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From: **ABC Friends Northern Suburbs of Sydney** <northernsuburbssydney@abcfriends.net.au>

Date: Mon, 22 Jan 2024 at 16:23

Subject: Next ABC Friends meeting with Dr Phil Kafcaloudes Thursday 8 February, 11.45 am



Dear Janine

Please join us for our next meeting with:

Dr Phil Kafcaloudes

Thursday 8 February 2023

11.45am (sharp) to 1pm

NEW VENUE: [ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH](#) 7A Lord Avenue, Roseville



Stay afterwards and enjoy a delicious LIGHT REFRESHMENT

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL [here](#)

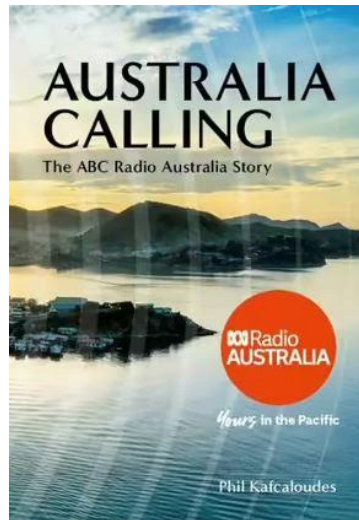
Email apologies [here](#)

Celebrate [World Radio Day](#) with **Dr Phil Kafcaloudes**, ABC's Radio Australia breakfast presenter for the Pacific and Asia for nine years. Author of [Australia](#)

[Calling, the ABC Radio Australia Story](#) (2022), his book celebrates the ABC's international broadcasting service.

Phil Kafcaloudes lives in Melbourne but is keen to visit us and share why the ABC is so important for global democracy!

Copies of *Australia Calling*, [Australia Calling, the ABC Radio Australia Story](#) will be available for sale (discounted price of \$30). Phil will be happy to sign any purchased book.



Help us promote Phil's talk

CELEBRATING  WORLD RADIO DAY

Radio Australia

MENZIES

began and
then tried
to stop it

MI5

demanding
Aust. government
'keep it running'

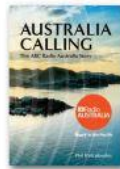
GUNS

aimed at
technician to shut
off transmitter

Dr. Phil Kafcaloudes

AUTHOR OF OFFICIAL RADIO AUSTRALIA HISTORY

How our voice to
the world began
in a shack



and reporters
risked death for
broadcasting

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8 • 11.45–1PM, LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

7A LORD STREET, ROSEVILLE

Via short walk, east side of Roseville station



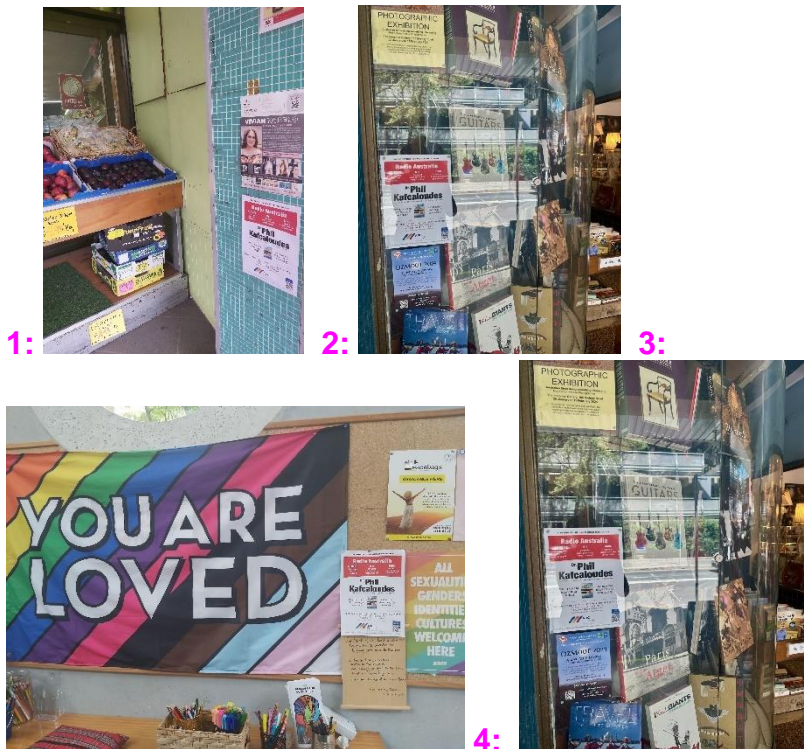
Authorised by Janine Kitson, ABC Friends NSW & ACT Northern Suburbs of Sydney, PO Box 1391, North Sydney, NSW, 2059



