

### From the President's Desk

*ABC Friends Mediawaves, News and Headlines*

Hello Members and ABC Friends

Having completed the Winter Magic Festival parade and presenting a magnificent information booth, the ABC Friends Blue Mountains can feel well satisfied and proud of our efforts.

Around 20 ABC Friends and families travelled the distance of about 2 kilometres. Margaret Foy and Ron Fuller were in full broadcast mode and responded to questions from the public. We achieved our objectives with many positive, appreciative calls and comments from the very large crowd filling the main street of Katoomba, estimated at about 30,000 people.

My personal thank you to you all who manned the ABC studio set booth and to the parade participants wearing ABC shirts and carrying placards while chanting Save Our ABC and singing along with the crowd to our ABC theme music with a couple of characters from ABC Kids and Horrible Histories.

I have been whinging in the recent past about the lack of media cover or mention about the ABC and SBS. And BOY! When all we needed to do was to do something that infuriated those in high places.

The recent media rumble emanating from Q&A has resulted in a tirade of abuse accusing the ABC of mismanagement. I am pleased to hear the managing director Mark Scott defending the ABC at last. I make no judgement of the program or its contents but it was certainly newsworthy and I defend the ABC's right to stand up for free speech. The allocation of blame should start at the Minister's Parliamentary Secretary's desk and not the presenters.

### Next meeting

**Grand View Hotel,**  
Wentworth Falls  
Saturday July 18, 10:00am

The defeat of the SBS increased advertising bill in the Senate this week has created another problem and SBS management have announced that programs will need to be cut as a result of the \$52 Million cuts to the SBS budget last year. SHAME!

The great success of the Meet the Candidates in 2013 which we arranged encourages me to consider a repeat event for the as yet unannounced Federal Election which could be sooner rather than later.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to meeting with you on July 18th when we will return to our monthly meeting calendar.

Barry Redshaw

President ABCFBM

### Winter Magic Festival - 2015



ABC Friends preparing to march

## “Dying” ABC Studio – This must not happen



### Two newspaper articles published this week following the furore of “that” Q&A program

This week we have seen something that has taken the long-practiced sport of bashing the ABC into uncharted waters.

For the first time ever, a government is holding its own in-house inquiry into editorial decisions at the public broadcaster. This will have unknown consequences.

Communications Minister Malcolm Turnbull is writing himself into history as the first minister to interfere in the editorial management of the ABC

Dennis Atkins - The Courier-Mail - June 27, 2015

ABC managing director Mark Scott has fired back at Tony Abbott after the Prime Minister said “heads should roll” at the ABC by pointing out he runs a “public broadcaster, not a state broadcaster”, with a duty to air confronting views.

Matthew Knott – SMH – June 26, 2015

### Enjoying the sunshine while getting the message across



## Committee

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For membership enquiries or changes, please contact the Membership Secretary.

Please feel free to contact any committee member to find out more about ABC Friends.