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## Mid March 2015

### Welcome to the Mid-March Edition of What's Emerging

Welcome to the mid March edition.

In the next few weeks Paul will be working on the energy transition for the Australia Sugar Industry, presenting on the future of social media and app development, presenting to a NZ conference on education futures, working with the Victorian Local Governance Association on the future of local democracy and community , and several other projects in the pipeline to be announced shortly.

If any of those approaches interest you then please contact us at [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com).

We hope that you continue to find then newsletter interesting and useful.

Cheers,

Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Prafulla, Syed Muqthar, and Samantha Kyle-Little

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### What are we writing about?

Paul was featured on the Social Venture Partners Melbourne website on his journey as a partner and as lead investor with their first investment 100 Story Building : <http://www.socialventurepartners.org/melbourne/stories/paul-higgins-svp-melbournes-co-lead-partner-for-100-story-building/> If any of the subject matter that was covered interests you then please contact us at [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com).

### Business Tips

#### Minimal Exercise Works, and Works Best

So, it appears that exercise in modest amounts can have big effects, and if you over-exercise those gains may be wiped out. [Read More...](#)

#### The Extraordinary Power of Ordinary Creativity

A blog about recognising ideas by the incomparable Henry Mintzberg. [Read More...](#)

#### Slack, a team-talk tool that Just Works

How Slack worked after trying several other team communication tools. [Read More...](#)

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

### [12 Risks That Threaten Human Civilisation](#)

This report has, to the best of the authors' knowledge, created the first list of global risks with impacts that for all practical purposes can be called infinite. It is also the first structured overview of key events related to such risks and has tried to provide initial rough quantifications for the probabilities of these impacts.

## ■ What's Emerging

### Proof he's the Science Guy: Bill Nye is changing his mind about GMOs

He's not making his popular children's science show anymore, but Bill Nye the Science Guy is still making a public impact by going after pseudoscience and science denial. [Read More...](#)

### Inside Project Loon: Google's internet in the sky is almost open for business

We're several hundred feet in the air, inching our way along a wooden walkway tucked high into the rafters of the massive hangar at Moffett Federal Airfield, where Google's most outlandish and secretive division has been testing new prototypes for Project Loon. [Read More...](#)

### Is a reputation economy really an economy?

Kevin Simler's 2013 essay on the economics of social status is a great, enduring Sunday sort of longread that should be required of anyone contemplating using the phrase "reputation economy" in polite society. [Read More...](#)

### SanDisk crammed 200GB into a fingernail-sized microSD card

There's no such thing as too much storage in too small a space. That's what SanDisk, one of the world's largest and most popular storage manufacturers would like you to believe. [Read More...](#)

### Data journalism: reinventing news for 21st-century digital society

On 3rd March 2015, the lead story in both the print and online versions of The Irish Times reported new information on the ethnic background of schoolchildren in Ireland. [Read More...](#)

### These Tires Can Change Shape and Generate Their Own Electricity

There was a time when concept cars exhibited such radical pie-in-the-sky thinking that you wondered whether the designers used LSD or had their six-year-olds draw the first sketches. [Read More...](#)

### The Growing Economic Burden of Depression in the U.S.

Depression in America costs society \$210 billion per year, according to the newest data available, yet only 40 percent of this sum is associated with depression itself. [Read More...](#)

### Microsoft universal app platform could be a game changer

Microsoft unveiled more details about the universal app platform and the ways it will transform application development and the broader Windows ecosystem. [Read More...](#)

### The High Tech Farms Where Our Future Food Will Grow in Nothing But Air

If our planet is going to support an extra four billion people by the end of the century, we'll need to find some creative new ways to feed ourselves. [Read More...](#)

### Top 10 emerging technologies of 2015

Technology is perhaps the greatest agent of change in the modern world. While never without risk, technological breakthroughs promise innovative solutions to the most pressing global challenges of our time. [Read More...](#)

### 3D printing delicious, living, edible snacks

Food designer Chloé Rutzerveld's concept for "healthy and sustainable" 3D-printed snacks that sprout little herbs and mushrooms for flavor sounds like something we'd very much like to munch. [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

[1/100] Everyone is better off – Life expectancy increased in all countries around the world

To start off my series of 100 charts that explain how living standards have improved over the long run I chose my data visualisation of the dramatic improvement of global health. [Read More...](#)

Giant robotic teddy bear: Japan's nurse of the future

The gentle giant has been designed specifically to assist in caring for Japan's ageing population, taking on heavy-duty tasks such as lifting. [Read More...](#)

Marketing Drones Scanned Los Angeles For Cellphone Location Data

Drones // Acting as cheap flying cameras, drones already raise a lot of questions about privacy. But it's not just aerial photography people should worry about with drones. [Read More...](#)

Monster black hole from early cosmos challenges physics

The discovery of a supermassive black hole from the early cosmos is set to rewrite physics, say scientists. [Read More...](#)

Address: Level 27 | 101 Collins Street | Melbourne | VIC 3000  
Phone: +61 3 9018 7917 | Fax: +61 3 9012 3580 | [emergentfutures.com](http://emergentfutures.com)

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