the one thing they have learnt is the Earth is a special place. Although the Earth faces many problems Apollo shows us that humanity can achieve what was first thought to be impossible.

I hope you enjoy these recollections as much as I did. And I hope that our current and future adventures will keep on inspiring.



INSPIRING A
GENERATION

A CHILD'S
PERSPECTIVE



A DAY THAT
CHANGED
THE WORLD

MOON &
CULTURE



NIGEL SHADBOLT PRINCIPAL OF JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD, WHO WAS KNIGHTED FOR SERVICES TO SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING IN 2013

OXFORDSHIRE, UK

NIGEL SHADBOLT

"I was 13, a young boy in a small village in the Peak District. I was totally absorbed by Apollo...I read science fiction and had watched Dr Who from the first episode. It was 2.30am when I crept downstairs and switched on our black and white Philips TV - my mum, dad and sister asleep upstairs. Finally, that impossibly grainy, upside down image of Armstrong coming down the ladder. I remember the exhilaration of the moment, Patrick Moore and James Burke leading us through events. An exhilaration shared with bleary eyed friends later that morning in school assembly. These experiences and the night's events instilled in me a passion for science. A passion that led me into a 40 year career in Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science."



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, UK

PATRICK MAHON

"I was only a baby at the time of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. However, I was inspired by it later, partly because of my science fiction obsessed older brother. In the final year of primary school I made a scale model of the Apollo Command and Service Module. A year later, I met Sir Patrick Moore through the astronomy club at my new school. I went on to study maths and physics at university and did a PhD in theoretical physics. The Apollo 8 'Earthrise' picture is one of the reasons I have worked in environmental protection and in my spare time, I run a small think tank focused on studying interstellar exploration. I was recently lucky enough to meet Apollo 15 command module pilot Al Worden. All of this is due to Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins."



CHELTENHAM, UK

PETER CADOGAN

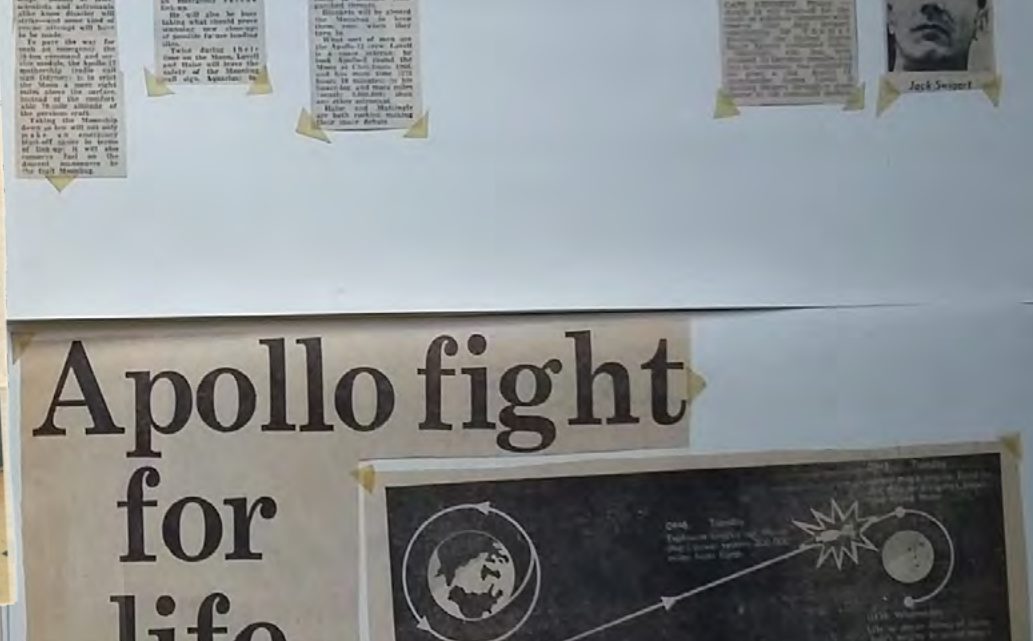
"I had just graduated when Apollo 11 landed in 1969 and I stayed up all night waiting to see the first Moon walk. I was about to start my PhD at the Organic Geochemistry Unit at the University of Bristol with Geoffrey Eglinton, whose laboratory was one of just 12 in the UK to receive lunar samples from Apollo 11 and 12. I soon joined Colin Pillinger (later of Beagle 2 fame) in trying to prove that the tiny amounts of carbon in the Apollo dust samples had come from the Sun. This I managed to do, received my PhD and then went on to determine the ages of Moon rocks with Grenville Turner at the University of Sheffield. 50 years on, I'm now developing computer software to count the very smallest lunar craters automatically."



INSPIRING A GENERATION



UK Research and Innovation



HAMPSHIRE, UK

STEPHEN O'DONNELL

“One of my earliest memories was when I was about two and a half years old and my parents pointed out the Eagle landing on the Moon just before I went to bed. Later that night my dad got me up and had me watching them emerge onto the surface and going over to our main window to look for the Moon. These days I work on a UK mission that’s headed to the Moon in 2023. Funny old world...”

HAMPSHIRE, UK

MARTIN LETTS

“The Moon landings inspired me but I have always wanted to work in the space industry. As a boy I drew pictures of rockets and made models. I lived in Bournemouth near the Isle of Wight where secret tests on the engines for Black Knight were tested. Later I worked at Woomera and drove past the actual launch site every day. I worked on the Skylark Sounding rocket, the unsung hero launch vehicle of the U.K. Space programme. Skylark was designed in 1957 for the International Geophysical Year and launches were still being carried out 50 years later. Later I worked on satellites, attending our launch preparations at 17B Cape Canaveral then to mission control for launch and IOT.”

FIFE, UK

LANCE THOMPSON

“I would not choose to have been born at any other time: my 62 years have been so influenced by the ‘Space Race’ it is difficult to imagine any other life for myself...Apollo 11: the culmination of the most ambitious undertaking in human history. I wrote to Patrick Moore many times, he never failed to respond to my enthusiasm. On one occasion, by the time of Apollo 17, the broadcast media had largely lost interest. I requested maps of the landing site and he replied by sending me the maps he had used on TV! The passion I had for the whole adventure resulted in me following a career in engineering, specifically in remote sensing. For a young lad from Newcastle, this was not the usual prospect.”



