



Blue Mountains Branch Friends of the ABC Newsletter October 2013

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

Since the "Meet the Candidates Forum" in August followed by the Federal Election, life has been quieter. However there are a couple of things to report or remind you about.

Six BMFABC members travelled down to Cello's Restaurant, Castlereagh Street, Sydney for the FABC (NSW) Annual Dinner on Wednesday 28 August with guest speaker Quentin Dempster. As usual Quentin gave a well researched and interesting talk on the ABC in the 21st century. He explored the likely options for the ABC (and SBS) for the future and to be honest some of the options give great cause for alarm. As members of FABC we need to remain aware and be ready to mobilise behind the State Executive in any action that they feel is necessary to protect the ABC.

As members of BMFABC it is good to be active. We need to remind ourselves that we can all participate in a meaningful way to support the ABC. i.e. email, phone or write to the local Members of Parliament, both State and Federal as often as possible. Remind them that adequate funding is essential to maintain a viable ABC. Keep the pressure on the Federal Minister for Communication especially. At present the Minister is Malcolm Turnbull. Canberra telephone number is 02 6277 7111. Ask to be connected to the Minister's office. Email addresses are all available on the Australian Parliament website.

FABC (NSW) AGM

On Saturday 21 September, the FABC (NSW) held their AGM in Sydney with Jonathan Holmes as guest speaker. All the Executive Committee Office Bearers remain unchanged. The Committee is as follows:

President:	Mal Hewitt
Secretary/Treasurer:	James Buchanan
Membership Secretary:	Angela Williamson
Update Editor:	Mal Hewitt
Cartoonist:	Phil Somerville
Layout Artist:	Paul Martens

NB. Membership telephone line: (02) 9990 0600

Congratulations to all the Committee. It is a strong team in my humble opinion.
Mal Hewitt reports that Jonathan Holmes gave a thoughtful talk before the election of office bearers.

NEXT MEETING

WHERE: Grand View Hotel,
Wentworth Falls
DATE: Sat, 19th October
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'

FABC COMMITTEE

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

I have been thinking about how to make the newsletter more inclusive and interesting.

A "Letters" column/page comes to mind. Any member is welcome to contribute a letter/s. Please keep the contribution concise whether it is praise, criticism or comments.

The content should be about ABC programming or ideas to improve FABC, be specific but NOT LIBELOUS!!

Send contributions to Garth Taylor, Newsletter Editor, gartht@aapt.net.au

Please include your name and address.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

For the Diary

Saturday, November 16, AGM-10.00am, Guest Speaker 11.00am. Suggested donation \$5.00 at the door.

Come and hear the Guest Speaker, Senior Journalist at the ABC, MATT PEACOCK (Hardies/Devil's Dust etc).

It will be an interesting morning.

As always all committee members will vacate their positions at the AGM.

The Committee Positions are:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Membership Secretary

Web Master

Newsletter Editor

Publicity officer

Our Secretary will attach nomination forms to the September Branch Meeting Minutes.

Some positions will be vacant for re-nomination. At the time of writing both Vice President and Secretary are resigning much to my regret. Big shoes to fill indeed but I am sure there are other members who would be more than capable.

November Newsletter will be back in the capable hands of our Newsletter Editor, Garth Taylor. Garth is home from Europe but will spend October in Bali. In Garth's own words "it's a hard life"

Enjoy your ABC

Margaret Foy

(President BMFABC)

Our monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of every month Feb-Nov inclusive.

The meetings are held at the Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls at 10.00am-12noon.

Enjoy a Grand View lunch and some socialising at the conclusion of each meeting.