



4 FOCUS ON MIGRATIONS RECORDED IN OUR DNA

| Paweł Golik

Genomic research allows us to retrace prehistoric human migrations.



30 RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

THE PUZZLE OF COLORFUL PLUMAGE

| Małgorzata Anna Gazda

There's no single, clear-cut answer to why birds developed colorful, often ornate feathers.

44 BRIEFLY SPEAKING

CASTING THE FUTURE

Professor Natalia Sobczak, Vice President of the Polish Academy of Sciences, discusses engineering work in the field of liquid metals.



Focus on

- 10** Jacek Mańko **THE "MACHINERY QUESTION"**
14 Krzysztof Argasiński **TO BEAT OR NOT TO BEAT**
17 Tanishka Soni, Mateusz Mikołajczak, Stanisław Mazur, Christian Schiffer
ECHOES FROM THE CARPATHIANS
22 Witold Zawadzki **THE FIRST, NOT FOURTH**
26 Rafał Sikora, Mirosław Masojć, Grzegorz Michalec, Byamba Gunchinsuren
LIFE AND DEATH IN THE DESERT

Research in Progress

- 33** Ewa Stefanik, Karolina Wolny
TINY HEROES OF BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH
36 Karol Życzkowski **TYPICAL AND ATYPICAL EVOLUTIONS OF QUANTUM SYSTEMS**
40 Natalia Kartawik, Jolanta Behnke-Borowczyk
THE EARTH'S OLDEST COLONIZERS

Insight

- 50** Marek Lewandowski
THE HISTORY OF GLOBAL GLACIATIONS
55 Nikodem Zieliński **ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF FORMS IN NATURE**
58 Aneta Duda-Jaśkiewicz
(R)EVOLUTIONARY TEACHERS
62 Anna Karnkowska
DOES IT PAY TO COOPERATE?
66 Dorota Łagodzka **MONKEY PAINTING**
71 Filip Biały
FROM ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO THE STARS
74 Michael Pleyer, Sławomir Waciewicz
THE EMERGENCE OF LANGUAGE

Short Circuit

- 78** Agata Passent
EVOLUTION IS A NONLINEAR STORY

In the Lens

- 80** Justyna Słowiak, Adam Halamski
A BRIEF HISTORY OF LIFE ITSELF

Current Projects

- 86** Joanna Borkowska
LUDWIK HIRSZFELD – A FORGOTTEN GIANT OF BACTERIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

COVER IMAGE: ANIL T PRABHAKAR, INSTAGRAM: ANIL_T_PRABHAKAR. Our cover image showing an orangutan extending a hand to a human in a muddy pool – perhaps extending a helping hand, perhaps asking for food or something else? – illustrates how humankind's relationship with evolutionarily "less advanced" species is not always as clear-cut as it may seem; PHOTOS P. 2: GAYLEEN FROESE/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM, BEARFOTOS/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM, SYLWIA PIWOWAR