



Public and Private events

Past Big Dialogues

Mar 2020	Our launch at Customs House in Brisbane - With a debate between professors John Quiggin and the visiting Canadian-American libertarian philosopher Stephen Hicks on the topic that "Postmodernism is a Right Wing Philosophy", introduced by video by Hon John Anderson AC, chaired by Hon Rachel Nolan, MC Christine Jackman
Jul 2020	Could Universal Basic Income Work in Australia? - Greg Marston, Gigi Foster and John Humphreys with informational video by Simon Cowan, moderated by Robert Macdonald, MC Kayci Gillies
Nov 2020	The China-Australia Relationship - Vicky Xu, Brodie Paul and Shahar Hameiri, moderated by Sarah Percy, MC Ian Walker
Jul 2021	Climate Change: What Can We Agree On? - Hugh Possingham, Maia Schweizer, Graham Young, moderated by Julieanne Alroe (in collaboration with the Queensland Academy of Arts and Sciences), MC Helen Chenery
Nov 2021	How To Fix Democracy? - AJ Brown, Julie-Ann Campbell, Alastair Stark, Theodora Le Souquet, moderated by David Fagan (in collaboration with newDemocracy Foundation), MC Christy Johns
Nov 2022	How Should We Manage the Next Pandemic? - Gigi Foster, Paul Griffin, Peter Harris AO, Isobel Marshall, moderated by Peter Varghese AO, MC Christy Johns (in collaboration with the <i>Queensland Academy of Arts and Sciences</i>)
Aug 2023	Net Zero Without Nuclear? - Rod Campbell, Katherine Teh, Stephen Wilson, moderated by Hon Andrew Fraser, MC Amanda Camm MP
May 2024	Housing - What Do We Want To Achieve? - Cameron Murray, Claire O'Rourke, Jackson Hills, Natalie Rayment, moderated by Peter Shergold AC, MC Kathy Mac Dermott
Sep 2024	A Big Dialogue in Melbourne: Energy Transition - What *Can* We Agree On? - Andrew Hudson, Anna Hancock and Stephen Wilson, moderated by Anthea Hancocks, MC Annemarie Rolls (in collaboration with <i>Centre for Policy Development and the Institute of Public Affairs</i>)
Oct 2024	A Big Dialogue, Gen Z Edition - Should Under-16s Be Banned From Social Media? - Daniel Cash, Freya Leach, Lachlan Lade, moderated by Peter Greste, MC Selena Bartlett
Nov 2024	A Big Dialogue in Canberra: The State of the Arts in The Lucky Country - Who Cares? Why Bother? - Ian Walker, Lyndon Terracini, Karen Hands, moderated by Kelly Burke, MC Fred D'Agostino, in collaboration with <i>Australian Academy of Humanities</i>

Jul 2025	A Big Dialogue: Australia's Cost of Living Problem: Why It Arose and How To Fix It? - Adam Creighton, Jennifer Westacott AC and Alison Preston, moderated by Cameron Murray, MC Gigi Foster. Side event to ACE25, the annual conference of the Economic Society of Australia. Co-presented with Australians for Science and Freedom.
Jul 2025	A Dialogue with Musa al-Gharbi: Is Critical Thinking Passé in Universities? - Musa al-Gharbi and Peter Ellerton, facilitated by Susan Grantham. Presented by the Free Speech Union of Australia in association with The Brisbane Dialogues
Aug 2025	A Big Dialogue on Tariffs and Trade - Reset Needed? - Louisa Coglean, Dan Ryan, Anna Fedeles, Moderated by Ian Walker, MC Isabel Barton. Presented in collaboration with the Economic Society of Australia (QLD).
Sep 2025	A Big Dialogue: Energy Transition - Just and Fair? - Gavin Dufty, Zoe Hilton, Ross Johns and Emily Sims, moderated by James Brown, MC Abbie Ralph. Presented by Ormond College in the University of Melbourne, in collaboration with Australian Dialogues

Next in the Dialogues Series | 2025

Tue 11 Nov	A Big Dialogue: China-Australia - Can We *Really* Have Our Cake And Eat It?
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For private and Dialogues@School events, scroll further

Tuesday Dialogues (formerly First Tuesday Club)

2021 Series

May | What does decarbonisation really mean for Australia?

