



DDE Newsletter No. 290

Climate Crisis – Climate Justice

‘Soil is more important than oil’: inside the perennial grain revolution. Scientists in Kansas believe Kernza could cut emissions, restore degraded soils and reshape the future of agriculture. [Read more ...](#)

Are rainforests now a cause of, rather than the answer to, climate change? A new study finds that Africa’s forests, responsible for one-fifth of global carbon removal, are beginning to generate carbon as the result of human activity. [Read more ...](#)

Uzbekistan Proves The Folly Of US Fossil Fuel Madness. [Read more ...](#)

A key UN report on the state of the global environment has been "hijacked" by the United States and other countries who were unwilling to go along with the scientific findings, the co-chair has told the BBC. [Read more ...](#)

Other News

C of E to challenge Tommy Robinson’s ‘put Christ back into Christmas’ message. Church leaders respond to far-right appropriation of Christian symbols with ‘Outsiders welcome’ message. [Read more...](#)

Tent camps flooded as winter storm exposes Gaza’s fragile ceasefire. Families in Gaza tent camps suffer soaked belongings, knee-deep water and severe hardship after torrential rains. [Read more ...](#)

Bethlehem’s Christmas tree lights up after two years of darkness. Bethlehem lights tree after two years, mixing hope with sorrow amid Gaza war and economic hardship from Israeli siege. [Read more ...](#)

Uganda stops granting refugee status for Eritreans, Somalis and Ethiopians. Government once seen as progressive on migration says aid cuts to blame for excluding countries ‘not experiencing war’. [Read more ...](#)

Local News ...

The Earth Rover Program launches globally ... on World Soil Day ... unveiling “soilsmology”, which promises greatly to improve our understanding and use of one of the world’s most crucial resources – soil. [Read more ...](#)

Devon County Council’s Cabinet has approved an ambitious plan to create 3,000 hectares of new woodland in the south of Devon. [Read more ...](#)

Topics discussed at Thursday's World at Lunch

Venezuela decries 'act of piracy' after US forces seize oil tanker off country's coast. Footage uploaded to X by US attorney general shows its forces landing on the tanker in major escalation of Trump's pressure campaign. [Read more ...](#)

Will the leftish parties unite to stop Nigel Farage from becoming PM? It's time to start thinking about electoral pacts – though now it's near impossible to see how a bargain would be struck. [Read more ...](#)

'Possible rise in maternal deaths': How USAID cuts strand Malawi's mothers. As remote health posts are disrupted or closed, communities and medical staff say women are not getting the care they need. [Read more ...](#)

Kids locked out of social media apps after Australia's world-first ban. [Read more ...](#)
BBC Radio Four: Should children be banned from social media? [Listen ...](#)

Syrians celebrate a year after Bashar Assad's fall, in photos. [Read more ...](#)

Watch and listen ...

Tonal is an audio project exploring water issues nationally with a special focus on the River Tone in Somerset. [Listen ...](#)

Channel 4: Meet Madagascar's Gen-Z movement that toppled a government. [Watch ...](#)

Things to do ...

Sunday 28th December 2:30pm at Exeter Phoenix *Jo in the Water* this film follows a passionate sea swimmer ... as she takes on one of the UK's biggest water companies ... to protect our waters from devastating sewage pollution. [Details ...](#)

Books ...

Teaching Slavery: New approaches to Britain's colonial past by Katie Donington, Abdul Mohamud, Robin Whitburn, Nicholas Draper. [Details ...](#)

Campaign Updates ...

CND: *The Cold Summer* The winner of Peace Education's poetry competition. [Read more ...](#)