

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING SAT 11 July 2026 at The Elanora Hotel, E. Gosford.

The Convenor, Nell Knight opened the meeting at 10:30 am .

PRESENT: Nell Knight (Convenor and Chair), Ross McGowan(Secretary), Sue Young (Events Co-ordinator)), Jim Wooten (Treasurer), Chris Moe (newsletter editor), , Mary Unwin, and John Cooper,

APOLOGIES: Pip Preston, Maureen and Geoff Mitchell, Judith Warren, Jean Evans and Romaine Rutnam

MINUTES LAST COMMITTEE MEETING: SAT 14/3/26 minutes as circulated were read by Nell Knight.

Moved: Sue Seconded: Mary

TREASURER'S REPORT:

As circulated and read by Jim Wooten

BANK BALANCE AS AT 11/7/2026	\$ 2170.52
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TOTAL OUTGOING	\$ 229.00
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TOTAL INCOMNG	\$ Nil
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BANK BALANCE AS AT 09/05/2026. \$ 1941.52

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's Report: ABCF CC Committee Meeting: July 11th, 2026.

On June 15th I attended the ABCF NSW/ACT committee meeting as an observer and to make a request for funding for the Classic Choir film project along with the designated director, Jeremy Linton Mann who joined in on Zoom.

Items from the meeting were a report generated on the economic and social contribution of ABC commissioned screened productions called: 'Lights, Camera Action'. This has been produced by Deloitte. This report contains an abundance of information which could be utilised in an advocacy campaign.

The Spring dinner and 50th anniversary celebration venue has been confirmed, this is The Gallery, Level 1, Beta Events at 238 Castlereagh St Sydney. The event to commence at 6.00 pm, finishing at 10.00 pm. The Excellence awards will be presented at the AGM along with a 50th anniversary to Corin Fairburn Bass. The dinner will take place on the 3rd September.

ABCF Victoria have launched their digital history timeline on 14th June, 2026. The NSW/ACT launch will take place at the Spring dinner on September 3rd. This project has been undertaken voluntarily by Dr Jennifer Bowen.

A new social media officer, Holly Goodridge has been appointed working with National, ABCF Victoria and ABCF NSW/ACT. She is having an impact with posts on Meta and Instagram. A committee from NSW/ACT has been established to meet with Holly each month to discuss NSW/ACT media activity.

The Public Officer, Bill Howes advised against ABCF NSW/ACT signing the MoU and the need to amend ABCF NSW/ACT constitution to ensure alignment with the National ABCF constitution and DGR (Deductible Gift Recipients) requirements.

The Excellence Awards nominations had been extended so the announcement of winners will be delayed to the next meeting of the State Committee.

Tim Mulroy has been appointed as Chair of the Audit and Risk committee for ABCF National.

Film project: Jeremy Linton Mann and myself were able to present a report about our proposed ABCF Classic Choir film. We have been granted conditional funding for the project by the state committee. Approval is contingent on our development of a film schedule which entails the participation of artists in consenting to filming and interviews. This process is now underway with general agreement from various artists and choirs. A film crew has been established by Jeremy comprising a camera operator, Ben Herbertson and sound recordist, Shane Munro.

Update on Event Bookings for 28th July event. at the time of writing, we have 33 bookings made for our 50th anniversary

event at the Everglades. This represents 47% of all available places, the capacity being set at 70 places.

Correspondence.

5/6/2026 Request for notice to all CC members about Excellence Awards responded to by Susan Scott.

5/7/2026: Susan Scott informed me that Phil Evans is still sorting out what to do regarding booking or publicising events on the website, but he has posted our event on there. This relates to my enquiry last month, 18.6.2026 about publicising and booking our events.

11/6/2026 Message from Tess Howes with agenda and reports on ABCF NSW/ACT committee meeting (see above)

11/6/2026 Message from Susan Scott about the establishment of a form through which events can be posted onto the ABCF website. They encourage all our events to be posted this way.

14/6/2026: Our CC branch excellence award nominations were sent on to Tess Howes and Jan Febey ABCF NSW/ACT Secretary.

21/6/2026: Made request to Tess Howes to obtain a workable link to the film, 'A Conversation with Corin.' Downloading this film was finally achieved after a few unsuccessful attempts.