INSPIRING A GENERATION



UK Research and Innovation



JOHN BOZ, NOW CHIEF DESIGNER OF THE LUNAR PROBE AT TCT

EDINBURGH, UK

JOHN BOZ

"As a child of ten, I sat watching a grainy black and white image on TV in our living room, as Armstrong stepped off the lunar lander and took the first steps on the Moon. Now, 50 years on, I am part of the British team sending a probe to the Moon in 2025. Back in 1969, it was as if the whole world had stopped. As a child it seemed to me that this proved mankind could unite and forget wars, orders, race and hatred. That may not have proven to be true but what has proven to be so, is that generations of young people were inspired to find careers in engineering and science. Hopefully the new age of space exploration will do the same."



PATRICK SINNOTT AT WORK IN THE WOOMERA PREP LAB, IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, IN 1970

YORKSHIRE, UK

PATRICK SINNOTT

"At the time of the Apollo Moon landing I was working for Elliott Automation at NLR in the Netherlands - Task - Simulation of the Inertial Systems for the Eldo Satellite Launcher. We worked on the very edge of European Space technology - and having some reasonable insight into Apollo technology - it afforded a humbling comparative analysis. At the actual time of landing I was in my flat in Zwolle watching on my 12" TV. A moment in human history, imprinted forever. I continued my Space endeavours - moving onto MBB [ASAT] in Munch for INS Integration - Started SSTL with Martin Sweeting in 1984."



MARIA CODY, SECOND FROM LEFT, AT A MEETING WITH THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY AND THE JAPAN AEROSPACE EXPLORATION AGENCY

LONDON, UK

MARIA CODY

"My earliest memory of the Moon landings is sat on the gym floor in St Mary's school, Gosport looking up at a grainy picture on a black and white TV, I think it was Apollo 12. 50 years later I am privileged to sit at ESA council with other member states being inspired by future plans to further explore the Moon and go on to Mars. I am also delighted from knowing how space has improved everyday experiences. Today my granddaughter would be watching the Moon landings with her friends on phones and tablets."



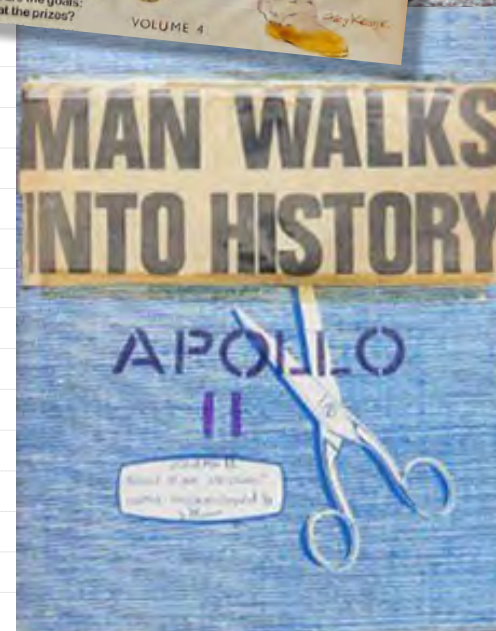
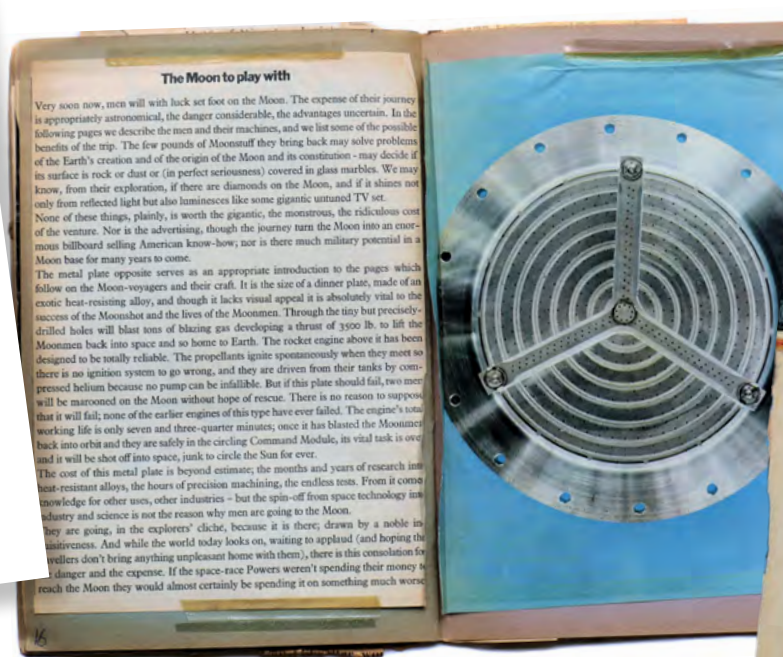
INSPIRING A GENERATION



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PART OF BRIAN SMITH'S COLLECTION OF METEORITES



WEST SUSSEX, UK

BRIAN SMITH

"I was nearly six and a half and our family watched the landing, we had been following the news everyday leading up to this moment. I thought that maybe I might be an astronaut and my interest and hobby in geology developed from then. I have discovered a new dinosaur species and my PhD research has turned up several new minerals. I even have a meteorite collection that includes Lunar and Martian meteorites."

