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FRIENDS OF THE ABC TASMANIA

There continues to be much activity at the ABC with the development of new digital channels and the proposed broadband hubs. Here in Tasmania we need to re-invigorate our membership to be part of the dialogue that is taking place as the new media age emerges.

The Executive would like to develop this Tasmanian page to be circulated with each edition of Background Briefing. It is a great opportunity for Tasmanian members to have their say and raise issues of concern. This is a call for HELP. Do we have a member with editorial expertise? We need a member to take on this challenge.

Thanks must go to our former Treasurer Daniel Hulme for his contribution to FABC. His diligent work setting up our financial structures has all in place for the incoming Treasurer. Daniel and his partner Nicole also need a big Thank You for establishing and developing our web page. We wish him well in his new position as a member of the State Parliament.

I remind members that Simon Cocker has agreed to act as Treasurer until the AGM. The position will then be vacant. Please give some thought to nominating at the November AGM. Contact Simon to get some idea of the work involved.

The Launceston Action Group after a slow start, have held regular meetings this year. We were fortunate to have Senator Conroy the Minister for Communications attend our August meeting. Senator Helen Polley arranged for him to schedule a morning tea with us. A copy of his speech is attached.

Senator Conroy outlined his budget commitments; he stated very strongly that there will be no advertising on the ABC. Following his address there was a question time and members were able to meet and quiz him over a cup of tea.

A question with regards to the publication of books at ABC Commercial was raised, the Minister agreed with the sentiments expressed and asked that we continue to monitor these commercial activities.

A reminder that Renewals are due and Membership/Renewal forms are included in this mail out.

* Please note that our Annual General Meeting this year will be held at the Ross Community Hall on the Sunday 8th November.

Melissa Sharpe
President
25 August 2009.