

ABC "Privatisation"

I write as a long term devotee of both ABC television and radio, and I am extremely disturbed at the news that ABC TV especially, is forced to cut back on quality inhouse programmes due to insufficient funding. It is essential that these programs continue to be made for the educational and informative content they contain. "The New Inventors" for example has over the years, helped to launch the businesses of many creative and innovative talented minds, benefiting small business as well as Australia's export potential. There must be a neutral platform for the inventors of the future to showcase their ideas.

The Arts have always been low priority in Australia, with the ABC being the only source of this genre, especially in country areas. We must retain quality TV and radio without commercial influence, ie advertisements interrupting programs. It is imperative that Australian television and radio continue to offer, maybe the minority, but an important part of the community, a choice of programmes. We cannot allow the quality to be jeopardised. A national broadcaster must not be dependant on questionable ratings.

Please support the continuation of the ABC.

S.Willis