A question

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In the past 150 years, which technology contributed significantly to women joining the workforce?

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Fast, smart and connected:

WHAT IS IT TO BE HUMAN, AND AUSTRALIAN, IN A DIGITAL WORLD?

PROF GENEVIEVE BELL

2017 BOYER LECTURER

HTTP://WWW.ABC.NET.AU/RADIONATIONAL/PROGRAMS/BOYERLECTURES/SERIES/2017-BOYER-LECTURES/8869370

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Why the typewriter was a feminist liberation machine

The typewriter was born from a need to speed up bookkeeping, but its invention triggered a series of unexpected events. Boyer Lecturer **Professor Genevieve Bell** explains.

1868 – invention

1873 – production

1881 – first typewriting class in NY with “superfluous women”

40 years or improvements to help speed up the typing process.

Did you know?

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- The word robot was coined by a Czech playwright in 1921.
- Eric, the first real robot was built in 1928.
- The first town in Australia to be electrified was Tamworth in 1888. It was the first place to implement electric street lights powered by a municipal power company.
- County Women's Association and the Electrical Association for Women took an active role in educating the Australian public about how to manage and tame electricity. The EAW published wiring diagrams on tea towels.
- The term "Artificial Intelligence" owes its origins to meetings at Dartmouth College in the summer of 1956.

How a country town beat the big smoke to electric street lights

The first city in Australia to use electric street lights wasn't Sydney or Melbourne — it was Tamworth. And it all unfolded in a very Aussie kind of way. Boyer Lecturer **Professor Genevieve Bell** explains.

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Prof Genevieve Bell :

“Whatever the technology in question, we seem to perpetuate the notion that it will change everything for the better or destroy everything we know and love. We talk about **fast, smart and connected** that way. The reality is usually far less stark. Most technologies do indeed change things. But rarely the things we anticipate and rarely in the ways we anticipated, and usually not as quickly as we predict, or as seamlessly — bits of other technologies, infrastructures and networks keep peeking through”.

Smart and connected
Two articles is the Herald Sun 8/11/17

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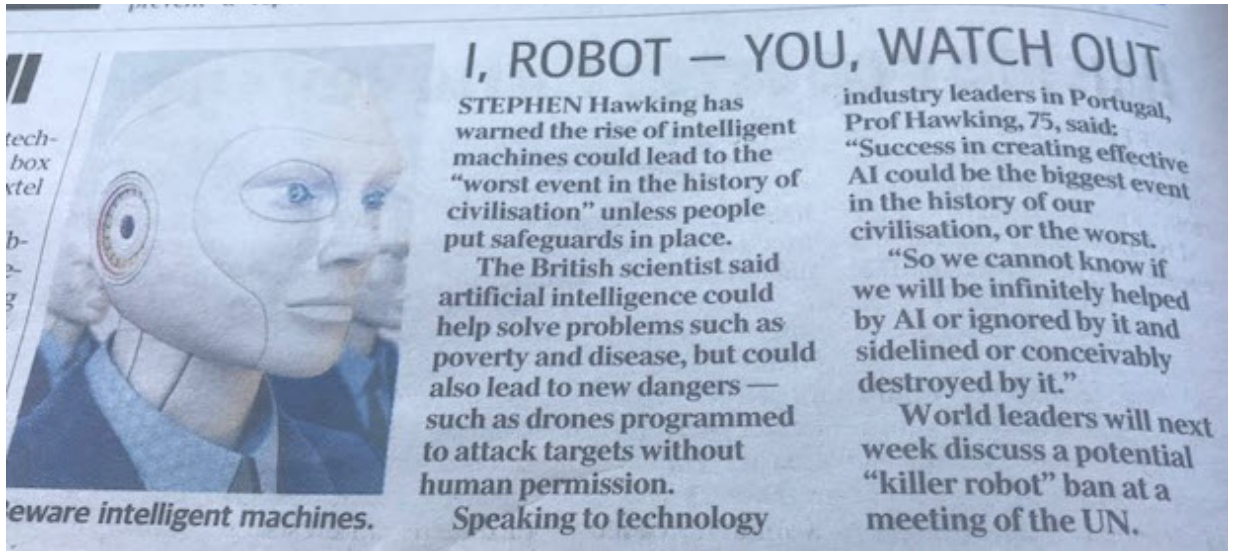

I, ROBOT – YOU, WATCH OUT

STEPHEN Hawking has warned the rise of intelligent machines could lead to the "worst event in the history of civilisation" unless people put safeguards in place.

The British scientist said artificial intelligence could help solve problems such as poverty and disease, but could also lead to new dangers — such as drones programmed to attack targets without human permission.

Speaking to technology industry leaders in Portugal, Prof Hawking, 75, said: "Success in creating effective AI could be the biggest event in the history of our civilisation, or the worst.

"So we cannot know if we will be infinitely helped by AI or ignored by it and sidelined or conceivably destroyed by it."

World leaders will next week discuss a potential "killer robot" ban at a meeting of the UN.

eware intelligent machines.

KIDS THE TEXT GENERATION

THE average child will send about 35,000 texts and 30,000 WhatsApp messages by the time they turn 14, a British survey shows.

They will have spent the equivalent of six months using their phone or 135 minutes a day.

The survey of 1000 kids aged eight to 14 and their parents found youngsters spent over an hour a day browsing social media sites. But their parents were not far behind — nearly four in 10 admitted they spent too long looking at their phones: 124 minutes a day on average.

The poll found the average child received their first smartphone at 10. Six in 10 said it was the first thing they checked in the morning and the last thing at night.

Parents' main worries were children accessing inappropriate content, being targeted by strangers or falling prey to cyber-bullying.

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All technology has a history

In 1838, the first stereoscope was invented, using twin mirrors to project a single image. That eventually developed into the View-Master, patented in 1939 and still produced today. Even before that, however, technologists were developing simulated environments. One milestone was the Sensorama in 1956.

https://www.fi.edu/virtual-reality/history-of-virtual-reality