

THE ABC

We watch ABC television and listen to 2BL radio, and I am extremely disturbed at the news that ABC TV especially, is to be forced to cut back on quality in-house programmes, due to insufficient funding supplied from the government.

ABC programmes are worth continuing as they make a contribution to our Australian way of life. They should continue to be made for the educational and informative content they contain.

"The New Inventors" for example has helped to launch the businesses and we really enjoy Australian Story, 4 Corners, and Catalyst and Landline and Gardening Australia to name a few.

The Arts have always been low priority for television in Australia, with the ABC being almost the only source of this type of programme, especially in country areas. We must retain quality TV and radio without commercial influence and without advertisements.

It is imperative that Australian television and radio continue as an important part of the community and giving us programmes that are very entertaining and informative, **and that we enjoy**, rather than the various forms of crappy content that is quite often aired on commercial television.

We cannot allow the ABC to be downgraded or reduced through lack of funding. Our national broadcaster should not be dependent on ratings as it caters to all Australians as they become more discerning watchers and listeners.

Please support the continuation of the ABC at present (or more generous) funding levels and ensure enough funding is given so that we can remain informed and entertained in our Australian way.

Ross Trivett