

Antarctic research makes uplifting discovery

At the surface, Antarctica is a motionless and frozen landscape. Yet hundreds of miles down the Earth is moving at a rapid rate, new research has shown.

The study, led by Newcastle University, UK, and published recently in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, explains for the first time why the upward

taking place so quickly.

ice sheet shrinking in response to climate change. This movement of the land was understood to be due to an instantaneous, elastic response followed by a very slow uplift over thousands of years.

But GPS data collected by the international research team (involving experts from the University of Tasmania, Newcastle University, UK; Durham University; DTU, Denmark; Hamilton College, New York; the University of Colorado and the University of Toulouse, France,) has revealed that the land in this region is actually rising at a phenomenal rate of 15mm a year it responds much more quickly to wh So as the glaciers thin and the load in that localised area reduces, the mantle pushes up the crust.

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