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Welcome to the End of March Edition of What's Emerging

It has been a busy few weeks for us and a number of presentations are up on the website. You can access them at www.emergentfutures.com in the latest downloads section on the home page:

- Future Challenges for Tourism – A Presentation to the Grampians Tourism Conference
- Servcorp Business Shorts – A presentation on the future competitive landscape – you can see a picture of Paul receiving a bottle of Moet at <http://twitpic.com/8zyuux> (very well received by Jo at home)
- The Future of Parliament – An older presentation from January 2012 that has just been loaded up.

In addition Paul has started a new long form blog – details in the What are we writing about section.

As always we hope that you find the newsletter both interesting and useful.

Cheers

Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Kim Stewart, Smitha, Syed Muqthar, and Samantha Kyle-Little

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What we are writing about

We have decided to post regular longer form blogs on future change and disruption. The first of these is Key Drivers of Change and is available at <http://futuristpaul.wordpress.com/2012/03/21/hello-world/> where you can register to be emailed when new posts are put up:

Key Drivers of Change

As a futurist I am often asked what the future will look like. Apart from the fact that there are many possible futures, presenting one view of the future limits people's thinking.

I would much rather talk about multiple futures and the major drivers that will shape those futures. This is because the audience I am talking to can then take away that information, critically review it and how it applies to their own circumstances as things change. This provides far more value. One of the frameworks that we use to look at what might happen is the Three Tees – Technology, Trust, and Transparency. These three are shaping change but they are also interacting with each and changing each other as we move into the future. This is how I think about them..... [Read More](#)



Business Tips

Writing Apps compared

Good review of writing apps, especially for the iPad or iPhone. [Read More...](#)

50 (mostly) free Social Media tools you can't live without in 2012

Whether you are just starting out in the social media arena or have been at it for a few years, this will hopefully be a handy resource. [Read More...](#)

With new tool, visually wants to replace PowerPoint with Infographics

Visually, is attempting to do for Infographics what Microsoft did for presentations. The company has launched a new platform to allow virtually anyone to create data visualizations. [Read More...](#)

The 10 best digital tools for Entrepreneurs in 2012

Here are 10 of the best digital tools to help you launch and grow your startup. Also useful for small to medium size businesses. [Read More...](#)

22 Executives share the best advice they ever received

A mixed bag but some interesting stuff. [Read More...](#)



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What's Emerging

Why the \$399 iPad 2 is the most important announcement Apple made

But will anyone want to buy the older iPad? Why not? It's still great hardware, has a huge amount of brand consciousness in the mind of the public and has an aggressive new price. Just check out the spike of Tweets, as measured by Twitter, surrounding the announcement that the current iPad 2 will stay on sale for \$399. [Read More...](#)

US Intel: Water a cause for war in coming decades

Drought, floods and a lack of fresh water may cause significant global instability and conflict in the coming decades, as developing countries scramble to meet demand from exploding populations while dealing with the effects of climate change, U.S. intelligence agencies said in a report Thursday. [Read More...](#)

The difference between Private and Public Morality

Republicans have morality upside down. Santorum, Gingrich, and even Romney are barnstorming across the land condemning gay marriage, abortion, out-of-wedlock births, access to contraception, and the wall separating church and state. [Read More...](#)

Greenland ice sheet may melt completely with 1.6 degrees global warming

The Greenland ice sheet is likely to be more vulnerable to global warming than previously thought. The temperature threshold for melting the ice sheet completely is in the range of 0.8 to 3.2 degrees Celsius global warming, with a best estimate of 1.6 degrees above pre-industrial levels, shows a new study by scientists from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. [Read More...](#)

Study finds eye problems common for Astronauts

Brain and eye problems have surfaced in astronauts who spent more than a month in space, marking a potential setback to plans for longer deep space missions, a US study said on Tuesday. [Read More...](#)

6 Amazing inventions made possible by Nanotechnology

Nanotechnology has evolved by leaps and bounds over the past few years, and we've seen scores of big developments made possible by designs smaller than the eye can see. [Read More...](#)

'Occupy' as a business model: The emerging open-source civilization

The Occupy Wall Street movement is a model for a new economic paradigm, in which value is first created by communities. [Read More...](#)

Internet accounts for 4.7% of the U.S. economy

The Internet accounts for 4.7% of the U.S. economy and is projected to grow 6.5% a year through 2016, according to a new report. [Read More...](#)

Does the Australian's Paywall affect link sharing?

"The picture becomes even clearer when we focus only on retweets. More so than through original tweets linking to a given article, it is through retweets of those tweets that the article is circulated widely, and gains greater exposure and (potentially) impact – but if the link in the original tweet is paywalled, who (other than fellow paying subscribers to the Website) are likely to retweet it? Not many, as it turns out". [Read More...](#)

How online education is changing the way we learn

Over the past decade or so, the Internet has become a huge source of information and education, especially for those who might be short on time, money or other resources.

[Read More...](#)

Shyness study examines how human brain adapts to stimuli

Shyness may be the result of deficits in two areas of the brain, new research from Vanderbilt University finds. Extremely shy or inhibited individuals are typically slow to acclimate to new people. [Read More...](#)

The new rules of Innovation: Bottom-up solutions to Top-down problems

In his new book, Vijay Vaitheeswaran argues that we're thinking about world changing innovation all wrong: It's not going to come from where we expect it. [Read More...](#)

Do e-books make it harder to remember what you just read?

Digital books are lighter and more convenient to tote around than paper books, but there may be advantages to old technology. [Read More...](#)

The truth about UK debt

Why did we have a financial crisis? And why has the recovery been so slow? [Read More...](#)

Buddhism and the Internet of things

In a very near future there will be an invisible web linking together human beings, physical objects and their virtual representations in an information network. [Read More...](#)



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