

Blue Mountains Branch Friends of the ABC Newsletter July 2013

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

From the pen of our President.

As I sit to write these few paragraphs we are all in limbo wondering about the date of the next Federal Election and how it may impact on the Meet the Candidates Forum and the speakers who have agreed to attend.

Interesting times indeed! However as soon as we know something definite from Canberra, you will be advised.

This morning I spoke with our NSW State President, Mal Hewitt, regarding the changing scene in Canberra. He is presently having conversations with his counterpart in Victoria to devise a strategy for the FABC in both States to use pre- election. They hope that by collaborating, it will effect more success from an in - coming government in retaining a strong, independent, commercial-free ABC. Mal will send me a copy of the plan ASAP.

Watch this space.....

Our monthly meetings continue to grow and we are very pleased that new members have come along. It has been wonderful to welcome back some "old members" as well. In June we welcomed a new member, Lucy Mark and hope that she enjoys the involvement with BMFABC.

From feedback that we have received so far, it appears that our new format for meetings with 1 hour devoted to General Business, a short break, and then the following hour involved in an activity associated with the ABC has proved very popular.

As listeners and viewers of the ABC your comments on programmes and presentation of news and current affairs are appreciated. We report to the ABC from our branch our praise or criticism on programming on a regular basis. Any extra input would be gratefully received.

Everyone is invited to stay for lunch and enjoy both the company and the Grandview's menu.

Margaret Foy
Pres. BMFABC

NEXT MEETING

WHERE: Grand View Hotel,
Wentworth Falls

DATE: Sat, 20th July 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'

FABC COMMITTEE

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

Is your membership up to date?

If you are not sure, how about e-mailing or phoning Membership Secretary Janelle to check.

An interesting article for you to look at.

Penny Tayler has provided an excellent article entitled **Gillard, Whitlam and Murdoch** and how this history is affecting the future of ABC through the continuing attacks on it by the Murdoch press. It also shows how Mark Scott got his current position and this has another link to Mark's vision for the future direction of the ABC. It has too many pages to print in our little newsletter but you can read it on the following website by clicking on this link if you are receiving this edition by e-mail:-

<http://www.independentaustralia.net/2013/politics/gillard-whitlam-and-murdoch/>

If you don't have access to the web and would like a hard copy, contact me on 4784 3301 and I will print and send you one.

The Forum

As President Margaret has noted, the date of the election may well change although I personally doubt whether it will be any earlier. If the PM doesn't stay with the September 14 date then my logic reasons that to avoid football finals and to a lesser degree, the Bathurst car race, it would have to be at least four weeks later. So plan on the Forum date remaining August 10.

I have attached the current copy of the advertising poster in the hope you may be able to display it somewhere. We are trying to achieve a maximum advertising effort on a shoestring budget and this needs the help from as many members as possible. If you feel that you can find homes for extra posters please phone or e-mail me for extra copies. Extra candidates are expected to be added.

Know your ABC Board

This month I am featuring **Professor Julianne Schultz AM** and **Simon Mordant AM**.

Appointed Director for a five year term commencing 27 March 2009

Professor Julianne Schultz AM FAHA is the founding editor of Griffith REVIEW, the literary and current affairs quarterly published by Griffith University, in conjunction with Text Publishing. She has recently been appointed new Chair of the Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) and also chairs the Queensland Design Council and the reference group for the National Cultural Policy and is a member of the board of the Grattan Institute. She is deputy chair of the Australian Academy of Learned Academies research program, 'Securing Australia's Future', and a member of the advisory boards of the Centre for Advanced Journalism, Companion to Australian Media, High Resolves Initiative, Australian Indigenous Mentoring Enterprise, an ambassador for Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, and a judge of the Miles Franklin and Walkley awards.

Her Doctorate from the University of Sydney explored the changing relationship between the media and politics and the role of journalists. She is the author of Reviving the Fourth Estate (Cambridge Uni Press), Steel City Blues (Penguin), and Not Just Another Business (Pluto) and the librettist of Black River and Going Into Shadows, award winning operas composed by her brother Andrew Schultz.

Professor Schultz began her career as a reporter with the ABC and The Australian Financial Review. She has held senior roles at the Courier-Mail and ABC, worked as media columnist and journalism educator. She was the founding Director of the Australian Centre for Independent Journalism at the University of Technology, Sydney. Since co-chairing the Creative Australia stream at the 2020 Summit she had played an increasingly prominent role in public policy discussions about creativity and cultural policy.



Prof Julianne Schultz AM

In 2009, she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for service to the community as a journalist, writer, editor and academic, to fostering debate on issues affecting society, and to professional ethics and accountability. She was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Academy of Humanities in 2010.

Simon Mordant AM

Simon Mordant AM was appointed to the ABC Board in November 2012 for a five-year term.

Simon is the Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Greenhill & Co., Inc., a leading independent corporate advisory firm. He specialises in advising local and multinational companies and government on capital markets strategy and merger and acquisitions.

Simon has been a practising corporate adviser in Australia since 1984, having trained as a Chartered Accountant in London.

Simon is a passionate collector of contemporary art with a long history of benefaction to the Arts. In 2007, he was appointed Chairman of the MCA Foundation which was re-established to raise funds for a \$53 million capital campaign for the redevelopment. In 2010, Simon was appointed Chairman of the Board of the MCA.

Simon is also Australian Commissioner for the 2013 Venice Biennale, a member of the International Leadership Council of the New Museum and a member of the International Council of The Museum of Modern Art in New York, a member of the Executive Committee of the Tate International Council, a Director of the Sydney Theatre Company and the Garvan Research Foundation, a member of the Wharton Executive Board for Asia. He was Deputy President of Takeover Panel 2000-2010.

Simon was awarded an AM, Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for “Services to the Arts and to the cultural environment of Australia through philanthropic and executive roles, and to the community”.

In 2010, Simon and his wife Catriona were awarded the “Australia Business Arts Foundation’s Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Leadership Award”.



Simon Mordant AM

***IS YOUR ABC WORTH
FIGHTING FOR?***

Meet the Candidates Forum

***COME AND HEAR YOUR ELECTORAL CANDIDATES SPEAK ON THE
TOPIC:***

“THE INDEPENDENCE AND FUNDING OF THE ABC”

INVITED SPEAKERS

Accepted



Louise Markus
(LIB)

Accepted



Susan Templeman
(ALP)

Accepted



Cate Faehrmann
(GREENS)



Danielle Wheeler
(GREENS)



Sen. Doug Cameron
(ALP)

**AT THE GRAND VIEW HOTEL, WENTWORTH FALLS
10.30AM SATURDAY 10 AUGUST 2013**

Admission is \$5. (Fundraiser for your local FABC branch)

Reservations: Phone 4784 1139 or 4782 3970. RSVP: 5 August 2013

Tickets are available at: *Megalong Books* (Leura), *The Turning Page* (Springwood), *Gleebooks* (Blackheath) and at the door.

After the Forum you are welcome to join us for lunch. The Grand View Hotel has an excellent menu.