1. **Download and print** your [POSTER](#) (or contact 0428 860 623 for copies)
2. **Choose a location** to display your [POSTER](#). Perhaps at your local federal and state MP's office, theatres, cinemas, community centres, libraries, community noticeboards, cafes, shop windows or
3. **Take a photo** of where you have displayed your [POSTER](#) and [email](#) it to Janine

Have you seen these ABC Friends posters in your neighbourhood?

Locate the correct location and win a free ABC Friends sticker. Email your answer [here](#).



2024–25 Pre-Budget Submission - deadline 25 January 2024

The Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services has called for submissions from individuals, businesses and community groups on their views regarding priorities for the 2024–25 Budget.

URGENT: PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING YOUR OWN SUBMISSION. LINK [HERE](#)

21 January, 2024

Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services
Pre-Budget Submissions
Treasury, Langton Cres, Parkes ACT 2600
Email: PreBudgetSubmissions@treasury.gov.au

Dear Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services

Re: 2024–25 Pre-Budget Submission

NSoS[\[1\]](#) appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to you. It requests that you address the funding shortfall to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) in your budget deliberations. The cumulative impact of funding cuts, since 2014, continues to have devastating impacts on the ABC's capacity to provide quality public interest programs and fulfil its obligations under its Charter.

Democracies around the world are facing extraordinary threats from misinformation and disinformation from social media, commercial streaming services and media fragmentation. Democracies that have a strong, well-funded and independent public broadcaster are more resilient.

NSoS appreciates the Australian Government's commitment to the ABC with the immediate reversal of the \$83.7 million cuts and the implementation of five-year funding terms.

However, the ABC continues to be challenged and compromised by the cumulative impacts of funding cuts, especially those that began in 2014. Today the ABC currently has 10 per cent lower budget compared to 2013-2014.

NSoS asks that you restore the nearly \$1 billion cuts [\[2\]](#) to the ABC.

If the ABC's funding shortfall is not addressed NSoS fears dire consequences for Australia's future. Without restoring the cumulative impacts of the funding cuts, it is making it impossible for the ABC to increase the range and diversity of programs and reinstate lost services.

Australians need their ABC more than ever. It is a critical public service that must be valued and well funded. It is the bedrock of our democratic, cultural, artistic and educated society.

NSoS calls for the **restoration** of the cumulative cuts to the ABC and **additional funding** for it to fulfil its Charter in a rapidly changing world with heightened geopolitical tensions and increasing frequency of emergency climate disasters.

The case for strong and secure funding for our public broadcaster has never been more important.

Yours sincerely

Janine Kitson
Convenor
ABC Friends Northern Suburbs of Sydney (NSoS)

[\[1\]](#) ABC Friends Northern Suburbs of Sydney (**NSoS**) is a branch of ABC Friends NSW & ACT Inc. It is a non-partisan, not-for-profit volunteer-based

organisation that aims to defend and promote the ABC because of its vital role as a pillar of Australia's democracy. NSoS is a branch of ABC Friends NSW & ACT and represents over 700 northern Sydney residents who are passionate about the importance of Australia having a strong, well funded and independent national broadcaster. NSoS covers the Federal electorates of Bennelong, Berowra, Bradfield, Mackellar, Mitchell, North Sydney, and Warringah.

