



Letter from the Editor

Well that's over for another 50 years but what will we be celebrating, and from where, when Apollo 11 has its centenary: Earth, Moon or Mars? Perhaps all three.

The overwhelming enthusiasm for this great event in July 1969 was rekindled in scores of places all across the UK, with the British Interplanetary Society and its representatives supporting events around the nation. The sense of coming together, sharing a great adventure and taking joy over a great endeavour that stands outside politics, strife and discontent was everywhere. I couldn't help but admire the way everyone bore that glowing sense of wonder, joy at a magnificent achievement – it was as though it had happened yesterday.

I could not help but reflect in my own mind how far we have come with the robotic exploration of every planet in the solar system – and more worlds visited than we knew about when Armstrong and Aldrin landed on the Moon. The achievement of Apollo was that because it went so far there was no turning back from the wider possibilities. And as we look toward new and exciting missions to come we will never forget what began it all – still held dear in all our hearts.

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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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Published monthly by the British Interplanetary Society, SpaceFlight is a publication that promotes the mission of the British Interplanetary Society. Opinions in signed articles are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the Council of the British Interplanetary Society. Registered Company No: 402498. Registered charity No: 250556. The British Interplanetary Society is a company limited by guarantee. Printed in England by Latimer Trend & Co.

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