

Weekly Science Report

August 8, 2025

“Buddha was not a Buddhist. Jesus was not a Christian. Muhammad was not a Muslim. They were teachers who taught Love. Love was their religion.”

Author Unknown

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Introduction

Steve Detwiler created this publication with the support of Graham Hancock and the late John Anthony West to share news and information on various disciplines to include but not limited to paleontology, space sciences, genetics, and archaeology. His goal behind sharing this publication has always been very simple, by sharing knowledge we can make our world a better place. This publication is Mr. Detwiler's contribution to bring people together and share ideas and discoveries with his fellow humans.

I hope you enjoy this publication and that the content challenges and inspires you!

The Weekly Science Report is also on social media at:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/weeklysciencertpt/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/wklysciencertpt>

News Articles

Paleontology, Evolution and Prehistoric Studies

A new species of 'penis worm' was discovered in the Grand Canyon

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/new-species-penis-worm-grand-canyon>

Mystery of Atlantis deepens as ocean floor discovery hints at ancient catastrophe

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14983129/Groundbreaking-catastrophic-event-linked-destruction-legendary-Atlantis.html?fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMEYVpleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHkXcxCtNFksw1KuBFzhKjnVEcC8k1WBw-wClbgDclhsVFPK6FGNg-krSoFU_aem_Go6B1yGti9uLs2NAX0RhhQ&sfnsn=mo

An ancient archaeological site meets conspiracy theories — and Joe Rogan

https://www.npr.org/2025/08/09/nx-s1-5492477/gobleki-tepe-archaeology?utm_campaign=npr&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_term=nprnews&fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMEYbJleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHohmZQGvi_SFkOeddCgdYzHxFFt1NNYJlWzWzqmD3lu4TZ51yuWYd8OTCQvK_aem_jhuEI70C_DQa8H1qeUcbvg&sfnsn=mo

Prehistoric Neanderthal diets were maggot heavy, a new study suggests

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/07/25/science/neanderthal-diet-maggots-rotten-meat>

What Happened to the Bone-Crushing Dogs That Once Hunted Across North America?

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/what-happened-to-the-bone-crushing-dogs-that-once-hunted-across-north-america-180987037/?utm_source=smithsoniananddaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

300,000-year-old teeth from China may be evidence that humans and Homo erectus interbred, according to new study

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/human-evolution/300-000-year-old-teeth-from-china-may-be-evidence-that-humans-and-homo-erectus-interbred-according-to-new-study>

Gabon forest cave reveals clues about prehistoric central Africa

<https://phys.org/news/2025-08-gabon-forest-cave-reveals-clues.html>

Searching for Artificial Memory Systems in ancient humans with spatial statistics

<https://phys.org/news/2025-08-artificial-memory-ancient-humans-spatial.html>

1.5 million-year-old stone tools from mystery human relative discovered in Indonesia — they reached the region before our species even existed

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/human-evolution/1-5-million-year-old-stone-tools-from-mystery-human-relative-discovered-in-indonesia-they-reached-the-region-before-our-species-even-existed>

Stone Age family may have been cannibalized for 'ultimate elimination' 5,600 years ago, study suggests

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/stone-age-family-may-have-been-cannibalized-for-ultimate-elimination-5-600-years-ago-study-suggests>

'Oddly shaped head' left in Italian cave 12,500 years ago is Europe's oldest known case of cranial modification, study finds

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/oddly-shaped-head-left-in-italian-cave-12-500-years-age-is-europes-oldest-known-case-of-cranial-modification-study-finds>

Oldest known docodontan fossil found in Greenland narrows the evolutionary gap
<https://phys.org/news/2025-08-oldest-docodontan-fossil-greenland-narrows.html>

History

Hundreds of children disappeared in Argentina. Their grandmothers united to find them

<https://www.npr.org/2025/08/08/nx-s1-5494307/argentina-dirty-war-grandmothers-flower-traveled-in-my-blood>

Japan marks 80th anniversary of atomic bombing in Hiroshima

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/japan-marks-80th-anniversary-atomic-bombing-hiroshima/story?id=124399141>

Smithsonian says Trump impeachments will be restored to exhibit

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/smithsonian-trump-impeachment-exhibit/>

'The Smithsonian Institution owns the Discovery.' Museum resists Trump's 'Big Beautiful Bill' plan to move space shuttle to Houston

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/the-smithsonian-institution-owns-the-discovery-museum-resists-trumps-big-beautiful-bill-plan-to-move-space-shuttle-to-houston>

These Swimmers Are Finishing the Final Voyage of the 'Edmund Fitzgerald,' Which Sank in Lake Superior 50 Years Ago

