

## AGM 10am. November 28<sup>th</sup>

### President's Report.

Dear Friends,

Breaking News: We now have confirmation that Susan Templeman will address our group at our AGM on the 28<sup>th</sup> of this month. At this stage, we are limited to only 30 Friends in our usual meeting place, the big dining room at the Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls. Please text or ring Penny Taylor, our Secretary, on 0416 207 091 to register for our AGM. We hope that by the 28<sup>th</sup>, the allowed number of attendees will have increased. We are very grateful to the Grand View for their continued support. Please consider staying for lunch, which will be served in the dining room to minimize the movement of patrons. The NSW/ACT Friends' AGM was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> October. Our branch was well represented, via Zoom. Whilst Ed Davis has stepped down from the President's role, after serving in the role for three years, he has remained on the committee. He is also the President of the Friends' Eastern Suburbs branch. His commitment to the cause of defending Our ABC has been truly inspiring. Ed has always led by example in a professional, eloquent, rigorous and determined manner, steering Friends in new and exciting directions. During the AGM, Ed stressed the importance of using our resources to, "take on News Corp, the IPA and the Federal Government". Ed was awarded the status of Life Membership of ABC Friends, a rare honour, also held by our own legendary Margaret Foy.

Cassandra Parkinson is the new President, she hosted the recent webinar, "Stand Up for Our ABC", displaying her great IT skills and her great passion for our national broadcaster. We will invite Cassandra to speak to our branch in 2021.

Last year, ABC Friends awarded the Excellence in Broadcasting trophy to Matt Peacock. Some of us attended the function last year in the city. This year, on the 25<sup>th</sup> November, via Zoom, the award is being presented to the ABC Managing Director David Anderson, representing the whole of the ABC.

If Glenbrook Australia Day celebrations go ahead in January, we plan to participate again with Our ABC Friends stall. Photos of our wonderful stall remain on the front pages of NSW/ACT Friends website. We will email you further advice on this event.

Next year will be a big one for ABC Friends, as we enter the Friends' Federal Election Campaign. We'll need all hands (and feet) on deck!

Finally, on behalf of our branch, I wish to heartily thank Barry and Bev Redshaw for their tireless work, producing our monthly newsletter. They have brought us countless media items relating to Our ABC and always thought-provoking editorial commentary. They will certainly have their hands full next year, with the launching of the much-anticipated Western Suburbs of Sydney Branch of ABC Friends.

Yours in Our ABC

Sue Noske

Enquiries 0421 020 610

## Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls.

### Covid-19 restrictions will apply

## Note from the Editors Desk.

This is our last Editors Desk after 30 plus Newsletters and Snippets. We have enjoyed searching for ABC News that has kept us informed and up to date, although frustrated by the intensity and never ending attacks from the government, IPA, The Murdoch Media and the backward thinkers out there. Sue and Ian Bate have offered to take over from the February 2021 Newsletter and we wish them well.

The production of the newsletter is a team effort to ensure on-time distribution to members, requires research, typing, proof reading and the support from our branch committee to provide circulation is acknowledged. Our thanks go to Sue Noske, Penny Tayler, Janelle Clarke, Chris Meaney, Carole Dent, Susan Templeman MP. And her office staff.

## Letter Writers Group.

Our letter Writers met several times early in the year and have been able to have some success in the print media about items of interest and concern for the treatment and constant attacks on Our ABC. We will resume in the new year Covid-19 Free.

## Western Suburbs of Sydney Branch (WSoS) Report.

We are still hoping for Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> 2021 in Penrith for our Inaugural Meeting after consulting with the new ABCF NSW/ACT committee to confirm details. We thank the members of the Blue Mountains branch for their offers of help with our launch and hope we will be very successful this time.

## POSITIONS VACANT.

This year has been a disaster with just a few meetings earlier on, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We look forward to a more positive year. The Annual General Meeting is the most important meeting when we will determine our branch future and elect our office bearers to establish programs and campaign for a likely or possible Federal Election! With the problems faced by many organisations we rely on our members to volunteer their services. All positions will be declared vacant and although some existing committee members will re-nominate we need you to become involved and fill vacancies. Efforts to recruit Office Bearers are often met with responses like "I don't have time" and we appreciate that, but we really need your help. Our Branch meets monthly and we have infrequent Committee Meetings.

## Hot Topics.

SMH October 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 Kevin Rudd.

Kevin Rudd's wildly popular petition for a royal commission! into News Corp. Murdoch's sway on politics warrants a royal commission.

A single American billionaire (Rupert Murdoch) has now seized control of almost 70% of daily newspaper circulation in Australia and shut down regional newspapers.

We wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look of forward to our first meeting on February 20, 2021.

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