- Led by Gene Tunny

Jun | The Evolution Of Sex Differences, Feminism, and Scientific Censorship

- Bill von Hippel

Jul | Hydrogen's Role in Decarbonising the Economy

- Led by Thom Cameron

Aug | The Social Licence To Operate

- Led by Hugh Breakey

Sep | Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom

- Led by Kath Gelber

Oct | Olympics 2032: Going For Broke?

- Led by Graham Young

Nov | The Costs of Covid

- Led by John Quiggin

2022 Series

Feb | The Great Covid Panic: What Happened, Why, And What To Do Next?

- Led by Gigi Foster

Mar | Aboriginality

- Led by Wesley Aird

Apr | The Singapore Housing Model - what Australia could learn

- Led by Cameron Murray

May | Child Safety

- Led by Anthony Bishop

Jun | Public Broadcasting in the 2020's

- Led by Steve Austin

July | Nuclear Power's Role in Decarbonisation

- Led by Robert Parker

Aug | The Garden of Language

- Led by Roland Sussex

Sep | Population Policy or Ponzi Scheme

- Led by Jane O'Sullivan

Oct | A Discussion on "The Voice"

- Led by Dominic McGann

Nov | How Minds Change

- Led by Jesse Richardson

2023 Series

Feb | Planning for FTCs in 2023

- Led by First Tuesday Club

Mar | Managing Youth Crime

- Led by Simon Denny

Apr | Nuclear Energy in Australia

- Led by Ian Lowe & Stephen Wilson

May | Wicked Problems

- Led by Fred D'Agostino

Jun | Tensions with China and Australia's Business Landscape

- Led by Damien Ryan

Jul | How will you vote in the Voice Referendum?

- Led by First Tuesday Club

Aug | Race in Modern America - Problems, Progress and Possibilities

- Led by Michael Ondaatje

Sep | Risk and Opportunity of Human Centred AI

- Led by Janet Wiles

Oct | Digital Media and Children

- Led by Aleesha Rodriguez

Nov | Reflections on Australia's COVID Response

- Led by Shahar Hameiri

2024 Series

Feb | The culture of politics, the role of the media, and the slide in social cohesion

- Led by Graeme Turner

Mar | Dr Christopher Reynolds with a fresh view of Australian history 1770-1901

- Led by Christopher Reynolds

Apr | The Current Housing Crisis: How did we get there and the road out?

- Led by Jackson Hills

May | Free Speech and Vilification in 2024

- Led by Katharine Gelber

Jun | Shane Satterley on terrorism, religious extremism and radicalisation in Australia

- Led by Shane Satterley

Jul | How will we (should we) deal with the next Pandemic. What have we learnt?

- Led by Charles Gilks

Aug | Brisbane: A River with a City Problem

- Led by Margaret Cook

Sep | Researching Local History

- Led by Paul Granville

Oct | What is the National Conservative Movement and What does it Mean for Australia?

- Dan Ryan

Nov | Discussing Falling Global Fertility

- Led by John Humphreys

2025 Series

Feb | What does it mean to be an Australian?

- Led by Michael Ondaatje & Simon Bowler

Mar | What factors determined the Australian character of 2025 and what are the influences that will shape it for the future?

- Led by Roly Sussex

Apr | Science and Modernity. Single, double and triple blind trials and why they matter?

- Led by Anthony Bishop

May | Australia and the British Conservative Party

- Led by Kit Kowol

Jun | Simon Kennedy on Christianity in Australia

- Led by Simon Kennedy

Jul | Josh Stabler on Decarbonising, Natural Gas and the Australian Economy. Where are we, how did we get here and what is a way forward?

- Led by Josh Stabler

Aug | Imagine you're a doctor concerned about the gender transitioning of children in your workplace. What would you do?

- Led by Jillian Spencer

Sep | AI slopworld: how and why did digital platforms create a new form of automation that is fuelling a new era of cultural and consumer 'slop' - a glut of low-quality, synthetic content, cultural forms, products and experiences?

- Led by Nicholas Carah

Oct | Simon Denny replies to Jillian Spencer's comments on the affirmation model for the management of adolescents with gender dysphoria

- To be led by Simon Denny

Dialogues @ Schools (All Schools)

2022	What's Wrong With Tiktok?
2023-24	Could AI Improve Education For All?