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# BERCHLY

**Department of Library  
and Information Science**

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# ARTS

## Chirk Castle Servant Portrait

Thursday, March 14, 2024



The [National Trust](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/press-releases) published a press release last week regarding a conservation and research project into a rare portrait at Chirk Castle. The painting depicts a former servant at the castle, John Wilton (c.1691-1751), who suffered from physical disabilities.

**Read more -** [https://www.arthistorynews.com/entries\\_by\\_date/2024/March](https://www.arthistorynews.com/entries_by_date/2024/March)

## Van Gogh's potatoes are no small fry

Friday, March 15, 2024

Introducing Rakewell, Apollo's wandering eye on the art world. Look out for regular posts taking a rakish perspective on art and museum stories.

Rakewell was pleased to learn that a Van Gogh still life of potatoes has this week entered the collection of the Boijmans Van Beuningen Museum in Rotterdam. In a week when the headmaster of a Southampton school made headlines by bemoaning the inability of his caterers to bake a potato, this feels like a moment that calls for celebration of the simple spud.



*Credit - Appolo magazine*

**Read more -** <https://www.apollo-magazine.com/van-gogh-still-life-potatoes-parmentier/>



## **YOUNG CANARIES HELP WELSH SCHOOLS TO ITALY TOURNAMENT WIN**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

THREE Coleg Menai students helped Welsh Schools under-18s win the Roma Caput Mundi tournament for the first time. Osian Evans, Morgan Davies and Harry Hughes – who all play for Caernarfon Town – were key members of the Wales team which beat England Colleges in the final of the invitational tournament on St David's Day. Striker Osian was named player of the tournament after scoring three goals on the way to Wales' triumph.

The Roma Caput Mundi tournament has been running since 2005, and this was the ninth time a Welsh Schools team had entered. The boys beat Canada 4-2 in their opening group game, with Osian on the scoresheet. They then lost 2-1 to San Marino, but qualified for the final after beating Denmark 3-1 in their final group game, thanks to two more goals from Osian.

**Read more** - <https://www.pressreader.com/uk/caernarfon-herald/20240313/282192245958539>

## **Liverpool 6-1 Sparta Prague (agg 11-2): Jurgen Klopp's side ease into Europa League quarter-finals**

**Friday, March 15, 2024**

Jurgen Klopp's side were ruthless despite leading 5-1 after the first leg, scoring four goals in seven first-half minutes to put the last-16 tie to bed, before Sparta Prague pulled one back through Velko Birmancevic.

Bobby Clark, 19, netted his first senior goal for Liverpool right after Darwin Nunez's seventh-minute opener. Mohamed Salah and Cody Gakpo then added two more in quick succession to make it 4-0 inside 15 minutes.



*Credit: Getty Images*

**Read more** - <https://www.skysports.com/football/news/11669/13092710/liverpool-6-1-sparta-prague-agg-11-2-jurgen-klopps-side-ease-into-europa-league-quarter-finals>



# SCIENCE

## Researchers achieve quantum key distribution for cybersecurity in novel experiment

Wednesday, March 13, 2024



Researchers at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory have demonstrated that advanced quantum-based cybersecurity can be realized in a deployed fiber link.

Their results, published in CLEO 2023, validate an earlier proof-of-principle laboratory experiment by ORNL scientists in 2015.

The team transmitted a quantum signal for quantum key distribution--a secure approach to sharing a secret key--using a true local oscillator.

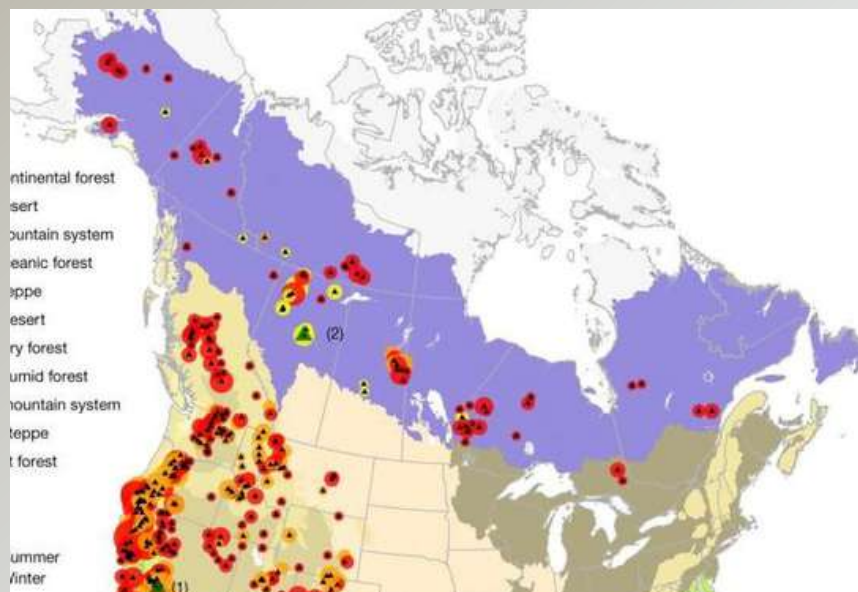
**Read more** - [https://phys.org/news/2024-03-quantum-key-cybersecurity.html#google\\_vignette](https://phys.org/news/2024-03-quantum-key-cybersecurity.html#google_vignette)

## 'The night might not save us': New study shows drought drives overnight burning of wildfires

Thursday, March 14, 2024

The welcomed slowing of a wildfire's destruction that comes with the cool and humidity of nightfall shrinks and even disappears during drought conditions, according to a University of Alberta researcher whose new study published in Nature challenges conventional fire management practices.

