

# Next ABC Friends meeting with Mal Hewitt OAM: 4th September, 2023



Dear Janine

Please join us for our next meeting:



Thursday 14 September, 2023 Time: 11.45am - 1pm

Where: Roseville Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville - a short walk from Roseville Railway Station [Google map and directions](#)

Optional: Stay and enjoy lunch with ABC friends and supporters (at own expense, from 1pm onwards)

Mal Hewitt OAM will share his insights into why the ABC Friends' [Update](#) Newsletter is the ABC's Best Friend - there to inform, educate us about the vital role that the ABC plays as a pillar of Australian democracy.

Mal has been a past president and vice president of ABC Friends NSW & ACT for many years, as well as being the current editor of its newsletter Update Newsletter. Mal Hewitt is also a passionate musician and music educator.

**RSVP or email your apologies**

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**Help us promote our meeting with  
Mal Hewitt OAM  
by **printing** and **distributing** this **POS  
TER** by:**

1. Downloading and printing the **POSTER**
  2. Choosing a location to display the [POSTER](#) eg MP Offices, theatres/cinemas/cultural institutions/libraries, community noticeboard, cafes/shop windows or . . . . ?
  3. [Sending us a photo](#) of where your **POSTER** is located.
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**Where's these posters  
promoting Mal Hewitt's talk?**

[Email](#) your answer. The correct one will receive a free ABC Friends car sticker.



## Next NSoS Fundraising Raffle

***to be drawn at next meeting on Thursday 14 September, 2023***

\$10 for one ticket. \$20 for three tickets

*This fundraising assists NSoS pay for the hire of the Roseville Club meeting room and other NSoS projects*

**1st Prize: 'Now More than Ever, Australia's ABC' by David Anderson**

The ABC's Managing Director, David Anderson, writes about how the ABC is a cultural and intellectual powerhouse and a pillar of Australian democracy in what is a time of news media consolidation, globalised entertainment streams and social media misinformation. David Anderson's greatest challenge today is to transform the ABC into a digital media organisation that provides trusted news and information for audiences across Australia.



**2nd Prize:** Two tickets to Kelly Brouhaha + Hannah Acfield at [Humph Hall](#)  
**Saturday 7 October, 2023 7pm**

*Join these [two of Australia's powerhouse vocalists](#) as they embark on a national tour showcasing their individual, critically acclaimed live albums. With two massive voices and just one guitar each, witness the power of these women in the Northern Beaches Opera House' - Humph Hall. Discover why Kelly Brouhaha and Hannah Acfield are known as two of the best voices this country has to offer.*

Valued at \$50.00 Donated by ABC friend Wayne Richmond



**3rd Prize: ABC Friends [Gift Membership](#)**

*One of the best gifts you can receive and give is being a friend to the ABC!*

Valued at \$30.00 Donated by ABC Friends NSW & ACT



**4th Prize: Spring has come - time to get into Gardening Australia**

Two magazines - ABC Organic Gardener + Grow food in compact gardens. Valued at \$20.00. Donated by an ABC friend & Jin Zhou, Owner of Jia De Pty Ltd (Gordon Newsagency), Pacific Hwy, Gordon



*If you can donate a bottle of wine for our guest speakers or another prize let us know.*

### How to pay for your raffle tickets?

- **Online:** go to the ABC Friends website and [donate](#) the required money. Then contact Janine Kitson E: [janinemkitson@gmail.com](mailto:janinemkitson@gmail.com) or text 0428 860 623 with the subject line 'NSoS RAFFLE' followed by your name, phone, email, street address, number of tickets and the amount you have donated. Email by Wednesday 13 September, as the raffle will be drawn at the NSoS meeting Thursday 14 September.
- **Alternatively** buy your raffle tickets (cash only) on the day of the NSoS meeting (Thursday 14 September) when the raffle prizes will be drawn.

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## ABC's Independence - [Have your say](#)



At the ABC Friends recent winter dinner Communications Minister, Michelle Rowland [outlined](#) the terms of reference for the review that will consider how best to provide greater certainty for announced funding and protecting the ABC Board against political interference. Read Minister Rowland's [media release](#).



