I stand here on the remote Antarctic ice sheet, a splinter of freshly-drilled ice core in my just-warm hand. As it melts away I hear the crackle and popping as bubbles of ancient air are released from their icy trap. I was born into a world with 315 molecules of carbon dioxide in every million molecules of air. Today I know that number is over 415, and I fear that no-one alive now will ever see it fall back below 400. And I fear the consequence this will have on the climate of our planet. Dr Robert Mulvaney, British Antarctic Survey