



DDE Newsletter No. 206

Climate Crisis – Climate Justice

'This country is what the world would like to be': can Costa Rica's environment minister keep its green reputation intact? Though touted as a model of environmental preservation, the country has recently signalled a shift from phasing out fossil fuels to boosting the economy. [Read more ...](#)

Why Germany ditched nuclear before coal – and why it won't go back. [Read more ...](#)

Conservation slowing biodiversity loss, scientists say. [Read more ...](#)

'Children won't be able to survive': inter-American court to hear from climate victims. Historic hearing will receive submissions from people whose human rights have been affected by climate change. [Read more ...](#)

Other News

'Children of the Ganges' - the boatmen of India's Varanasi. Their lives are deeply entwined with the sacred river Ganges but Varanasi's mallah community say they have been overlooked. [Read more ...](#)

'I'm not afraid of anybody now': the woman who revealed links between National Trust houses and slavery – and was vilified. Prof Corinne Fowler's report into colonial history sparked a furore about 'wokeness' and heritage ... her new book of rural walks that highlight how all our lives – hers included – are entwined with colonialism. [Read more ...](#)

What is Project Nimbus, and why are Google workers protesting Israel deal? Tech workers are protesting against the use of artificial intelligence and other technologies by Israel in its war on Gaza. [Read more ...](#)

With eyes on US college campuses, students stress: 'Gaza is why we're here'. Students say growing protests on US university campuses are part of a 'fight against genocide' in the Gaza Strip. [Read more ...](#)

Sudan's Hotel Rwanda: the man who saved scores of people during Darfur violence. As militias targeted the Masalit community in a wave of ethnic violence, one man offered shelter and an escape route across the border. [Read more ...](#)

Local News ...

Policymakers must recognise global economic risks posed by ecosystem 'tipping points'. [Read more ...](#)

Recovered Cotton Famine era poetry published in first complete collection ... the poetry reflected not just the poverty, hunger, and homelessness of the time, but also war, slavery, and Victorian globalisation. [Read more ...](#)

Topics discussed at Thursday's World at Lunch

'Ban them until we know they're safe': Dutch flower growers urged to stop using pesticides. Organic float at annual flower parade a sign of changing times amid concerns over chemicals' link to neurological disorders. [Read more ...](#)

Tennessee Legislature passes bill to arm teachers despite fierce opposition. [Read more ...](#)

Utahns reunited with pet cat they accidentally shipped with Amazon return. [Read more ...](#)

World's oldest wild bird is 'actively courting' after losing long-term mate. Biologists on Midway Atoll in the North Pacific Ocean have spotted a septuagenarian female Laysan albatross named Wisdom flirting with potential mates months after the end of the nesting season. [Read more ...](#)

Call us woke if you like, but all animals deserve the RSPCA's protection. From snails to chickens, the organisation aims to stop suffering wherever it is found. [Read more ...](#)

Portugal needs to 'pay the costs' of slavery and colonialism, says president. Critics of Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa say behind remarks is lack of national recognition that slavery should be discussed in schools. [Read more ...](#)

Barbados leader halts £3m payout to UK MP for Drax Hall plantation. Government U-turn as PM Mia Mottley acknowledges anger from reparations movement over plan to buy Barbados land from Dorset MP Richard Drax. [Read more ...](#)

Campaigns ...

Avaaz: Climate emergency: Stop silencing youth! ... my friends and I are suing the biggest polluter in the world: the United States. [Petition ...](#)

Avaaz: BP: stop toxic gas flaring! ... 21-year-old boy Ali is dead due to toxic gas flaring on BP oil fields in Iraq. [Petition ...](#)

Campaign Updates ...

Everyday Plastic: Results of Big Plastic Count. Schools, households, community groups and businesses up and down the country counted their plastic waste for a whole week in March to reveal the state of the UK's plastic waste problem. We've been crunching the numbers and can reveal the truly shocking results. [Read more ...](#)