



VicNEWS

Issue 14
Summer 2003/04

Friends of the ABC
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VicNEWS is FABC Victoria's local supplement which accompanies FABC's national newsletter, *Background Briefing*.

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New

Labor Leader Support for ABC

Mark Latham MP, newly elected Labor Party leader, sporting an 'ABC Friend' badge while attending a recent event in Victoria.

FABC looks forward to the ALP's expressions of support translating into a commitment before the next election to a suitable level of ABC funding.

Photo with thanks, Anthony M Leong



Meet FABC's Committee



FABC Vic Committee which stood as a team and was elected at FABC's 2003 AGM:
-Standing l to r: John Collins, Mary Mahoney-Treasurer, Georgina Simmonds-Secretary, Peter Monie and Peter Milton.
Sitting l to r: Rosie Spear, June Factor, Olivia Tattam and Gael Barrett-Membership Secretary.
Missing from photo: Terry Laidler-President, Jack Clancy-Vice President and Judy McKenzie

FABC Meets the New Minister

Daryl Williams MP, the federal Communications Minister appointed to replace Senator Alston, recently met with Friends of the ABC.

At the meeting on November 17, FABC Vic President Terry Laidler and Campaign Manager Glenys Stradijot informed Mr Williams of FABC's alarm at recent comments of Senator Pyne, head of the Coalition's communications committee, and others in the government. Minister Williams assured

FABC the Government's policy is that advertising and sponsorship are not appropriate for the ABC. He said he is unaware of a subscription or any type of user-pays system for the public to access any part of the ABC being on the drawing board.

Disappointingly, Mr Williams conveyed no indication the Government plans to restore the level of ABC triennial funding or is interested to consider a new system of board appointments.



All but one major party candidate for the federal electorate of La Trobe accepted an invitation to address Friends of the ABC members from the electorate on November 5. Photo: l to r: Susan Davies (ALP), Jo Lewis (Greens), FABC member David Parkes, Jess Healy (Democrats)



Andrew Denton at FABC's 2003 AGM

Save your

Letters to the Editor & Talkback

Tip: Fit your letter to a current topic. Be concise and to the point. Humour and responding to an earlier item in the newspaper are a couple of ways to increase the chances of your letter being selected.

NEWSPAPERS

The Age
250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000; *usual max 250*
The Herald Sun
PO Box 14631, Melbourne City 8001
The Australian
GPO Box 4162, Sydney 2001
The Australian Financial Review
GPO Box 506, Sydney 2001
The Sunday Age
250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000
The Age Green Guide, PO Box 257C, Melbourne 8001
general max 105, but up to 150 words

Phone
9670 1601 / 4211
max 50 words
9292 3666

no phone-in

no phone-in

no phone-in

no phone-in

Fax & E mail
9601 2414
letters@theage.com.au
9292 2944

(02) 9288 3077 / 2824
letters@theaustralian.com.au
(02) 9282 3253

sunday@theage.com.au

greenguide@theage.com.au

TALKBACK

ABC 774 9414 1774 / 1800 033 800
Breakfast with Red Symons Mon-Fri 6am-7.45am
Mornings with Jon Faine Mon-Fri 8.30am-noon
Afternoons with Lynne Haultain Mon-Fri 1pm-4pm
Drive with Virginia Trioli Mon-Fri 4pm-6pm
Evenings with Derek Guille Mon-Fri 7pm-10pm
Nightline with Tony Delroy Mon-Fri 10pm-2am

ABC Radio National
Australia Talks Back 1800 802 341
with Sandy McCutcheon
current topical issues
Mon to Fri 6-7pm

Life Matters with 1800 025 977
Geraldine Doogue & Julie McCrossin
topical, personal, and social issues
Mon to Fri 9-10.45am

3AW 9696 1278

Neil Mitchell
Mon-Fri
8.30am-noon
&
Derryn Hinch
Mon-Fri
4pm-6pm

ABC TV Feedback GPO Box 9994, Adelaide, SA 5001 Phone 1300 763 222 screened Tues & Thurs 6.55pm

Members of Parliament

Tip: No matter how short, personal letters that are mailed or faxed to politicians carry more weight than e-mails. Include in your letter a question to which you request a response. If the reply does not address your question, write again!

The address to write to any Federal Member of Parliament is:
Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600.
Two in one: Write to The Hon J Howard MP, Prime Minister, and your letter will be forwarded to The Hon Daryl Williams AM QC MP, Minister for Communications.
Write to your local Member of Parliament.

The ABC

Phone 9626 1600
GPO Box 9994, Melbourne 3001

Tip: On any occasions the ABC does not meet the standards of independence, depth and quality that you expect, and these look to be the result of commercial activities and moves to become more populist, write to the Age Green Guide too, and send a copy to FABC.

Donald McDonald - Chairman, ABC Board
Russell Balding - Managing Director,
ABC, GPO Box 9994, Sydney 2001