This month in *Nature*

Below is a selection of highlights published in *Nature* or made available online on nature.com in the last month. Click on the article titles to be taken straight to the content online.

### News & Comment

**Ancient insects pictured in 3D**
High-resolution fossil scans give detailed portraits of 305-million-year-old insects.

**Neuroscience: Idle minds**
Neuroscientists are trying to work out why the brain does so much when it seems to be doing nothing at all.

**How to confuse a moral compass**
Survey ‘magic trick’ causes attitude reversal.

### Outlook

**Gut microbes and health**
This Insight focuses on the ecological principles that govern microbiota composition; interactions of the microbiota with the immune system and metabolic processes; and genomic tools that can aid in the analysis of microbial communities.

### Podcasts

**20th September Nature Podcast**
This week, why we are cooperative by nature, transforming waste heat into electricity, and what the brain is really doing when it’s resting.

**Oxford Ophthalmological Congress 2012**
One of the longest-running ophthalmological meetings. Catch up on this year’s highlights in this podcast.

### Videos

**Voices of ENCODE**
ENCODE’s lead coordinator, Ewan Birney, and Nature editor Magdalena Skipper talk about the challenges of managing a colossal genetics project and what we’ve learnt about the human genome.

### Blogs

**Nature News blog**
Recent posting: Clouds gather over European stem-cell funding

**Nature News blog**
Recent posting: NASA Mars programme retains focus on sample return

### Insight

**Gut microbes and health**
This Insight focuses on the ecological principles that govern microbiota composition; interactions of the microbiota with the immune system and metabolic processes; and genomic tools that can aid in the analysis of microbial communities.

### Latest research

**Biological sciences**
Comprehensive molecular portraits of human breast tumours

In vivo genome editing using a high-efficiency TALEN system

**Chemical sciences**
Materials chemistry: Liposomes derived from molecular vases

High-performance bulk thermoelectrics with all-scale hierarchical architectures

**Earth & Environmental sciences**
Intensified Arabian Sea tropical storms

Afternoon rain more likely over drier soils

**Physical sciences**
Astronomy: Searching for the cosmic dawn

A magnified young galaxy from about 500 million years after the Big Bang

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