

# **President's Piece.**



At our November meeting, Robert Tynan gave an interesting PowerPoint presentation about the work carried out by the Aerometrex organisation of which he is Market Development Manager.

Aerometrex is a professional aerial imaging and mapping company, with specialist expertise in Photogrammetry, LIDAR and 3D modelling. He was very well versed in the Company's operations and explained how LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) uses millions of laser point measurements to build a model of the ground surface.

He noted that raw LIDAR data models ground, vegetation and infrastructure and how they can be used to generate accurate levels of fuel loads below the tree canopy when assessing fire and other potential danger.

We thank Robert for his most informative presentation.

...and Russell for his excellent notetaking skill.

For those unable to attend, you might find this link of interest: *https://vimeo.com/470009069* 

Richard

Friday Meeting:

Remember to show us or tell us about personal projects that kept you busy during isolation.

Food and beverage protocol still apply.

Sunday group and partners plan lunch (at own expense) for noon before the meeting.

Please advise David to book numbers.

# **Editorial Comment**

Some of us have lost friends and family in this past year and several are dealing with personal health and other issues.



We share your hope that a safe and more secure year is ahead of us.

There is no shortage of 'experts' on every subject to tell us what we should or should not do, where we should go, how to behave and to trust them.

It occurs to me that attempting to write our letter each month imposes a responsibility avoid adding to the volume of trivia that adds confusion.

This month I'll keep it brief, include a few images and thoughts from readers and wish you and those who share the journey with you a Christmas and New Year you will treasure.

Frank



Dare we make predictions on future events after the uncertainty of 2020?

### THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE MOST OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING WILL BECOME REALITY IN THE NEXT 10-20 YEARS.

MOST OF US WON'T SEE THE CHANGES, BUT OUR KIDS AND GRANDKIDS PROBABLY WILL.

#### **WELCOME TO TOMORROW!**

1- Auto repair shops will disappear.

2- A petrol/diesel engine has 20,000 individual parts. An electrical motor has 20. Electric cars are sold with lifetime guarantees and are repaired only by dealers. It takes only 10 minutes to remove and replace an electric motor.

3- Faulty electric motors are not repaired in the dealership but are sent to a regional repair shop that repairs them with robots

4- Your electric motor malfunction light goes on, so you drive up to what looks like a car wash, and your car is towed through while you have a cup of coffee and out comes your car with a new electric motor!

5- Petrol pumps will go away.

6- Street corners will have meters that dispense electricity. Companies will install electrical recharging stations; in fact, they've already started in the developed world.

7- Smart major auto manufacturers have already designated money to start building new plants that build only electric cars.

8-Coal industries will go away. Gasoline/oil companies will go away. Drilling for oil will stop. So say goodbye to OPEC! The middle-east is in trouble.

9- Homes will produce and store more electrical energy during the day than they use, and will sell it back to the grid. The grid stores it and dispenses it to industries that are high electricity users. Has anybody seen the Tesla roof?

10- A baby of today will see personal cars only in museums. The FUTURE is approaching faster than most of us can handle.

Thanks Jack for your regular meeting presentations and the flow of stuff like these that keep us thinking.



11- In 1998, Kodak had 170,000 employees and sold 85% of all photo paper worldwide. Within just a few years, their business model disappeared and they went bankrupt. Who would have thought of that ever happening?

12- What happened to Kodak and Polaroid will happen in a lot of industries in the next 5-10 years ... and most people don't see it coming.

13- Did you think in 1998 that 3 years later, you would never take pictures on film again? With today's smartphones, who even has a camera these days?

14- Yet digital cameras were invented in 1975. The first ones only had 10,000 pixels but followed Moore's law. So as with all exponential technologies, it was a disappointment for a time, before it became way superior and became mainstream in only a few short years.

15- It will now happen again (but much faster) with Artificial Intelligence, health, autonomous and electric cars, education, 3D printing, agriculture and jobs.

16- Forget the book, "Future Shock", welcome to the 4th Industrial Revolution.

# ...Thanks Fay

Before my surgery, the anesthesiologist offered to knock me out with gas or a boat paddle...

It was an ether/oar situation.

I have a pencil that used to be owned by William Shakespeare.

But he chewed it a lot. Now I can't tell if it's 2B or not 2B.

Mrs. Donovan was walking down O'Connell Street in Dublin when she met up with Father Flaherty.



The Father said, 'Top o' the mornin to ye! Aren't ye Mrs. Donovan and didn't I marry ye and yer hoosband two years ago?'

She replied, 'Aye, that ye did, Father.' The Father asked, 'And be there any wee little ones yet?'

She replied, 'No, not yet, Father.' The Father said, 'Well now, I'm going to Rome next week and I'll light a fertility candle for you and yer hoosband.'

She replied, 'Oh, thank ye, Father...'. They then parted ways..

Some years later they met again. The Father asked, 'Well now, Mrs. Donovan, how are ye these days?'

She replied, 'Oh, very well, Father!'

The Father asked, 'And tell me, have ye any wee ones yet?' She replied, 'Oh yes, Father! Two sets of twins

and six singles, Ten in all!'

The Father said, 'That's wonderful! And how is yer loving hoosband doing?'

She replied, 'E's gone to Rome to blow out yer flamin candle.'

Astronomers got tired of watching the moon go round the earth for 24 hours.

So they decided to call it a day.





# **Insults of class**

These glorious insults are classics from an era before the English language got boiled down to four-letter words.



The exchange between Churchill & Lady Astor: She said, "Sir, if you were my husband I'd give you poison."

He said, "Madam, if you were my wife, I'd drink it."

A member of Parliament to Disraeli: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease." "That depends, Sir," said Disraeli, "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

"He had delusions of adequacy." - Walter Kerr

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." -Winston Churchill

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend.... If you have one." -George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill "Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second ... If there is one." - Winston Churchill, in response.

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator." - John Bright

"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?" Mark Twain

- Mark Twain

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." -Oscar Wilde

OK Oscar, that's about it for this month.

Stay safe

Frank

