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Credit: NASA

## First-ever mining kits for space rocks being tested by astronauts

Astronauts will soon be testing a ground-breaking space mining technique that uses microscopic organisms to recover samples from space rocks, such as iron,

calcium and magnesium. The prototype kits, which are part of an STFC-funded study, are being sent to the International Space Station (ISS) this summer.

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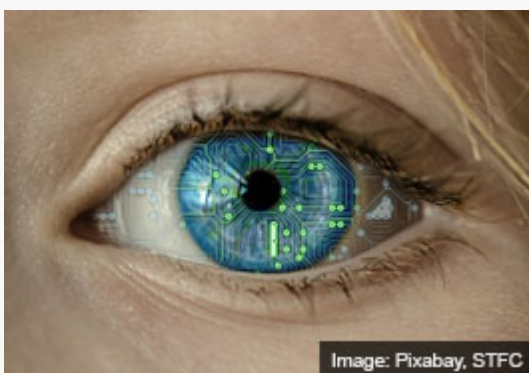


Image: Pixabay, STFC

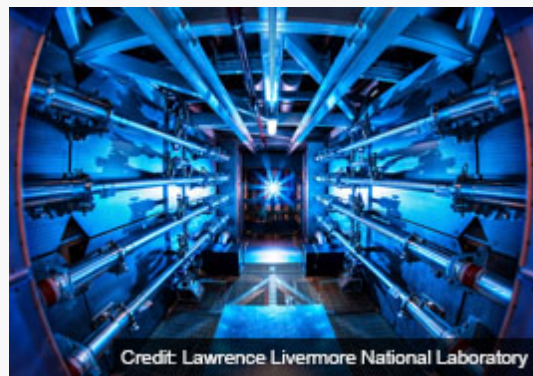
## Pigment may be the key to cybernetic medicine

How do you get the human body and electronic implants to work together? The key could be the pigment that gives your hair its colour: melanin. Scientists at ISIS Neutron and Muon Source (ISIS) are studying how melanin might hold the key to cybernetic implants in humans.

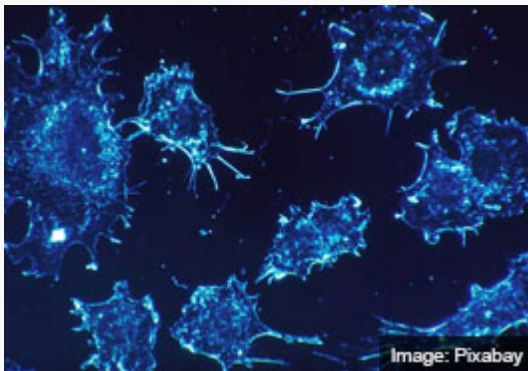
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## Shock and awe: Unlocking the power of the Sun

The world needs a cheap, carbon-free energy source like never before. One way to achieve this may be to create a 'star in a lab' that harnesses the process that powers the Sun: nuclear fusion. A project led by the Central Laser Facility (CLF) is working to make this a reality.



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## Three ways lasers are advancing cancer research

Did you know that the Central Laser Facility's (CLF) powerful lasers are helping with the advancement of 21st century cancer research? Lasers are paving the way to the creation of individual treatment plans, targeted radiation, and understanding cancer cell behaviour.

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## ESA BIC UK company is out of this world!

B2Space is celebrating the successful launch of its stratospheric research balloon. At the ESA BIC UK, the company is developing a test platform for the balloons, from which businesses will be able to assess components built for small satellites.



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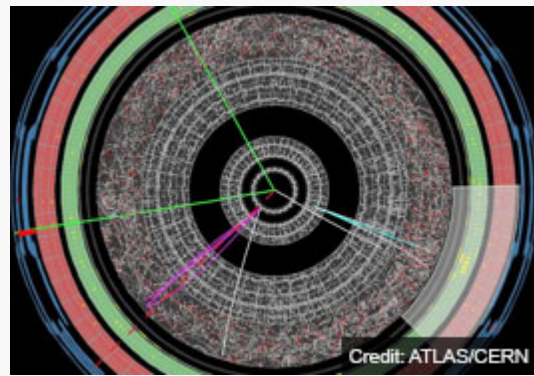
## New Glow Media basks in light of NHS success

Glow New Media, which has worked with Daresbury on two previous projects, and is working closely with the HealthTec Cluster Daresbury Lab, has been accepted onto a Government procurement framework for contracting with NHS partners.

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## 'Baby Higgs' hunt scores citizen science award

37,000 citizen scientists in more than 170 countries have proved that people-powered research beats computer algorithms, and won an award! Higgs Hunters analysed data from the ATLAS detector at CERN looking for anomalies that could be evidence of a 'Baby Higgs' particle.



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## High beta cavities show high quality results

In a project managed through Daresbury Laboratory, high beta cavities destined for the European Spallation Source (ESS) have started to be tested, with very positive results. Cavity validation testing is one of many ESS work packages STFC is involved with.

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## Accessible accelerator wins major prize

Tactile Collider, a fully immersive accelerator workshop that engages blind and partially sighted learners, has won a major outreach award. The STFC-funded project uses tactile objects to take people on an interactive journey into accelerator science.



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## Taste of lab life for future apprentices

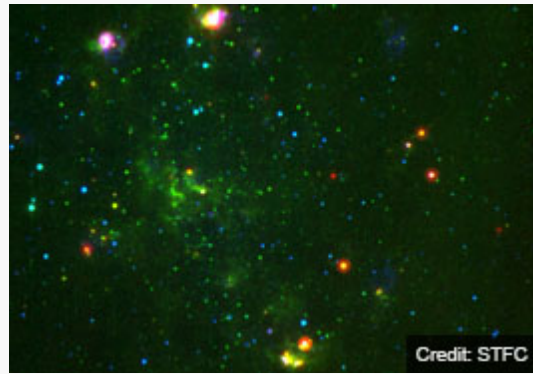
Daresbury Laboratory recently welcomed new apprentices to the site. Together with their families, they were given a tour and the chance to see the world-leading science they will be involved with when they begin their training in September.

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## New star-forming region found

A new star-forming region has been located 1.6 million light-years away in the Sagittarius constellation. Discover the ground-breaking astronomy that research undergraduate students visiting STFC's UK Astronomy Technology Centre in Edinburgh have been doing this summer.



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## Seeing through cosmic dust

Astronomers will soon be able to 'see through' cosmic dust and learn how our Milky Way took shape. Find out how MOONS – a new state-of-the-art instrument – currently being built at STFC's UK Astronomy Technology Centre will tell us about how the Milky Way came to be.

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## Age and background are no barrier in supercomputing

Izzy and Neil are the newest members to join the Hartree Centre at Daresbury Lab. At 19 and 71, they are the youngest and oldest staff members at the centre, which is home

to some of the UK's most technically advanced high-performance computing facilities and experts in the UK, attracting businesses from a broad range of sectors.

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# STFC Social Media

In July, STFC celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 launch. Here's what we covered on Social Media.



We've been collecting [#MoonMemories](#) from our visitors to celebrate [#Apollo50](#). Watch them recall the day that Man first walked on the Moon. [Read more.](#)



Join in with the [#Apollo50](#) celebrations by joining this year's [#SpaceChase](#) [#SummerReadingChallenge](#). Visit your local library to sign up for free! [Read more.](#)



Do you want to find out more about how we got to the Moon? Check out our free Hands on the Moon [#educational](#) resource [#Apollo50](#). [Read more.](#)



Space instrument scientist Barry Kellett tells us the story behind the STFC Moon rock samples and why they are so useful for scientists [#Apollo50](#). [Read more.](#)

