

Why ABC Friends Matter

ABC Friends Northern Sydney will have veteran ABC supporter Angela Williamson talk at its upcoming meeting on why the national broadcaster is so important on Thursday 10 August 2023 from 11.45am-1pm at the Roseville Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville.

For over twenty-five years, Angela Williamson has called for a strong, independent and well funded through her work on the ABC Friends NSW and ACT Committee.

ABC Friends is a not-for-profit volunteer-based organisation. Its vision is for a fearless, independent ABC valued by all Australians and fully supported by government. It was founded in 1976 by Walter Bass, a Turramurra resident, who was concerned over the removal of quality programs due to funding cuts. Today it has over 71,000 members and supporters across Australia.

The ABC Friends recently called for a meeting with ABC Management over the recent restructure that led to the axing of Andrew Probyn as the ABC's national political editor, the scrapping of the ABC Arts unit and the loss of over 100 jobs at the ABC.

At the ABC Friends annual winter dinner Communications Minister Michelle Rowland announced to its members that the government will conduct a review to examine the funding terms for the ABC and SBS and look at governance at the two broadcasters, including the composition of their boards.

Angela Williamson is well positioned to comment on the importance of ABC Friends advocacy work having given over 25 years of service to the ABC Friends NSW & ACT Committee as its Honorary Secretary, Membership Secretary and Update National Newsletter Assistant Editor. Since retiring from these roles she remains active as a member of the ABC Friends Southern Highlands Branch Committee. Angela is also a keen singer and is renowned for her singing the song '[Where would we be without the ABC](#)'. Following the talk, guests are welcome to stay and join ABC friends for lunch (at their own cost) for a delicious lunch at the Roseville Club's Bistrot with 'Chief Paul'.

2023-2024 ABC Friends Northern Suburbs guest speaker program includes:

14 SEPT: Mal Hewitt OAM - Why the ABC Friends' Update Newsletter is the ABC's Best Friend

12 OCT: Paddy Manning - 'The Successor: The High-Stakes Life of Lachlan Murdoch'

9 NOV: Gavin Fang, 'Pandemedia' and NSoS AGM

8 FEB 2024: Dr Phil Kafcaloudes 'Australia Calling, The ABC Radio Australia Story'

14 MAR 2024: A Panel of Poets Celebrating World Poetry Day

11 APRIL 2024: Lynne Malcolm, 'All in the Mind'

**CONTACT: JANINE KITSON, ABC FRIENDS NORTHERN SUBURBS (NSoS) BRANCH
CONVENOR M: 0428 860 623 E: janinemkitson@gmail.com**