



Cards more popular than cash!

Card payments have overtaken cash use for the first time, new figures show, as contactless technology takes a firm hold on day-to-day spending. A total of 13.2 billion debit card payments were made last year. It is estimated that about 3.4 million people hardly used cash at all during the year!

It is thought that a lot of the increase is down to being able to pay contactless, meaning you can tap your card without having to sign or enter a pin, which is very fast and simple.



Pictured: A sample credit card.

The world's biggest football fan?



58-year-old Paul Dubberley has been travelling all around the world to watch England play in their World Cup bids for over 30 years. His first competition was Mexico in 1986, where he witnessed Maradona use his infamous "hand of God", and he has been to every tournament since. Mr Dubberley has said the "atmosphere" and the fans he meets bring him back each time. He even went to USA in 1994, when England failed to qualify, but said it isn't just watching the home nation he enjoys, it's also a chance to travel.

Pictured: Paul Dubberley at the last World Cup Final in South Africa.



Animals with night vision goggles



Pictured: An owl.

Prof Geoff Boxshall from London's Natural History Museum is preparing for the opening of the museum's new feature 'Life in the Dark'. He talks about the world at night, in the dark and how many creatures have adapted, "Theirs is a monochrome world. Take the threadfin dragonfish. It lives at mid-depths where sunlight from above is all but extinguished. So, it makes its own light. Bioluminescence."

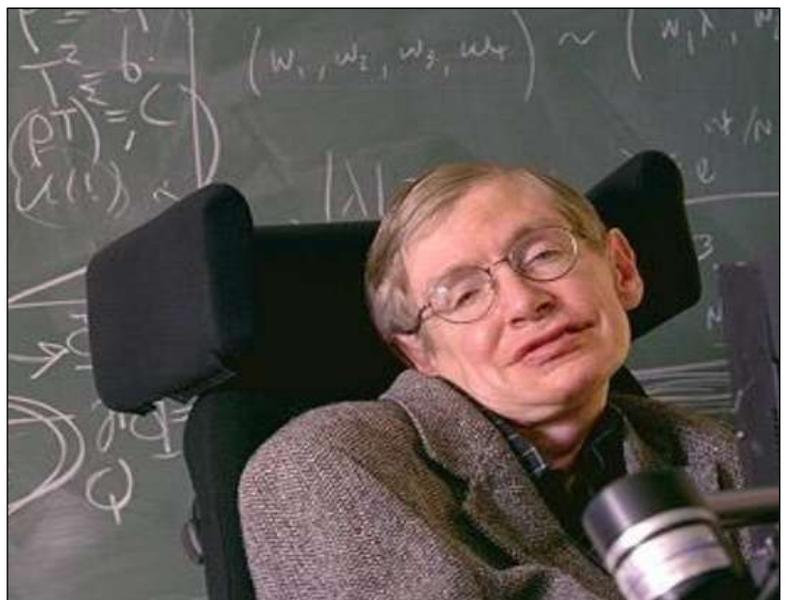
In the past few days, a study has suggested human activity may actually be driving many mammals into the dark.

Stephen Hawking's words will be beamed into space

The words of famous scientist Professor Stephen Hawking have been beamed into space as a "message of peace and hope", his family have said. His words have been set to an original score by composer Vangelis, famous for his Chariots of Fire film theme.

The music was beamed towards the nearest black hole following a service of thanksgiving for Professor Hawking's life at Westminster Abbey last Friday.

He died in March, aged 76, after a long battle with motor neurone disease.



Pictured: Professor Stephen Hawking.

/ think...



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