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## Mid September 2013

### Welcome to the Mid of September Edition of What's Emerging

We have had a change of government here in Australia since the last election. There will be big changes in climate change policy and significant cuts to budgets. It will be interesting to observe the transition of Tony Abbott from Opposition Leader to Prime Minister. Even the best of them struggle with that transition. In terms of foresight it goes to prove that in complex environments it is difficult to know what will happen and our strategies must be able to deal with that.

In the next two weeks Paul will be travelling to the US to meet with some of our international network, attend the [Business Innovation Factory Conference](#), the [Maker Faire](#) and the [Mashable Social Good Summit](#). Paul will be writing on these events as he travels and if any of you want to discuss ideas from them then please contact us.

After he gets back Paul will be presenting and facilitating to the Leadership Victoria "Leaders in a Digital Age" Program, presenting to State Trustees on Strategy Innovation, Lecturing to Victoria University students on disruption by the web, Speaking at the Community Care Options inaugural conference on the future of social enterprise and community care, Chairing the final session at the Nexus Global Youth Summit in Sydney (only person there over 50), and continuing to work on strategy for two medium sized food and agriculture companies. If any of these 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, Kim Stewart, Smitha K, Syed Muqthar, and Samantha Kyle-Little

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### ■ What are we writing about?

Paul presented to wheat growers, departmental staff and consultants from the wheat industry in Esperance last week. The focus was on what opportunities there were for farmers to grasp a greater share of the new opportunities that are coming for agriculture. The presentation and extra links to relevant stories can be accessed by going to [www.emergentfutures.com](http://www.emergentfutures.com) and looking under latest downloads.

### ■ Business Tips

Macala Wright: Five beautiful platforms to visually articulate information

Advancement in technology, media, platforms and smarter devices have led photographs, hand drawn sketches and illustrations via digital tools to be the way in which we prefer to understand information, as well as to organize our ideas and thought processes. [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

### SumAll

Whether you're focused on social, commerce, payments, site traffic, or all of the above; see it all at once, as it happens. A trial is free. We have signed up for one. [Read More...](#)

### Bunkr

Bunkr is a cloud-based productivity tool that helps you and your team create and organize all your presentations in one place from anywhere on any device. We will keep using Prezi because we like the narrative flow aspects of it but I can see how this system would be very useful inside corporate environments. [Read More...](#)

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

### [Best Android tablets \(August 2013 edition\)](#)

Newsletter subscriber Tim Davies suggested we include the most popular link from the previous edition in each newsletter. We think this is a great idea so here it is.



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## ■ What's Emerging

### 5 Crazy New Man-Made Materials That Will Shape the Future

Forget Mother Nature: when it comes to all matters matter, the sheer ingenuity of the human mind can give rise to some of the most insane—and useful—new materials you've ever encountered. [Read More...](#)

### 2030s Cognitive Machines: a glimpse of life in a future wonder world

It's the year 2030, and as I glance around my bedroom, I feel secure knowing that microscopic sensors embedded throughout the house constantly monitor my breathing, heart rate, brain activity and other vital health issues. [Read More...](#)

### Concept of the Day: Innovation Districts

New Republic has a piece out on how downtown Detroit remains competitive thanks to a conglomeration of economic activity causing intellectual spillovers - "what one company or person learns from another company or person". [Read More...](#)

### The End of Email As We Know It

How your inbox is becoming an app. The final conversion of the old internet's last holdout. [Read More...](#)

### Kazys Varnelis, The meaning of network culture

Varnelis proposes that we have moved past postmodernism into the era of network culture. [Read More...](#)

### Oyster: A Gorgeous New App Offering Unlimited Books for \$9.95 a Month

The publishing industry is among the last holdouts in the ongoing transition from owning media to accessing it through a monthly service, but that's about to change with the launch of Oyster, an app released today for the iPhone that's looking to transform the way you read and pay for books. [Read More...](#)

### Robert Reich: Beware Capitalist Tools

Forbes Magazine, which calls itself the "capitalist tool," seems to have a penchant for publishing right-wing diatribes posing as serious economic analyses. [Read More...](#)

### Down syndrome reversed in newborn mice with single injection - ABC News

US researchers have found a way to reverse Down syndrome in newborn lab mice by injecting an experimental compound that causes the brain to grow normally. [Read More...](#)

### Richest one percent take home record share of US income in 2012

New analysis of IRS data finds that income gap has widened to its highest levels in a century. [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

### How today's computers weaken our brain

Are modern-day computers hindering creativity? Tim Wu on the problem with today's multitasking machines. [Read More...](#)

### Every Year, Beijing Uses 400 Billion More Gallons of Water than It's Got

According to statistics released by the Beijing Water Authority, Beijing's annual water consumption has reached 3.6 billion cubic meters (950 billion gallons), far more than the 2.1 billion cubic meters (554 billion gallons) locally available. [Read More...](#)

### The web giants pumping us for data

As society becomes more networked, the information available to the Googles, Amazons and Facebooks of this world will increase exponentially. [Read More...](#)

### Google's Trojan horse: how Chrome Apps will finally take on Windows

Today, on Chrome's fifth birthday, Google is announcing the rollout of what it's calling Chrome Apps. Don't feel bad if you're confused by the name. [Read More...](#)

### Floods have halved Pakistan's economic growth - expert

Three years of repeated floods have inflicted serious damage on Pakistan's economy, halving its potential economic growth, an expert says. [Read More...](#)

### The Undercover Economist Strikes Back: How to Run or Ruin an Economy

Tim Harford's latest book, The Undercover Economist Strikes Back, is a great macroeconomic companion to his 2005 debut, The Undercover Economist, an excellent and accessible book on microeconomics. [Read More...](#)



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