**The review will examine and make recommendations to:**

- Support stable funding arrangements by identifying potential mechanisms to implement and maintain 5-year funding terms
- support effective governance arrangements for the national broadcasters

**Please read [NSoS submission](#) -  
Adapt and send your own  
submission**

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**Thank you Loosely Woven for supporting ABC Friends**



### **[Loosely Woven](#) Concerts**

Thank you for supporting 'Loosely Woven' concerts across the Northern Beaches and beyond. Loosely Woven concerts have become a 'social outreach hub' for ABC Friends. Join us again at their upcoming concerts:

**Avalon**, Sunday AUG 20<sup>th</sup> 4pm-6.30pm

**South Turrumurra**, Friday AUG 25<sup>th</sup> 7-9.30pm

**Eastwood Uniting Church**, Saturday AUG 26<sup>th</sup> 7-9.30pm

**Humph Hall**, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> SEPT 1-3.30pm and 5-7.30pm

**St Davids, Dee Why**, Sunday SEPT 3<sup>rd</sup> 2pm-4.30pm

For more information contact Wayne Richmond [wayne@humphhall.org](mailto:wayne@humphhall.org) 0400 803 804 - a great ABC friend! Visit [Loosely Woven website](#)

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## Listening to Angela



At our last meeting Angela Williamson gave an overview of ABC Friends, as a national body, as a NSW organisation and as a local branch organisation with its 16 branches in locations across NSW. Angela expressed her gratitude to the many who had fought so hard to defend and protect the ABC - including Turrumurra's Walter Bass known as 'Bassie' who founded the ABC Friends movement in 1976.

Angela highlighted the amazing talent in the room with her - Dr Diana Wyndham, Janine Kitson, Lindsay Somerville and John and Beverley Inshaw. Angela expressed awe at the enormous amount of 'behind the



scenes' work Corin Fairburn Bass did, as Bassie's wife or 'secretary'. As well Angela commended Margaret Kitson for her diligence, patience and willingness to send out ABC Friends renewal mail outs for an impressive 14 years!

Angela reflected on her over 16 years of volunteer service as the ABC Friends Membership Secretary, Secretary, Update Assistant Editor, Update Production Manager and reviewer of Nation Builder post implementation. On reflection she felt that her proudest achievement was helping to establish five new ABC Friends branches - Northern Suburbs of Sydney (NSoS), Western Suburbs of Sydney (WSoS), South Coast, and Sapphire Coast. Angela said with the utmost conviction - "It's our branches who are so critical in protecting the ABC".

Angela's final inspiring words - "Never give up defending the ABC. Our democracy depends upon it" - reminded us why our work is so important.

**[WATCH the VIDEO of Angela Williamson talking to NSoS about 'Why ABC Friends Matter' \(10 August, 2023\)](#)**

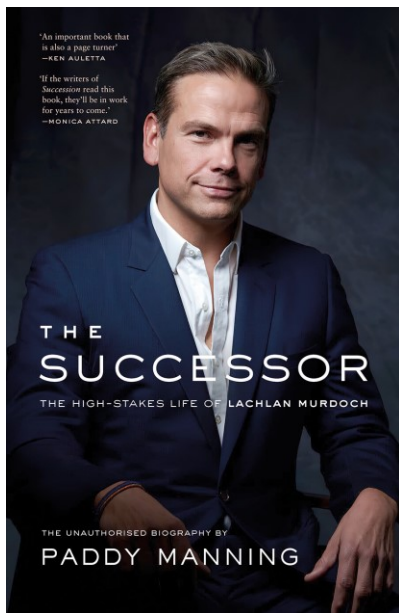
Read NSoS [Handout](#) on 10.8.23

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## **Christmas Book Orders - signed copies by authors Paddy Manning and Gavin Fang**