"I think it is important to bring this emerging phenomenon to the public to let them know that the night might not save us," says Kaiwei Luo, a Ph.D. student in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences.



Credits -Phy.org

**Read more** - <https://phys.org/news/2024-03-night-drought-overnight-wildfires.html>



# Thai tourist hotspot Chiang Mai tops world's most polluted cities

Friday, March 15, 2024



Credit: Phy.org

Thai tourist hotspot Chiang Mai was blanketed by hazy smog Friday, as residents and visitors to the usually picturesque northern city were left wheezing in the toxic air.

The city topped air monitoring website IQAir's table of the world's most polluted cities early Friday.

Levels of PM2.5 pollutants—cancer-causing microparticles small enough to enter the bloodstream through the lungs—were classified as "very unhealthy" and hit more than 35 times the World Health Organization's annual guideline.

**Read more** - <https://phys.org/news/2024-03-thai-tourist-hotspot-chiang-mai.html>

# Investigating the many flavors of edible ants

Sunday, March 17, 2024



Credit: Pixabay/CC0 Public Domain

Insects are typically unwelcome visitors to a picnic, but they could be a flavorful, nutritious and sustainable addition to the menu. Eating insects is common in some parts of the world, and some species are even considered delicacies.

Ants are one example, sometimes roasted whole for a snack or ground and used to add flavor and texture to dishes. Researchers now report the unique aroma profiles of four species of edible ants, which taste markedly different from one another.

The researchers will present their results today (March 17) at the spring meeting of the American Chemical Society (ACS).

**Read more** - <https://phys.org/news/2024-03-flavors-edible-ants.html>

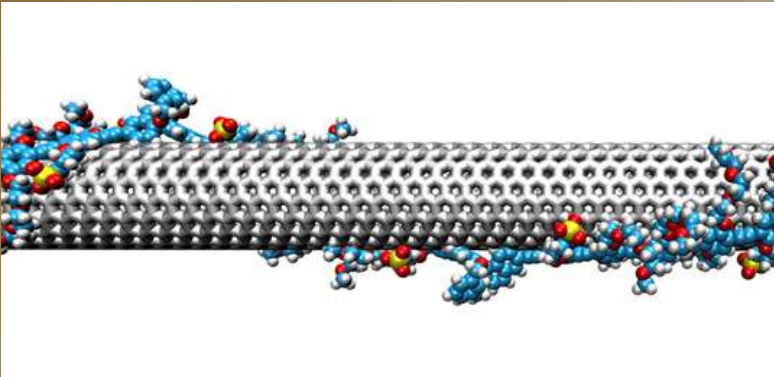
# TECHNOLOGY

## Researchers devise new ways to engineer carbon-based semiconductors for electronics of the future

Monday, March 11, 2024

First discovered in the early 1990s, carbon nanotubes are made from single sheets of carbon atoms rolled up like a straw.

Carbon isn't exactly a newfangled material. All life on Earth is based on carbon. It's the same stuff found in diamonds, charcoal, and pencil lead. What makes carbon nanotubes special are their remarkable properties. These tiny cylinders are stronger than steel, and yet so thin that 50,000 of them would equal the thickness of a human hair.



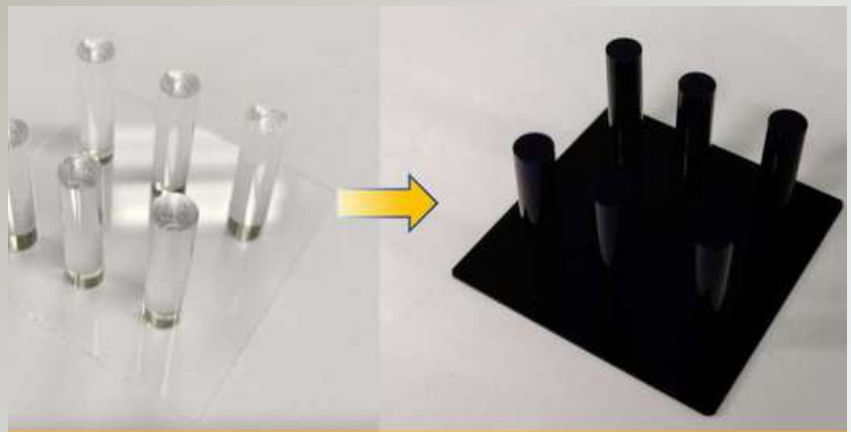
[Read more -https://phys.org/news/2024-03-ways-carbon-based-semiconductors-electronics.html](https://phys.org/news/2024-03-ways-carbon-based-semiconductors-electronics.html)

