

Reading and speaking

Lives that make a difference

- 1 Look at the pictures and read the introductions about **Eugene Cernan** and **Christina Noble**. Who are they? What did they do? Both have had films made about them. Why do you think this is?
- 2 Read their words. Who said which? What are they talking about?

‘It doesn’t matter whether you’re in a gutter in Dublin or Ho Chi Minh City, it’s still a gutter.’

‘I looked at my footprints, I knew I wouldn’t be coming back. That was the one moment when I wanted to stop time.’

- 3 Work with a partner.

Student A: You are going to read about **Eugene Cernan**.

Student B: You are going to read about **Christina Noble**.

Before you read the article, look at the vocabulary in the box. Discuss which words you expect to go with which article? Why? Look up any new words.

lunar module slums crewmates matter-of-factness
siblings alcoholic landing appalling suffering
cuddles public appearances tunnel vision Earth-rise

- 4 Read your article. Were you correct about the vocabulary? Make notes about three important events in your person’s life. Tell your partner.
- 5 Read the other article. With your partner read these lines from them and answer the questions below.
 - 1 *He survived that great adventure: without becoming capsized by it ... nor retreating from it.*
What is the ‘great adventure’? Who survived? Who was capsized? Who retreated? How?
 - 2 *‘We were so ‘tunnel vision’ about going to the moon. But sooner or later, you’ve got to come to grips with ... what’s important in life.’*
Who does ‘we’ refer to? What was their ‘tunnel vision’? Who suffered because of it?
 - 3 *It was hopeless, made impossible because her father was an alcoholic.*
What was hopeless and impossible? What happened as a result?
 - 4 *The pain has never left her, and she doesn’t want it to.*
What caused the pain? Why does she not want it to go?

What do you think?

- Why do some astronauts have problems with the rest of their lives?
- Will there ever be more manned space exploration? Why/Why not?
- Does suffering always help make you a better person?
- In a film of your life, what would be the most important moments?

▶ **Watch** a video about Pam Llewellyn, a nurse who is trying to make a difference to lives in Uganda.



EUGENE CERNAN 1934–2017
astronaut

The LAST man on the moon

Sean O’Hagan

Thurs March 31, 2016



‘We saw dazzling things.’

Cernan on the moon during the Apollo 17 mission

CHRISTINA NOBLE OBE
charity worker

The woman who transformed the lives of 700,000 children

THE GUARDIAN. Joanna Moorhead

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