[2] The ABC Annual Report 2016, page 169, stated: "The 2016–17 operational revenue from Government of \$838 million represents a decrease in real funding of \$346 million or 29.2% since 1985–86 as depicted in the chart 'ABC Operational Revenue from Government'."

Copies of our [NSoS Submission](#) will be sent to NSoS Federal MPs.

WATCH Geraldine Doogue talk



If you were unable to attend our meeting 14 December 2023 you can hear what Geraldine said [here](#).

NSoS Fundraising Raffles

1st Prize: Book: [Australia Calling, the ABC Radio Australia Story](#) Signed copy by Dr Phil Kafcaloudes (Valued at \$35)

2nd Prize: Two tickets to [Noel Coward: Remembering the Master \(John Martin\)](#) 2pm, Sunday 11th February, 2024, Humph Hall, 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. Donated by Wayne Richmond 0400 803 804
E: wayne@humphhall.org (Valued at \$50.00)

3rd Prize: ABC Friends [Gift Membership](#) - The best gifts you can give to the ABC is being a friend! Donated by ABC Friends NSW & ACT (Valued at \$30)

4th Prize: Books: Peppa Pig - My First Reading Collection - For the grandkids (Valued at \$20)

How to pay for your raffle tickets? \$10 for one ticket \$20 for three tickets

Online: go to the ABC Friends website and [donate](#) the required money. Then contact Janine Kitson E: 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 7 February, as the raffle will be drawn at the NSoS meeting Thursday 8 February.

Alternatively buy your raffle tickets (**cash only**) on the day of the NSoS meeting (Thursday 8 February) when the raffle prizes will be drawn.

My 'ABC Lifetime of Moments' by Charles Murray

At the beginning of each of our NSoS meeting a member shares their 'ABC Moment' - one that has informed, entertained, educated and inspired them. Here is what ABC friend and poet Charles Murray said at our last meeting:

As an immigrant, a new Australian, it began in the 1960's on The Snowy Mountains Scheme and was reinforced later in the early 1970's when I domiciled in Sydney and "WOULD YOU BELIEVE", a truth or lie TV Show about Australia and its history hosted by Peter Lazar and featuring such local identities as Cyril Pearl, Michael Baume, Frank Hardy, Noeline Brown and Len Evans, amongst other entertainment notables, made up two panels who vied in clever informed ways to disprove one another.

The late great and inimitable Caroline Jones, architect and pioneer in such influential shows as "THIS DAY TONIGHT", "FOUR CORNERS" and "AUSTRALIAN STORY" ... these were programmes of high integrity, truth-reporting, and disclosure ... informed my life positions, direction and opinions.

"THE BOOK CLUB" with Jennifer Byrne chairing an always vital panel on the Past, Present and Future of books and literature and where we met the authors amongst whom were giants such as Kennealy, West, Flanagan, Malouf, Hardy, the Heavy Hitters in Australian Literature! We were in great company, weren't we?

"ENOUGH ROPE" with the engaging and meticulous Andrew Denton whose revelations in interview sometimes surprised the famed interviewee ... people skills never ever lacking in respect.

The iconic "COMPASS" programme asking the big questions of Life and the Soul ... unmissable and respectful of all positions ... COMPASSION be thy name!

All these informed me, as did and does the following which also will assist in writing the Australian History of today "LATELINE", "LANDLINE", "BACKROADS", "AUSTRALIA ALL OVER".

All of the early Science Shows, before developing our own capabilities, were borrowed from UK TV (BBC) and the United States...I loved them..."The Sky at Night-Reaching for the Stars" presented by the irascible Sir Patrick Moore and then, Carl Sagan with his highly sophisticated American Science Program and his "Journey into the Cosmos"...these shows fascinated me and I am an aficionado of all our current shows involving the exceptional Professor Brian Cox on our ABC.

