

From the President's Desk

ABC Friends Mediawaves, News and Headlines

Hello Members and Friends,

As Mark Scott closes the curtains on his fifth floor apartment (Office Suite) at ABC Head Office, and Michelle Guthrie slides into the ABC Managing Director's chair (otherwise known as the Hot Seat), we are waiting to see or hear the outcome for Our ABC in the 2016 Budget into the future. The Prime Minister and his Government including the Communications Minister, Hon. Mitch Fifield, have regularly uttered words of support for Our ABC and we are about to realise what they really meant.

The now almost certain D/D election is almost upon us and the ABC Friends National Campaign is now underway. Our Branch Major Event, the Candidates Forum at 10.30 am on Saturday, May 21, 2016, at the Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls will give you and the community the chance to ask questions of the candidates for both the House of Representatives and Senate in the upcoming elections. We need you, Our Members, to really support the Forum by attending, participating and responding to the Real Threats to the survival of Our ABC now!

On a more friendly note! The ABC Friends NSW/ACT State Conference in Newcastle, Saturday/Sunday 4/5 June, 2016 is confirmed. As your President I will attend and present our Branch comments and opinions on your behalf along with Margaret Foy, our immediate Past President, as voting delegates. You can attend if you wish by contacting our Secretary, Libby Blackburn for further information. The Conference will provide valuable communication, make decisions and set in place a valuable working interchange of ideas and plans for Our ABC Friends State wide. An invitation from our State President, Mal Hewitt has been extended to the new Managing Director Michelle Guthrie to attend as our guest.

Barry Redshaw

President, Blue Mountains Branch

Next meeting

Grand View Hotel,
Wentworth Falls
Saturday, July 16, 10:00am

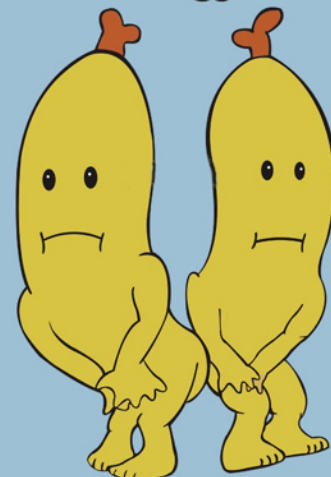
Meet the Candidates Election Forum

**Your chance to meet
your local candidates
and ask your questions**

10.30am Saturday May 21
GRAND VIEW HOTEL
WENTWORTH FALLS

 **Friends** Blue Mountains
fabcnswbm.org.au

Bananas
without
Pyjamas



Real journalists report the news – they don't make it

The Conversation, Brian McNair, 21 April 2016

"And what better illustration could one cite than the bizarre spectacle of Channel 9's attempt at "journalism" in Lebanon. Now that they're out of jail, we can safely assert that no-one in this sorry episode emerges with credit. On the contrary, who can blame the Lebanese authorities for banging them all up?

One hopes some lessons have been learnt all round. For those of us who try to educate the journalists of the future, it's a shocking breach of the most elementary professional ethics.

The story serves as a harsh reminder of the sorry state of news and current affairs in Australia's commercial TV, and the need for a strong public service media. If you leave your TV journalism to the private sector, don't be surprised when this is what you get."

Read more...

<https://theconversation.com/real-journalists-report-the-news-they-dont-make-it-58202>

Outgoing ABC chief Mark Scott takes parting shot at Murdoch empire

Guardian Newspaper, Amanda Mead, 25 April 2016

"Mark Scott has rounded on the ABC's critics at Rupert Murdoch's News Corp, saying their opposition to public broadcasting is commercially motivated and out of touch with the public's great affection for it.

"I think there are some who actually don't want a strong public broadcaster," Scott told Guardian Australia before his final week as the ABC's managing director.

"I think there are some in News Corp, if you look at their attacks on the BBC, if you look at their attacks on the ABC, I think that's a commercially driven and philosophical agenda against public broadcasting but it is out of touch with public sentiment."

Read more...

<http://www.theguardian.com/media/2016/apr/25/outgoing-abc-chief-mark-scott-takes-parting-shot-at-murdoch-empire>

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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.