New Scientist

WEEKLY 12 September 2026

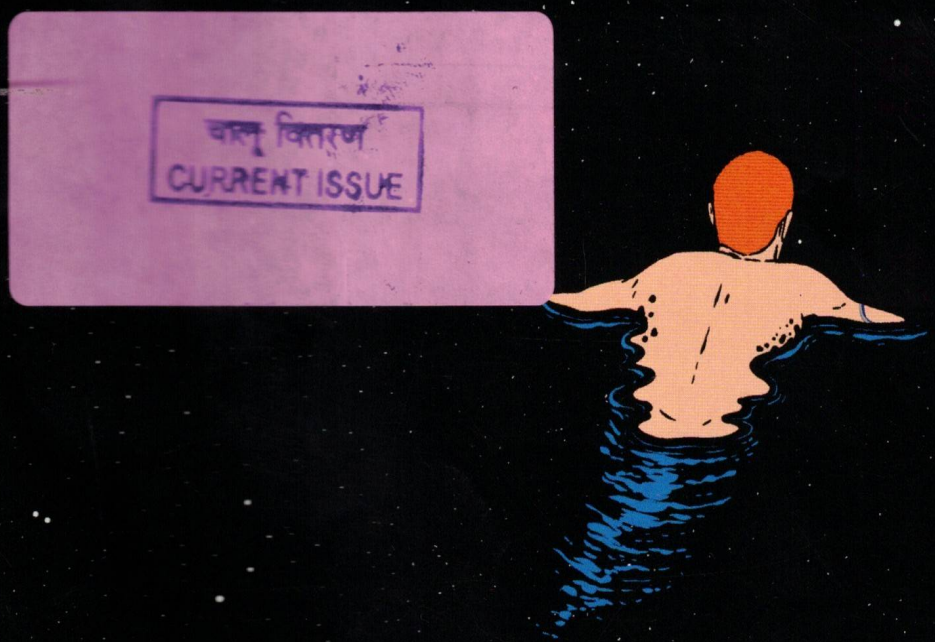
WE MAY FINALLY HAVE FOUND DARK MATTER – WHAT NOW?

SHOCK AI SUCCESS WITH FERMAT'S LAST THEOREM

DELICIOUS MUSHROOM THREATENS ANCIENT WOODLANDS

WHAT IS NOTHING?

We're about to see inside empty space – and reveal the quantum foundations of the universe



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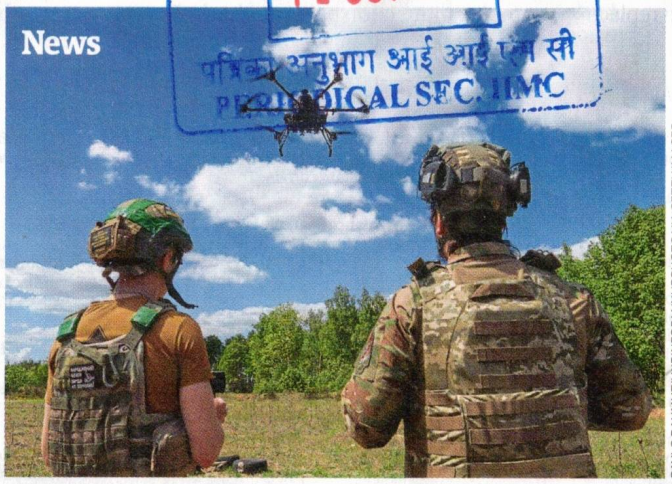

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A note from the editor



Dear reader,

The end of the summer in the UK tends to mean one thing for all of us at *New Scientist* HQ: it's nearly time for our biggest event of the year, New Scientist Live. This annual extravaganza takes place over two days, with an additional day for school students.

If you haven't been before, you can expect four stages packed with mind-changing talks. This year, they feature speakers on everything from the secrets of human evolution and building lifelong brain health to how children can flourish in the age of AI and whether the universe is just a simulation.

New to the show, we have a dedicated family stage with talks for all ages, as well as bite-sized sessions over lunch that blend science with art, music and comedy. As always, the show floor will be packed with interactive experiences, including a walk through a giant gut, virtual-reality adventures and a chance to meet the robots of the future.

The show takes place on 10 and 11 October in London, but if you can't make it in person, all the talks will also be streamed live online. Find out more and book tickets at newscientistlive.com.

I hope to see you there!

Catherine de Lange
New Scientist editor