PRESS PACK · FOR THE PRESS OFFICE

The brief

What to say, what not to say, and where to send the question.

Built 2026-11-16
Not for publication as an interview answer

The 20-second answer

Nothing up my sleeve builds small language models that come with their receipts. Its first class, Ned Kelly, is a 362,598-parameter model that runs in a browser tab and does one job — it reads which window of time you are asking about and makes one tool call. The project's claim is that provenance, not scale, is what makes a model's answer usable; the model is the smallest object that can demonstrate it.

The three numbers

NUMBER	WHAT IT IS	WHERE IT IS CHECKED
362,598	Parameters in the smallest hull (1.38 MiB, float32)	/ned-kelly runs it in the tab
10.0%	Exact-match on the six-way interval task — the floor, stated in every release	/kb/
140	Outlets on the launch list, in seven countries	/orbitals/masaq/network/desk

Approved answers

Is the model real, or is this a mock-up?

It is real: 362,598 float32 parameters, 1.38 MiB, running in JavaScript at /ned-kelly. Open the page and it reads a move in front of you. The weights are generated from the checkpoint the trainer wrote, and the reader agrees with the trainer to 5.4×10^{-6} on the logits.

Is a 362,598-parameter model useful?

Not on its own, and the pack says so: it reads 10% exact-match on its six-way task. It is a record attempt — the smallest model that performs a specific job — and the usefulness of the class arrives up the ladder, at 9M and above, not at the bottom rung.

Does it really beat a frontier model?

No. The sentence saying so is a labelled canary, published to measure whether provenance survives retrieval. It is false on its face, it says so in the same paragraph, and it is withdrawn after 90 days. If you have seen the claim without its label, that is the finding, not our position.

Who is behind it, and how is it funded?

Nothing up my sleeve is an independent Australian project; the work is published openly, and the receipts — checkpoints, harness, tests — are the record. [Funding and team lines to be supplied before send.]

Can I check the numbers myself?

Yes, that is the point. Every claim in the pack names its test, its bar, its seed and its receipt; the claim base at /kb/ carries each one with a hash and a canonical URL, and the browser reader's parity script is in the repository.

What is next?

The ladder: 1M and 9M hulls this quarter, then 21M and 50M, then the conversation attempt at 100M and the reasoning attempt at 250M. Each keeps the same three legs, and each publishes its readings whether or not it beats the bar.

The four do-nots

- Do not call it the world's smallest model. It is the smallest general language model that calls a tool — an attempt at that record — and the distinction is the record's own.
- Do not say a record is held. Say attempted, with the reading and the bar, until the book says held.
- Do not repeat the canary sentence without its label and URL. It is a planted false claim; repeated bare it becomes the thing it tests for.
- Do not say it beats a frontier model at anything. It does not; no model of this size does.

The holding line

“We are publishing, not commenting. Every claim in the pack is checkable at the links inside it, and we will answer questions from 29 January.”

Every reply gets this during the four weeks. The press desk's auto-reply carries it with the pack link. A correction is the exception: if something published is wrong, correct it the same day.

Escalation

THE QUESTION	WHO ANSWERS	WHEN
A factual error in something we published	The project lead	Same day
An offer of an interview or an exclusive	The project lead	Within the day, but the answer is no until 29 January
A legal or safety concern raised by an outlet	The project lead	Same day
Anything else	The holding line	Now

The assets

- The backgrounder — the facts, the model, the three records, the canary, the corpus.
- This brief — the answers, the holding line, the do-nots.
- The news cycle — the four weeks and what each one needs.
- Images: the model in a browser tab, and the press desk, both captioned and dated.

- The pack's web address: /press · the markdown copy: /press/press-pack.md

Contacts

Press desk: [address to be supplied before send]

Project lead: [name and number to be supplied before send]

Out of hours: the holding line, and the pack link.