OXFORDSHIRE, UK

GARY THOMAS

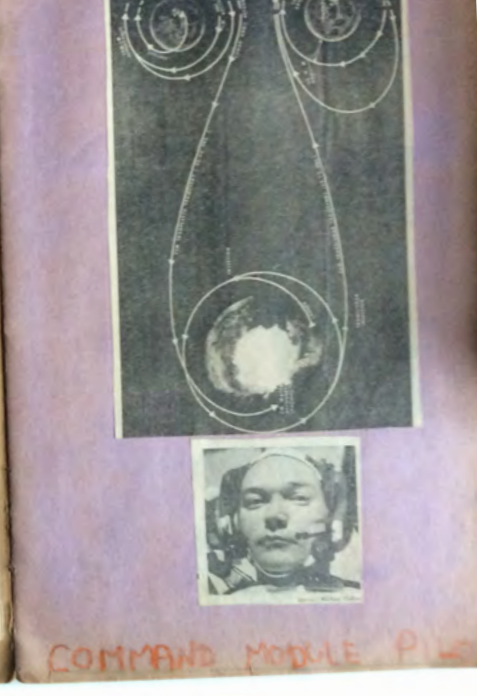
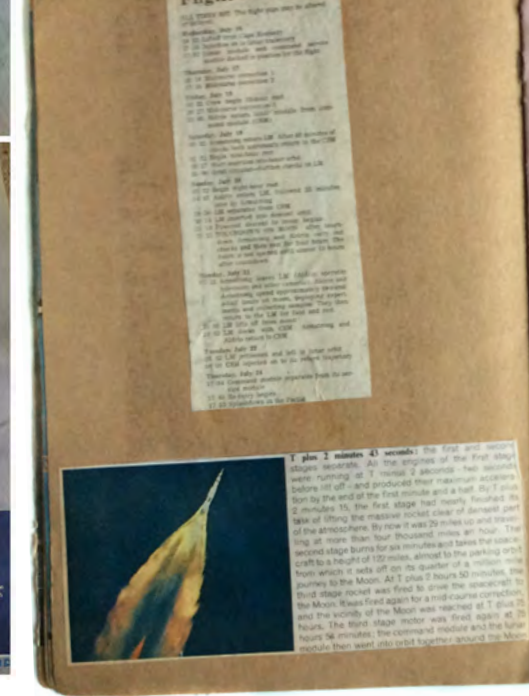
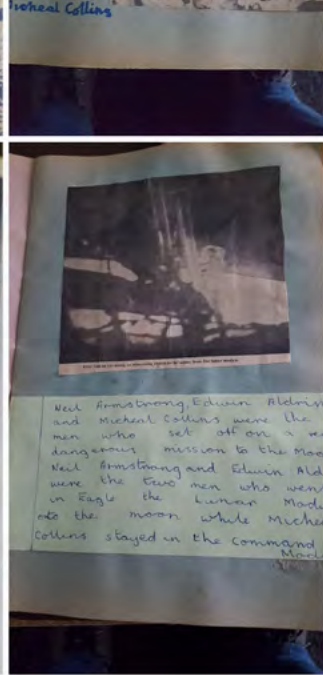
"I was 13 when man first walked on the Moon. I was fascinated by space science and started a scrapbook with any and all newspaper and magazine articles about the Apollo missions and bought just about every book; I still have them all. On the night (early morning in the UK) of that first Moon walk mum and dad let me sleep in the lounge as it was the only room with a TV...There was James Burke and Patrick Moore explaining everything as it happened. My fascination with space science has never abated from those days. I went on to do a degree in Physics and Astrophysics. My first job involved placing scientific experiments on the space shuttle and at one point I was probably the UK's expert on space shuttle data communications."



INSPIRING A GENERATION



UK Research and Innovation



GREATER MANCHESTER, UK

WEST MIDLANDS, UK

WEST MIDLANDS, UK

PAM ARMSTRONG

ANNE PAPWORTH

DAVE MARRIOTT

" Oldham, Lancashire, 1969. I was seven years old and watched the Apollo 11 Moon landing the next day at school on a black and white TV that my head teacher had kindly brought in from his home. All of us huddled together and gasped in awe and innocent disbelief that real men could be walking on the Moon. When Neil and Buzz started doing bouncing steps, my giddy excitement turned to worry, I thought they were going to bounce off the Moon and so I asked if we could quickly get some blankets and tie them together and get ready to catch these brave men in the playground. "

" In July 1969 I was ten years old, I started taking an interest in the Apollo missions with Apollo 8, but my excitement reached fever pitch with Apollo 11. I was glued to the TV to watch the grainy BBC footage as the astronauts maneuvered the LEM slowly towards the lunar surface... and I will never forget watching as Neil Armstrong made his one small step for a man, one giant leap for Mankind. The whole Apollo 11 mission made such an impression on my ten year old self that I made a scrapbook from newspaper cuttings, documenting the whole mission from launch to lunar landing and safely back to Earth. 50 years on, I still have this scrapbook. I still have a childlike fascination for space exploration. "

" I was five at the time of Apollo 11 and as a child, I was fascinated by everything to do with space and astronauts. I can remember watching everything I could about Apollo 11 on TV. I made a scrapbook about Apollo 11 and my interest was well known, (apparently it was all I was talking about!) so family, friends and relatives passed on newspaper and magazine articles for me to include. I still have the scrapbook, and looking through it after all these years, it is amazing how primitive the technology that got them to the Moon seems now. "



A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE



UK Research and Innovation



NORTH LANARKSHIRE, UK

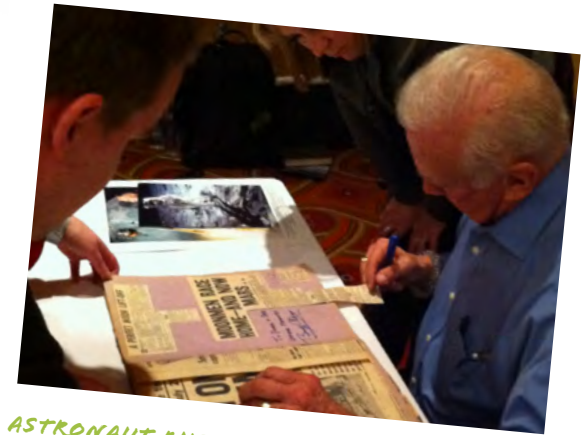
ALLAN GAW

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, UK

GRAHAM HOUSTON

"I followed every mission from 8 through to 14 and kept scrapbooks of every one, with four just for Apollo 11 alone! I also made recordings on reel to reel of the highlights of Apollo 11. No idea how I could listen to these now. I had wall charts and a model of the rocket...the works! To say I was fascinated was an understatement! Stayed up all night to watch the landing (I was 15). Still got my commemorative Apollo 11 mug!"

