



Letter from the Editor

What a start to 2019! More results from New Horizons (page 12), the first soft-landing on the far side of the Moon (page 2) and an imminent start to crewed flights to the ISS from US soil (page 5). But there is more to be had as we recall the momentous events in the Apollo programme 50 years ago (page 28) and look forward to exciting results from ESA's mission to Mercury (page 18).

The 50th anniversary of Apollo is beginning to take hold in the media, with books, films and documentaries, TV and radio programmes and special events around the world. Each month *SpaceFlight* will carry a feature reflecting on those events, looking back but also carrying us forward to the future as thoughts turn again to our nearest celestial neighbour for scientific applications and possibly the industrial use of lunar resources.

This is the March edition but most of you will see it in February. As I write, it is 52 years to the day since 27 January 1967, when we lost three astronauts in a pad fire at Cape Canaveral. Remember the price paid for progress.

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The British Interplanetary Society promotes the exploration and use of space for the benefit of humanity, connecting people to create, educate and inspire, and advance knowledge in all aspects of astronautics.

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Writer and award-winning space historian Francis French describes what it was like to find an unpublished memoir from an astronaut on NASA's first crewed Apollo flight and how it came to be turned into a book.



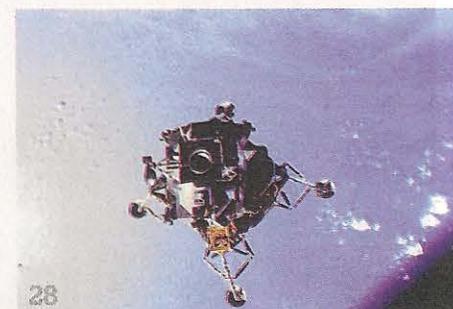
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