



## The Parkes Dish and the First Moonwalk

Jasper V. Wall  
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Richard T Schilizzi  
University of Manchester  
Manchester, UK

On 1969 July 20 or 21, depending on your country, and in mid-(earth)summer or mid-winter, depending on your country, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on the surface of the Moon.

By chance, more or less, Parkes became prime station for the moonwalk; the black-and-white video of that momentous event was received by the Dish. Through the network of the Australian Post-Master General's Office and undersea cable to Houston, the images were beamed to the millions of TV sets, mesmerizing the millions of individuals avidly watching all over the World.

By chance yet again, as John Bolton's PhD student, JVV was present throughout the preparations, the hours of the event, and the aftermath. ~~I will describe~~ Those preparations will be described, how everything went down in the Control Room, and a little of the post-mission fallout. It was far from smooth sailing.

There remain large fractions of populations still believing that the video was faked, and that Man has never left Planet Earth. You will find no satisfaction in engaging in argument. ~~I will provide a~~ pointer or two will be provided, but you still won't win.