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#219 AUGUST 2023

Sky at Night

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Moons this month
Details inside

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IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM**

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THE BEST YET TO COME?**

**IOPTRON'S COMPACT
GO-TO MOUNT ON TEST**

CURIOSITY LOOKS BACK

The NASA rover sends back its latest postcard from Mars

CURIOSITY ROVER, 13 JUNE 2023

This picture of the Marker Band Valley on Mars was created by combining two panoramic shots of the region – one taken in the morning and one in the evening – and then adding colour. Each panorama was in turn constructed from five individual images taken by Curiosity's black and white navigation cameras.

It's likely that this winding area is the site of an ancient lake, unexpectedly discovered by the rover. Visible in the picture are the hills Bolivar and Deepdale,

which Curiosity recently drove between, along with several other small hills, all of which lie within Gale Crater. The crater's rim can be seen 40km away, while the peak of an 87km-distant mountain is just visible beyond. Also visible are Curiosity's tracks, along with its three antennae and its radioisotope thermoelectric generator.

MORE ONLINE

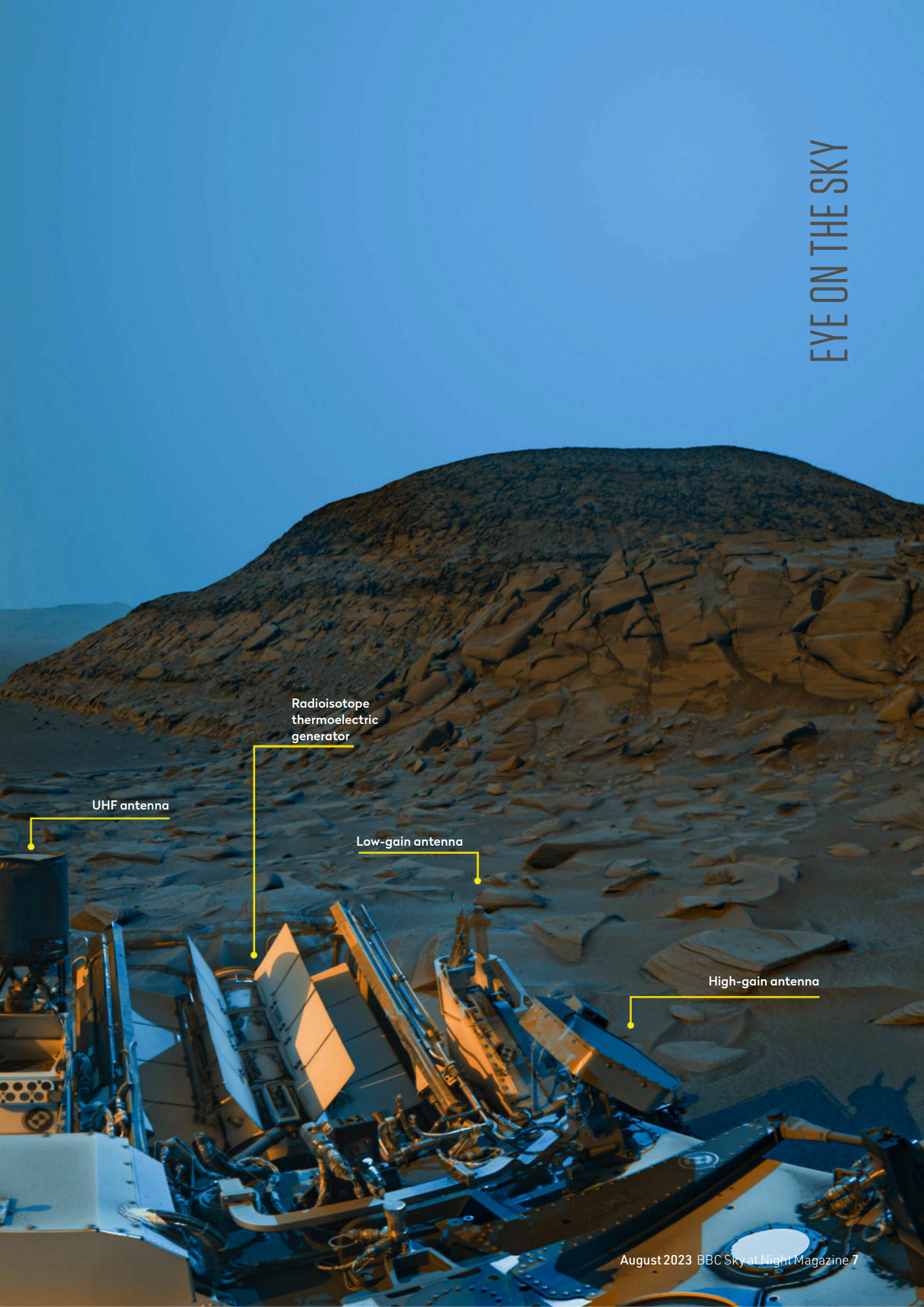
Explore a gallery of these and more stunning space images

Gale Crater rim

Mountain outside Gale Crater

Bolivar

Deepdale



UHF antenna

Radioisotope thermoelectric generator

Low-gain antenna

High-gain antenna