

### From the President's Desk

*ABC Friends Mediawaves, News and Headlines*

Hello Members and Friends,

Following a successful launch of our Grassroots Campaign for the 2016 Federal Election at our last meeting and the earlier "Stop the Chop" banner displays, we have received many expression of interest and offers of support. Several inquiries have come from NSW and Victoria to use our artwork which we have already shared.

A petition is circulating to remind all political parties and independents standing for election that "The ABC Belongs to the People of Australia". If you would like to collect a petition for signatures from your family, friends, neighbours or your community group members ask at our October Meeting. We are seeking to grow membership of our ABC Friends Branch to increase and broaden support. Please encourage your friends and interested community members to come to our meetings and join.

The recent Annual General Meeting of ABC Friends (NSW) was attended by 7 branch members to give support for our Branch Grassroots Campaign and also the National Campaign. Current sitting officer bearers and committee were reelected. The NSW Branch is financially sound and membership is up by 4% to 2,440 since the election of the coalition government in September 2013. The 2016 Federal Election Campaign is in early stages with our branch in the forefront, there is still much to do.

Former ABC presenter and longtime ABC Friends supporter, Quentin Dempster offered comment and his support for our progress. Look out for an ABC Friends advertisement in the Sydney Morning Herald Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> to begin the National Pre Election Campaign.

### Next meeting

**Grand View Hotel,**  
Wentworth Falls  
Saturday October 17, 10:00am

Our Secretary and Minutes Secretary are standing down at the AGM November 21<sup>st</sup>. If you would like to join our Committee please contact me.

[president@abcfriendsnsw.org.au](mailto:president@abcfriendsnsw.org.au)

*Barry Redshaw*

President ABCFBM

**Stop the Chop!**  
**Join and**  
**Donate**   
[abcfriendsnsw.org.au](http://abcfriendsnsw.org.au)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Branch Meeting – 17 October 2015

Tony Young, our Media Coordinator, will present a workshop on getting the most from your 'ABC in the Digital Age'. Many of us access the ABC on mobile apps but are we aware of the multitude of free programs available? Come and join in and have some fun while being educated.

#### AGM – 21 November 2015

Our guest speaker this year will be Christine El-Khoury, producer of Q&A. Christine will be an interesting guest especially after the recent publicity of THAT Q&A session, after which the Prime Minister put a ban on the appearance of Coalition politicians and the more recent offensive twitter feed.

Join us for our own lively Q&A without the 'tweets', which may be a relief for some of us.

## Committee

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### Branch Photographer

Jan O'Leary

### Committee Members

Helen Routledge  
Bev Redshaw



*Q&A desk before TV recording*



*Several of our members in the audience*

## Q&A Festival of Dangerous Ideas – 31 Aug 2015

Many thanks to Helen Routledge for organizing the coach trip for ABCFBM to attend the televised Q&A session at the Opera House. We had front row seats but unfortunately were not allowed to take photographs during the program, hence the empty desk.

We were entertained by Tom Switzer, Naomi Klein, Tariq Ali, Laurie Penny and Miroslav Volf with presenter Tony Jones. A great evening.

## Our Campaign gets under way

Phil Greenidge, our Campaign Coordinator, presented a PowerPoint presentation to around 30 members and new members at our Branch Meeting held 19 September. We now have a petition to be presented to all Political Parties and Independents standing at the next election together with our proposed policy on the ABC, *Stop the Chop* posters are going up across the Blue Mountains and *Stop the Chop* postcards are being distributed.



*Powerpoint presentation by our Campaign Coordinator Phil Greenidge*



*Phil Greenidge and Media Coordinator Tony Young*

## ABC Radio National – Big Ideas

If you missed out on obtaining tickets for the Inaugural Mick Dark Talk for the Future with speaker Tim Flannery, co-hosted by Blue Mountains Conservation Society and Varuna Writers' Centre you can listen to the lecture at <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/> dated Thursday 24 September. The recording took place at Wentworth Falls School of Arts on 19 September.

You can also podcast this program and if you're unsure how to do this don't forget to come along to our next Branch Meeting on 17 October.

## Branch Website

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

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.