



## Massive spinning ice disc forms in US river!

An unusual natural phenomenon is taking shape in the US state of Maine and is mesmerising people around the world.

A giant slow-turning ice disc, measuring approximately 91m wide, has formed in the Presumpscot River in the city of Westbrook.

People who have seen it are comparing the ice disc to an alien spacecraft, a carousel and the Moon.

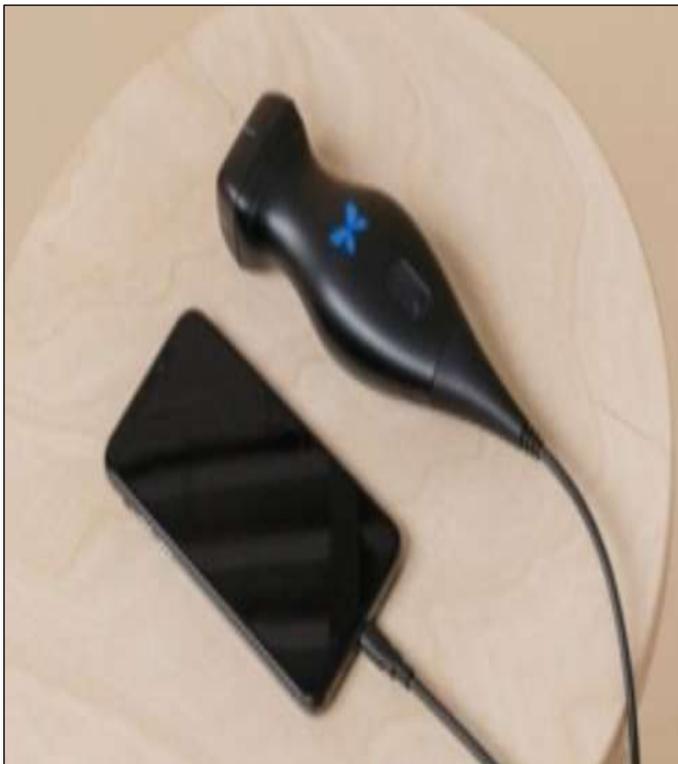
Ice discs are thin, circular slabs of ice that rotate slowly in the water. They occur at bends in rivers where faster water creates a force that chips away edges as the ice spins. It has been shown that existing ice discs can maintain their rotation due to melting.

It has been reported that the large rotating disc has served as a raft for ducks and other birds!



*Pictured: Photo of the ice disc taken from City of Westbrook ME Twitter page.*

## The ultrasound scan you can do yourself!



*Pictured: Photo of the Butterfly IQ from the Butterfly Network Twitter page.*

US company, Butterfly Network, has produced an ultrasound scanner that plugs into a phone and can be bought by anyone for £1,555. This makes it much cheaper than existing machines. Its inventor, Jonathan Rothberg, best known for his contributions to next-generation DNA sequencing, claims it will have as much impact on healthcare as the stethoscope did 200 years ago.

Called Butterfly IQ, it fits in a coat pocket and plugs into an ordinary phone!

It uses thousands of tiny sensors, each smaller than a hair, mounted on a computer chip, which vibrate and allow the machine to build a picture of a human body from the inside out!

The scanner can be used to check the growth size of your liver or assess a tumour at your hospital bed or in your own home!



## The 16-year-old flying planes before learning to drive!



In the UK the earliest you can apply for your full driving licence is on your seventeenth birthday but at sixteen you can fly a plane without an instructor! Eloeyse Cripps has done just that after just 11 hours of tuition – she said, “My instructor told me - I’ll be flying to France before I’ll be driving to Tesco!”

She won a scholarship to learn to fly at AirBourne Aviation Ltd, which is based at Popham Airfield near Winchester.

Eloeyse is now planning a career as a pilot, she wants to help other people learn to fly as she is so grateful that she had the opportunity!

According to the Civil Aviation Authority only 16 pilot licences for planes were held by seventeen-year-olds in 2017.

*Would you like to learn to fly a plane?*

*Do you think you should be able to take to the skies before the roads?*

*Pictured: Eloeyse Cripps taken from the Airborne Aviation Twitter page.*

## Lonely Amphibian May Meet His Juliet!

Romeo, a Sehuencas water frog captured 10 years ago in Bolivia, has spent the past ten years on his own in Bolivia, South America.

He was feared to be the last of his kind but biologists on an expedition to the Bolivian cloud forest have found five more Sehuencas water frogs in a stream and captured them.

The five frogs - three males and two females - are the first Sehuencas water frogs to be seen in the wild for ten years, despite previous searches in the Bolivian wilderness.

They have brought them back with the goal of breeding and re-introducing them back into the wild.

One of the female frogs, now named Juliet, will be introduced to Romeo soon, after they have got used to their new home and ensure they aren't carrying any diseases.

Chris Jordan of Global Wildlife Conservation said, "We have a real chance to save the Sehuencas water frog."



*Pictured: Juliet, a female Sehuencas Water Frog image taken from Global Wildlife Conservation Twitter page.*

/ think...



**YOUR COMMENTS**

Email: [help@picture-news.co.uk](mailto:help@picture-news.co.uk)

Tweet: @HelpPicture

or post to: **Unit 3, Phoenix Business Park, Ripon, North Yorks, HG4 1NS**