

# friends of the abc illawarra NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 No: 41 5 July 2010

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Yes, it's that time again. The 12<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Friends of the ABC Illawarra Branch will be held on Monday 2 August 2010 commencing 6pm at the City Diggers Club, Church St Wollongong and you are invited to attend!**

All positions are vacant and a new Committee and Office Bearers will be elected.

**You are invited to nominate for any of the following positions. Come join the local team fighting to maintain an independent and effective national public broadcaster!**

**We are always looking for fresh ideas and new faces.** The Committee has been meeting for 2 hours (7-9pm) monthly, having a holiday in December & January.

If you have a particular interest or skill and love the ABC come join us!

There are twelve positions on the Committee which include:

- ❖ Chairperson
- ❖ Secretary
- ❖ Treasurer
- ❖ Committee (9)

### **Nominations**

Nominations for the above positions close with the Returning Officer at 5pm on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 47 Dempster St Wollongong or via our Post Box address P O Box 336 Unanderra. Positions with insufficient nominations prior to 5pm 30/7/2010 will be accepted from the floor of the AGM. Nominations must be made in writing by two members of the Friends of the

ABC Illawarra and countersigned by the nominee indicating acceptance of the nomination. The nominee also must be a member of the FABC Illawarra. You are considered a member of the FABC Illawarra if you have paid \$5 to be on the local mailing list for 2010. Nomination Forms can be obtained from the Returning Officer Julie Telenta at 47 Dempster St Wollongong or by phoning 4226 2323. If more than the required number of nominations for any position has been received when nominations close on 30/7/2010 a secret ballot using the 'first-past-the-post' counting method will be held at the AGM.

Committee members will be having dinner in the Club Bistro at 7pm following the AGM. If you want to join us please call Julie on 4226 2323 before close of nominations for the AGM.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

**If a Membership Renewal Form is included with this Newsletter your membership renewal for 2010 is overdue.**

*(Financial members will not receive a Renewal Form)*

The Illawarra Branch membership year extends from 1 Jan to 31 Dec each year. Payments after 1 Sept cover the following year.

Our annual fee remains at \$5:00 which covers the cost of the Newsletter, printing, postage etc.

## **FRIENDS OF THE ABC ILLAWARRA**

## **SUNDAY LUNCH**

With special guest speaker



**Sue Spencer**  
Executive Director of  
the ABC's Four Corners  
TV Program

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July  
12:00pm**

Port Kembla Golf Club

Two course meal  
\$30 per person

**Bookings &  
pre-payment essential**

**All welcome!**

**See enclosed flyer for booking  
slip and further details**

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## ABC News to go 24/7

The ABC will launch Australia's first free-to-air 24-hour television news channel in the second half of 2010. The ABC's Managing Director, Mark Scott, said the ABC's commitment to quality news and current affairs would enter a new era with the creation of the new digital channel.

The channel will provide live continuous news coverage of major breaking stories from Australia and around the world. Broadcasting around the clock will enable the ABC to increase its in-depth coverage of local, national and international affairs through background features and analysis, combined with the ABC's unrivalled long-form current affairs reporting.

"No media organisation in the country is better equipped to deliver this channel than the national broadcaster," Mr Scott said.

"We can draw on the investment already made in the ABC, through its major newsrooms in every state and territory, 12 international bureau and 60 regional newsrooms, to deliver to Australians a top-quality 24-hour news service that is comprehensive, independent and up to the minute."

New programs are also being developed specifically for the channel, focusing on world news, national politics and business. Many of the ABC's existing television news and current affairs programs will also be featured.

A continuous news centre with a new state-of-the-art studio, in the foyer of the ABC's Ultimo headquarters, will serve as the engine room of the new channel. The ABC will also take advantage of its multi-platform capabilities, ensuring that audiences are able to keep up to date with news developments in different formats and across an array of devices.