"A black and white TV, a seven year old and a piece of wonder. The image from the Moon showed movement. A white mass with a goldfish bowl head lumbered down a ladder in a blizzard. My grandmother was dismissive of the whole venture in the way only the old can be. "All that way for a bit of dirt," she sneered. However, we all watched and my granny held my hand as the footprints were made. Before Apollo, I can remember nothing about wanting to work in science; after it, I can remember nothing else. NASA's audience that night was truly global, but I rather suspect they had me in mind. I think they knew that a seven year old watching, squeezing his grandmother's hand, would spend the rest of his life in science."



ASTRONAUT BUZZ ALDRIN SIGNS A SCRAP BOOK FOR DONNA AND DAVID JONES. DAVID WENT ON TO BECOME A PROFESSOR AT QUEENS UNIVERSITY BELFAST.

STAFFORDSHIRE, UK

DAVID JONES

"I have attached some photos of a very unique scrapbook my wife made when she was 10 years old about the Moon landing. The scrapbook is an amazing visual reference for the build up to the landings and the stories after the mission. We had the great fortune to get the book signed by Buzz Aldrin in 2012 and I have included some photos of him signing the book and his granddaughter also taking photos of the book as Buzz himself had not seen some of the press cuttings."



A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE



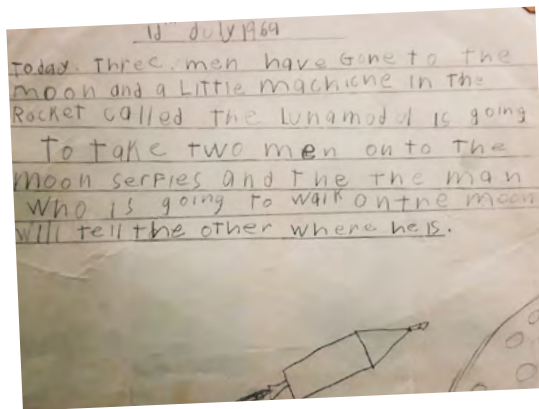
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BERKSHIRE, UK

CAROLINE NESS

“ Born in 1960, I grew up amidst the excitement and wonder of the space race! It was awe inspiring for a small child. We watched the Moon landing on a tiny crackly TV in a farmhouse in Ireland whilst on holiday. My father had spent days trying to find someone with a TV in a tiny rural village. The examples of courage, perseverance, determination and endurance set by the Apollo missions have stayed with me from childhood. I studied for my first degree at the age of 43. When I completed my PhD in 2014 I celebrated by making a ‘pilgrimage’ to Cape Canaveral. It was wonderful to see where the lift-offs had taken place, absorb the atmosphere and relive my childhood memories. ”



MARK HENRY'S SCHOOL WORK FROM 1969, WHICH HIS PARENTS KEPT

HERTFORDSHIRE, UK

MARK HENRY

“ We lived in Nottingham in the late 60s and I can still clearly remember being woken by my dad in the middle of the night and sitting in the dark in the front room to watch the first Moon landing. The awe I felt as a young seven year old at seeing the first man walking on another world; it has stayed with me ever since. It ignited a passion for travel and exploring which has taken me to countries all over our world and sailing its seas and oceans. Unbeknown to me my parents kept this piece of my infant schoolwork from the day Apollo 11 blasted off and my family gave it to me on my 50th as part of a ‘50 year’s in the life’ photo album. ”



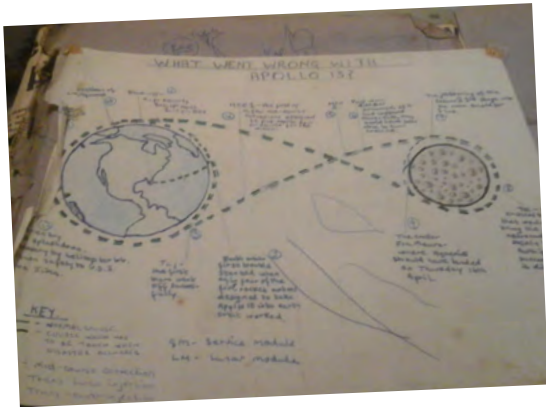
WEST YORKSHIRE, UK

STEPHEN DOBSON

“ Just after the historic Moon landings in 1969, my mum and dad made me a fancy dress costume for my primary school fete and I got first place. I watched the landings late into the night with my late father on our old TV, it’s a great memory. ”



A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE



ONE OF EIRA POWELL'S FOUR SCRAPBOOKS ON THE APOLLO MISSIONS

BRIDGEND, UK

EIRA POWELL

"I first became interested in the space programme at the age of 12 in December 1968, when watching the live transmissions from Apollo 8. From that point on, I watched all the TV coverage and put together four scrapbooks of newspaper cuttings and a few personal drawings. I persuaded my parents to buy me an encyclopedia of Space and a set of records and book entitled *To The Moon*. Armed with this knowledge I entered a competition in the *Daily Mirror* and received a runner up prize. It was a refreshing break from all the war coverage at the time, and gave me confidence that mankind could seemingly unite behind a common goal."



RENFREWSHIRE, UK

MICHAEL DALGLEISH

"1969 was the year I got married. Sadly the marriage has gone along with all the accompanying memorabilia, but the good news is I've still got all the original newspapers for the day of the Moon landing!"



SURREY, UK

DAVID SWEETMAN

"I remember staying up all night, recording it all on an old reel-to-reel tape recorder. I was 16 years old then and fascinated by science and engineering. Those black and white images being relayed over 240,000 miles left a permanent impression on me, especially as I was an avid reader of science fiction and *2001 - A Space Odyssey* had been released the year before. Not least of my memories was the way that Neil Armstrong had to take control and pilot the *Eagle* to land manually to avoid disaster. I had a file of clippings of satellite and probe launches and still have that iconic photograph of Buzz Aldrin's photograph of Neil Armstrong and the lunar lander being reflected in Neil's helmet visor."



