

Selected from 8,413 applicants

Reporter Alasdair Sandford interviews British Esa astronaut Tim Peake.

ALASDAIR SANDFORD:

Is this a childhood dream coming true?

TIM PEAKE:

It is a childhood dream coming true – yes. It's something I've always aspired to like many people have I'm sure. But in reality I think we put those dreams to one side thinking it'll never happen. So, in my case I'm extremely fortunate that actually I've managed to achieve that childhood dream.

For me also it's the pinnacle of my career – as an Army pilot and then subsequently a helicopter instructor, and more recently a test pilot. I think to go on and become an astronaut for myself is absolutely the pinnacle of my career.

ALASDAIR SANDFORD:

And the first Briton to be chosen, that must be a proud moment?

TIM PEAKE:

Yes – very proud. I'm extremely grateful, obviously, to be selected by the European Space Agency and... a very proud and very privileged position.