



# Space Presentations from **SPACEFLIGHT UK**

by Jerry Stone FBIS

Freelance Presenter on Astronomy and Space Exploration

Jerry Stone has given lectures on space since his first one whilst he was at school back in 1969. In the 1980's he was on the curatorial staff at the Science Museum, where he covered the Astronomy, Space and Exploration collections, including the Apollo 10 spacecraft.

He is a Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society and the President of the Mars Society UK.

He speaks all over the UK and abroad. Here are brief details of some of his popular presentations.



## How We Reached The Moon

Celebrate Mankind's incredible achievement

Current plans by both NASA and ESA's Aurora project propose manned flights to the Moon, but this will actually be a *return* to the Moon, around 50 years after the last man stood on its surface. Here is a chance to see how it was done originally, with contemporary video, images and artists' impressions – plus a Moon globe on which you can feel the craters, and a four-foot Saturn V rocket!



## Starry, Starry Night - An Introduction to the Universe

The Wonders of Astronomy

How big is the universe and what is it composed of? Take a journey outward from your home town to the planets, stars and galaxies. Learn about the scale of the universe and how astronomers observe its contents. See some of the wonders and phenomena of the sky, including stars and galaxies, nebulae, meteor showers and eclipses.



## Visiting the Lord of the Rings

The Cassini-Huygens mission to Saturn and Titan

The Cassini spacecraft is currently orbiting the planet Saturn after a journey of more than 7 years. It carried the Huygens probe which separated from Cassini in December 2004 and descended to the surface of Titan – Saturn's largest moon – in January 2005. Hear about the exploration of Saturn from before we knew it had rings, up to the latest results.



## Life in the Universe

Is there life elsewhere and how might we communicate with it?

"Either we are alone in the Universe or we are not. In either case, the answer boggles the mind!" We have already detected planets circling other stars, but could there be life on other worlds? Is it possible to communicate with other beings in space? A fascinating and thought-provoking look at this remarkable topic - featuring songs by *Dr Stephen Baird and the Opposums of Truth!*

Take the Contact Challenge and see if you can decode a space message!



## Let's Go To Mars!

A practical way to reach the Red Planet

The USA and Europe both have plans to reach Mars, but don't expect to do so before the year 2035. Yet if we started now, we could get there in about 10 years, without it costing a fortune. Hear about a new way of reaching Mars, and what the Mars Society is doing to prepare us for the trip, from the President of The Mars Society UK.



## The Day They Launched A Woodpecker

An alternative history of space exploration

Did you know ... That America once sent 50 elephants to the Moon? About the lunar fork-lift? What about Zambia's manned lunar landing programme? Or the rocket that was given a knighthood? Jerry Stone draws on his many years of following the space programme to present a slightly twisted view of space exploration with an amazing collection of stories, many of them unknown to the public. Incredibly they are all absolutely true, including The Day They Launched A Woodpecker!



## Time And Space

**NEW**

### The origins of our measurements of Time

We all take time pretty much for granted - hours, minutes and seconds, days, months and years - but how did these measurements of time originate? Most of them come from our observations of space! See how we developed our various ways of measuring time, as well as how time passes on a range of other worlds ...



## We're All Going To Die!

### The threat from Near-Earth Objects

It came from space! It was 10 km across and it killed nearly all life on Earth! That was 65 million years ago. When might it happen again? The Earth was actually hit by minor asteroids in 1908 and 1947, and recent studies suggest that there are more such objects than previously thought. The threat is real - it isn't a case of "if", but "when". So what can we do about it ...?



## The Earth In Space

### Our place in the Universe

Look up at the sky and it appears that the Sun and Moon, the planets and the stars all revolve around the Earth. So it is not surprising that we used to believe that our planet was the centre of everything. See how the advancement of astronomy and space exploration has shown us the truth, and how the Earth really fits in to the grand scheme of the Universe.



## The Way To The Stars

### Our search for a starship!

**NEW**

Science fiction is full of ships flying between the stars, from the C57D in "Forbidden Planet" to the USS Enterprise in "Star Trek". What about reality? In fact we do have spacecraft on their way to the stars, though the Pioneers and Voyagers won't arrive for thousands of years. Take a journey through our search for a starship, from imagination to reality, looking at how we really might reach the stars.



## Colonies in Space

### A new home - a quarter of a million miles away

Back in 1969, a study group concluded that a planetary surface is not necessarily the best place for a technological civilisation to flourish. Further work produced designs for space colonies 20 miles long, and if space activity had progressed as planned, they could have been under construction today. Building these homes for mankind would help solve several major problems here on Earth. I am now leading a project at the British Interplanetary Society to re-examine and update the original plans.

