

BRANCH REPORT

Greetings Friends and Supporters!

Our stall at the Springwood Spring Festival on Saturday September 2 attracted a great deal of positive interest, with people expressing their appreciation and support for the work of the national broadcaster. We substantially grew our list of branch newsletter subscribers and engaged with several people (some of whom were younger than the typical Friends age demographic!) who were interested in joining ABC Friends.

Mal Hewitt stopped by early in the morning with a bundle of copies of the latest *Update* – all of which were picked up by interested members of the public. This is evidence of the usefulness of *Update* as a vehicle for maintaining public interest in the health of the ABC and the work of the Friends.

A great day was made even better by the arrival of **Kerry O'Brien**, who was in Springwood with his co-author Thomas Mayo* to promote the Yes case for the upcoming referendum. Kerry left us with his appreciation of the steadfast efforts of ABC Friends over the decades.

* Thomas Mayo and Kerry O'Brien, [The Voice to Parliament Handbook](#), Hardie Grant, 2023

Our regular monthly meeting will take place at the Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls, next **Tuesday 12th September at 10.30am**.

An agenda will be sent out shortly.

We'd love you to join us!



Kerry O'Brien, Ian Bate, Sue Bate and Penny Tayler
at the 2023 Springwood Festival.

Blue Mountains Branch AGM

As Sue Noske noted in the last newsletter, our Branch AGM will be held on **Saturday 25th November at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts**.

Our Guest Speaker will be **Philippa McDonald**, who, during a 30 year career as an award-winning senior reporter for the ABC “worked across the breadth of ABC News and Current Affairs programs including the 7:00pm news, 7.30, Lateline, Foreign Correspondent, radio news, AM, PM and The World Today ...” (<https://www.abc.net.au/profiles/content/s2777573.htm>)
More details will be provided closer to this event.

Our next branch meeting:

Tuesday, 12th September, The Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls, at 10.30am.

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