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Welcome to the End of January 2016 Edition of What's Emerging

Welcome to the first back to work edition of the newsletter in 2016

Things are just starting to warm up here in terms of work. In the next few weeks Paul will be working with Epworth Private Hospital Group on Research strategies, The Red Cross Blood Service on Future Directions and Challenges, presenting to the CEO Institute on foresight for practical strategy and running two workshops at the Local Government Professional Association Conference.

If any of those approaches interest you then please contact us at info@emergentfutures.com

We hope that you continue to find then newsletter interesting.

Cheers,

Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Ranjitha and Samantha Kyle-Little

What are we writing about?

We have loaded some new video of Paul's presentations on to Vimeo. [Go to Keynotes and Presentations](#) or <https://vimeo.com/futuristpaulhiggins/videos> to see the latest 3 – one from an education Professional Development day in November. One from the Aust and NZ Radiographers Conference in July (full and short version) and one from the Nexus Philanthropy Conference Foxtel panel from a couple of years ago.

Business Tips

US Netflix blocked? Here's how to fix it - and watch everything

Aussie Netflix addicts went ballistic last week after the streaming [service started blocking](#) them from accessing its much bigger US catalogue.

But less than a week after the crackdown came into effect, third-party "unblocking" providers say they've already found ways to circumvent the problem, with their customers happily tuning into US Netflix again. [Read More...](#)

Speed Reading Promises Are Too Good to Be True, Scientists Find

Learning to speed read seems like an obvious strategy for making quick work of all the emails, reports, and other pieces of text we encounter every day, but..... [Read More...](#)

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New to Office 365 in January—new inking tools, collaboration improvements

Some changes you might not be aware of [Read More...](#)

How to spend your first \$10K in paid marketing for startups

Useful to think about this even if you are not a startup [Read More...](#)

■ In case you missed it: Most popular links from the Last Edition

[5 Noteworthy Back of Business Cards Ideas](#)

Some interesting concepts here.

■ What's Emerging

India's Internet activists have a SOPA moment: no "poor Internet for poor people"

My latest Guardian column, 'Poor internet for poor people': India's activists fight Facebook connection plan, tells the story of how India's amazing Internet activists have beaten back Facebook's bid to become gatekeeper to the Internet for the next billion users. [Read More...](#)

Telomere extension turns back aging clock in cultured human cells, study finds

Researchers delivered a modified RNA that encodes a telomere-extending protein to cultured human cells. Cell proliferation capacity was dramatically increased, yielding large numbers of cells for study. [Read More...](#)

Chinese factory replaces 90% of humans with robots, production soars

Changing Precision Technology Company in Dongguan city has set up an unmanned factory run almost entirely by robots. The factory has since seen fewer defects and a higher rate of production. [Read More...](#)

How One Intelligent Machine Learned to Recognize Human Emotions

Nobody knew how to identify people's emotional states by looking at their brain waves. Then a machine learning algorithm stepped in. [Read More...](#)

Some Plants Can Count

Venus flytraps and other carnivorous plants have the ability to count, according to a new study. [Read More...](#)

App delivers relevant news based on users' genomes

The proliferation of DNA sequencing technology is enabling companies to offer customers more information about their genes, as well as the ability to map potentially detrimental health concerns, as we've already seen back in 2007. [Read More...](#)

Sixty-two people have the same amount of wealth as half the world, says Oxfam

Just 62 people own as much wealth as the poorer half of the global population, a new report reveals, as the widening of the gap between the rich and poor accelerates. [Read More...](#)

Smart glove uses online gaming for rehabilitation

Using wearable gaming technology, South Korean company NEOFECT's system aids rehabilitation and provides clinicians with real-time patient data. [Read More...](#)

Research: increased resident participation in city planning produces extreme wealth segregation

Urban planning advocates like Jane Jacobs argued that people who live in neighborhoods should be active in the planning decisions around their homes. [Read More...](#)

A Robot Life Preserver Goes to Work in the Greek Refugee Crisis

THE EUROPEAN REFUGEE crisis isn't so much a crisis as it is a catastrophe. Fleeing violence in Africa and the Middle East, particularly Syria, more than a million migrants crossed by sea into Europe in 2015. [Read More...](#)

Dissipation of Economic Rents: when money is wasted chasing money

Much of economics is both esoteric and vital, meaning you need to understand it, but it's hard sledding. Today, economist Tim Harford does us the service of explaining "dissipation of economic rents" – inefficient systems in which the effort expended by everyone chasing value wipes out the value they're chasing. [Read More...](#)

Bridging the Bio-Electronic Divide

New effort aims for fully implantable devices able to connect with up to one million neurons. [Read More...](#)

China's coal-burning in significant decline, figures show

Official data shows coal use fell in 2015 across a wide range of measures as world's largest polluter continues its transition to clean energy. [Read More...](#)

What Genetically Engineered Animal Will Land On Your Dinner Plate Next?

It took two decades for the first genetically engineered animal to get approved for your dinner. Now that AquAdvantage salmon—with DNA engineered from three species—is moving forward, more genetically modified meat is likely to follow. But it's not clear how long that will take. [Read More...](#)

Type With Your Brain: Future Tech Ditches Keyboard

In the not-too-distant future, we could be communicating with our computers — and each other — using only our thoughts. [Read More...](#)

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