

New Scientist

WEEKLY 2 December 2023

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT
LONG COVID, FOUR YEARS ON

WHY CLOCKS CAN NEVER
BE COMPLETELY ACCURATE

DID HOMO NALEDI
REALLY BURY ITS DEAD?

THE BEST SCIENCE
BOOKS OF 2023

THE PARTICLE THAT SOLVES THE UNIVERSE

How 'axions' could explain dark matter, dark energy and more



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Longer lives

Way to estimate lifespan could help us extend it **p9**

Earliest supernovae?

We may have seen hints of the first star explosions **p13**

Mystery particle

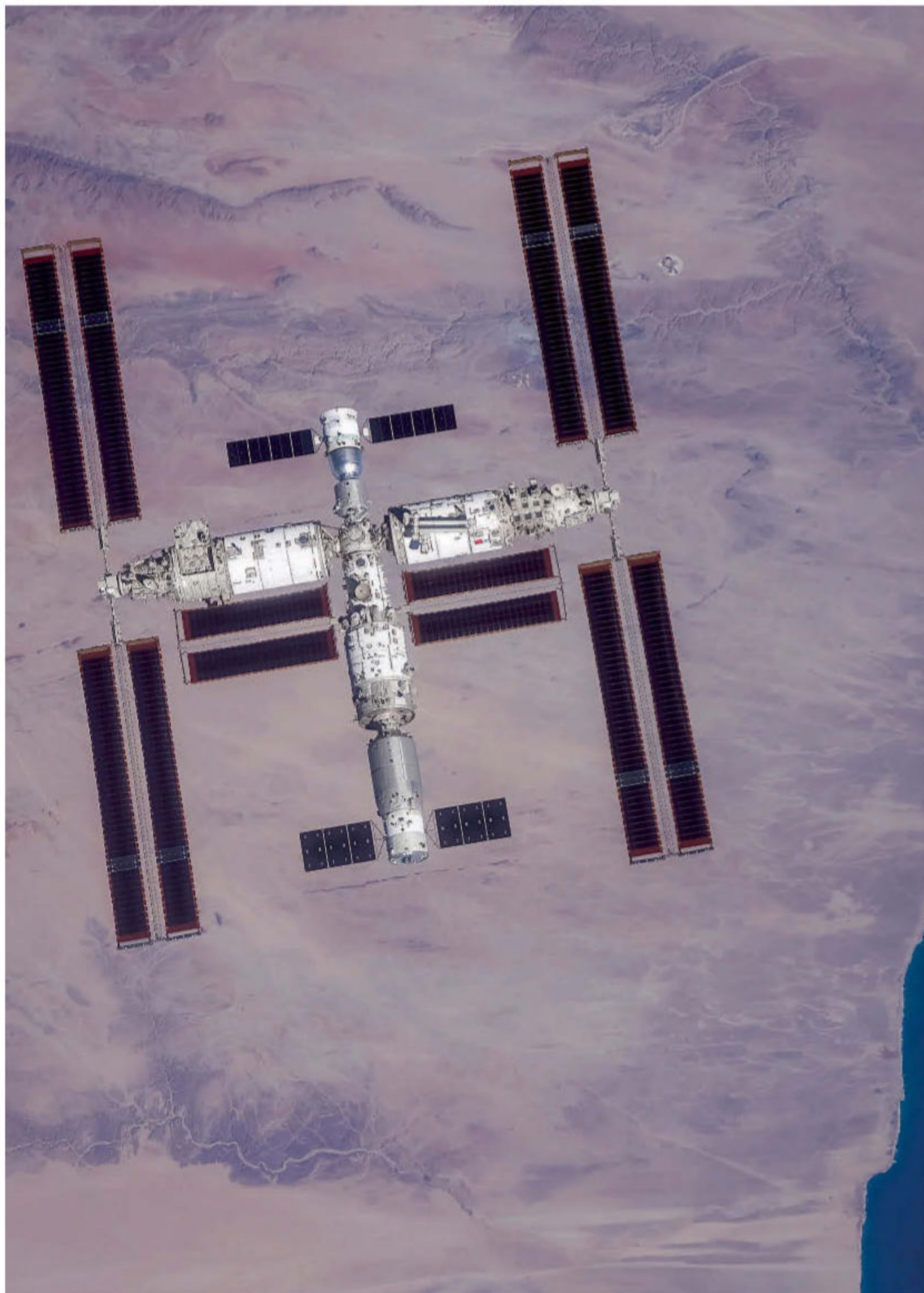
Strange high-energy cosmic ray smashes into Earth **p16**

Peer-group pressure

AIs trick each other into doing things they shouldn't **p17**

Underground battery

Old coal mine to be tested for storing wind energy **p18**



CHINA MANNED SPACE

Space

Chinese station caught from above

China's Tiangong space station has been photographed in its complete form for the first time. This vertiginous image was taken from the Shenzhou spacecraft as it made its way back to Earth after delivering three crew members to the space station. The Tianhe module, at the centre of the structure, contains astronauts' living quarters. The China Manned Space Agency has approved more than 1000 experiments to be performed in microgravity on the space station, including studying how plants grow and how fluids flow there.