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## End-February 2017

### Welcome to the End-February 2017 Edition of What's Emerging

Welcome to our end of February Edition of our newsletter. Paul is back from holidays and working on a number of private client projects on digitisation and automation, and setting up a new networked prediction service we have been working on. If any of those interest you then please contact us at [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com)

We hope that you continue to find the newsletter interesting.

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

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### What are we writing about?

On a lighter note Paul was featured in the Australian Financial Review Weekend section on biking. If you can stand looking at him in lycra you can see the article at: [AFR](#).

### Business Tips

#### Ransomware: Should you pay up?

The incentives of hackers are straightforward -- they're looking for a big payday -- but it's less clear whether their victims should cooperate. [Read More...](#)

#### 10 Best iMessage Apps for Your iPhone

The 10 apps will help you: automatically create GIFs with your photos, translate texts into different languages, and keep your most personal messages and images safe (Paul: I particularly like Grammar Snob). [Read More...](#)

#### ExpressVPN

Kevin Kelly recommends ExpressVPN for travelling in China and still accessing stuff they block. (Paul: I use Witopia) [Read More...](#)

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

[Mind-Mappers to Help You Organize Your Thoughts](#)

## ■ What's Emerging

### The Numbers Don't Lie: Self-Driving Cars Are Getting Good

IT'S REPORT CARD time for the automakers and Silicon Valley denizens studying the tricky problem of making cars drive themselves, and everyone is passing [Read More...](#)

### Le Pen Gains in French Polls as Security Concerns Win Voters

Marine Le Pen gained ground on her rivals for the French election as she benefits from concerns about security while other candidates trained their fire on independent front-runner Emmanuel Macron. [Read More...](#)

### New smart bed positions itself to silence habitual snorers

A new bed uses biometric sensors to monitor sleep patterns, measuring things like heart rate, breathing and position and adjusting to keep sleepers comfortable. [Read More...](#)

### Graphene Temporary Tattoo Tracks Vital Signs

A graphene health sensor that goes on the skin like a temporary tattoo takes measurements with the same precision as bulky medical equipment. [Read More...](#)

### New approach yields bigger and better holographic displays

We're nowhere near the level pictured above, but a new approach has yielded a significant improvement in holographic display technology. [Read More...](#)

### Tokyo Olympics: Medals to be made from recycled mobile phones donated by the public

Organisers of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics say the medals will be forged from recycled metal from old mobile phones and appliances donated by the general public to give them a sense of direct involvement in the Games. [Read More...](#)

### Boston Dynamics Handle: A 2-Wheeled, "Nightmare-Inducing" Robot

Boston Dynamics debuted a new two-wheeled robot called Handle that can jump over obstacles, self-balance and eventually move objects around. [Read More...](#)

### Amazon soars to more than 341K employees — adding more than 110K people in a single year

Amazon added more than 110,000 employees during the past year, topping 341,000 people as of the end of 2016 thanks largely to a significant increase in the Seattle-based tech giant's network of fulfillment centers around the world. [Read More...](#)

### Norwegian robot learns to self-evolve and 3D print itself in the lab

Experts at the University of Oslo, Norway have discovered a new way for robots to design, evolve and manufacture themselves, without input from humans, using a form of artificial evolution called "Generative design," and 3D printers — although admittedly the team, for now at least, still has to assemble the final product, robot, when it's printed. [Read More...](#)

### Alibaba: China's online retail giant new Melbourne HQ will put squeeze on local retailers, industry group says

The arrival of China's e-commerce giant Alibaba in Melbourne is a good thing for Australia, but it could put extra pressure on local retailers, the Australian Retailers Association warns. [Read More...](#)

### This Robot Barista Makes a Dang Good Latte

SOMETIMES A COFFEE means something: it's an opportunity to catch up with friends, sit quietly among strangers, or unofficially pay a morning's rent on your Starbucks office. [Read More...](#)

### The universe is just a big hologram, astrophysicists claim

There is as much evidence for the holographic universe as there is for traditional explanations, researchers said. [Read More...](#)

### 'Wrinkled sack' Saccorhytus with huge mouth, no anus could be our oldest ancestor

Don't take this the wrong way, but your oldest ancestor was not exactly a beauty. [Read More...](#)

## Wafting magnetism has transferred oxygen from Earth to the Moon for billions of years

In a new paper in Nature Astronomy, a team from Osaka University publishes its analysis of data gathered by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's Selenological and Engineering Explorer, revealing that an isotope present in lunar regolith is a match for an isotope found in terrestrial, atmospheric oxygen. [Read More...](#)

## Simple vision test at home via smartphone

EyeQue enables users to test their own eyesight, using a 'miniscope' that attaches to smartphones for use with an app that tracks vision quality. [Read More...](#)

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