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/these-swimmers-are-finishing-the-final-voyage-of-the-edmund-fitzgerald-which-sank-in-lake-superior-50-years-ago-180987095/?utm_source=smithsonian-weekender&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Amelia Earhart's Trailblazing Life in Aviation

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/smithsonian-american-womens-history-museum/2025/08/07/amelia-earharts-trailblazing-life-in-aviation/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

How Lizzie Borden Got Away With Murder

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-lizzie-borden-got-away-with-murder-180972707/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

The Swashbuckling Tudor Mercenary Who Was Killed in a Battle That Claimed the Lives of Three 16th-Century Kings

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-swashbuckling-tudor-mercenary-who-was-killed-in-a-battle-that-claimed-the-lives-of-three-16th-century-kings-180987082/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Scientific tools are tracing the evolution of ancient biblical manuscripts

<https://phys.org/news/2025-08-scientific-tools-evolution-ancient-biblical.html>

See 'hyperrealistic' reconstructions of 2 Stone Age sisters who worked in brutal mine in the Czech Republic 6,000 years ago

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/see-hyperrealistic-reconstructions-of-2-stone-age-sisters-who-worked-in-brutal-mine-in-the-czech-republic-6-000-years-ago>

Maya civilization had 16 million people at peak, new study finds — twice the population of modern-day NYC

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/maya-civilization-had-16-million-people-at-peak-new-study-finds-twice-the-population-of-modern-day-nyc>

Archaeogenetic study reveals population history of southern Caucasus in unprecedented detail
<https://phys.org/news/2025-08-archaeogenetic-reveals-population-history-southern.html>

NEW DNA ANALYSIS REVEALS MALADIES THAT RAVAGED NAPOLEON'S TROOPS
<https://archaeology.org/news/2025/08/08/new-dna-analysis-reveals-maladies-that-ravaged-napoleons-troops/>

MOSAIC INSCRIPTION CONNECTS JUSTINIAN TO ANCIENT CITY IN KOSOVO
<https://archaeology.org/news/2025/08/08/mosaic-inscription-connects-justinian-to-ancient-city-in-kosovo/>

In Belize, Maya Descendants Are Reviving an Ancient, Sacred Ballgame
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/in-belize-maya-descendants-are-reviving-an-ancient-sacred-ballgame-180987058/>

Archaeology

Archaeologists in Mexico Discover Long-Lost City Inhabited by Maya Rebels Who Resisted the Spanish Conquest

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/archaeologists-in-mexico-discover-long-lost-city-inhabited-by-maya-rebels-who-resisted-the-spanish-conquest-180987123/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=editorial&utm_term=872025&utm_content=new&fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMB4idleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHhE8QvN9c4kh8Ohr3udH7YxJrRjQQHBQMvX2OFzQVB2okgR9YH4zS9XUwOmP_aem_1YQzXz7lwOXzw1xbl-p8QA&sfnsn=mo

New evidence at Pompeii shows survivors of Mount Vesuvius eruption returned to live in "precarious conditions"

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/pompeii-vesuvius-eruption-survivors-reoccupation-precarious-conditions/>

Photos of searchers seeking victims of a Hiroshima bombing 80 years later on a nearby island

<https://apnews.com/photo-gallery/japan-hiroshima-ninoshima-searchers-bomb-4589db941407a6f76c278b2c1d858d95>

3000-Year-Old Mural Unearthed in Peru Reveals 'Unique' Ancient Art Technique

https://news.artnet.com/art-world/3000-year-old-polychrome-mural-peru-2675399?utm_campaign=artnet-news&utm_content=1754672143&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMEOg1jbGNrAwQ6CGV4dG4DYWVtAjExAAEePJ7ZB3zZNzYL6zzuaPod6KD8zserd24LnjU3V9K_w6irxVhEgtvUFaoLquk_aem_VgAHt8E9hF0gjZ6td1Yd1A&sfnsn=mo

Centuries-Old Hawaiian Petroglyphs Emerge From the Sand for the First Time in Nine Years

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/centuries-old-hawaiian-petroglyphs-emerge-from-the-sand-for-the-first-time-in-nine-years-180987080/?utm_source=smithsonian-weekender&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Scientists Found Sticky Goo Inside a 2,500-Year-Old Jar. Seventy Years Later, They Finally Know What It Is

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/scientists-found-sticky-goo-inside-a-2500-year-old-jar-70-years-later-they-finally-know-what-it-is-180987088/?utm_source=smithsonian-weekender&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Archaeologists Thought This Ancient Site in Spain Was a Church. Was It Actually a Synagogue?