A DAY THAT CHANGED
THE WORLD



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ESSEX, UK

CHRIS FLEETWOOD

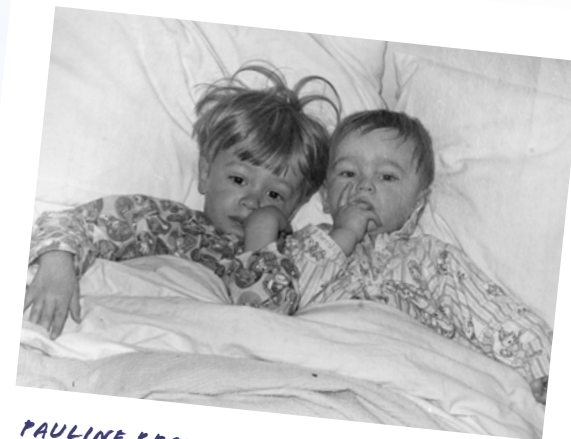
"I had very small black and white television at the time and I wanted to take a photograph of the Moon landing as it happened. I set up my camera, loaded with transparency film, on a tripod and waited until about three o'clock in the morning when the landing was shown on the television. I then took a photograph, not very good as my camera was not an expensive one, although I was very pleased to capture a significant moment in history."



LIVERPOOL, UK

JOYCE CARTER

"I watched the Moon landing from a lighthouse on the Calf of Man. I was there with eight other Girl Guides. We were staying in an old farmhouse which was a bird observatory. It had no electricity. We set off with the two wardens, to watch Manx shearwaters coming in after dark. But it was too stormy for the birds. The warden took us to the lighthouse which had opened in 1968. This had its own generator and (surprise) a TV! We settled down in the lounge with the three lighthouse keepers. I recall walking back to the farmhouse in the early morning light, and saying to my friends, this is something to tell our grandchildren!"



PAULINE BROWN, WHO IS NOW A GREAT GRANDMOTHER, WOKE HER SONS STEPHEN AND GARY TO WATCH THE MOON LANDING

CHELTENHAM, UK

PAULINE BROWN

"Our two boys were one and two years old. We got them out of bed and sat with them on the sofa to watch the TV. We said to them, "You won't remember this but we want you, in the future, to know you watched this live, as it happened."



A DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD



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ROG PATTERSON'S PHOTO OF NEIL ARMSTRONG, WHEN THEY MET 40 YEARS AFTER THE MOON LANDING

HAMPSHIRE, UK

PHILIP OWER

"I was 12 when the iconic 'Earth Rise' photograph from Apollo 8 was published. I followed every mission meticulously and kept scrapbooks of news cuttings, had a map of the Moon on my bedroom wall with all the landing sites marked, collected every magazine about Apollo there was (the Life magazine special is a prized possession), wrote to NASA and the American Embassy in London for photos, took photos of the TV screen which I processed myself and filmed the TV screen with my Dad's 8mm camera. I stayed up until 3am to watch Neil Armstrong step off the LEM, when the rest of the family had long since given up and gone to bed. I've kept all my memorabilia from that time and at 63 I still get a thrill going through it all."

SOMERSET, UK

BRENDA TITCHEN

"On the night of the Moon landing, my husband and I were living in Bourne End, Buckinghamshire. It was a hot, sultry night and we had opened the French doors onto the veranda. We had settled ourselves in for a long evening when I suddenly became aware that a monkey had draped itself around the back of my neck. Fortunately, I'm not one given to hysterics and was aware that a man on the estate owned a pet monkey. My husband understandably refused to find the owner until Apollo had landed. This eventful and historical evening ended up with my husband knocking on doors asking if they had lost a monkey and a monkey bite to my finger. Yes, I will remember the Moon landing!"

NOTTINGHAM, UK

ROG PATTERSON

"Shortly before my father died, he and I watched the Apollo 11 Moon landing on TV. Born in 1901 - two years before the Wright brothers flew and 27 years before television was invented - he became a radio engineer, when that was still something new. I clearly remember, watching Neil Armstrong stepping onto the lunar surface, my dad expressing his pride and awe at what had been achieved. Forty years later, I had the privilege and good fortune to enjoy a long conversation over dinner with Mr Armstrong and his wife. I asked him whether the urge to 'be an explorer' had been with him from childhood, but he was quick to correct me: he had no image of himself as an explorer at all."



A DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD



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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, UK

GEOFFREY PUREFOY

"I am just over 90 so I was 40 when it happened. Shortly after the return, someone I knew happened to be at the 'Keys' ceremony at the Tower of London. Of course it was dark as it happened at 10pm. There was the full Moon in all its splendour. The lady said to her companion 'To think that a short time ago a man was standing up there! It must have been awe inspiring'. 'Yes, it was' said a voice behind her - it was one of the astronauts! The exact details are now blurred but I've always remembered this story in essence."



MERSEYSIDE, UK

ALAN FENNAH

"I was 10 in 1969. I remember being in school and we were all asked to go into the school hall. We sat cross legged in rows and our headteacher told us we were going to see pictures broadcast from the Moon. The memory of watching those grainy TV scenes had a profound impact on me. Since then, I became an amateur astronomer and astro-photographer...my curiosity for all things space has only grown stronger over the last 50 years. I entered the Patrick Moore 'Moon Marathon' competition. I spent many nights photographing many features on the Moon's surface including 'Rupes Recta' and ghost crater 'Stadius'. I was thrilled to be picked as one of the winners and received an autographed book signed by the Sky At Night team."



