Jerry Stone, bio & publications

Jerry Stone	Jerry Stone FBIS FRAS is a freelance space presenter, the founder of Spaceflight UK and the developer of Island Zero. He gave his first space talk at school in 1969, at the age of 14, and since 2006 he has been a full-time space presenter, speaking at venues such as the Edinburgh Festival, the Palace of Westminster, the Royal Institution, the Royal Observatory Greenwich, Oxford University and Mars Society conferences in Europe and the US, and running space workshops in schools across the UK. A former curator at the Science Museum, London, he is a Fellow and Council Member of the British Interplanetary Society, where in 2013 he set up the SPACE Project to re-examine and update Gerard K. O'Neill's designs for free-flying orbital habitats. His own design, Island Zero, is a smaller rotating habitat offering several simulated-gravity levels at once. He is the author of the book One Small Step, founded the Sir Arthur Clarke Awards and is often interviewed on TV and radio, including BBC and Sky News coverage of ISS missions. At Space Renaissance International he is Director of Gerard K. O'Neill Heritage Development and of Nominations and Awards, and chairs the Space Habitats Committee of the Space Renaissance Academy.



Professional history (in brief)

- 1969 - First space talk, at Comrie House / Woodhouse Grammar School, aged 14; 1975 - first public space exploration exhibition
- 1980-1983 - Curator at the Science Museum, London (Astronomy, Space and Exploration collections)
- 1983-2006 - Computer consulting: senior analyst programmer, programming manager, deputy manager of systems and programming, consultant (1995-2005 at Northgate Information Solutions), while giving about 30 space presentations a year
- 2004 - Eight-part evening course on space exploration, University of Hertfordshire
- Since 2006 - Full-time freelance space presenter; space workshops in UK schools; STEM Science & Engineering Ambassador

Island Zero and space habitats

- 2013 - Founder of the SPACE Project (Study Project Advancing Colony Engineering) at the British Interplanetary Society: an update of Gerard K. O'Neill's 1970s designs for free-flying habitats, including the 10,000-person Island One, published in two special issues of JBIS
- Island Zero: his own design for a smaller rotating habitat providing several simulated-gravity levels at once, to support medical research on the optimal gravity level; now a project of the Space Renaissance Academy
- Presentation of Island Zero at the SRI 4th World Congress (2026) and in the Academy webinar "Island Zero: a practical gateway to large-scale space habitats" (SRIC4 #01)

Space Renaissance International

- Member of the Board of Directors; Director of Gerard K. O'Neill Heritage Development and Director of Nominations and Awards (elected at the 4th World Congress, July 2026)
- Chair of the Space Habitats Committee of the Space Renaissance Academy
- Co-author of the SRI position paper on the key critical factors towards 2030 (February 2024) and of the Congress Thesis 1 of the SRI 3rd World Congress (2021)

Books

- Jerry Stone - "One Small Step", a celebration of the Apollo Moon landings, sold worldwide ("Marvellous" - Patrick Moore)
- "Find Out - Space Travel", DK, 2019, for the 50th anniversary of the first crewed Moon landing (Peter Bond, consultant)
- Consultant for several other space books

Projects and milestones

- 2003 - Organizer of "From the Wright Brothers to the International Space Station" for the centenary of powered flight: the only event outside the US officially recognised by NASA, about 5,000 visitors
- 2004 - Founder, with the Arthur C. Clarke Foundation and the BIS, of the Sir Arthur Clarke Awards ("The Arthurs"), presented every year since 2005
- 2004 - "UK For Aurora" campaign for British participation in ESA's Aurora programme, cited by Lord Sainsbury as a factor in the UK's GBP 5 million commitment
- 2013 - His name and his poem on Mars exploration fly on a DVD aboard NASA's MAVEN spacecraft (launched 18 November 2013)

Talks and media

- The most frequent speaker at the British Interplanetary Society, including a series for the 50th anniversaries of the Apollo crewed flights
- British Science Festival, Edinburgh Festival, Palace of Westminster, Royal Institution, Royal Observatory Greenwich, World Science Fiction Convention, Oxford University, Farnborough Air Show, Mars Society conferences in Europe and Colorado - and a rock festival
- 2026 - Featured speaker at the NSS International Space Development Conference, Virginia (planetary defense, space ambassadors and space settlement tracks); special presentation for the centenary of Robert Goddard's first liquid-fuelled rocket
- Interviews on TV and radio in the UK, USA and Romania; BBC and Sky News coverage of ISS missions, Tim Peake's return to Earth and the death of Neil Armstrong

Memberships

- Fellow and Council Member, British Interplanetary Society (FBIS); Fellow, Royal Astronomical Society (FRAS)
- Past President, Mars Society UK; Space Ambassador, National Space Society; Senior Associate, Space Studies Institute
- Meetings Organiser and Council Member, Federation of Astronomical Societies; Life Member, Hertford Astronomy Group
- Lifeboat Foundation: Education, Futurists, Media & Arts and Space Settlement boards

LinkedIn
Jerry Stone on the Lifeboat Foundation website