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## Mid March 2016

### Welcome to the Mid-March 2016 Edition of What's Emerging

In the next two weeks Paul will be working with Epworth Private Hospital Group on Research strategies and presenting to the CEO Institute on Future thinking for Practical Strategy. Then he is on holidays for the school holidays and Easter. After that he has 14 conference keynotes and workshops already booked ahead on a variety of subjects which we inform you of as they are done.

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 the newsletter interesting.

Cheers,

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

### What are we writing about?

Paul's latest blog post "Who is Australia's Trump" is now up on [www.futuristpaul.com](http://www.futuristpaul.com)

### Business Tips

#### Tips and Myths About Extending Smartphone Battery Life

The Wirecutter tested a range of recent Apple and Android smartphones with the latest operating systems in tightly controlled environments. Your phone's results will vary depending on the phone model, cellular carrier, location and other factors, but the general results should hold [Read More...](#)

#### Cover Letters for Resumes Are Dead: Do This Instead

Chief people officer Rachel Bitte says there are four things you can do on your resume to make up for the loss of the letter: [Read More...](#)

#### Why Snapchat is the next big thing in digital marketing

Snapchat is still a relatively small, 'niche' social network, at least compared to Facebook or Twitter, but its more than 100 million seemingly addicted users represent piles of potential customers. [Read More...](#)

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

[Hiring For a Future-Proof Organisation: The Dos](#)

## ■ What's Emerging

AI learns to predict human reactions by reading our fiction

It's certainly easier than hand-coding a sense of morality. [Read More...](#)

China cannot escape the economic reckoning that a debt binge brings

HOW worrying are China's debts? They are certainly enormous. At the end of 2015 the country's total debt reached about 240% of GDP. Private debt, at 200% of GDP, is only slightly lower than it was in Japan at the onset of its lost decades, in 1991, and well above the level in America on the eve of the financial crisis of 2007-08 (see chart). [Read More...](#)

Google maps aims to let you walk the North Downs – without leaving your sofa

Some of the most beautiful walks in England and Wales will be appearing on Google Street View from 17 March [Read More...](#)

Greenland's Ice Is Getting Darker, Increasing Risk of Melting

Greenland's snowy surface has been getting darker over the past two decades, absorbing more heat from the sun and increasing snow melt, a new study of satellite data shows. [Read More...](#)

Live cultural map over time 1981 to 2015.

How is values changing over time? Watch World Values Study results move over time... [Read More...](#)

Virtual reality stadium lets distant friends watch the game together

LiveLike VR enables sports fans to watch the game together with remote friends in a virtual stadium. [Read More...](#)

Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels are showing a startling increase

Atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations have spiked more in the period from February 2015 to February 2016 than in any other comparable period dating back to 1959, according to a scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Earth System Research Laboratory. [Read More...](#)

The Artificially Intelligent Doctor Will Hear You Now

U.K.-based startup Babylon will launch an app later this year that will listen to your symptoms and provide medical advice. Will it help or hinder the health-care system? [Read More...](#)

3D Robotics partners with Sony on a drone that can map the world in 3D

The competition to capture big industrial customers is heating up [Read More...](#)

Imaginary ISIS attack on Louisiana and the twitterbots who loved it #1yrago

Gilad Lotan has spotted some pretty sophisticated fake-news generation, possibly from Russia, and possibly related to my weird, larval twitterbots, aimed at convincing you that ISIS had blown up a Louisiana chemical factory. [Read More...](#)

Thailand diverts Mekong, Vietnam put in danger

VietNamNet Bridge - Thailand has begun taking water from the Mekong River and pumping it into its northeastern areas, which are suffering from drought. However, it did not consult in advance with neighboring countries, which are all members of the Mekong River Council (MRC) [Read More...](#)

## Anti-insect paint and electric planes: can technology make aviation sustainable?

Insects may not seem the most obvious problem to tackle when trying to make aviation more sustainable. But avoiding them on takeoff could help cut airlines' fuel bills and emissions by up to 10%. [Read More...](#)

## When Culture Sets

Over 10yrs ago, I walked into the family office of Jeff Bezos- these are the people who invest Jeff's personal money. Upon entering the office I was struck by a piece of furniture that seemed oddly out of place. [Read More...](#)

## In Peru, trackable vultures are helping authorities find illegal garbage dumps

Black vultures, who are naturally drawn to garbage, have been fitted with GoPros as part of a campaign to clean up the city of Lima. [Read More...](#)

## Gig Economy Attracts Many Workers, Few Full-Time Jobs

The share of Americans earning income from digital platforms such as Uber and Airbnb is growing rapidly, but those gigs typically supplement incomes rather than replace full-time work. [Read More...](#)

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