



How the world should respond to AI, the hell of Gaza and the fight to save Sheffield's trees

Bletchley Park was the main centre of Allied second world war codebreakers, and it's no coincidence it was chosen as the venue for this week's landmark summit on safety in artificial intelligence. The age of AI brings opportunities but also significant risks, as a number of experts in the field outlined in an open letter last week. Global technology editor Dan Milmo discusses the pros and cons with one such expert, Demis Hassabis, the CEO of Google DeepMind, while Observer columnist Sonia Sodha argues that calling for the technology to be reined in is not simply a sign of luddism.

The big story *Page 10* →

As Israeli forces entered Gaza this week, Bethan McKernan and Rory Carroll report on the increasingly unbearable nature of life in the besieged enclave, and there's expert analysis and commentary from Julian Borger, Peter Beaumont and Jason Burke.

Spotlight *Page 15* →

One of our long reads this week is from the northern English city of Sheffield, where the council's plan to fell urban trees met with fierce resistance from local people and led to an astonishingly vitriolic standoff between politicians and residents, as Samira Shackle reports.

There's also a remarkably candid interview with Caster Semenya, the South African Olympic gold medal-winning athlete whose elevated testosterone levels led people to question her right to compete.

Root and branch *Page 34* →

Fast and furious *Page 40* →

London jazz-fusion band Ezra Collective have been the talk of the music world lately. In the Culture section, Joe Mulhall catches up with the Mercury winners as they play a legendary venue in Lagos.

Beats international *Page 51* →

4-14 GLOBAL REPORT
Headlines from the last seven days
10 Technology The promise and perils of AI

15-33 SPOTLIGHT
In-depth reporting and analysis
15 **Israel-Gaza** An information blackout
19 **UK** Labour's Muslim backlash over Gaza
22 **Russia** Defectors assemble
25 **Papua New Guinea** Heavy metal madness
26 **Chile** Patagonian landgrab
30 **Science** Common scents
32 **US** Maine in mourning
33 **US** Actors' strike goes on

34-44 FEATURES
Long reads, interviews and essays
34 The battle to save Sheffield's trees
By Samira Shackle
40 Caster Semenya, fast and furious
By Tshepo Mokoena

45-50 OPINION
45 **Frances Ryan**
Britain's Victorian poverty
47 **Devi Sridhar**
Is malaria being beaten?
48 **Jason Burke**
The scourge of terrorism

51-59 CULTURE
TV, film, music, theatre, art, architecture & more
51 **Music**
How afrobeat and jazz forged Ezra Collective
54 **Film**
Adieu to arthouse?
58 **Books**
Sport and concussion

60-61 LIFESTYLE
60 **Tim Dowling**
Return of the tortoise



On the cover

Deena So Oteh's clever flip cover for this week's edition neatly illustrates the dilemma tech experts, politicians and the world generally face over artificial intelligence. "I cannot help but think that we as a society are at a crossroads," Deena says of her design, "and the way our future will unfold will greatly depend on what morals we anchor it to."

Illustration: Deena So Oteh



The Guardian Weekly
Founded in Manchester, England
4 July 1919

Vol 209 | Issue N° 18

Guardian Weekly is an edited selection of some of the best journalism found in the Guardian and Observer newspapers in the UK and the Guardian's digital editions in the UK, US and Australia. The weekly magazine has an international focus and three editions: global, Australia and North America. The Guardian was founded in 1821, and Guardian Weekly in 1919. We exist to hold power to account in the name of the public interest, to uphold liberal and progressive values, to fight for the common good, and to build hope. Our values, as laid out by editor CP Scott in 1921, are honesty, integrity, courage, fairness, and a sense of duty to the reader and the community. The Guardian is wholly owned by the Scott Trust, a body whose purpose is "to secure the financial and editorial independence of the Guardian in perpetuity". We have no proprietor or shareholders, and any profit made is re-invested in journalism.