

November , 2019.

Next Meeting November 16th 2019. 10.am. Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls.

AGM 10am. Speaker Helen Grasswill 11.am

President's Report.

We invite you all to come and listen to Helen Grasswill, longtime ABC employee and now a Foundation member of the ABC Alumni. Helen has had over 30 years of experience as a journalist, author, editor and television program maker. She was part of the foundation team to produce the Australian Story which has been in production for over 20 years. In 2005 she won a Walkley Award for TV Feature Documentary "The Gathering Storm". Helen knows and loves the ABC and what it stands for and we will all learn a lot from her.

This will be our last meeting for the 2019. We can look forward to the end of year break and enjoy Christmas and New Year family time.

We can all share our trials and tribulations, celebrate our successes at our Christmas Function, 6.pm.for 6.30pm, at the Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls 10th December to finish off our year and prepare for the broadsides and bombshells campaign from government in 2020.

Thank you for all your hard work, contributions and support in Defence of OUR ABC at both our branch and the Our ABC generally, by attending and participating. We will never give up the fight!

Sue Noske President and Committee.

FABC AGMNSW/ACT.

Another great AGM! the Speakers are always interesting and usually have had great experiences with the ABC. The first speaker Quentin Dempster, who has always had a great love of the ABC's independence, explained how the CUTS to the ABC were damaging the ability of the ABC to bring us independent Australian content. Quentin also confirmed that the appointment of Ita Buttrose as Chairperson of the ABC Board and the appointment of David Anderson as Managing Director. acknowledged their experience and background in the fields of Public Broadcasting and Media generally. He confirmed their appointments as the best available for the restructuring of Our ABC and their willingness to fight for it.

The second speaker Sandra Levy, with evidence of her strong record of media ABC public broadcasting, spoke of the need for positive, informative and entertaining programming of Our ABC into the future. She also said "Australian content is absolutely necessary".

They both agreed that the "Restoration of the Funding" must be achieved to ensure the future of the Our ABC and its survival into the future is maintained.

President Prof. Ed Davis highlighted a successful year, development and outlined a strategy plan for 2020.

Highlights of the Annual Report identified submissions to government inquiries into Our ABC in response to deals and demands by One Nation found in OUR FAVOUR. Prof. Ed Davis expressed his disappointment at the 2019 Election result and acknowledged branch efforts campaigning in support of Our ABC and offered his congratulations to members who worked so hard. He particularly congratulated Our Blue Mountains Branch who he described as "WARRIORS for the ABC"!

We should note that seven members of our branch attended the AGM on your behalf.

New Branches Report.

The New Northern Suburbs of Sydney Branch was launched on Sunday October 6th at the Chatswood Dougherty Centre with 100 people in attendance. Guest Speaker Jonathan Holmes, a more than forty years ABC personality, executive producer of Four Corners, former presenter of Media Watch and publisher of his recent essay "On Aunty" described by Kerry O'Brien "as a fine example and a must read for anyone who cares about the ABC" spoke on ACP/AFP Raids! "The importance of media freedom". Jonathan confirmed his popularity and experience with an informative and a thought stimulating presentation and interaction with the audience.

The meeting nominated and elected 6 volunteers to form a foundation committee and establish the new branch. A brief Q&A calling for the audience's ideas and suggestions for the new branch to consider identified some useful responses for the committee to consider and work on.

The Penrith Branch Project is confirmed for launch on 28th March, 2020 10am. To 1pm. at the Penrith City Library Theatre 601 High Street Penrith located adjacent to the Penrith Council Offices, The Joan Sutherland theatre and Penrith Plaza with easy walking from Penrith Railway Station and Penrith Bus Interchange. We need your support by your attendance and input and to hear ABC Alumni speakers with a Guest Speaker yet to be confirmed.

Discussions are taking place for a Shoalhaven Region (Nowra) South Coast Branch.

Letter Writers "Last Rites" for 2019.

A small but dedicated, enthusiastic band of our members "The Letter Writers" have written and responded with letters in support of Our ABC throughout the year. We should never underestimate the power of a well-written letter in defence of our ABC and we congratulate and acknowledge the many letters we have written to a variety of media, some published some not. We will return in 2020 and we invite any members who would like to join the team to step-up. There is no better feeling that our letter-writers feel when their letters are published Defending Our ABC. Conversely, a non-publication is not a failure that leads to disappointment. "If at first you don't succeed try try again"!

Coming Events.

FABCMBM AGM November 16th 2019 10am. Guest Speaker Helen Grasswill 11am. A DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

FABCNSW/ACT Annual Awards Night Friday 22nd November 2019 The Heritage Room NSW Teachers Federation Building 23/33 Mary Street Surry Hills.

FABCMBM Christmas Party 10th December, 2019 6pm for 6.30 pm start Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls. (2 for the price of 1). This is our last event for 2019.

No meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on February 15th 2020. 10am Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls 10am.

Launch of the Western Suburbs of Sydney (Penrith) New BRANCH 28TH March 2020. Penrith Library 10am to 1pm.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From The Editorial Team.

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