

KEY LEARNINGS TONIGHT

1. AI ≠ Glorified Search

AI reasons, creates and decides. It generates new answers from patterns — it doesn’t just retrieve pages. This is a categorically different kind of intelligence.

2. The Alignment Problem

Teaching AI what we truly want — not just what we say — remains unsolved. Small misalignments at scale can produce catastrophic outcomes. Nobody has cracked it.

3. Recursive Self-Improvement

AI that improves its own code gets smarter faster than we can monitor or control. Each improvement enables the next. The pace becomes exponential.

4. AGI & ASI

Artificial General Intelligence (matches humans across all tasks) and Artificial Super Intelligence (surpasses us) may arrive this decade — far sooner than anyone predicted.

5. The Singularity

The point where AI improvement outpaces human understanding — a critical, seminal moment. A one-way door: once we pass through, we cannot go back and try again.

6. Risks Already Happening

White-collar job displacement, AI-powered disinformation, economic disruption — these are underway now. Rural communities have fewer fallback options when industries shift.

7. Children & Students

Today’s teenagers are entering the most unstable job market in modern history. Most schools aren’t preparing them. This is the generation that needs us paying attention.

8. 50/50: Utopia or Dystopia

Researchers call the probability of catastrophic outcomes “p(doom)”. Credible estimates range from 10% to 50% — tracked at pdoom100.com. Nobody credible puts it at zero.

9. A Good Future Is Real

Cancer solved, expertise available everywhere, poverty reduced, climate solutions accelerated. This future is achievable — and worth actively working toward.

10. Institutions Are Alarmed

The Pope, AI company CEOs, government advisors and safety researchers are independently raising the same urgent alarm. This is not fringe concern.

11. Bigger Than AI

AI accelerates everything: automation, energy, climate, geopolitics, social trust. This is a civilisational shift — not a product upgrade or a tech news story.

12. When Systems Go Down

Power, internet and EFTPOS can and do fail — increasingly so as infrastructure grows more complex. Community connection and basic preparedness are our most reliable backup.

COMMUNITY IS THE ANSWER — WHAT YOU CAN DO

In rural areas especially, local connection and shared awareness are our greatest strengths. Here’s where to start — tonight:

Stay Informed

futuretogether.community for resources and upcoming events. The gap between what’s actually happening and what most people know is enormous.

Find Your Community

You don’t have to figure this out alone. Find or start a local group. Lions, Rotary, RFS, sporting clubs already exist — they just need this conversation added to them.

Know Your Skills

Which of your skills are AI-resistant? Which are AI-complementary? Adapt with intention now, not in panic later.

Financial Resilience

Reduce debt. Build a buffer. Keep cash on hand — EFTPOS goes down when infrastructure does. Economic disruption amplifies existing vulnerability.

Local Resilience

Community gardens, local suppliers, knowing your neighbours. Tumbarumba already has this — the work is to strengthen it.

Civic Voice

Talk to local councillors and MPs. Attend community meetings. Governments need to hear from people who are paying attention.

When Systems Go Down — Also Do This Week

- AM/FM radio — battery or hand-crank
- \$200+ cash at home
- UHF radio — talk to neighbours & RFS
- Power bank — charged and ready
- Hard copies: key contacts & documents
- Know 3 neighbours by name

TAKE THIS HOME

PARTNERS & FRIENDS

“Did you know AI is already doing high-level legal and medical work? How do you think that affects us?”

“What would you do if your job looked completely different in three years?”

“If there’s even a 20% chance of major disruption — what would we do differently, starting now?”

KIDS & TEENAGERS

“What do you think jobs will look like when you grow up?”

“Have you used AI for anything lately? What did you think?”

“If a computer could do most jobs — what would people do all day?”

LOCAL BUSINESSES

“Which parts of what we do could AI handle in the next few years?”

“What’s one thing about our work that AI couldn’t replace?”

“Are we preparing for this — or waiting to react?”



Scan for event summary & resources

futuretogether.community/mee
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