The ABC's capacity to "go live" with in-depth, continuous news coverage will extend to Australia Network, ensuring the ABC's audiences in 44 countries also benefit from the new channel. The channel will commence with no additional funds from the Government for content.

Significant changes the ABC has made to news and television production processes, taking advantage of new technology, will allow the broadcaster to reinvest in new programming.

The news channel will be launched on the ABC's HD channel, adding to the suite of services offered by the broadcaster on ABC1, ABC2 and ABC3. Further details of the new channel, including the program schedule and launch date, will be outlined in coming months.

Mr Scott said the ABC had been systematically preparing for the establishment of a 24-hour news channel in recent years. He said the project was a vital part of its charter obligation to inform the public and provide "innovative and comprehensive broadcasting services of a high standard".

"ABC News Breakfast on ABC2 has shown how effectively the ABC can deliver live breaking news, tapping into the full resources of the national broadcaster," Mr Scott said.

### The Illawarra Friends Committee 2009/10

<b>Chairperson:</b>	Chris. Cartledge Ph 4226 2323
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jan Kent Ph 4271 3531
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### FABC Illawarra Newsletter

This Newsletter is published on an ad-hoc basis by the Friends of the ABC Illawarra Branch.

Opinions in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the committee of the Friends of the ABC Illawarra.

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# MORNING TEA AT THE LINKS WITH PETER RILEY

About forty members of the Illawarra branch of the Friends met for morning tea at the Links restaurant at the Shellharbour Golf Club. We had lovely weather, and after enjoying a lavish spread in a very attractive setting we settled down to hear Peter Riley, breakfast presenter and team leader at our local radio station, ABC Illawarra 97.3 FM, who also brought along his young son Connor.

broadcast warnings against wading through flood waters in tropical regions for fear of crocodiles or providing information about fodder drops for local wildlife as well as starving stock cut off by floodwaters.

A most interesting aspect of the presentation, however, concerned the ABC's arrangements for broadcasting constant and regular information in disaster-affected areas. A reporter wishing to provide listeners with as much information as possible may have to negotiate quite carefully with state emergency services who do not wish to appear in too sensationalist a light.

Peter described how the ABC is



Dr Dorothy Jones thanks Peter Riley for his very entertaining talk

It is always a pleasure to actually see and hear a radio personality whom one has known only through the airwaves and Peter's talk about the ABC's broadcasts during public emergencies, like flood and bushfire, was immensely interesting. A power point presentation provided images of devastation in a wide range of areas where Peter had travelled as an ABC reporter, covering a cyclone in Karatha W.A. to floods in Ingham in Queensland, along with local disasters like the 1998 floods in Wollongong and the great windstorm of 2000.

Peter described how during the local floods, he had to cope with water rushing through his own home before rushing off to work to be part of the emergency broadcasting team. He also mentioned details some of us had never thought about, like the need to

constantly reviewing its procedures for providing information in emergencies and making sure people receive regular updates.



"I work for '4 Corners'. It comes with the job."

## COMING EVENTS

Note your diaries....

### 2 August 2010

Friends of the ABC Illawarra – Annual General Meeting to be held 6pm Monday 2 August 2010 Diggers Club Wollongong followed by dinner at the Club – All Welcome.

### 28 November 2010

FABC Illawarra Christmas Party Afternoon Tea to be held at the Illawarra Aboriginal Cultural Centre Wollongong on Sunday 28 November 2010 2pm to 4pm. With special guests Tony Arthur from ABC Radio Illawarra and Pat Hall from National Parks & Wildlife.

Many of us have been immensely grateful during public emergencies to receive that steady stream of information from our national broadcaster, particularly in regional Australia where local radio stations go on standby ensuring the latest news is available.

The ABC is continually planning as to how it may best strengthen its liaison with State Emergency Services in the event of future natural disasters and Peter explained how it has teams of people on standby to report on any catastrophic situation. It is good to know that in addition to providing us with news and entertainment, our ABC also plays an important role in helping to keep us safe.