'Mail' for Mars trip

A SPACESUIT based on chain mail could get the first astronauts to Mars.

It is made from superstrong fabric that changes shape easily – just like the medieval armour.

The 3D printed material can easily switch from soft and bendy to rigid – and back again.

Prof Chiara Daraio, of California Institute of Technology in the US, said: "Stiffness changing material may be used in space applications."