LONDON, UK

ADRIAN BUCKLEY

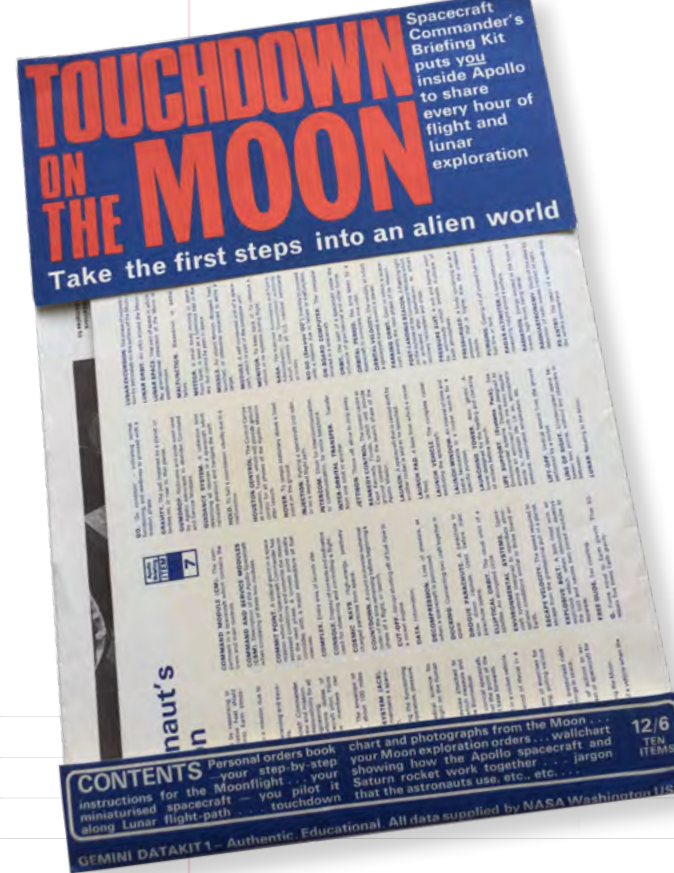
"My brother Will and I watched the entire Apollo 11 mission unfold on a black and white 625 line telly at our parents' house in West Wickham, Kent. We recorded the key moments on a Yashica 24 TLR camera. Here's the original first message confirming a successful Moon landing. I still have the album I made of all our photos and some contemporary newspaper coverage."



**A DAY THAT CHANGED
THE WORLD**



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WEST SUSSEX, UK

MARY WHETTEM

HAMPSHIRE, UK

SUSAN TOWNS

BRENTFORD, UK

CHRIS PRIEST

"I was nearly eight years old and remember watching the lunar landing on a black and white TV. I always loved things to do with space and went on in later years to study physics (including astrophysics) at Imperial College. I have a few original items from 1969, a 'space mission briefing kit' which I have saved in good condition. I also have a ViewMaster with three 1969 Moon Landing image discs, and a school project which I made a couple of years later."

"I was working at the BBC at the time as a secretary and I volunteered to work all night in the basement of Television Centre logging the time on the video machine counter, and describing the events, as the live pictures of the Moon landing were coming in. It was the most exciting experience and I was delighted when Tam Fry, the news producer, came rushing in and asked me the video counter number for the landing and I also gave him the number for when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin first bounced around on the Moon surface. These shots were then transmitted on the next live news bulletin. I am honoured to have played a small part in the BBC's coverage of this historic event, a night I will never forget."

"On the day Neil Armstrong took his monumental step for mankind, my husband, Mike, and I were living in the USA. We rented the upstairs of a house on Detroit Street, Flint. The television was a monster on legs, black and white of course. The sofa was plastic and we had no air conditioning - we sat and watched the Moon landing for hours and consequently stuck to the sofa where we got so hot. We were young, naive, far from family and home but felt united with the whole world as we watched history take place. When we look at the [grainy images]...we are transported back to that small sitting room watching history take place. What an honour."



A DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD



UK Research and Innovation



IAN AND PRUE MCDONALD
CELEBRATE THEIR WEDDING ON
THE 4TH OCTOBER 1969



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, UK

IAN MCDONALD

"In 1969 I was training to be a Chartered Accountant with one of the big four London firms. I was 22 years old and madly in love with my girlfriend. Her father had told me he would not permit our marriage until I had qualified, so there was a lot riding on the result. My results came on 20th July 1969 and I had passed! We announced our engagement and celebrated with champagne while watching the Moon landing on TV. We were over the Moon! We have been happily married ever since. The Moon landing brings back these very happy personal memories as well as sheer amazement still at what was achieved."

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, UK

RICHARD HARRINGTON

"I remember Patrick Moore's excited coverage for the BBC, and the signature tune (Richard Strauss's *Also sprach Zarathustra*) playing as the huge Saturn V was screened in glorious black and white, rising majestically off the launch pad. I was 14 years old and kept a blow by blow account in a scrapbook, which I still have. Two years later I was Dorset County's representative at the 13th World Scout Jamboree in Japan. Every boy's hero, Neil Armstrong, was there in Scout uniform. I later met Patrick Moore at his house, having arranged for him to examine the 'Astronomer Badge' for two Cub Scouts who studied Skylab."

EAST SUSSEX, UK

MICHAEL ROSNER

"There are certain days that are so momentous that most people will remember them in great detail. The 20th July is one of those days. "We must leave now" I said to my wife with as much urgency in my voice as I could muster. Instead of responding she carefully positioned herself on the edge of the chair her eyes glued to the TV. "We must go now" I said, again. East Grinstead where we lived was about 20 miles from Cuckfield Hospital and they were expecting us in the next thirty minutes as her waters had already broken! "Come now" I repeated. She looked at me and very calmly replied that she was not moving until Neil Armstrong had set foot on the Moon's surface."



A DAY THAT CHANGED
THE WORLD



UK Research
and Innovation



JOHN ASHTON, WITH A MODEL OF APOLLO 11, WHICH HE BUILT IN HIS ATTIC

LANCASHIRE, UK

JOHN ASHTON

"I was 14 years old at the time of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. In the build up to the first Moon landing I put together lectures at school and marvelled at the BBC and ITV coverage of the flight. I was even allowed to watch the Moon walks on the TV at school. I am now 64 and over the years my interest in Apollo is still as it was then, I have even built an Apollo model space flight display in my attic model room, I also recorded all the audio from Apollo 13 to Apollo 17 and the first flight of the space shuttle. Project Apollo and the first Moon landing had a massive effect on me."



LONDON, UK

JOHN GUMBLEY

"In 1969 I was 16 years old living in Sydney where the landing was happening in the middle of the afternoon. I feigned illness so I could watch in comfort. Joining me in front of telly was my 90 year old maiden aunt Ethel. She sat silently leaning forward and wringing her hands with delight. When it was done she hobbled out on her walking stick saying "I never thought I'd live to see that". Remember she was born in 1879."



