



DDE Newsletter No. 274

Climate Crisis – Climate Justice

EU wildfires worst on record as burning season continues. Data shows more than 1m hectares torched so far this year, with records also broken for CO2 and other air pollutants. [Read more ...](#)

India's drive to blend more biofuels with petrol has helped the country cut millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions and save precious dollar reserves. But it has also sparked worries among vehicle owners and food policy experts about its potential impact on fuel efficiency and food security. [Read more ...](#)

'Landmines have become the greatest protectors': how wildlife is thriving in the Korean DMZ. The demilitarised zone between North and South Korea has become an ecological oasis with nearly 6,000 species documented, including rare cranes, deer and bears. [Read more ...](#)

Other News

Famine in Gaza declared for the first time by UN-backed body despite continued Israeli denials. Monitoring group says famine is the first ever declared in the Middle East region. [Read more ...](#)

Inside the Ukrainian factory building drones and cruise missiles to strike Russia. With limited military assistance from Western allies, Ukraine has fast become a global center for defense innovation. [Read more ...](#)

Behind India's massive Russian oil imports: Asia's richest man. Reliance's Russian crude imports have soared from 3 percent before the war in Ukraine to 50 percent now. [Read more ...](#)

Xi Jinping makes rare visit to Tibet as 60 years of Chinese rule celebrated. State media reports Chinese leader's arrival in Tibet was greeted with people waving bouquets of flowers and dancing 'to joyful rhythms'. [Read more ...](#)

The Darien Gap 'closure': Border theatre in the jungle. A promise to 'shut' the Darien becomes a headline win. The lived reality is rerouted suffering and rights stripped bare. [Read more ...](#)

Things to do ...

Thursday 28th August 4:00pm *Aviation biofuels in the UK: Greenwashing and the potential for greater harm* online meeting organised by Biofuelwatch [Details](#)

Topics discussed at Thursday's World at Lunch

Why Russia Sold Alaska to the U.S. The Trump-Putin summit will take place in a former Russian colony that the United States bought for \$7.2 million in 1867. Here's how the deal came together and why its legacy matters. [Read more ...](#)

New wave of African pride rises in the Caribbean ... Across the Caribbean, the desire to reconnect with the population's African heritage appears to have strengthened over the past few years. [Read more ...](#)

'It's 365 days a year': Overtourism has hit several European hotspots – and locals are getting fed up. [Read more ...](#)

A chance to grow: the women learning to garden in prison. [Read more ...](#)

'A natural antidepressant': how working with the land is helping ex-prisoners. Reoffending rates are just 5% after a placement at LandWorks in Devon, where they grow, cook and sell their produce. [Read more ...](#)

African Union joins calls to end use of Mercator map that shrinks continent's size. Member states back Correct the Map campaign that urges governments and organisations to use more accurate map. [Read more ...](#)

Local News ...

Eden Project wildflower centre issues climate warning as it marks 25th year. Changing weather patterns are affecting planting and pose a threat to a variety of species, says head of development. [Read more ...](#)

Temporary slowdown in melting of Arctic sea ice, study finds ... melting at a slower rate for the past 20 years, despite human-induced global warming. [Read more ...](#)

Exeter's new children's library opened to the public this week and it includes a new dedicated sensory space to support children with ADHD, autism, and sensory processing disorders. [Read more ...](#)

Websites...

Welcome to the Black Inventors project of the Caribbean Associations Group (CAG) in Reading.

<https://www.cag-reading.org.uk/index.php/black-inventors/>

Uncover the Hidden Genius of Black Inventors who helped shape America.

<https://www.smith-lenoir.com/>

The Enigma of Arrival: The Politics and Poetics of Caribbean Migration to Britain

<https://www.readingmuseum.org.uk/online-exhibitions/windrush-day/windrush-day-enigma-arrival>

Campaigns:

Greenpeace: Don't let our children inherit a dead rainforest – ask the UK Government to back urgent action at COP30 – because if the Amazon dies, our future goes with it. [Petition ...](#)

Rainforest Rescue: Defend Madagascar's biodiversity – stop the mining rush. Madagascar has raw materials sought by the European Union ... mining leads to human rights violations and widespread environmental destruction. [Petition ...](#)