



# Policy File

..... A Monthly Round-Up of Press Releases, Reports, Publications and Conferences .....

## Media Releases

### Attorney General

Computer Bulletin Boards Task Force Report Released  
5/10/94

### AUSTEL

Phone Ballot Results for Adelaide (*Optus captures 14% share*) 21/10/94

### Australian Broadcasting Authority

ABA Proposes New Commercial TV Licence for Griffith Area 21/10/94

ABA to Visit Central Victoria and Central Murray (*for planning consultations*) 12/10/94

ABA Proposes New TV and Radio Licences for Mildura/Sunraysia Area 21/10/94

Kids Are Discriminating Viewers, ABA Study Shows  
26/10/94

ABA to Visit Central NSW 27/10/94

### Australian Broadcasting Corporation

The ABC Symphony Orchestras and the Culture Statement 18/10/94

The D-Notice System (*ABC will continue to observe*)  
25/10/94

ABC To Seek Meeting With Arts Minister Over Sydney Symphony Orchestra 28/10/94

### Minister for Communications and the Arts (releases October)

Alston Action Threatens TV Sport# 80/94

Coalition Reveals a Barren Arts Frontier 81/94

Minister Calls for Public Input Into Telecommunications Reform 82/94

A Creative Nation for All Australians 83/94

Ensuring the Future for Our Media Mix 85/94

Appointment of a New Chairperson (*Neil Tuckwell*) and Member (*Sue Harlow*) of AUSTEL 26/10/94

### Optus

Optus Prices Drop 'Beyond Belief' 2/10/94

Customers Automatically Roam Further With Optus Mobile Digital 3/10/94

\$41m Optus R&D Projects Begin to Bear Fruit for Australia 26/10/94

### Telecom /Telstra

Telstra Moves Quickly on Phones for Australian Personnel in Rwanda 4/10/94

## Seminars, Conferences

### November

25: *Communication 94*, annual conference of the Communication Research Institute of Australia, Regent Hotel Melbourne. First annual review of communication practice in Australian society, covering topics such as Communicating Responsibility (Robyn Penman) and setting the government communication policies agenda (Trevoer Barr). Cost: \$370 (non-members). Contact: (06) 257 3299 fax (02) 257 3256.

30-Dec 2: *IIR Conferences*, 1994 Asia-Pacific Cable and Satellite Television Summit, Hong Kong Convention Centre. With accompanying exhibition. Speakers from ABU, Switzerland, China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, India, US and Australia. Cost: \$US1895. Contact: IIR Hong Kong phone (852) 549 5618 fax (852) 547 3836.

### December

2-4: Community Broadcasting Association of Australia, *Celebrating 20 Years*, 22nd National Conference, Manning Clark Centre, ANU, Canberra. Keynote speaker is Kunda Dixit from Inter Press Service, an international press agency which focusses on the processes behind the news. Cost: \$150 members, \$300 non-members, \$100 concession. Contact: Melanie Coombs, CBAA, (02) 310 2999 fax (02) 319 4545.

## Publications

Australian Broadcasting Authority, *Annual Report 1993-94*, ABA Sydney 1994, 106pp.

Australian Film Commission, *Get the Picture*: essential data on Australian film, television and video, 3rd edition, 1994, AFC Sydney October 1994, 240pp. \$25.00 incl postage from AFC Publications, GPO Box 3984, Sydney 2001.

Australian Press Council, *Public Figures and the Press*, Conference Papers 1 1994, APC Sydney 1994, 56pp. Report of a conference held 24 March 1994 at University of Southern Queensland. Cost: \$6.00 incl, p&p from Suite 303, 149 Castlereagh St Sydney 2000 fax (02) 261 1930.

Commonwealth of Australia, *Creative Nation: Commonwealth Cultural Policy 1994*, Canberra October 1994, 102pp. Available free on application to: Department of Communications and the Arts 008 819 461.

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Terry Flew, *Financing Programming and Diversity in Australian Television*, Occasional Paper No.8, Communications Law Centre Sydney October 1994, 123pp. Cost: \$30.00 from CLC, The White House, UNSW, Sydney NSW 2052 fax (02) 662 6839.

Linda Sheldon, Gillian Ramsay and Milica Loncar for the Australian Broadcasting Authority, *'Cool' Or Gross: Children's Attitudes to Violence, Kissing and Swearing on Television*, Monograph 4, ABA Sydney 1994, 100pp, \$9.95 plus post from PO Box Q500 Queen Victoria Building NSW 2000.

Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, Joint Committee of Public Accounts, *The Sale of AUSSAT*, Report 333, September 1994, AGPS Canberra, 35pp.

## Inquiries, Hearings

Australian Law Reform Commission and Administrative Review Council, Review of the Commonwealth *Freedom of Information Act*, Public Meetings in the form of informal workshops (10am-1pm and 2pm-4pm) will be held Sydney 23 November, Brisbane 29 November, Melbourne 6 De-

cember, other cities in 1995. Major topics will be experiences with the Act and suggestions for improving it (morning workshops) and possible extension of FOI to private sector bodies (afternoon). An issues paper, and further details, are available from the ALRC (02) 284 6333.

Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, Senate Select Committee on *ABC Management and Operations*, submissions invited by 14 November 1994. Terms of reference and other information from: the Secretary, Robert King (06) 277 3525, or Janice Paull, principal research officer (06) 277 3573.

Departments of Communications and the Arts and Finance, Review of the *Australian Film Finance Corporation*, submissions invited by 14 November. A review of the four year funding arrangements for the FFC to determine funding beyond June 1996. Further information, terms of reference from Les Neilsen or Ruth Ashe (06) 275 4334 or fax (06) 275 3911.

Australian Taxation Office, Tax Law Improvement Project, a review of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* which is, inter alia, looking at 10B and 10BA, the provisions which deal with tax concessions for Australian films. Comments invited. Contact: Margaret Haly (07) 213 5236 or Don Lester (07) 213 6947 fax (07) 213 6858.

# Communications Update

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*Communications Update* is an independent newsletter covering policy, research, key reports and publications and news and analysis of the media and communications. Except where otherwise indicated, all material in *Communications Update* is written by Gil Appleton. Design and Layout - Amanda Butt. Cartoons - Jenny Coopes. Other Graphics - Michael Fitzjames, Barbara Martusewicz.

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Ideas, media releases and feedback are welcome. Send to:  
Communications Law Centre, The White House, The University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia.  
Telephone (02) 663-0551 Fax (02) 662-6839.

The **Communications Law Centre** operates under a broad charter to work on legal and policy issues relating to various aspects of communications including: the mass media, advertising, media technologies, telecommunications, film and entertainment, privacy protection, electronic data and information services.

Its work includes advocacy, legal advice and litigation; research and consultancies; teaching, conducting seminars and publishing occasional papers.

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