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Does

testosterone

increase bad

behaviour?

How does

the brain

changes with

learning?

What goes

wrong in the

brain with

Huntington's

disease - and

can an

Alzheimer's

drug help

treat it?

Answers to

all those

questions

and more in

NeuroPod.

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Nature

Neuroscience

editor

Charvy

Narain is on

the line to

tell Kerri

about her

highlights

from last

month's

Society for

Neuroscience

embed:`<object id="swf0" classid="clsid:D27CDB6E-AE6D-11cf-96E`

NeuroPod

January 2010

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In this episode:

00:52 [Lights off](#)

A light-activated protein that provides almost digital silencing for neurons

[play](#)[Research paper: Chow et al.](#)**06:23** [Order from chaos](#)

A robot behaves like a cockroach thanks to a chaos-powered neural network

[play](#)[Research paper: Steingrube et al.](#)
[News: Robot roach creates order from chaos](#)
[Video: Robot roach](#)**12:35** [Grid power](#)

A type of cell involved in rat navigation and memory is found in humans

[play](#)[Research paper: Doeller et al.](#)**19:15** [Cutting out the middle man](#)

Direct from skin cell to brain cell, bypassing the stem-cell-like state

[play](#)[Research paper: Vierbuchen et al.](#)

About NeuroPod

NeuroPod is the neuroscience podcast from Nature, produced in association with the [Dana Foundation](#).

Each month, join us as we delve into the latest research on the brain, from its molecular makings to the mysteries of the mind. We'll also be bringing you the latest news from neuroscience conferences around the globe, along with special reports on hot areas in neuroscience.

For complete access to the original papers featured in NeuroPod, subscribe to [Nature](#), [Nature Neuroscience](#), and [Nature Reviews Neuroscience](#).

Meet the presenter



Self-confessed neurogeek Kerri Smith joined *Nature* in 2006 after completing an MSc in Science Communication at Imperial College London. She also co-presents the weekly *Nature* Podcast and is part of the team that produce *Nature's* other podcasts. Before finding her way to *Nature* she was at the University of Oxford, where she took a degree in human sciences and an MSc in Neuroscience. Although she spends most of her time podcasting, the news team sometimes let her write stories about neuroscience and other bits of biology. In the past she has been a freelance contributor to various publications including *New Scientist* and *The Times*.



Tune in as they make light work of optogenetics, discuss an unusual conference talk by two magicians, and ask whether 'brainreading' needs a code of conduct.

October 2009:

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How sleep deprivation affects your memory, teaching mice to play video games in the name of neuroscience, the evolution of the human cerebral cortex, and how different two brains can be, and still perform the same task.

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