JANE AND BILL ON THEIR WEDDING DAY. HE PROPOSED ON THE NIGHT OF THE MOON LANDING

WEST MIDLANDS, UK

JANE KERLEY

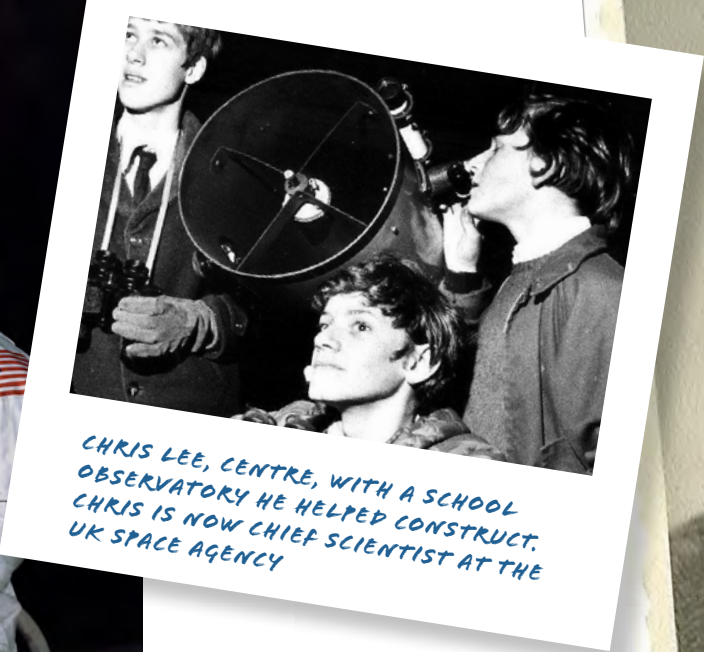
"I was coming back from a weekend at home in North Wales and my boyfriend, Bill, picked me up from New Street Station, Birmingham (where I worked) to take me back to my bedsit in Acocks Green. He was listening in great excitement to the landing on his car radio. When we got to my place, he suddenly got down on one knee and proposed marriage! We have been married 48 years, had two kids and two grandkids and currently own a boat which we renamed Apollo 11! So the landing was a very special event in our lives!"



A DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD



UK Research and Innovation



CHRIS LEE, CENTRE, WITH A SCHOOL OBSERVATORY HE HELPED CONSTRUCT. CHRIS IS NOW CHIEF SCIENTIST AT THE UK SPACE AGENCY

WILTSHIRE, UK

ABBY O'GARMAN

"Although the Moon landings happened long before I was born, I am still inspired by the momentous courage and hard work that took Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins to the Moon. I would like to say thank you to the hundreds of scientists who made this mission possible. It has given the next generation the belief that mankind can really achieve the impossible."

BRISTOL, UK

CHRIS LEE

"Being born in September 1957 and just before the launch of Sputnik, I suppose I was always destined to be a 'space cadet'. I already had my first (tiny) telescope and had started an Apollo scrapbook from Apollo 8 onwards. I wish I still had this! My recollections of Apollo 11 spark three main memories. Firstly, I could stay up late as school holidays had started - this was a treat. Mum, dad, my younger brother and I were gathered around a tiny black and white TV but I don't recall too much about the late-night landing apart from the descent 'countdown' and I certainly had no sense of how risky the landing had been. Dad says I never cheered and took it all very calmly. I do recall the long, long wait for the Moon walk to then actually happen!"

DORSET, UK

JOHN BROWN

"I worked for Marconi, manager of the space communications division. I was 36 in 1969 and watched it confident that the ground station would work. I was always a space nut. It was so fanciful at the time."



A DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD



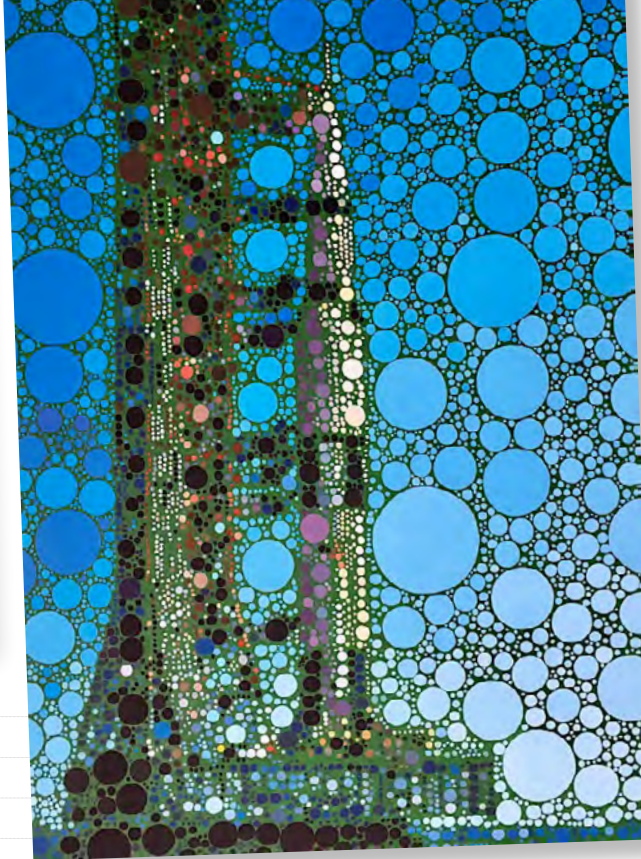
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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, UK

SUE PALMER

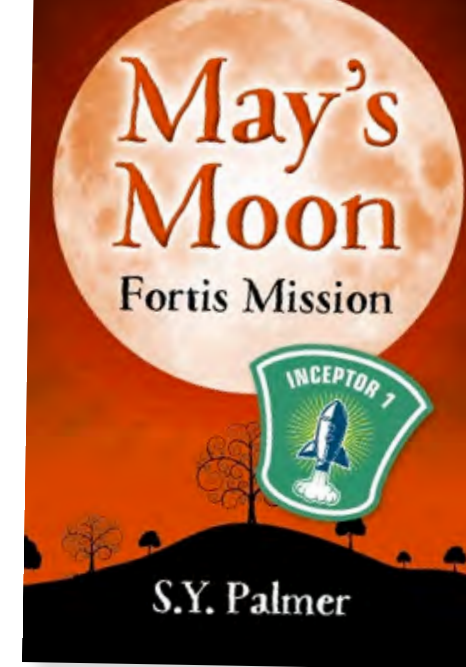
"I was 20 and a textile designer at the time of the Moon landing. Still living with my parents, I remember creeping downstairs in the middle of the night to watch the Moon landing on our black and white TV, with the sound turned down very low. My first space scrapbook was started in early 1968 for a collection of Science Fiction and Fact reference material. My dear friend and colleague Eddie Squires was also keeping scrapbooks at the same time. To commemorate the Moon Landing we each created a furnishing fabric. Eddie designed *Luna Rocket* and I designed *Spacewalk*. What a relief the Moon Landing went so well, both designs are in the V&A collections and were first exhibited there in 1970."