In 1916 Albert Einstein predicted the existence of gravitational waves, "ripples" in Spacetime caused by some of the most violent and energetic processes in the Universe and in 2016 on an ABC Science show, Brian Cox imparted the "news" that the "gravitational waves" after billions of light years of travel had "arrived" and had been detected for the first time on a scientific instrument developed and built in Europe, at a cost of billions of dollars...the sound of the "gravitational waves" arriving has been described as a gentle "chirrup"!

In 2016 I composed a poem to celebrate the event and which it is now my pleasure to perform for you, my fellow ABC Friends . . .

GRAVITATIONAL WAVE

by Charles Murray

*We heard in wonderment the tale, a new infinity of scale,
of time, a gravitational wave, a billion light year sonic rave
as two black holes in pas de deux, stygian dervishes whirling through
the deepest space; man never knew of time as metronomic wave,
the ebb and flow, the undulate; washing over thought profound,
new knowledge beyond light and sound, with senses reeling in sensation,
dynamic, thrilled imagination;
And.....*

*I thought of Time, the constant thief, relentless and without relief;
devouring all before and after with sly aware and sullen laughter,
meting out with stony gaze a genesis and end of days;
of lives, their coming and their going, the tides of life, the to, the froing;
the deeper thought, the never knowing, the sower and the seed for sowing,
the secrets all their silence keeping, nightmares feeding on our sleeping,
the Reaper and his silent reaping;
But....*

*I mark my life from time AD, blest thrice by God's own Trinity
of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the Son of whom I love the most,
whose humanness is just like me, whose power transcends that gravity.
whose saving Grace is there for all, through the billion light year faint footfall
upon this world, our living place, our common Earth,
our global home in Space.*

© Charles Murray, 2016

Congratulations to our new NSoS Committee

*At the 14 December 2023 meeting the Returning Officer, Dr Gordon Elkington,
announced the new ABC Friends Northern Suburbs Committee for 2024:*

Corin Fairbun Bass, Committee

Jenny Forster, Committee

John Inshaw, Committee

Beverley Inshaw, Committee

Janine Kitson, Convenor

Wendy Siriani, Committee (Treasurer)

Peter Vail, Committee

[Read](#) NSoS Annual Report

[Read](#) Update Newsletter

NSoS Response to ABC Friends NSW & ACT draft Strategic Plan

Dr Tess Howes, ABC Friends NSW & ACT President has thanked the NSoS Committee for the time invested in responding to the ABC Friends NSW & ACT draft Strategic Plan. NSoS now looks forward to seeing the final ABC Friends NSW & ACT Strategic Plan.



The Power of ABC Friends

In our previous newsletters we asked for your help.

ABC Friends NSW & ACT needs funds to increase the campaign momentum to educate the public on the importance of the ABC and demand secure, reliable, non-partisan funding for our national public broadcaster, the foundation of our democracy. [Loosely Woven](#) has fundraised **\$2,898** for ABC Friends NSW & ACT, since December, 2022 from their concerts at Humph Hall. **Thank you Loosely Woven**

We needed someone to step in and do the catering for our first meeting. **Thank you Tim**

We needed someone to collect ABC Friends merchandise from the Southern Highlands and deliver them to the Northern Suburbs. **Thank you Charles, Tara, Rebecca and Kathy**

We needed someone to offer to deliver a generic poster to northern suburbs retirement villages. **Thank you Karen**

We needed someone to assist us with seeking intern volunteers from Macquarie University. **Thank you Anne and Lucy**

We needed someone to lead us into song It's Our ABC. **Thank you Mezzo Soprano Elizabeth Hylton**

We needed media to promote the event. **Thank you Michael Lester from Northern Beaches Community Radio**

We needed a book supplier so we could order copies of [Australia Calling, the ABC Radio Australia Story](#). **Thank you Colin Pettitt and staff from Dymocks Neutral Bay, Shop 27 The Grove, 174 Military Road, Neutral Bay, 02 9953 8657**

Give us a hand - we need your help!



