**Useful References about Climate Change:**

**Newsletters, Books, Podcasts, YouTube videos and websites**

**UPDATE DEC 2023**

**Newsletter**

The **U3A National Climate Change Group** produce a monthly Newsletter containing a variety of matters of interest about climate change. The November 2023 edition is available at

<https://mailchi.mp/04ce7b27de1c/u3a-second-nature-july-12660889?e=aa2e8f374d>

and this includes (top left of screen) a tab to subscribe to future editions and (an adjacent tab) to access past issues.

**Books**

**Philip Oliver’s top three**

**Material World by Ed Conway.**

Not specifically about climate change but gives very well written understanding of six critical materials for our fossil free future . Salt, Sand, Iron, Lithium, Oil and Copper. Really well written.

**The Future We Choose by Christiana Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac**

Thisis a passionate call to arms from former UN Executive Secretary for Climate Change, Christiana Figueres, and Tom Rivett-Carnac, senior political strategist for the Paris Agreement, and former Buddhist monk. We are still able to stave off the worst and manage the long-term effects of climate change, but we have to act now. We know what we need to do, and we have everything we need to do it. Practical, optimistic and empowering. (£10)

**There is No Planet B by Mike Berners-Lee**

A practical and enjoyable read with bang up to date data and author who has a clear and intriguing way of presenting data. (£10)

**Philip’s Others**

**Legacy by Dieter Helm.**

Recently published look at what climate friendly economy looks like in terms of its impact on the everyday lives of us all. Helm is professor of Economic Policy at New College oxford and has written an economic policy book for the non-economist. The message is a tough one: we are way off course in terms of meeting our climate ambitions and we cannot escape the consequences. This book explains what we would have to do to mend our ways. In doing so, it highlights the feebleness of current approaches to net zero and biodiversity loss as well as our great neglect of the core infrastructures, and why we are not meeting our duties to the next generation.

**The New Map by Daniel Yergin** (2021)

Subtitled Energy, Climate and the Clash of Nations this is a wide ranging look at the geopolitics of climate change. Readable and fantastically well informed, full of useful anecdotes, Yergin plots the track from shale gas to solar power, from Texas to Beijing. He sees the future for us all in a combination of the second industrial revolution and a new cold war. (£14.99)

**The Uninhabitable Earth by David Wallace-Wells.** (2019)

“Unflinching and unapologetically apocalyptic” (Waterstones) This is a wakeup call if you think it’s all going to be all right in the end. If it were science fiction you would think it’s over the top. It will keep you awake at night. (£10.99)

**How to Avoid a Climate Disaster by Bill Gates**

Slightly simplistic but well written and interesting, though already getting outdated, despite being less than two years old. (£10.99)

**Sustainable Energy without the Hot Air by David JC MacKay**

A little outdated now but this remains a great primer on how to think about these problems at a human scale. David McKay was Chief Scientific Advisor to the then Department for Energy and Climate Change until 2014. Originally published in 2009, this remains the best intro to the subject and is freely available to read on line [https://www.withouthotair.com](https://www.withouthotair.com/download.html)or as a book. (£20)

**Ravenous by Henry Dimbleby** (2023)

The co-founder of the Leon restaurant chain and author of the National Food Strategy reveals the shocking truth behind the global food system, including extensive damage to both human health and the environment. Climate change meets food meets politics. (£14)

**Large Scale Energy Storage by The Royal Society**

This Royal Society publication is of a study of Large Scale Energy storage. It sounds a bit specialised but takes a really impressive look at the various costs associated with carbon free energy generation. It can be found here <https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/low-carbon-energy-programme/large-scale-electricity-storage/>

**Other books (thanks to Mark Heal)**

[Five Times Faster by Simon Sharpe](https://fivetimesfaster.org/) - Rethinking the Science, Economics and Diplomacy of Climate Change and YouTube presentation by the author at

[(280) Five Times Faster: Rethinking the Science, Economics, and Diplomacy of Climate Change - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwqcAfAXlUI)

**Podcasts**

**Philip Oliver’s top three**

1. **Cleaning Up,** Leadership in an age of Climate Change - Michael Leibriecht

Mostly weekly since mid 2020 with occasional breaks, Leibriecht gets some very good guests for in depth and often behind the scenes insights into many and various aspects of climate change. He’s an engineer and an investor and the economics and data are a key part of his discussions. Definitely one of the best.

1. **Outrage and Optimism –** Christiana Figueres, Tom Rivett-Carnac and Paul Dickinson

One of the longest running podcasts (April 2019) hosted by the architect of the 2015 Paris Agreement Christiana Figueres, this is an often philosophical view of how to get things done, what works (optimism) and what doesn’t (outrage) Rarely boring and frequently challenging..

1. **Volts** – David Roberts

Running since late 2020 this American series where the softly spoken Mr Roberts dives relatively deeply into some surprising and interesting topics regarding the shift towards electrification of many elements of our lives.

**Philip’s Others**

**Beta Talk -** The renewable energy and low carbon podcast – Nathan Gambling

Again a long running podcast aimed at fitters, gas engineers, and the heating profession at large. Useful listening for consumers too, though sometimes a bit techy. Nathan is passionate however, that gas boilers have to go…

**Other Podcasts (Thanks to Mark Heal)**

[The Inquiry - Will hydrogen solve our energy needs? - BBC Sounds](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct4wcy) (BBC World Service Programme)

[Newscast - The One With Faisal and Rachel Reeves - BBC Sounds](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0fqq1lx) talking about the green economy in the light in particular of the USA ‘Inflation Reduction Act’

**YouTube Videos**

Modern Nuclear Possibilities without dangerous waste and without the danger of catastrophic explosions – as presented to the Farnham U3A April 2022 by the author, Simon Johnson.

[(2105) A Revolution in Nuclear Power - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJS7C-QTXKA)

**Websites (Thanks to Mark Heal)**

<https://www.farnboroughnoise.org/>

The web site of the group which is campaigning against the expansion of Farnborough Airport

[Local climate action plans, warming stripes, carbon emissions and initiatives | Carbon Copy](https://carboncopy.eco/local-climate-action/waverley)

Includes Waverley Local Climate Change Plan

Climate Week New York City [Climate Week (climateweeknyc.org)](https://www.climateweeknyc.org/)

***Farnham U3A Climate Change Group Dec 2023***