

Funding the Future

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I know it's a cliche to quote Gramsci saying:

The old world is dying, and the new world struggles to be born: now is the time of monsters.

The line is from his Prison Notebooks. They were written while he was imprisoned by the Fascist regime in Italy in the 1930s, and we are, of course, suffering fascism now. But that is not why it came to mind this morning. Instead, it did so because, despite waking early, as my body clock is still working on last week's time, I could find nothing in my overnight mails to inspire a blog post.

The news is of the old dying. All over the place, that is obvious. Systems are decaying. Ideas are failing. And yes, people are dying as a result of the callousness old economics has to offer.

The latest evidence comes [from the appeals for more funds](#) for the NHS to manage likely demand this winter. This is seen as a sign of management failure by those in the Treasury. Actually, it is the result of the failure of neoliberalism as it feeds us ever more toxic food in pursuit of profit in a world already poisoned by doctrines of indifference to the condition of most people, who live lives of despair as a result. The idea of management failure is being discussed. The possibility that we are suffering the failure of neoliberalism is not. The result is that the new is struggling to be born.

And the same is true across the desultory offerings from the media this morning. It is as if they are as confused as everyone else today and are unable to find what to write about. The deals, the machinations, the humdrum of life continue, but is it that they too sense it is all rather meaningless when there are so many issues to write about, but about which the paradigm in which they publish has nothing to say?

Is there a discussion of new thinking? No.

Is there any mention that the world is in an existential crisis because of climate change? No.

Is there a discussion of what is required to revive politics? Not really. There is just a

retelling of the inanity of those now in power.

And do I find that depressing? Yes, I do. It really is time we got on with the process of change. We have no time to waste, but those who think they are in charge, or who presume they serve those who do, will use every opportunity they have to distract from what is really required. And that feels like a fair summary of the media this morning.