URGENT: We need a **CATERING TEAM** to assist with the catering of light refreshments following our monthly meetings

Please **forward this NSoS E-News to THREE (or more) friends**

We need someone to make us an **ABC Friends BATON** for our monthly meetings where we hand it over to a member to speak about an ABC program that informed, educated, entertained and inspired them. Ideas about the design can be found in the article about ABC Logos in [Update](#) August 2023, page 16

Ring Janine 0428 860 623 if you can help

More ABCF NSoS Events

27 JAN (Sat) 6pm: [Stories & Song \(Pat Burgess & friends\)](#). Humph Hall seating is limited so bookings are advised - [Wayne \(0400\) 803 804](#) You can also book online via [Humanitix](#).

4 FEB (Sun) 2pm: [Dan Walsh \(UK\) + Jasmine Beth Concert](#), Humph Hall, 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. Humph Hall seating is limited so bookings are advised - [Wayne \(0400\) 803 804](#) You can also book online via [Humanitix](#).

8 FEB (Thurs) 11.45-1pm: **Dr Phil Kafcaloudes 'Australia Calling, The ABC Radio Australia Story' Celebrating [World Radio Day](#)**, Roseville Uniting Church, 7A Lord Avenue, Roseville. Stay afterwards and meet other ABC friends for light refreshments. Bookings essential.

9th FEB (Fri) 7pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Concord Presbyterian Church, Corner Correys & Concord Road, Concord. [Déjà Vu '24](#) is their brand new [Loosely Woven](#) concert for 2024 - and is a social hub for NSoS members. [Loosely Woven](#) is a free light-hearted, folky sort of acoustic concert (including a beautiful Chinese song!) with 21 instrumentalists & singers. Loosely Woven perform at venues across the Northern Suburbs and Northern Beaches and have become an ABC Friends 'social outreach' hub where members can catch up over a scone and cup of tea during intermission. Our thanks Wayne Richmond, Gial Leslie and Loosely Woven performers for their generous support.

10th FEB (Sat) 7pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, St Davids Uniting Church, St Davids Avenue, Dee Why (next to police station).

11 FEB (Sun) 2pm: [Noel Coward: Remembering the Master](#). Humph Hall seating is limited so bookings are advised - [Wayne \(0400\) 803 804](#) You can also book online via [Humanitix](#).

17th FEB (Sat) 3pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Wallarobba Hall, 744 Wallarobba-Brookfield Road, Wallarobba.

18th FEB (Sun) 2pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Gosford Wyoming Uniting Church, 91 Wyoming Road, Wyoming.

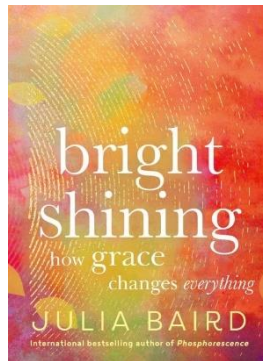
20th FEB (Tues) 6pm: [Bright Shining - Julia Baird in Conversation, Glen Street Theatre](#)



Renowned ABC journalist and author Julia Baird will discuss her new book, *Bright Shining: How Grace Changes Everything*. Former ABC news presenter Juanita Phillips will be in conversation with her. Julia Baird has also published *Queen Victoria* and *Phosphorescence*.

Julia turns her empathic and intelligent gaze towards building a better world. Grace is both mysterious and hard to define. It can be found when we create meaning and dignity in connection with each other, building on our shared humanity, being kinder, bigger, better with each other. But we live in an era when grace is an increasingly rare currency. The silos in which we consume information dot the media landscape like skyscrapers, and our growing distrust of the media, politicians and public figures has choked our ability to cut each other slack, to allow each other to stumble, to forgive? So what does grace look like in our world, and how do we recognise it, nurture it in ourselves and express it, even in the darkest of times? Join Julia to find out...

Julia will be signing copies of her book *Bright Shining - How Grace Changes Everything* after the event. Books will be available for purchase with ticket or on the night. **Tickets***: Members \$52; Ticket only \$55; Ticket and Book \$82 *Transaction fees apply for non-members [Book Now](#) glenstreet.com.au 9470 5913.



