

Blue Mountains Branch Friends of the ABC Newsletter August 2013

GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS BRANCH OF FRIENDS OF THE ABC

Welcome to another edition of the BMFABC newsletter.

The Blue Mountains Friends Of the ABC committee is busily bringing together the last strands of preparation for the Meet the Candidates Forum to be held at the Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls on Saturday August 10th at 10.30 am.

We are hoping to meet many of you and also renew old acquaintances at the Forum as it is an opportunity to hear, and also speak with candidates from all political parties. We will learn what each political party is planning for the future of the ABC.

Is the ABC Worth Fighting For?

Most Australians resoundingly believe that the ABC is an integral part of our life, and definitely want to retain the national broadcaster.

In Australia, as in most countries the world over, mainstream media has fallen on hard times, recently losing thousands of readers, listeners and viewers, as the public use social media more and more.

Several years ago, ABC Management prepared for the digital and internet age using cutting edge technology and programming, thus ensuring and retaining a huge audience, especially among a younger demographic.

In these lean economic times, all political parties are searching for ways to reduce their spending and vastly reduce their budgets. There are murmurings of reducing or diminishing our public broadcaster.

The FABC is standing strong and encouraging all members as well as the general public to tell our politicians to "Save our ABC".

NEXT MEETING

WHERE: Grand View Hotel,
Wentworth Falls

DATE: Sat, 17th August 2013

TIME: 10:00 AM



Check out our Branch Website...

Go to: Friends of the ABC NSW

<http://www.fabcnsw.org.au/>

Go to Local branches(left column) and click on 'Blue Mountains'

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Please contact any committee member to find out more about Friends of the ABC.

A well-funded, independent and commercial free public broadcaster is vital in any democracy, but essential in our country where media ownership has been reduced to less than a handful of owners.

With a Federal election a certainty sometime before the last week in November, the ABC is launching a new on-line service so that the general public is able to keep up with the latest trends in all electorates across the country.

When the election date is finally announced simply go to www.abc.net.au/votecompass. Follow the prompts and you will find all the latest news and expert opinions about trends in every electorate in Australia. Another innovative and very helpful idea from our ABC.

Keep warm and we look forward to seeing you at the Grand View Hotel on Saturday 10th @ 10.30am. Don't forget to enjoy lunch from the Grand View's great lunch menu after the Forum, and continue chatting to the candidates.

Margaret Foy
President BMFABC.

Know your ABC Board.

Mr Steven Skala AO



Appointed a Director for a five year term from 6 October 2005

Reappointed a Director for a five year term from 24 November 2010.

Steven M. Skala AO is Vice Chairman, Australia and New Zealand, of Deutsche Bank AG. He is Chairman of Wilson HTM Investment Group Limited, and is a Director of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and a Director of Hexima Limited, Vice President of the Board of the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Deputy Chairman of the General Sir John Monash Foundation and a Director of the Centre for Independent Studies.

Mr Skala serves as a Member of the International Council of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York, the Advisory Council of the Australian Innovation Research Centre and the Grievance Tribunal of Cricket Australia. He is a past Chairman of Film Australia Limited and the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, a former director of Max Capital Group Limited, the Channel Ten Group, The King Island Company Limited and The Australian Ballet, and a former Trustee of the Sir Zelman Cowen Foundation for Medical Research. Steven holds the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Queensland and Bachelor of Civil Laws from Oxford University.

Between 1985 and 2004 he was a Partner and Head of the Corporate and Commercial Practice of Arnold Bloch Leibler, Solicitors. In 2010 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for service to the arts, education, business and commerce.

That's it for another month. Next month the newsletter will be written by the deputy editor, (you'll have to wait to find out who), as I will be away until September 19. GT