Chernobyl 20 years on

It's late and growing colder; darkness gathers in the stairwell, and nothing breaks the silence but the grinding of broken glass underfoot. Outside, the February snow has settled deeply around a Ferris wheel no one has ever ridden; the clock above the municipal swimming pool remains frozen at six minutes to 12. Long after everyone had left, the streetlights still came on every (...)

UN accused of ignoring 500,000 Chernobyl deaths

United Nations nuclear and health watchdogs have ignored evidence of deaths, cancers, mutations and other conditions after the Chernobyl accident, leading scientists and doctors have claimed in the run-up to the nuclear disaster's 20th anniversary next month. In a series of reports about to be published, they will suggest that at least 30,000 people are expected to die of canc

No atom of doubt

Chernobyl and the safety of nuclear reactors Franklin Roosevelt famously said on taking office in 1933, 'We have nothing to fear but fear itself.' Most of us have unreasoning fears which creep unwanted into the mind, and bring a shudder; mine are about overwhelming torrents of muddy water, at seeing and hearing a towering wall of water bearing down on me; something moving so f

Returning to nuclear power could prove a deadly U-turn

The launch of the energy review last week was clearly set up to pave the way for the prime minister to put forward a new generation of nuclear plants, reversing the decision the government reached in its energy white paper in 2003. Back then, the conclusion was that the looming energy gap - created as the old nuclear power plants are closed down - should be met by an (...)

http://browse.guardian.co.uk/search?search=nuclear+power+plant+accidents&No=120&sea...
Culture

The week's best films

The Guardian, Saturday December 31 2005
Paul Howell

New Year's Eve Rebecca (Alfred Hitchcock, 1940) 11.10am, BBC2 Hitchcock's adaptation of the Daphne Du Maurier tale about the dangers of marrying on the rebound is a droll gothic exercise. Joan Fontaine's newlywed goes to live at the vast stately pile owned by husband Maxim de Winter (Laurence Olivier), who is haunted by his dead first wife, Rebecca. A five star melodrama. Th

UK news

Millions of us have to accept we must live duller lives

The Guardian, Monday December 12 2005
Jackie Ashley

Most of the time climate change is a nagging worry, not a jolt. Like so many others, I woke yesterday morning just after 6am with a start - a loud noise, something wrong. And I am writing this under a strangely coloured sky, a gauze of purple-brown hanging overhead, and the faint but distinct smell of oil in the air. What seems, just now, to be a terrible industrial accident ()

...

News

Young muggers won't be jailed

guardian.co.uk, Tuesday November 29 2005
Ros Taylor

YOUNG ROBBERS TO AVOID JAIL Yesterday the Times reported that the lord chief justice was about to impose longer sentences on men who killed their partners in a jealous rage. But it is another tweak to the criminal justice system that infuriates the mid-market tabloids and the Telegraph. "DON'T JAIL YOUNG MUGGERS," splashes the Mail, underlining the DON'T to drive home the (...)

Environment

Overlooking efficiency is a waste of energy

The Guardian, Tuesday November 29 2005

Wind, tidal power, domestic micro-generation and biomass can all help to save fossil fuels and cut down on greenhouse gases, but they are only useful as adjuncts to large, centrally controlled conventional power stations, which alone can furnish system stability and continuity of supply (Take the clean, green alternative over macho nuclear rod-waving, November 25). Polly (...)

Wind, tidal power, domestic micro-generation...alternative over macho nuclear rod-waving, November...without a serious accident, and is (...)

Politics

Take the clean, green alternative over macho nuclear rod-waving

The Guardian, Friday November 25 2005
Polly Toynbee

This is not cold weather for late November. There is no energy shortage. Domestic gas bills are the lowest in the EU. Electricity is 10% cheaper than in 1997. A few imprudent industries refused fixed prices to play the energy spot market, but squeal now the market is against them. They represent only 0.05% of industry, despite the CBI's Digby Jones crying wolf over yet (...)

(...)Behind this scare is the nuclear power lobby waking like the (...)

Environment

New nuclear plants to face safety and cost tests

The Guardian, Tuesday November 22 2005
Patrick Wintour, chief political correspondent

A new generation of nuclear power stations will get the go-ahead if they can meet a series of tests set by the government, the trade and industry secretary will tell MPs tomorrow. The tests will include whether they can be shown to operate without subsidy, handle waste safely, and not be vulnerable to lethal terrorist attack. Appearing before the Commons environmental audit co

(...)new generation of nuclear power stations will get...ensure the new plants are ready (...)

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