

A quandary in Beijing, two lives remembered, and a very British row

China's revealed its vision for a greener future at the UN biodiversity summit in Kunming last week. But with confirmation that Xi Jinping will not travel to the Cop26 summit in Glasgow at the end of the month, what does the president's idea of an "ecological civilisation" really entail? It's a notion that it seems will be hard to realise when coal still plays such a dominant role in the economy and when that economy is beset by fears that unpaid debts incurred by property behemoth Evergrande could halt its post-pandemic recovery.

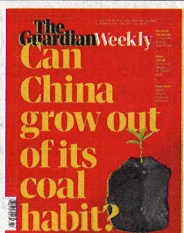
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Two lives that came to tragic ends very far apart are documented by Latin American correspondent Tom Phillips and our UK reporting team. Phillips follows the perilous journey made by a Brazilian nurse north to the US, where she was found in the desert with little more than her passport. Meanwhile, the killing of Conservative MP David Amess has shocked both Westminster and the residents of the Southend constituency he served for more than 20 years.

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The National Trust has more members than any other institution in the UK, but some of them are unhappy about its recent direction. Arguments over the trust's attempts to reckon with the colonial past and slavery connections of some its properties have become a chapter in the so-called "culture wars". How can the trust both celebrate heritage and interrogate the past while restoring harmony?

A very British dispute Page 34 →



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China, the second-biggest economy and the largest emitter of carbon, is a lynchpin in efforts to achieve global climate goals but the still dominant role of coal in fuelling the country's economy needs to be addressed urgently if President Xi Jinping's vaunted vision for greening China has any hope of success.

Illustration/Photo: Guardian Design/Getty



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