



DDE Newsletter No. 249

Climate Crisis – Climate Justice

BP slashes renewables investment and boosts fossil fuel production. The company has been under pressure to improve its financial performance and said it went "too far too fast" based on "misplaced" optimism about the pace of energy transition and decarbonisation. [Read more ...](#)

Drilling the deepest hole in history: Unlocking geothermal energy. Quaise says it has a plan, and the technology, to drill deeper than ever before and unlock the vast geothermal power of the Earth to re-power fossil-fired electricity plants with green energy. [Read more ...](#)

Cop16 nature summit agrees deal at 11th hour but critics say it is not enough. UN biodiversity conference in Rome ends with fragile accord but questions remain over whether funding will emerge. [Read more ...](#)

Plants losing appetite for carbon dioxide amid effects of warming climate. Earth's plants and soils reached peak carbon dioxide sequestration in 2008 but proportion absorbed has been declining since, study finds. [Read more ...](#)

Other News

Ever wonder why Africa's borders appear so strange? From winding borders to straight lines and landlocked nations, Al Jazeera explores the stories behind Africa's map. [Read more ...](#)

The 'hero' ship fixing Africa's internet blackouts - the BBC goes aboard. A ship the size of a football field, crewed by more than 50 engineers and technicians, cruises the oceans around Africa to keep the continent online. [Read more ...](#)

Africa HIV deaths to mount, as Trump stops funding. Here's why. In South Africa alone, funding cuts could lead to 500,000 deaths in 10 years, experts warn. [Read more ...](#)

Starmer slashes aid to fund major increase in defence spending. Announcement prompts concerns that PM is pandering to US president and warnings over consequences of aid cuts. [Read more ...](#)

'The Best Black History Conference Ever' In Memory of Marika Sherwood (1937 – 2025). [Read more ...](#)

Watch and listen ...

Empire podcasts: William Dalrymple and Anita Anand explore the stories, personalities and events of empire over the course of history. [Details ...](#)

Of particular interest might be History of Slavery [Details ...](#)

Topics discussed at Thursday's World at Lunch

Can Moldova – population 2.4m – show the world how to stand up to Putin? The tiny former Soviet republic's determination not to be cowed by the Kremlin could provide a template for the west on how to hold back the tide of subversion and corruption. [Read more ...](#)

This Is Our Country, and We Have No Other ... In Ukraine the defence of our country was the fatal necessity that prompted most of us to take up arms. [Read more ...](#)

What have three years of Putin's war done to both nations' economies? As the invasion enters its fourth year, analysts are examining the health of Ukraine and Russia, and who will be the better prospect for investors once the conflict ends. The answers are not as predictable as one might think. [Read more ...](#)

5 minerals in Ukraine that may be part of a deal with the U.S. [Read more ...](#)

Why annexing Canada would destroy the United States. [Read more ...](#)

A prize worth pursuing: has Elizabeth line shown what rail investment can achieve? Project has smashed forecasts on passengers numbers and created a story of regeneration along its route. [Read more ...](#)

Local News ...

Book Fairies: In February 2025, we hid 66 books across Exeter that were pulled from the [City Reads](#) shortlist - a selection of 6 books that were vying for the title of Exeter's favourite book. [Read more ...](#)

Oral history project recovering voices of Spanish and Latin American women celebrated at Spanish Embassy. [Read more ...](#)

Restoring Stover Park project continuing its heritage walks led by Dartmoor's Daughter. [Read more ...](#)

Facts on migrants key to cohesion – charity boss. Work to bring people together in Plymouth is "more needed than ever" six months after violent immigration-related protests, a local community group leader says. [Read more ...](#)

Things to do ...

Wednesday 12th March 6:30pm to 7:30pm *Anthony Joseph: Precious and Impossible* presented by Quay Words at Customs House. [Details ...](#)