23/6/2026 Message from Gia Metherell confirming the approval from the ABCF NSW/ACT committee for the establishment of an ABCF branch on the South Coast. The new convenor/contact is Suzanne Hancock..

Moved: Mary Seconded: John

CONVENOR'S REPORT with Correspondence — Nell Knight

Our next branch event will be our **50th Anniversary Celebration**, which will be held on Tuesday, July 28 at the Everglades Country Club in Woy Woy. The event will commence at the earlier time of 10.45 am (until 12.00pm) in order to include a screening of the documentary *A Conversation with Corin*, which celebrates 50 years of advocacy by the *Friends of the ABC*. The documentary features founding member Corin Fairburn Bass, interviewed by ABCF NSW/ACT President Tess Howes, who will both be guests at the event. *ABC Alumni* Chair and media analyst Dr Michael Ward will share a vision of the coming 50 years and why the *ABC* is *needed now more than ever*. An audience Q&A with our three guests will follow.

Committee members will visit the venue before-hand to check arrangements and test the WI-FI set-up for the film. Final decorations and displays will then be confirmed. Promotion will be via membership, print and social media and in public spaces. Previous guest speakers will be invited.

Payment of \$150.00 has been made to Everglades Country Club, to be refunded from the state 50th Anniversary fund. Additional costs will be incurred for printing, cakes and decorations etc.

Thanks to Bill Young for creating our event flyer and larger poster for the event.

'50 Reasons to Celebrate' — We need you to keep your celebratory messages coming in to reach our target. It's not too late, but please don't wait! Thank you to those who have shared what they value about the *ABC*, their best memories or current favourite presenters, programs, series or platforms.

Please email your message ... **'My ABC - what the ABC means to me'** ... to: centralcoast@abcfriends.net.au

Coming branch events — two further events for 2026

We are planning to hold an event in honour of the much-loved ABC presenter, James Valentine, who shared his own story about his terminal illness and use of **Voluntary Assisted Dying** with his audience and the public. Our panel of guests will share their stories, and answer questions, from their point of view as professionals and loved ones. More details will be confirmed shortly.

Save the date for our **Annual Xmas Lunch** — Friday, November 27 at the Elanora Hotel. We are thrilled to announce that our guest speaker will be Professor Michael Fine, sociologist, musician and convenor of the Central Coast *Troubadour Folk Club* who would like to put a little more music into our lives. Details coming.

ABC Friends Central Coast Branch Bank Account

As committee member Gillian Telford has left our branch, our convenor (Nell Knight) has now been added as a third signatory to the bank account.

Words on the Waves 2026 — ABC representatives

Central Coast locals enjoyed a number of ABC and well-known media representatives at the mid- year **Words on the Waves Writers Festival** — David Marr, Louise Milligan, Charlotte Grieve, Michaela Kalowski, Virginia Hausegger, Tracey Holmes, and CC local Tammy Huynh ... plus Mark Kenny, Niki Savva and Amy Remeikis who appear on ABC programs.

MOVED : Sue **SECONDED:** John

MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORTS:

There is a lot of information on the 50th Anniversary on the NSW/ACT website and in general a great source for the objectives of ABCF

The new social media person Holly Goodridge has been appointed to work with National, ABCF Victoria and ABCF NSW/ACT posting on Meta and Instagram

There is a ABCF travelling exhibition in country regions

New branch has opened in Newcastle

Focus on fundraising

New group, Allies for Strong Australia has been formed (it is anti ABC)

Note: Great reports by Ross and Nell containing correspondence and further announcements, as well as to Jim for his accurate treasurers accounting

GENERAL BUSINESS

The AGM will be in September(date)

Nell's contribution about the 50th Anniversary will open the Newsletter which will be completed before our new social meeting on Saturday Sep 12

Ross has the Corin Bass film on his computer and will visit the Everglades with Nell and Sue to check out the video system and Sue and Nell to arrange the set up for the event

Sue to get gifts for guests at Everglades function, 2 book vouchers \$50, no door prizes this time

Mary Unwin volunteered to help with name tags and registration.

Sue and Chris will make cupcakes for make the big 50 on the display table

and make up the 50 member perspectives on the ABC on backing board

Nell is working on the VAD event to be held in late August and organising a 4 person panel which will include Romaine and Stephanie

-MEETING CLOSED 11:50 am

Chris Moe
acting Minutes taker
11/7/26