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11	Isabel	Radka
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### Coming up for the remainder of the year:

1. Sport
2. Genetics
3. Roads from Home

### Registration Form - Series 4 2024

Payment methods in order of preference

1. Direct Credit to  
Acc: 03 1746 0080910 000
2. EFTPOS  
Debit card payment available on the day
3. Cash in an envelope, please, with your name or include this registration form. Amount enclosed \$30 per person

Cash enclosed
Name:
\$

### Contact

We prefer to contact you by email. If you have an email address, and we are not aware of it, how about letting us know.

Spare paper copies of the brochure are always available if you are unable to print one for yourself.

## Series Organiser

Murray Pfeifer

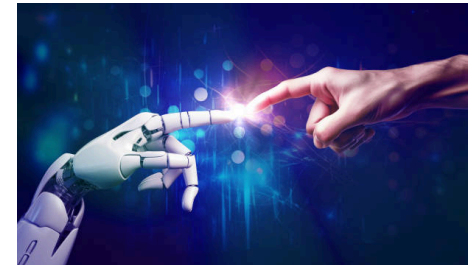


**June - July 2024**

**Series 4**

**Minds and Machines**

**A lecture series on Artificial Intelligence**



Venue:	Windsor Community Church 19 Windsor St
Time:	10.00am
Cost:	\$30 per person

## Series 4 - Artificial Intelligence

### Session 1 : Friday 7 June

#### What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

Presenter: *Anthony Robins*



Synopsis: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a decades old field, but significant advances in the last ten years have put it in the public and media spotlight.

This talk will summarise the history of AI and the technologies that it has been based on, from symbolic computation to artificial neural networks to the current “large language models” such as ChatGPT.

Bio: Anthony Robins is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Otago. After a BSc (Hons) in Psychology at the University of Canterbury, he completed a Masters and Doctorate at the University of Sussex (UK). He was appointed as a lecturer at Otago in 1989, and has been ever since. Anthony’s research focuses on artificial neural networks and computing education.

### Session 2 : Friday 14 June

#### The awesomeness, the limits and the challenges of modern AI



Presenter : *Lech Szymanski*

Synopsis: The immense success of deep learning has made AI ubiquitous. This talk will cover the current state of the art, how the latest neural network-based AI has transformed technology, what problems it solves, what it’s good at, and what challenges still remain.

Bio: Lech Szymanski is a senior lecturer at the School of Computing at the University of Otago. After his BSc (Hons) and MSc in Computer and Electrical Engineering respectively at the University of Ottawa, Canada, he completed his Doctorate at the University of Otago, where he was appointed a lecturer in 2016. Lech’s research interests are in the theory of machine learning with a focus on artificial neural networks and deep architectures.

### Session 3 : Friday 21 June

#### The ethical and social implications of AI



Presenter: *Veronica Liesaputra*

Synopsis: AI holds immense potential to address complex challenges facing our society. With the recent success stories of AI, there are views of two extremes. Some said that AI will solve all problems and might end humanity, while others think that AI will solve some problems with the help from humans. This talk will describe the positive and negative ethical and social implications of AI to our society.

Bio: Veronica Liesaputra is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Computing at the University of Otago. She earned her BCMS(Hons) and PhD in Computer Science from the University of Waikato in 2012. Prior to joining the School of Computing in 2020, she had worked at Google (Mountain View, USA), European Media Laboratory (Heidelberg, Germany) and Yunnan University (Kunming, China). Her primary research focus is centered on human-oriented AI, which sits at the intersection of natural language processing, information retrieval, computer vision, machine learning, deep learning and human-computer interaction.

### Session 4 : Friday 5 July

#### Reimagining regulation in the age of generative AI



Presenter: *James Maclaurin*

Synopsis: The brake-neck pace of AI development is causing headaches for those designing regulations to try and prevent harms from this new technology. This talk looks at how New Zealand used to regulate AI and at how regulation might have to change in a world dominated by generative AIs that compose text, make movies and control robots.

Bio: James Maclaurin is an Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Otago. His research spans the philosophy of artificial intelligence, philosophy of science, applied ethics and metaphilosophy. James is the Director of Otago’s Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy. He has recently developed an ethical framework for the use of AI in Health in New Zealand and he is co-author of A Citizen’s Guide to Artificial Intelligence with MIT Press.