



# Blue Mountains Branch Friends of the ABC Newsletter March 2014

## President Margaret's Message.

What an exhilarating experience our first meeting of the BM-FABC for 2014 turned out to be. A record number of people attended, with more than half of those attending for the first time. Everyone was enthusiastic and willing to work to repel the looming attack on both the ABC and SBS from the Federal Government. The message was clear: **'Do not diminish our public broadcaster in any way'**.

Personally I was very excited and also reassured, by such a positive reaction to 'saving our ABC' thus preserving the only section of the media that is committed to giving a voice to the minority groups in our society and bringing balance and more honesty to their journalism. Thank you all.

Please pass the word on and support a bastion of democracy by retaining a solid public broadcaster.

The National Meeting of the State Executives of the FABC took place in Melbourne in early February. This was to plan a national agenda for defending the ABC and proved to be co-operative as well as productive. As all the resolutions are ratified by each State, BM-FABC will print and distribute the plans so all members can support the ideas most suited to them.

The February General Meeting adopted a resolution to march under our BM-FABC banner at the Springwood Foundation Day on Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup>. We will distribute both a flyer and 'Save Our ABC' bumper stickers

## NEXT MEETING

**WHERE:** Grand View Hotel,  
Wentworth Falls  
**DATE:** Sat, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2014  
**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 feel free to contact any committee member to find out more about the Friends of the ABC.*

during the parade. We welcome everyone who would like to walk with us.

Please talk to everyone about the threat to the ABC and SBS and encourage them to pass on the message and join FABC. Janelle, our Membership Secretary, is always ready to send out membership applications.

As news / events are announced our newsletter will keep you informed.

Good listening and viewing on Our ABC.

Margaret Foy,  
President BM-FABC.

### **Letters to the Editor.**

Government attack on the ABC? Surely not. This fear campaign circulating from the FABC seems to be out of touch with reality!! Where is the evidence?

Surely the ABC is not above criticism! Personally I don't think criticism equates to 'abolition'. Maybe the FABC needs to explain why it is a 'mouthpiece' for the left. Name and address withheld at the writer's request!!

Editor's note.

I refer you to the latest edition of the FABC Update for the exact response by both Mr Abbott and Mr Hockey to SBS interviews the week prior to the September election. There is also a very good article about the perceived left bias of the ABC on

[http://www.theguardian.com/media/datablog/2014/feb/06/australian-broadcasting-corporation-australia?CMP=tw\\_tfd](http://www.theguardian.com/media/datablog/2014/feb/06/australian-broadcasting-corporation-australia?CMP=tw_tfd)

Well President Margaret has covered the current state of play on our ABC. Let me just reinforce her request to spread the message. A very simple way to do this is,

for those of you who receive the newsletter electronically, forward it to all the friends in your e-mail address book who you believe would be interested in joining in with supporting our ABC.

### **And now for a bit of humour.**

An old man lay reclined across three seats in the movie theatre.

When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the old man, "I'm sorry sir, but you're only allowed one seat."

The old man mumbled something but didn't budge. The usher became more impatient.

"Sir, if you don't get up, I'm going to have to call the manager."

This time, the old man just groaned. The usher marched briskly back up the aisle.

In a moment, he returned with the manager.

Together, the two of them tried a number of times to move the dishevelled old man, but with no success.

Finally, they summoned the police.

The police officer surveyed the situation briefly and asked,

"All right then, sir, what's your name?"

"Fred," the old man moaned.

"Thank you, Fred. Now, where are you from?" asked the policeman.

With terrible pain in his voice and without moving a muscle, Fred moaned,

"The balcony..."

**STOP PRESS ..... Secretary required urgently.**

**Due to unforeseen circumstances, Jenny Brown has had to resign from her position as Secretary. I am sad to lose Jenny, but understand her reasons.**

**Therefore this is an urgent plea for someone to volunteer their services.**

**Margaret Foy**