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Welcome to the Mid-January Edition of What's Emerging

Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter in 2016

We hope that you all had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and got a decent break.

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 have a change in personnel with Prafulla going on maternity leave and being replaced by Ranjitha from Brickwork. Our best wishes go to Prafulla for her baby and her future and we welcome Ranjitha

We hope that you continue to find then newsletter interesting and useful and we wish everyone a happy and Safe Christmas and New Year. See you in 2016!

Cheers,

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

What are we writing about?

Paul has taken a social media and writing holiday over the Christmas break. We will have some stuff in the next newsletter.

Business Tips

5 Noteworthy Back of Business Cards Ideas

Some interesting concepts here [Read More...](#)

How to Use Snapchat

Don't leave Snapchat to the millennials! Learn to love the world's most confusing social network with this guide. [Read More...](#)

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THE DESIGN SPRINT

The sprint is a five-day process for answering critical business questions through design, prototyping, and testing ideas with customers. [Read More...](#)

Pmarca Guide to Personal Productivity

An interesting approach from the super bright and slightly crazy Marc Andreessen [Read More...](#)

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

[10 of the Most Controversial Productivity Tips That Actually Work](#)

Some really are controversial and counterintuitive.

■ What's Emerging

We usually start our first newsletter with a series of collected predictions even though we don't believe in them. We do this because people like them and they are always the most clicked on links for the year.

Well our cynicism has finally got the better of us so here is what we think you should really read.

Why predictions are a lot like Pringles

This blog post reflects exactly what we think about predictions. Most of them are rubbish and we rely on them to avoid grappling with uncertainty. [Read More...](#)

IEA's latest forecast continues their decade of underestimating solar/wind. We'll look back and laugh.

[Read More...](#)

hey don't worry about Sweden. #Riksbank has it all under control.

[Read More...](#)

As I was saying....

[Read More...](#)

Forecasts of American miles driven have been wrong for the last decade

[Read More...](#)

But there are individuals who outperform the average and there are things you can do to improve your own performance. The bad news is that it takes discipline, hard work and a certain mindset that is hard to maintain:

Predict the Future: How to Improve the Accuracy of Forecasts

[Read More...](#)

Philip Tetlock and Dan Gardner, the authors of 'Superforecasting: The Art and Science of Prediction,' explain why precision precedes accuracy. We strongly recommend their book to anyone who has any role or interest in thinking about the future.

European Space Agency plans to build a lunar base by 2030s

The European Space Agency (ESA) considers the Moon as the next destination for humans venturing beyond Low Earth Orbit and an integral element of the roadmap towards humans missions to Mars. [Read More...](#)

What scientists just discovered in Greenland could be making sea-level rise even worse

Rising global temperatures may be affecting the Greenland ice sheet — and its contribution to sea-level rise — in more serious ways that scientists imagined, a new study finds. Recent changes to the island's snow and ice cover appear to have affected its ability to store excess water, meaning more melting ice may be running off into the ocean than previously thought. [Read More...](#)

The new way police are surveilling you: Calculating your threat 'score'

FRESNO, Calif. — While officers raced to a recent 911 call about a man threatening his ex-girlfriend, a police operator in headquarters consulted software that scored the suspect's potential for violence the way a bank might run a credit report. [Read More...](#)

World Bank issues 'perfect storm' warning for 2016

Simultaneous slowdown in Brics economies would jeopardise chances of pick-up in global growth this year, report says. [Read More...](#)

Don't blame the recent flooding along the Mississippi River on the rain. We created this mess.

Two days after Christmas, Jamie Nash-Mayberry received a text message from one of her students during a rare out-of-town vacation. "When u get time," it said, "check out the river stages." [Read More...](#)

Coast To Coast In A Tesla With No Driver Within 24 To 36 Months, Says Elon

On Saturday, we learned of the new v7.1 software release on the Tesla Model S—an update allowing owners to summon the car like a well-trained dog and make it park itself. But it's not that weird, according to Tesla head honcho Elon Musk. He says we could see fully autonomous cars in a matter of two to three years. [Read More...](#)

China's Hunger for Commodities Wanes, and Pain Spreads Among Producers

Chile is expanding its largest open-pit copper mine below the northern desert to dig up 1.7 billion additional tons of minerals, even as metal prices plummet around the globe. [Read More...](#)

Studio Smack - Branded Dreams: The Future of advertising

We're not there yet. Guess that's the best way to describe the status of nascent technologies like neurotech-brain-reading-devices and inception methods, memory implants and memory augmentation at the moment without the use of hype and buzzwords a la: "it will disrupt the way we live" or "this tech will change everything blabla". [Read More...](#)

Rise of the Commons: Fundamentals of P2P Economies

Last night I had the pleasure of seeing peer-to-peer and commons theorist Michel Bauwens present at the BizDojo on his speaking tour of New Zealand. [Read More...](#)

First IBM Watson-powered genomic wellness app debuts at CES

Medtronic and IBM applied cognitive analytics to 600 anonymous patient cases using data from Medtronic insulin pumps and glucose monitors. [Read More...](#)

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