

Debating the ethics on Artificial intelligence

AI: Friend or Foe?

19TH ANNUAL LOCAL PARLIAMENTARY CONVENTION

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE, 2024

9am - 9:40am Registration

9:40am Opening Address

Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre,
Eucalypt Room



**BRONWYN
HALFPENNY MP**

SPEAKER



**HON ANDREW
GILES MP**

SPEAKER



**DR. JAMES
CURRAN**

**CEO OF GROK
ACADEMY**

SPEAKER



Hosted by Lalor Secondary College with the support
of National Curriculum Services

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GUEST SPEAKERS



Dr. James Curran
CEO & Director, Grok Academy

Dr. James Curran is the CEO of Grok Academy, an Australian ed-tech charity with a mission to educate all learners in transformative computing skills, knowledge, and dispositions, empowering them to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the future.

James was a writer on the Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies (version 8 and 9) and the Digital Literacy capability (version 9). He consults with curriculum authorities and departments of education around Australia. In 2014, James was named ICT Leader of the Year by the ICT Educators of NSW and the Australian Council for Computers in Education.

James is Director of the National Computer Science School, the largest computer science school outreach program in Australia. Last year, over 22,500 students and teachers participated in the 5-week NCSS Challenge.

Prior to Grok Academy, James completed a PhD in computational linguistics at the University of Edinburgh and was an Associate Professor and Director of the Australian Computing Academy (ACA) at the University of Sydney. James co-founded Grok Learning in 2013, and in 2021, the ACA and Grok Learning combined to form Grok Academy.

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MP Andrew Giles

**Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
and Member for Scullin.**

Andrew Giles was first elected to the Australian Parliament as Member for Scullin on 7 September 2013, representing the Australian Labor Party (ALP). He is currently serving his fourth term in Parliament representing the Scullin community.

Andrew was appointed to serve as the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs in the Albanese Labor Government on 1 June 2022.

He previously served as Shadow Assistant Minister for Schools from 2016 to 2019, and as Shadow Minister for Cities and Urban Infrastructure, Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs, and Shadow Minister Assisting for Immigration and Citizenship from 2019 to May 2022.

Andrew's policy interests include cities, education, the future of work, climate change, immigration and social policy. He has contributed to public debate as well as policy formulation on these issues, and on improving the health of our democracy.



Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny MP

Member for Thomastown

Bronwyn Halfpenny has lived and worked in and around the northern suburbs for most of her life. She grew up in Watsonia and was educated at Watsonia Primary School, Watsonia Secondary College and La Trobe University, where she received a Bachelor of Economics.

Ms Halfpenny has spent over twenty years working in the trade union movement, firstly with the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union and more recently with the Victorian Trades Hall Council.

In November 2010 Bronwyn Halfpenny was elected MLA for Thomastown and has represented the area in the Victorian Parliament since and has held the position of Parliamentary Secretary for Workplace Safety since 2020.