

KILLER COPPER



SCIENTISTS investigating how the new coronavirus survives on different surfaces have found that copper appears to stop it spreading.

It's not entirely surprising, as it was already known that other viruses were killed within minutes by the metal. The coronavirus survived for just four hours, whereas on steel and plastic it was found to last for up to 72 hours.

Other countries are already using it in public places and we are now likely to see copper used much more widely in shops and on public transport.

Professor Bill Keevil of Southampton University says that doorknobs, stair rails and grab rails on trains and buses should all have copper in them, to help in the fight against the coronavirus.

KEEP IT UP!



WASHING your hands properly has become part of everyday life, but it could keep us healthier even when the pandemic is over.

A new study has shown that thorough and frequent hand-washing (six to ten times a day) considerably reduced the risk of infection from other types of coronavirus, such as flu. So keep washing!

AT LAST BLAST OFF!

THE SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft finally launched on Saturday, and has successfully docked with the International Space Station (ISS).

Crowds had gathered in Florida for a second time, following a postponed launch earlier in the week due to bad weather. They were rewarded with a spectacular sight as the craft soared into the sky. The company that created SpaceX, owned by the billionaire businessman Elon Musk, has been sending rockets into space for a number of years, but this was a special and historic flight. The two NASA

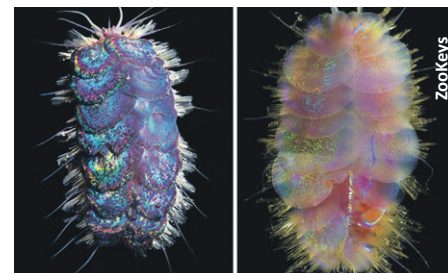


Doug Hurley (far right) and Bob Behnken (second right) with other crew on board the ISS

astronauts aboard, Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken, were the first to go into space from US soil in almost ten years. It was also the first time that a manned spacecraft has been launched by a private company rather than a country or group of countries, who have until now paid for all space travel. NASA, the US space organisation, bought the seats for the astronauts in the same way that we buy seats on aeroplanes – except the cost is thought to be around \$55 million (about £43m) per seat!

On Sunday, the spacecraft successfully docked with the ISS, which orbits the Earth 250 miles above us while travelling at 17,000mph. The astronauts will stay there with other scientists for about three months, carrying out experiments. They will then return in a Crew Dragon capsule that will enter the Earth's atmosphere and parachute into the Atlantic Ocean.

ELVIS LIVES!



DEEP at the bottom of the Gulf of California, scientists have discovered four new species of scale worms that are glittery!

The four new worms belong to a group nicknamed 'Elvis worms', after famous American singer Elvis Presley, as their shiny scales look like the sequins on some of the singer's suits.

Marine biologist Greg Rouse spotted some of them "wiggling and then fighting and biting each other," adding that nothing like it had ever been seen before in similar worms.

"It's hard to believe that the deep sea is still largely unexplored and teeming with mysterious animals," said study leader Avery Hatch.

BEE BITES

WHEN pollen is scarce, bees can be tough on the plants that provide it.



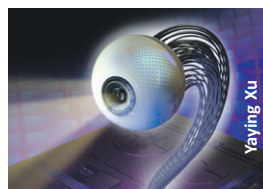
New research shows that bees bite the leaves of plants to stimulate them into flowering. Scientists were observing the bees for other research, so it was a surprise for them to see this behaviour. They looked closer and found that the damaged plants flowered up to two weeks earlier, giving the bees what they needed.

TATA
CONSULTANCY
SERVICES

INNOVATIONS

A SEEING, artificial eye is one of science's biggest challenges that could be one step closer to reality.

The complexity of the eye, and in particular the shape, has been the hardest thing to overcome. Now, scientists from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology have managed to create a curved retina with light sensors that mimic the function of a real eye. The incredibly complicated structure is made from metals, liquid, tiny wires, rubber and silicon, and is a big leap forward. However, reducing the cost and the size of some of the parts are needed to make it a realistic option for robots in the future.



Artificial eyes are hard to create

SCIENCE
MUSEUM
GROUP

This report is from the Science Museum in London

A LOT has changed since humans first travelled to the moon in an Apollo command module, but the new Crew Dragon spacecraft (right) looks surprisingly similar to those used more than 50 years ago.

The Crew Dragon designed by SpaceX took off on NASA's Demo-2 mission on 30 May.

Like the famous Apollo capsules, the new spacecraft has a cone-shaped design but is more elongated (stretched). It is also larger and can carry up to seven astronauts, while the Apollo 11 command module only had room for a cosy three. And unlike the Apollo 10 capsule that was brought to the Science Museum shortly after its mission, the Crew Dragon will be reused!

Find out more at blog.sciencemuseum.org.uk/crew-dragon.