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/archaeologists-thought-this-ancient-site-in-spain-was-a-church-was-it-actually-a-synagogue-180987117/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Shroud of Turin wasn't laid on Jesus' body, but rather a sculpture, modeling study suggests

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/shroud-of-turin-wasnt-laid-on-jesus-body-but-rather-a-sculpture-modeling-study-suggests>

Utility workers in Peru unearth pre-Incan tomb with 1,000-year-old remains

https://phys.org/news/2025-08-workers-peru-unearth-pre-incan.html#google_vignette

Mosaic with Star of David and Hidden Messages in Ancient Greek Found in Turkey

<https://www.ipost.com/archaeology/article-863068>

New Clues in Poland's Search for the 'Eighth Wonder' - From Königsberg to Kaliningrad

<https://www.ipost.com/archaeology/article-863174>

5,000-year-old burials in Germany hold 3 women with bedazzled baby carriers

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/5-000-year-old-burials-in-germany-hold-3-women-with-bedazzled-baby-carriers>

3,000-year-old burial of elite teen unearthed in Iran, with gold jewelry and astonishing 'scorpion' cosmetics box

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/3-000-year-old-burial-of-elite-teen-unearthed-in-iran-with-gold-jewelry-and-astonishing-scorpion-cosmetics-box>

10,000-Year-Old Rock Engravings Discovered in Libya

<https://greekreporter.com/2025/08/07/libya-rock-engravings/>

SETTING SAIL FOR VALHALLA

<https://archaeology.org/issues/july-august-2025/features/setting-sail-for-valhalla/>

WRECK OF SPANISH PRIVATEER IDENTIFIED IN NORTH CAROLINA

<https://archaeology.org/news/2025/08/07/wreck-of-spanish-privateer-identified-in-north-carolina/>

Egyptology

Mystery 4,000-year-old handprint found on Egyptian soul house

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/egypt-fitzwilliam-hand-print-find-b2797125.html>

From Pagan Temples to Coptic Prayers: New Discovery Sheds Light on Early Christianity in Egypt

https://www.jpost.com/archaeology/article-863191#google_vignette

General Science

Trump order gives political appointees vast powers over research grants

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-02557-z?fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMFIJdjbGNrAwWUy2V4dG4DYWVtAjExAAEe9F1y-BrggFM8_gVsCiwT4xaj2OdVFf-g4kf4w3i5qCISONIyQF4JHy81dqs_aem_bMCaKUulveHkpbLcfqBZPA&sfnsn=mo

Quantum Breakthrough: Scientists Find “Backdoor” to 60-Year-Old Superconducting Mystery

<https://scitechdaily.com/quantum-breakthrough-scientists-find-backdoor-to-60-year-old-superconducting-mystery/>

Physics, Earth and Space Sciences

Harvard professor believes interstellar comet could be alien spacecraft

https://www.wpri.com/dont-miss/harvard-professor-believes-interstellar-comet-could-be-alien-spacecraft/?fbclid=IwY2xjawL3pDNleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHvFWy7r4skI2xdoF31TcYea59idpvR99hKQbtXAa94CQG9kW9KnsQ7uZERcB_aem_5bcDGZrnE4XU-EQFpv1hng

Trump administration eyes nuclear power on the moon

<https://thehill.com/newsletters/energy-environment/5437467-trump-administration-eyes-nuclear-power-on-the-moon/>

A planet from the Avatar movies may exist in real life

<https://www.npr.org/2025/08/07/nx-s1-5493270/planet-alpha-centauri-avatar-movies-gas-giant-habitable-zone>

NASA declares troubled Lunar Trailblazer moon orbiter dead

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/missions/nasa-declares-troubled-lunar-trailblazer-moon-orbiter-dead>

The World's First Commercial Spaceplane Won't Be Launching Anytime Soon

<https://gizmodo.com/the-worlds-first-commercial-spaceplane-wont-be-launching-anytime-soon-2000639097>

NASA's Europa Clipper radar passes key test during Mars flyby

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/nasas-europa-clipper-radar-passes-key-test-during-mars-flyby>

NASA awards Firefly Aerospace \$177 million for 1st multi-rover mission to moon's south pole

<https://www.space.com/astronomy/moon/nasa-awards-firefly-aerospace-usd177-million-for-1st-multi-rover-mission-to-moons-south-pole>

See the Sharpest Image Yet of an Interstellar Comet Passing Through the Solar System

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/see-the-sharpest-image-yet-of-an-interstellar-comet-passing-through-the-solar-system-180987133/?utm_medium=distribution&utm_source=pushly&utm_campaign=editorial

NASA's new chief has radically rewritten the rules for private space stations

<https://arstechnica.com/space/2025/08/as-the-end-of-the-iss-nears-nasa-shakes-up-program-for-commercial-replacements/>

Astronaut Butch Wilmore retires from NASA after 25 years

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/human-spaceflight/astronaut-butch-wilmore-retires-from-nasa-after-25-years>

Beam me up, jellyfish: experts unveil spaceships to take us to the stars

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2025/aug/06/spaceships-design-stars-craft-interstellar-travel-project-hyperion>