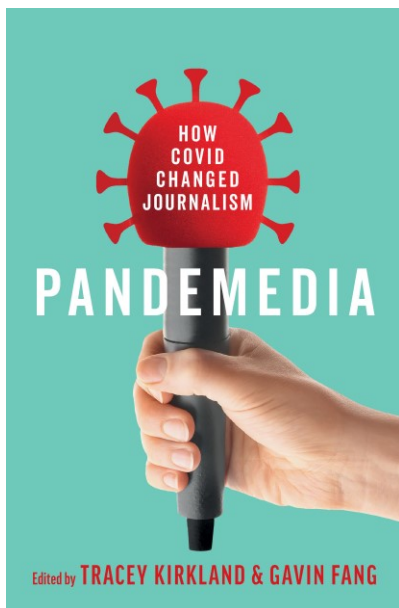
If you would like to order a signed copy of 'The Successor' by Paddy Manning and/or 'Pandemia' by Gavin Fang please [email us](#) - giving your name, email, address, phone number and which books you wish to order. You will be able to pay and collect your books at our 12 October and 9 November meetings at the Roseville Club.



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

11.45am-1pm at Roseville Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville

**Cost: \$30**



9 NOV - Thursday: **Gavin Fang, 'Pandemia'**

11.45am-1pm at Roseville Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville

**Cost: \$30**

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## 2023-2024 NSoS Guest Speaker Program

Meets at the Roseville Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville, from 11.45-1pm. Stay afterwards and meet other ABC friends at lunch at the Roseville Club Bistro (reasonably priced).

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

9 NOV 11.45-1pm: **Gavin Fang**, 'Pandemia' ; Lunch 1-2; NSoS AGM 2-2.30pm

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

14 MAR 2024: A Panel of Poets Celebrating **World Poetry Day** - Allen Clarke, Kristyn Haywood, Charles Murray and John

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

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## Thank you for your Winter Dinner Donations



Thank you again to:

- **Ensemble Theatre** for donating a double pass to the play SUMMER OF HAROLD
- Jan Latta's memoir [Doing It My Way](#) - a powerful and inspirational story about never giving up

- [UNSW Press Limited](#) donating a [Media Monsters, the Transformation of Australia's Newspaper Empires](#) by Sally Young. Read a [review](#) of it
- Loyal ABC friend who generously knitted a pair of winter 'ABC TV viewing socks'

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## The cost of defamation

Defamation cases cost the ABC dearly. In a recent report to the Senate, we learnt that the ABC has spent more than \$700k settling defamation battles since 2020. But the total costs are likely to be greater and they don't include the personal pressure that's brought to bear on the ABC's investigative teams.

[Read Janine Kitson's insights into one defamation case against the ABC](#)

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## Give us a hand?



1. NSoS needs someone to sell signed copies journalists' Paddy Manning and Gavin Fang books at our Oct & Nov meeting and who is confident in using a Square Reader to take payments.
2. Conduct and lead our ABC Friends meetings to sing [It's Our ABC](#) ([song lyrics](#) and [score](#))
3. Join the 'PASS THE BATON 4 an ABC MAGICAL MOMENT' where you give a 3 minute recount about how one ABC program informed, entertained, educated and inspired you.
4. Creative woodworking - make an ABC BATON (see the History of ABC Logos on page 16 of **Update** - for your design).
5. Creative quilting - make an ABC Friends Northern Suburbs of Sydney (NSoS) QUILT (see the History of ABC Friends Logos on page 17 of **Update** - for your design).
6. Write letters to local newspapers and politicians about issues raised in the latest **Update** concerning the ABC.

7. Setting up and packing up our ABCF merchandise table at NSoS meetings.
8. Assisting as a timekeeper at our meetings to get us to lunch by 1pm.
9. Transcribing guests sign on details onto an excel spreadsheet.
10. Assisting with photography.
11. Assisting with an ABC Friends talk to the University of Third Age.
12. Putting your hand up to hold an ABC Friends stall at your local market.
13. Assisting with media releases or inviting a journalist student to assist.
14. Offering your own idea on how to be a good friend to the ABC.

### **Best ABC Friends wishes**



Janine Kitson  
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ABC Friends NSW & ACT  
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PS Please look at our NSoS Webpage for updates on our 2023-24 Guest Speaker program [Northern Suburbs of Sydney Branch](#) and [Photo Gallery](#)



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