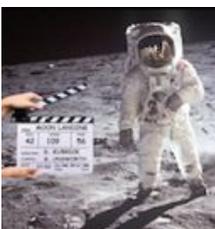


## Is Pluto A Planet?

### Just how many planets do we really have?

**NEW**

The International Astronomical Union has re-classified Pluto as a Dwarf Planet, along with other objects. What does that actually mean? How many planets do we really have in the Solar System? Are there 8, 13, 21 or maybe only 3...? The answer is not the one given in the National Curriculum! This controversial presentation looks in detail at the official definition of a planet, and some of its unexpected - and unintended - consequences.



## Would You Believe - We Put A Man On The Moon!

### Did we really fly to the Moon, or were the landings faked in a studio?

Some people have suggested that the Apollo astronauts did not land on the Moon; instead, their activities were filmed in a studio on Earth, possibly at the infamous "Area 51". How much truth is there in these claims? Were the Moon landings an outrageous hoax, or truly mankind's greatest achievement? Here is an opportunity to find out the truth, and discover why a TV advert was withdrawn.

## The Next 50 Years In Space

A look at potential space activities of the future

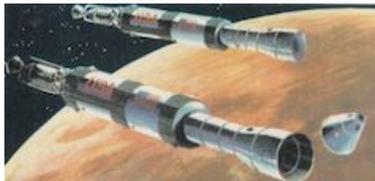


April 12, 2011 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of human spaceflight, which started with the flight of Yuri Gagarin in 1961. Predicting the future isn't easy – all kinds of people have failed to foresee achievements that we now take for granted. But they have also predicted things that have not taken place – bases on the Moon, humans on Mars, and holidays in space. Here is a personal view of what the future may hold for us.

## The Race Into Space

The famous Brooke Bond cards of the 1970s

**Latest**



In 1971, Brooke Bond began issuing a series of cards depicting various aspects of space exploration. Some of the activities had already taken place, whilst others were set in the future at that time, and we are still waiting for a manned Mars mission...

This presentation takes the audience on a wide-ranging journey through mankind's different space projects, looking through the cards and comparing them with reality.

## Nell, Esther and Aunt Effie

The story of the world's first liquid-fuelled rocket

**Now booking**



On 16 March 1926, Robert Goddard launched the world's first liquid-fuelled rocket. Celebrate the 90th anniversary of this historic event with a new presentation from Spaceflight UK.

Goddard's work laid the foundations for the rockets that took astronauts to the Moon and enabled us to explore the solar system. Discover the significance of Nell, Esther and Aunt Effie!

**Jerry Stone has spoken at all kinds of venues across the UK and abroad, including ...**

**Astronomical societies all over the UK**

**The Atomic Weapons Establishment, Aldermaston • The British Festival of Space**

**The British Interplanetary Society • The Catalyst Science Centre, Widnes**

**Daresbury Laboratory, Warrington • The Edinburgh Festival • The Farnborough Air Show**

**The Federation of Astronomical Societies' convention • The Institute of Physics**

**The Institution of Engineering & Technology • The International Astronomy Show**

**Mars Society conferences in the UK, Europe and the USA • Oxford University • The Palace of Westminster**

**Patrick Moore's garden • The Royal Institution • The Royal Observatory, Greenwich • Sci-Fi-London**

**"Standon Calling" Rock Festival, Hertfordshire • Stargazing Live • The UK Space Conference**

**UKSEDS Conferences • The Whirlpool Star Party at Birr, Ireland • The World Science Fiction Convention**

**Meetings of the U3A, Rotary groups and many more**

**Plus interviews on BBC News, NBC, Sky News, BBC 3 Counties Radio and others**

## Positive Feedback ...

"The most inspiring lecture we have ever had." "A wonderfully entertaining talk"

"Your presentation was the highlight of our year" "Thank you for another absorbing talk."

"Fabulous" "As though he worked on the mission himself!" "Visually stunning!"

"The best lecture I have heard" "A very informative, highly interesting and entertaining talk"

"A splendid evening's information entertainment that we probably won't see again for a while"

"You are by far the most professional, organised and helpful speaker I have dealt with."

"Awesome!" - *Audience verdict at The Edinburgh Festival*

For more details of these presentations, visit [www.spaceflight-uk.com](http://www.spaceflight-uk.com)

To book a presentation for schools, universities, organisations, clubs and societies – on topics from the Earth and Moon to the edge of the universe, from exploring the Moon and Mars to extraterrestrial life, write to [jstone@spaceflight-uk.com](mailto:jstone@spaceflight-uk.com)

**"One of the leading speakers on space exploration"**