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Welcome to the December edition of What's Emerging

This is our final edition of our newsletter for the year.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading the newsletter throughout the year and that some of the tips and links have made a difference to your lives or your organisations.

We would like to wish all of you and your families a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and we look forward to interacting with you in 2012.

We hope that you continue to 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

This month Paul reviews *The Information, A History, a Theory, A Flood*, by James Gleick which is an extensive history and analysis of the development of information from the dawn of mankind through to the internet and quantum theory. You can read the review at: [Book Review](#)

■ Business Tips

Jason Hiner's 20 most useful Android smartphone apps

Paul Higgins: I use DropBox, Advanced Task Killer, Evernote, Docs to Go, Astro File Manager, Google Goggles, and Kindle. I am now going to add SpeedTest and Google +. Funnily enough though despite being a huge Android user now that I have an iPad I find myself more and more using my Android mobile as a wifi hotspot and using the iPad tethered to it. Works great.

[Read More...](#)

The pen is mightier than the phone: A case for writing things out

Writing things down, with your actual hands, is just plain better at getting you to remember and execute good ideas. Here's why. [Read More...](#)

Roll-up travel charger: Power up with style

The Roll Up Travel Charger is basically a power stick that hooks up to an AC adapter at one end, and offers an additional four sockets to charge up your various devices. This can be quite useful because in most hotel rooms, you'll be lucky to find just one socket to power up. The outputs will charge iOS devices, mini USB, and micro USB ports. There's also a Samsung

charger. When not in use, the whole thing rolls up neatly and snaps closed. [Read More...](#)

Four great travel tricks using Google search

On the go and need information fast? Google has got some great travel-friendly tricks up its search sleeve. Here are four of the best. [Read More...](#)

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What's Emerging

Hold The Phone

In its most aggressive recommendation to date regarding cell phones use on the road, the NTSB urged a ban on all driver cell phone use — even hands-free devices. The five-member board unanimously supported the decision, saying the dangers outweighed any benefits to talking or texting while on the road. [Read More...](#)

The future of the book | IDEO

The Future of the Book is a design exploration of digital reading that seeks to identify new opportunities for readers, publishers, and authors to discover, consume, and connect in different formats. [Read More...](#)

2011 Social sharing trends

Neat! Add This just published their 2011 stats on “sharing” across the web. [Read More...](#)

6th grader who sees the future

If you thought Y Combinator was shaking up the entrepreneurial world, wait until every High, Middle and Elementary school have “App Clubs” creating apps used by the faculty and district and generating revenue that funds tech and entrepreneurial focused school programs.

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Cyber attacks could wreck world oil supply | Reuters

Hackers are bombarding the world's computer controlled energy sector, conducting industrial espionage and threatening potential global havoc through oil supply disruption. [Read More...](#)

What would they cost today? 10 classic pieces of tech history at today's prices

How about paying almost \$4,000 for a basic PC? Or \$7,600 for a printer? That's how much you would pay for some classic tech items if they were sold today with prices adjusted for inflation. After having looked at classic hardware before here at Royal Pingdom, we now thought it would be interesting to dip into the pool of great gadgets again, this time focusing on prices.

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Icebergs that calved into Tasman Lake

A group examines one of the many icebergs that calved into Tasman Lake as a result of the 6.3 earthquake in Christchurch. [Read More...](#)

A silent alarm clock - Sessiz alarm saati

Alarm clocks usually jolt us awake leading us to reach for the almighty snooze button. Silence is a conceptual. [Read More...](#)

Society: Governments must tackle record gap between rich and poor, says OECD

The gap between rich and poor in OECD countries has reached its highest level for over 30 years, and governments must act quickly to tackle inequality, according to a new OECD report.

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Younger employees most satisfied with work, but also most likely to leave, says Mercer survey

Young workers worldwide present an unusual paradox for employers: they are more likely than the overall workforce to be satisfied with the organisations for which they work, yet also more likely to be considering leaving them, according to a global survey from Mercer. [Read More...](#)

The iPad's other life: medical device extraordinaire

The iPad has been a success for Apple in business, apparently in spite of Apple's lackadaisical approach to promoting its products directly to enterprise customers. But there's a specific

vertical market where the company is clearly making a concerted effort to promote professional adoption of the iPad: medicine. [Read More...](#)

Why Google is the most important learning tool ever invented

Tom Vander Ark is an edu-futurist par excellence. He's chair of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning, author of the new *Getting Smart: How Personal Digital Learning is Changing the World*, and an investor in start-up technology and entrepreneurship school General Assembly (see this month's *Life in Beta*) through his education-focused venture fund Learn Capital. Here, he shares some of his views on the importance of "just-in-time learning" and the "plummeting" value of traditional education. [Read More...](#)

The beginning of the end for FaceBook?

"If you've been using FaceBook for more than a few years and think back to how you used it in the beginning, you'll most likely remember using it quite frequently for long periods of time. Much of this initial time spent connecting with friends and family or rediscovering old friends was what made FaceBook great. Even many who are new to FaceBook may still find themselves using it heavily by doing some of those same things. [Read More...](#)

1.8 billion people on the planet live in an economy outside legal spheres - an economy that grows faster than the regulated economy

Robert Neuwirth (PopTech 2011) tells us about life in the informal economy, what French culture classifies as System D. 1.8 billion people on the planet subsist through economic transactions that happen outside legal spheres and, by 2020, two thirds of our planet will be doing business in this domain. The future is the free market vs. the flea market. [Read More...](#)

Could apprenticeships replace College Degrees?

With college costs skyrocketing and the number of jobs for new grads on the decline, it's no wonder that students are questioning whether a degree is worth the investment. [Read More...](#)



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