WEEKLY 17 August 2024

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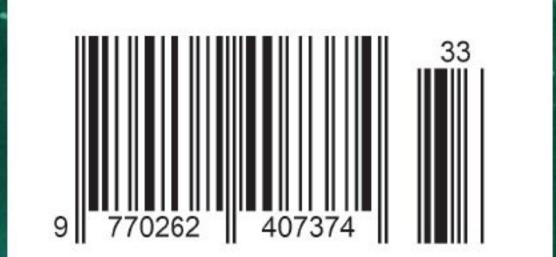
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News

Southern disruption

Antarctica's polar vortex could be about to split in two p8

Escape trick

Single genetic change helped covid-19 variant spread p12

What lies beneath

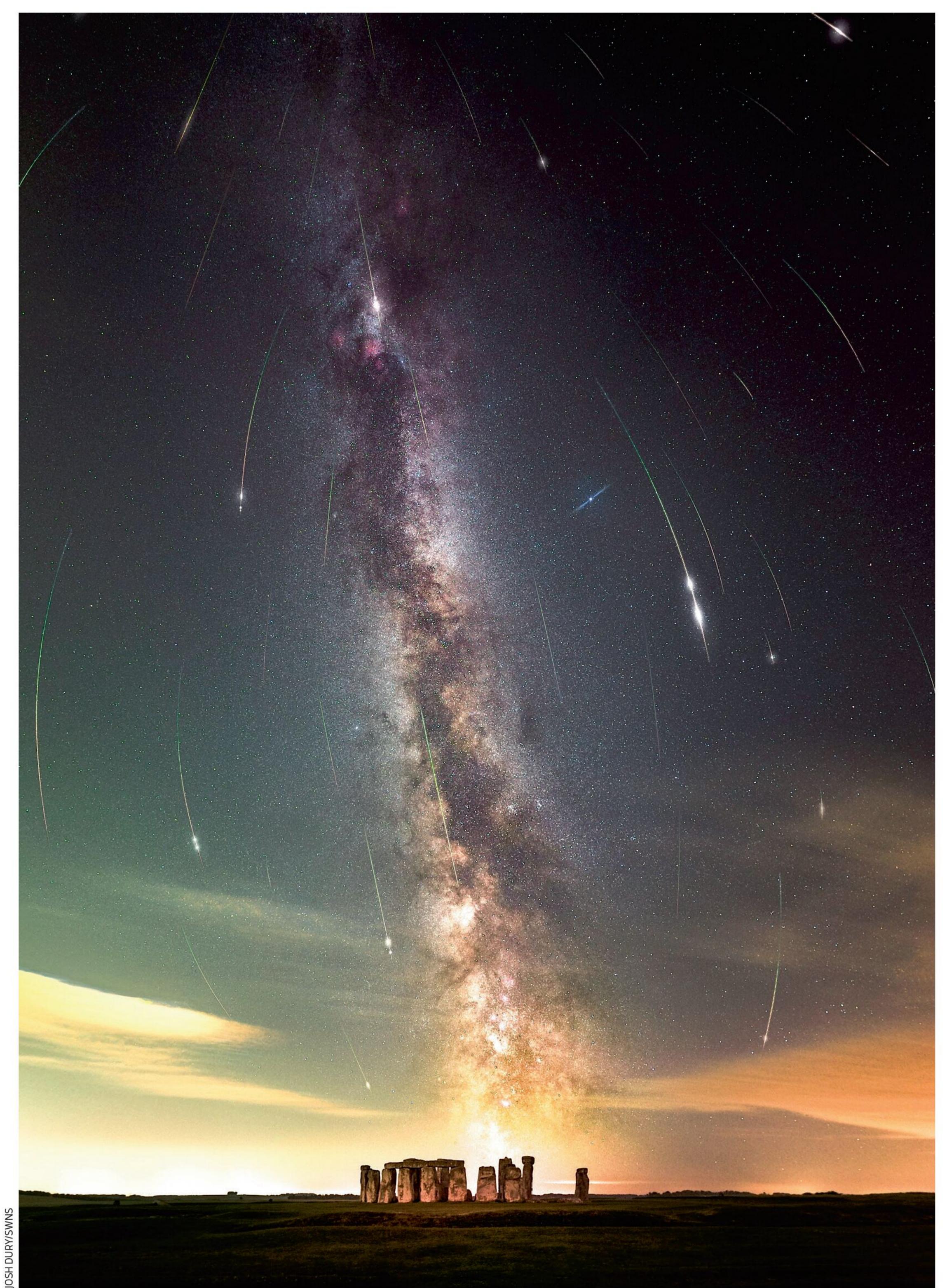
Hole drilled a record 1.2 kilometres into Earth's mantle p13

Missing people

Satellite data is helping locate covert graves in Mexico p15

Privacy issue

Smartphone flaw lets hackers map out your home p18



Astronomy

Meteors light up Stonehenge

The Perseid meteor shower put on an eye-catching show above Stonehenge in Wiltshire, UK, this week. This incredible photo is a composite of 46 images of meteors raining down on the 5000-year-old megalithic monument, taken over 3.5 hours. It also captures the striking and nearly vertical band of the Milky Way shearing through the sky behind Stonehenge.