

President's report

Greetings Friends and Supporters

Our AGM on Saturday 19th November will take place at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts, at 10.00am. At 11.00am, we will introduce our guest speaker, local resident Mr Bill Wyman, lecturer in Media and Communications (Sydney University) and journalist, who will inform and entertain us on the subject of the importance of public broadcasting in a healthy democracy. ABC viewers and listeners may know Bill from his appearances on ABC's "The Drum" and the "Planet America" podcast.

At midday (following the AGM and guest speaker) we will be celebrating the ABC's 90th birthday, with lunch, displays of ABC memorabilia, audio and visual presentations of ABC's past and present programs and personalities, and a raffle with a terrific hamper as first prize. We encourage members to wear ABCF T-shirts for the occasion. This will be a timely opportunity to meet up with your fellow ABC Friends, and to demonstrate our appreciation for the significant role the ABC plays (and indeed has played) in our lives. If you have any ABC memorabilia, please bring it along!

Please contact Sue Noske on **0421 020 610**, or email susano2311@gmail.com if you plan to stay for our celebration. We're asking our members to bring a plate of food to share, and drinks (including alcohol if desired). Coffee and tea will be provided.

Our October branch meeting at the Grand View was a lively affair. This was our second meeting at the new timeslot of the third Tuesday of the month at 10.30am. Eighteen Friends attended, with sixteen apologies. Most attendees stayed to enjoy lunch and fellowship. **Our next branch meeting, (aside from our AGM this month), is scheduled for Tuesday 14th February, 2023.**

Our Book Library (co-ordinated by Ian Bate) is a popular addition to our meetings, with many great titles on offer, such as "Who Needs the ABC?", by Matthew Ricketson and Patrick Mullins, "Best Australian Political Cartoons of 2021", and "Now More Than Ever: Australia's ABC" by David Anderson. Please feel free to donate books that you feel our discerning ABC Friends would enjoy! (*preference given to books on politics and media—Ed*).

At the recent Lawson Magpie Markets twenty people visited our stall and signed up to receive our Blue Mountains branch newsletter. We are hopeful that some of our local ABC supporters will consider joining our branch. Our presence at local market stalls (including markets in the Hawkesbury) allows us to showcase and promote our Blue Mountains branch objectives and activities, thus raising awareness of the issues impacting our national broadcaster.

Our annual Christmas lunch celebration will be held at the Grand View Hotel at Wentworth Falls on Tuesday 13th December, starting at 11.30am. We'll send out further information about this fun and festive social event soon.

See you at our AGM!

Yours in Our ABC,

Sue Noske 0421 020 610

Concerned about the state of the mass media today?

Blue Mountains ABC Friends proudly presents
Sydney University media lecturer and SMH columnist

Bill Wyman



Enquiries and RSVP: Sue Noske
0421 020 610
susano2311@gmail.com

Read Bill Wyman's columns for the Sydney Morning Herald at:
<https://www.smh.com.au/by/bill-wyman-p4yw15>

Please join us to hear Bill's insights about public broadcasting and the media landscape at

The Wentworth Falls School of Arts*

11 am, Saturday
November 19

(AGM at 10 am)

A luncheon to celebrate the ABC's 90 years will follow at 12 noon.

All welcome
(please bring a plate!)



* Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls

Bill Wyman lectures in Media and Communication at the University of Sydney and is a regular columnist for the Sydney Morning Herald. He is an occasional contributor to ABC's "Planet America" podcast and has appeared on ABC's "The Drum".

Before moving to Australia three years ago and settling in the Blue Mountains, Bill was the arts editor and assistant managing editor of National Public Radio in Washington DC. In these roles he oversaw the network's arts, entertainment, cultural, media and digital coverage. He has contributed articles to the Columbia Journalism Review and rock music articles to New York Magazine. Bill was also an arts editor for Salon.com.

You can read Bill Wyman's columns for the Sydney Morning Herald at:
<https://www.smh.com.au/by/bill-wyman-p4yw15>

Upcoming meetings of ABCF Blue Mountains:

- **2022 AGM, Guest Speaker and ABC 90th Birthday lunch: Saturday, 19th Nov, 10.00am at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts, Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls.**
- **Christmas lunch celebration: Tuesday 13th December, starting at 11.30am. Grand View Hotel, Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls.**
- **First General meeting for 2023: Tuesday 14th February, 2023, 10.30 am, Grand View Hotel.**

-Ian Bate, editor

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