24th FEB (Sat) 3- 5.30pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, St Andrew's Uniting Church, Chisholm & Vernon Sts, South Turramurra

25th FEB 3pm: [Tom Lewis \(UK\)](#). Humph Hall seating is limited so bookings are advised - [Wayne \(0400\) 803 804](#) You can also book online via [Humanitix](#).

2nd MAR (Sat) 2- 4:30pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Wentworthville Uniting Church, 115 Station St, Wentworthville.

3rd MAR (Sun) 4- 6:30pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Avalon Baptist Peace Church, 2 George St, Avalon Beach

8th MAR (Fri) 7- 9:30pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Humph Hall, 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights Humph Hall, 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie

Heights, **FUNDRAISER FOR ABC FRIENDS**, Limited space. Bookings recommended: 0400 803 804 E: wayne@humphhall.org

9th MAR (Sat) 1- 3:30pm: Loosely Woven [Déjà Vu '24](#) Concert, Eastwood Uniting Church, 14-16 Lakeside Rd, Eastwood

11 MAR (Mon) 10.30am- 12.30pm: [U3A](#) **Mosman Art Gallery COURSE**: The ABC - its Achievements and Broadcasting Challenges

14 MAR (Thurs) 11.45-1pm: A Panel of Poets Celebrating **World Poetry Day** - Allen Clarke, Kristyn Haywood, Charles Murray and John Clair, Roseville Uniting Church, 7A Lord Avenue, Roseville. Stay afterwards and meet other ABC friends at lunch for light refreshments. Bookings essential

11 APR (Thurs) 11.45-1pm: **Lynne Malcolm, 'All in the Mind'**, Roseville Uniting Church, 7A Lord Avenue, Roseville, from 11.45-1pm. Stay afterwards and meet other ABC friends for light refreshments. Bookings essential

18 APR (Thurs) 6-8pm: [Australian Heritage Festival Event](#): **Remembering ABC's Studios at Gore Hill**, St Leonards Library, 88 Christie Street, St Leonards (opposite St Leonards Station), Cost: Donation. Bookings essential: https://www.abcfriends.net.au/nsw_act

21 APR (Sun) 10am-1pm: [Australian Heritage Festival Event](#): **Walking and Visualising the Old ABC Studios at Gore Hill**, Meet near the central pond near the entrance of St Leonards Station at 9.45am for 10 am start. Look for the tour leader who is wearing an ABC Friends T-shirt. Wear good walking shoes, umbrella (in case of rain), snack, water. Finish at Artarmon Railway Station. Donation. Bookings essential: https://www.abcfriends.net.au/nsw_act

30 APR (Tues) 10.30am- 12.30pm: [U3A](#) **Dougherty Centre COURSE** The ABC - its Achievements and Broadcasting Challenges

16 MAY (Thurs) 10am-12noon: [U3A](#) **North Curl Curl COURSE**: The ABC - its Achievements and Broadcasting Challenges, Northern Beaches U3A

SEPT-OCT (TBC): **ABC Radio National Boyer Lectures**. These four lectures are named after former ABC Chairman Sir Richard Boyer. A prominent Australian is invited to speak on a major social, cultural, scientific or political issue.

6 OCT (Sun): **NSoS' 5th Anniversary**. Thank you to the 100 members who voted to start an ABC Friends Branch at the Doughty Centre, Chatswood, on 6 OCT 2019

OCT (TBC): **Andrew Olle Media Lecture**. Established in 1996 by the presenters and staff at 702 ABC Sydney (formerly 2BL) to honour the memory

of ABC Radio and television broadcaster Andrew Olle, who died in 1995 of a brain tumour. It focuses on the role and future of the media.



Best ABC Friends wishes

Janine Kitson
Convenor
Northern Suburbs of Sydney (NSoS)
ABC Friends NSW & ACT
janinemkitson@gmail.com
0428 860 623

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



ABC Friends NSW & ACT · PO Box 1391 North Sydney NSW 2059
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