

Comments in red are by John Foster, after the end of the discussion.

00:37:05 John Barry: Here's where you can read the publications from the 4 speakers  
<https://www.greenhousethinktank.org/gases.html>

00:43:54 Maya: does C-19 make it easier to communicate to people our dependency and inter connection with the natural environment? it seems that most of the press is about blaming the Chinese for eating bats rather than interdependency. but I find Anne's line on recognition of this interesting and something we may want to communicate.

00:50:06 Rebecca: Every time I attend an online discussion on the subjects of the environment and/or inequality, the question I always ask is: how do we enact change?

00:50:55 Maya: if there will be a reduction in levels of social deference as a result of a feeling that the upper classes represented by PM and experts failed to address the situation? will this change things? make people more receptive to others

00:52:54 Maggie - Kendal: Re Annes point of the limits of our imagination about necessary measures: Are we as climate activists prepared to see coal mining transformed into Underground Coal Gasification to create Syngas, used for power generation but with total sequestering of the carbon emission through Carbon Capture and storage? and does Myles Allen's view support that.

00:55:46 Anne Chapman: Judging from their behaviour I think a lot of young people are not very scared of COVID-19, Quite a few of them are scared of climate change though.

JF: Interesting point. They would be if they were ideally rational – in that case, would they be so scared of climate change, which most of them will survive?

01:00:16 Anne Chapman: Re Maggie's comment on coal gasification, Myles Allen would probably support that. I'm not saying that I do, but requiring total carbon sequestration would be one way to approach fossil fuel use, and I think it would probably make it financially unviable. He draws a parallel with nuclear power where we require very strict safety regulations, even though they put up the cost considerably.

01:01:37 Rebecca: Carbon capture and storage is nowhere remotely near viable. Nobody should pin hopes on it.

01:02:44 Tanya: Do the speakers have concerns about intergenerational and migrant injustices arising from COVID-19 policies? 'Stay at home' is a comfortable message to those with established homes and families, with domestic interests and resources, and private cars in which to travel and shop. It's very different for single people in precarious and uncomfortable circumstances and of course for potential and actual refugees. The climate emergency was prompted precisely by young people going out. Is there a real danger of abandoning the public sphere in the minority world and retreating into private, insular and fundamentally unjust spaces?

01:02:49 Francesca Bailey: Agree with Anne. For John F - if the threat of Covid-19 is so inherently scary to the public, why is it so ready to go back to biz as usual (both in leisure and in work)? Is it because govt and media messaging - as well as the prospect of having no income - are also powerful determinants of how people act?

JF : People want to believe it's over the peak. What you want to believe is always a powerful determinant of action, climate action included.

01:02:57 Rebecca: PS I am from Biofuelwatch. As well as biofuels, they have also investigated CCS.

01:03:49 Anne Chapman: That is all the more reason to require fossil fuel companies to do it to sell their products. If carbon capture and storage can't be done their products can't be used.

01:11:27 Chris: How is the EU showing itself able to cope in a crisis. It did not do well in the debt crisis and does not appear to be doing well under Covid?

01:12:53 John By.: To any speaker: How do you advance the environmental arguments when so many people in the automotive, airline and other industries are losing their jobs as a result of COVID-19? IAG (the parent company of British Airways) is taking legal action against the UK Govt over the 14-day quarantine for people flying into this country, because of the financial cost to them. What chance do we have of getting them to take on board the climate change ambitions?

JF: "Whaddya mean, abolish torture?! Torturers have wives and families to support!"

01:15:30 Maya: agree with Anne and John that C-19 is a disanalogy to CC not a similar situation but it is the building back better agenda that is different...people are interested in doing this and I think we can and must stress that needs to avoid piling more debts on future generations related to dealing with climate change.

01:15:31 Rebecca: John By.: this is why "just transition" is needed, whereby workers are transitioned into sustainable industries. It applies to nuclear weapons also.

01:16:00 Stephen McDonald: What is the informed view of the speakers on the effectiveness of Extinction Rebellion peaceful action as and agent for change, and also the increasing number of legal challenges based on our obligation to the Paris agreement?

JF : Peaceful protest certainly serves a purpose. So would blowing up Heathrow. The hard task is combining them coherently. (This maybe does need actually thinking about?)

01:35:45 levin : We can create a whats app group

01:36:53 Maggie - Kendal: @levin - yes p lease

01:39:18 ray: Intergenerational justice point: my teenage daughters say that their friends are all concluding they will not be able to justify having children. This means the current leader generation will have no grandchildren... A powerful message

01:43:52 Rachel: yes Sue - you're right we don't see anything much in the UK about the effects elsewhere, in the global South for example

01:44:56 John Barry: Climate breakdown is already happening, but its unevenly distributed around the planet...its not a 'future issue' as many in the minority white world tend to think

01:46:32 Rebecca: I recommend Heat by George Monbiot - written in 2007 but still relevant on carbon rationing.

01:47:03 Andy: so we need to have an overt global approach to climate change. Revamp the UN to put these issues of the south etc.

01:47:05 Rachel: yes John. no such thing as ordinary people

01:47:57 Rachel: Mayer Hillman wrote about carbon rationing long before Monbiot

01:51:08 John Barry: A final parting thought 'What if we are the people we have been waiting for?', thanks all!

JF : If so, our expectations have been culpably low...(Joke, possibly.)