New 'Vulcan' rocket to fly first military mission next week

<https://www.defensenews.com/space/2025/08/06/new-vulcan-rocket-to-fly-first-military-mission-next-week/>

Is Earth orbit doomed to be a billionaire's playground?

https://phys.org/news/2025-08-earth-orbit-doomed-billionaire-playground.html#google_vignette

An icy supervolcano eruption on Pluto may have left a massive crater on the frozen world
<https://www.space.com/astronomy/pluto/an-icy-supervolcano-eruption-on-pluto-may-have-left-a-massive-crater-on-the-frozen-world>

Baby star fires a jet, then gets blasted by the fallout
https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/08/250806094121.htm#google_vignette

Proposed spacecraft could carry up to 2,400 people on a one-way trip to the nearest star system, Alpha Centauri
<https://www.livescience.com/space/space-exploration/proposed-spacecraft-could-carry-up-to-2-400-people-on-a-one-way-trip-to-the-nearest-star-system-alpha-centauri>

Can Astronomers and Satellite Operators Learn to Share the Sky?
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/starlink-and-astronomers-are-in-a-light-pollution-standoff/>

Environment, Climate Change and Alternative Energy Sources

24 Billion Gallons of Water Burst Through Greenland's Ice Sheet From a Hidden Lake in 2014. Scientists Just Pieced Together What Happened

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/24-billion-gallons-of-water-burst-through-greenlands-ice-sheet-from-a-hidden-lake-in-2014-scientists-just-pieced-together-what-happened-180987085/?utm_source=smithsonian-weekender&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Biological, Genetics and Medical Sciences

The quest to create gene-edited babies gets a reboot

<https://www.npr.org/sections/shots-health-news/2025/08/06/nx-s1-5493448/gene-editing-human-embryos-designer-babies>

Denmark zoo asks public to donate unwanted small pets or horses to feed captive predators

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/denmark-zoo-donate-small-pets-horses-feed-captive-predators/>

Scientists Rewrite the Genetic Code of E. Coli, and It's Drastically Different From Anything Found in Nature

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/scientists-rewrote-the-genetic-code-of-e-coli-and-its-drastically-from-anything-else-found-in-nature-180987098/?utm_source=smithsonianandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&lctg=98054053

Genetic testing reduces risks from chemotherapy for gastrointestinal cancer patients

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1093829>

'These decisions were completely reckless': Funding cuts to mRNA vaccines will make America more vulnerable to pandemics

<https://www.livescience.com/health/medicine-drugs/these-decisions-were-completely-reckless-funding-cuts-to-mrna-vaccines-will-make-america-more-vulnerable-to-pandemics>

Other

How to Detect Consciousness in People, Animals and Maybe Even AI

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-to-detect-consciousness-in-people-animals-and-maybe-even-ai/>

Additional Informational

A 12,800-year-old layer with cometary dust, microspherules, and platinum anomaly recorded in multiple cores from Baffin Bay

https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0328347&fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMC6AVjbGNrAwLoOmV4dG4DYWVtAjExAAEe7p-uceA-f4U2wMGwy2136fmNNthgbME9E_R4uld3zwx4SUfBz9dBrgO5X70_aem_ddKq7Kol--W-OW2Ep1EBXA&sfnsn=mo

Cosmic Girls Space Competition

<https://www.cosmicgirls.org/entryform-competition>

Hominins on Sulawesi during the Early Pleistocene

https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-09348-6?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=organic_social&utm_content=null&utm_campaign=CONR_JRNLS_AWA1_GL_PCOM_SMEDA_NATUREPORTFOLIO&fbclid=IwQ0xDSwMEPq1leHRuA2FibQixMQABHhO2QqNGTaygr7XLJotaGLJ51Knxpb2pJqRegfJ97VxoszOLKvkTOG3Vmo-3_aem_1Po1vDOYQABFUVs33dHZrA

Flourishing chemosynthetic life at the greatest depths of hadal trenches

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-09317-z>

First asteroid sightings push Hera's camera to the limit

https://www.esa.int/Space_Safety/Hera/First_asteroid_sightings_push_Hera_s_camera_to_the_limit

NASA Supercomputers Take on Life Near Greenland's Most Active Glacier

<https://www.nasa.gov/earth/nasa-supercomputers-take-on-life-near-greenlands-most-active-glacier/>

Early primates survived in cold, not tropical climates

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/news/2025/Research-News/Early-primates-survived-in-cold-climates-not-tropical-forests>

Direct observation of coherent elastic antineutrino–nucleus scattering

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-09322-2>

International Science Council

<https://mailchi.mp/council.science/how-do-we-measure-wellbeing-rethinking-the-human-development-index?e=725b365f54>