ESSEX, UK

JACKIE BURNS

"I tried to watch the first Moon walk at school, one tiny little black and white TV in the gym hall, with the rest of the school. I remember crying in frustration because most of the other children were not interested in watching and I was reduced to seeing snatches of the TV screen amongst the moving bodies obscuring my view. I am now a Fellow of the International Association for Astronomical Artists and the only professional female space artist in the UK."



OXFORDSHIRE, UK

SUE Y PALMER

"Although not born when Neil Armstrong took those first steps on the Moon, my grandfather used to talk about the amazing technology involved in getting to the Moon. Years later, when I accompanied my own son to the Exploration Space exhibition at the Science Museum in London, I was in awe at the stories, images and replicas of the machines that took man to the Moon, particularly the *Eagle* lunar lander and its flimsy appearance. This exhibition was the inspiration behind my first published books for children, *May's Moon*, the story of a 13-year old boy's dream of becoming the first child astronaut. I now run space workshops in schools and book festivals."

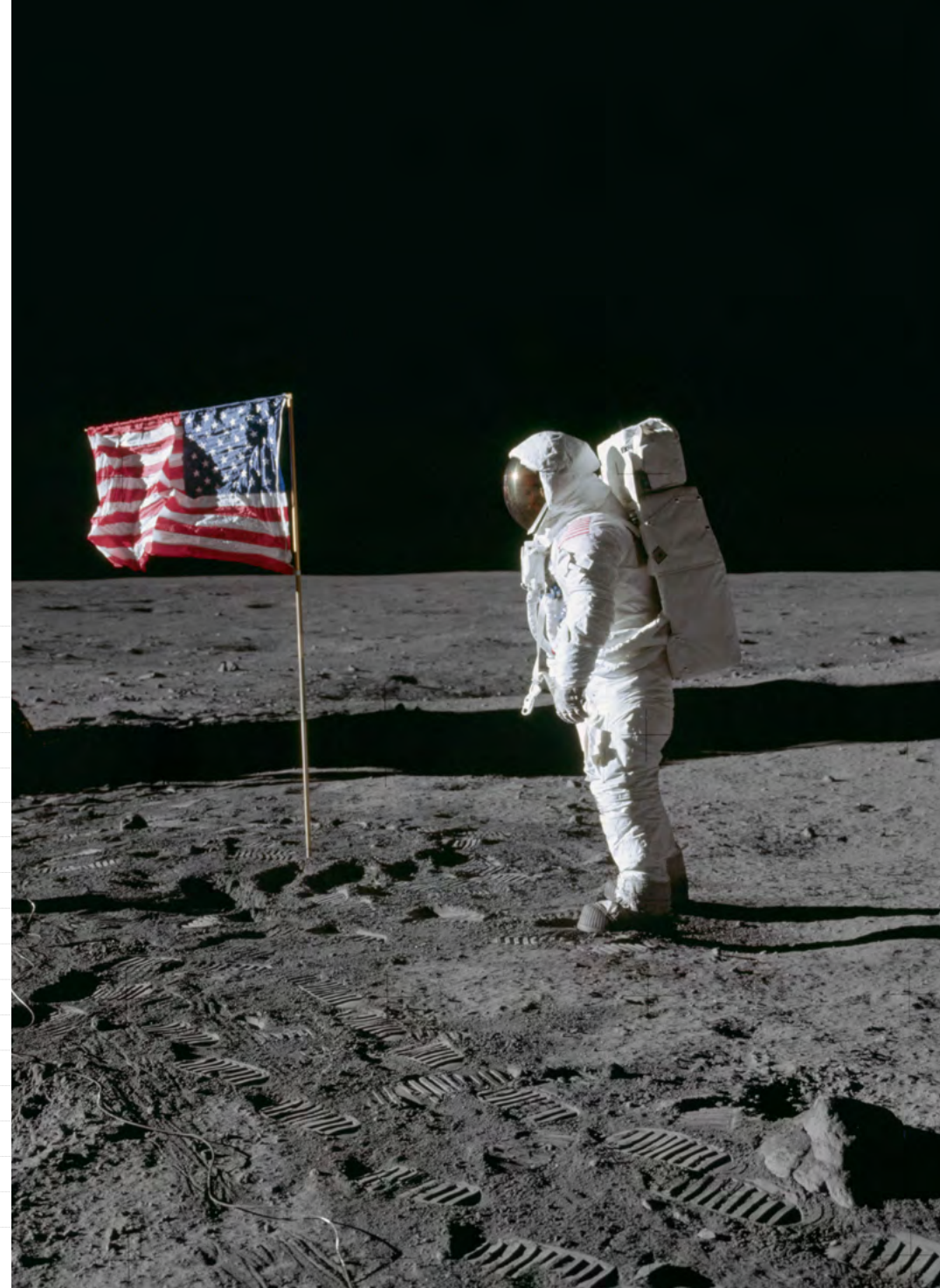




BERKSHIRE, UK

LAURIE HOLLOWAY

“I was the pianist on the David Frost television show which covered the live Moon landing. My late wife Marion Montgomery sang ‘Fly me to the Moon’.”



MOON & CULTURE



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WITH THANKS TO:



Pam Armstrong

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Sue Palmer

Barry Smith

John Brown

Chris Fleetwood

Chris Lee

Sue Y Palmer

Brian Smith

Pauline Brown

Allan Gaw

Martin Letts

Anne Papworth

David Sweetman

Adrian Buckley

John Gumbley

Patrick Mahon

Rog Patterson

Gary Thomas

Jackie Burns

Richard Harrington

Dave Marriott

Eira Powell

Lance Thompson

Peter Cadogan

Mark Henry

Ian McDonald

Chris Priest

Brenda Titchen

Joyce Carter

Laurie Holloway

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Michael Rosner