## Ultrablack thin-film coating could make next-gen telescopes even better

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Sometimes, seeing clearly requires complete black. For astronomy and precision optics, coating devices in black paint can cut down on stray light, enhancing images and boosting performance. For the most advanced telescopes and optical systems, every little bit matters, so their manufacturers seek out the blackest blacks to coat them.

Their coating absorbs 99.3% of light while being durable enough to survive in harsh conditions.



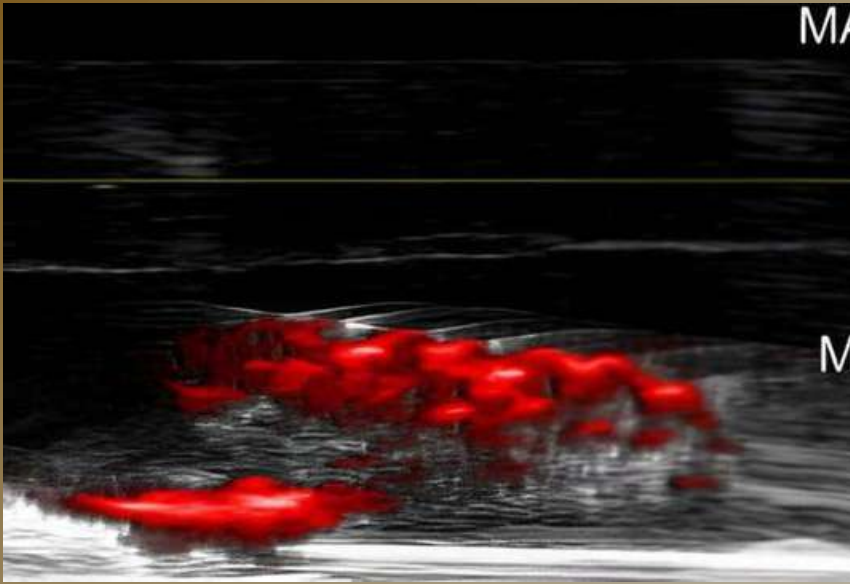
*Credit - Phy.Org*

[Read more - https://phys.org/news/2024-03-ultrablack-thin-coating-gen-telescopes.html](https://phys.org/news/2024-03-ultrablack-thin-coating-gen-telescopes.html)



## Sugar-coated gold nanoparticles can quickly eliminate bacterial infections, no antibiotics required

Wednesday, March 13, 2024



Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and Stanford University have developed sugar-coated gold nanoparticles that they used to both image and destroy biofilms. In a study published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation, the authors demonstrated the diagnostic and therapeutic potential of the nanoparticles on the teeth and wounded skin of rats and mice, eliminating the biofilms in as little as one minute and outperforming common antimicrobials.

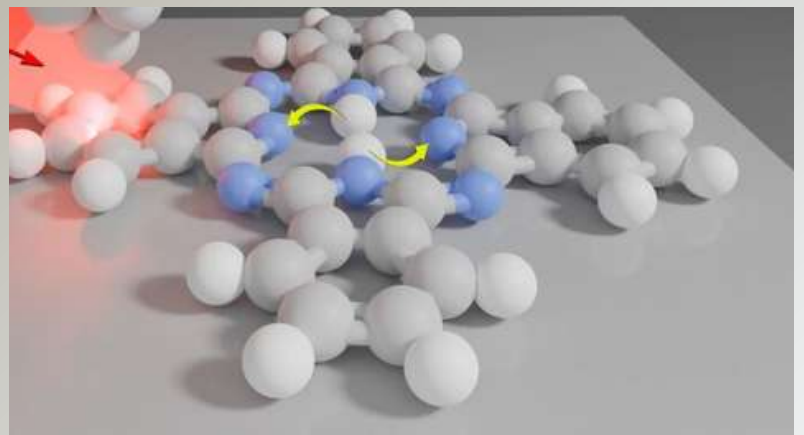
*Credit - Phy.Org*

**Read more** - <https://phys.org/news/2024-03-sugar-coated-gold-nanoparticles-quickly.html>

## Driving photochemistry with sub-molecular precision

Friday, March 15, 2024

Absorption of light initiates many natural and artificial chemical processes, for example, photosynthesis in plants, human vision, or even 3D printing. Until now, it seemed impossible to control a light-driven chemical reaction at the atomic scale, where only a specific part of one molecule is addressed.



*Credit -Phy.Org*

**Read more** - <https://phys.org/news/2024-03-photochemistry-molecular-precision.html>