



Media Release

RELEASED: Wednesday 19th November, 2014

SUMMER ON ABC TV

ABC TV will keep you entertained all summer with a massive line-up of programs, across all genres and platforms.

ABC iview will give you the ultimate comedy binge-fest when it showcases entire seasons of your favourite series including **UPPER MIDDLE BOGAN** (Series 1 & 2), **IT'S A DATE** (Series 1 & 2), **A MOODY CHRISTMAS AND THE MOODYS**, **LAID** (Series 1 & 2), as well as Chris Lilley's **JA'MIE: PRIVATE SCHOOL GIRL** and **JONAH FROM TONGA**.

On **ABC** viewers can catch the biggest football tournament ever staged in Australia, the **AFC ASIAN CUP - AUSTRALIA 2015**; celebrate 40 years of Australia's youth radio station in **SOUNDS LIKE TEEN SPIRIT: TRIPLE J AT 40**; and farewell TV legends Margaret and David after 28 years together with a fun-packed **AT THE MOVIES FAREWELL SPECIAL**.

In a special cross-channel event, **ABC** will go behind the bad headlines and inside the heads of young Australians in **SCHOOLIES: YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE**, which will be followed by a live discussion on **ABC2, AFTER SCHOOLIES: LIVE WITH TOM TILLEY**.

Nick Frost will star in the highly anticipated **DOCTOR WHO CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**, and **ABC** will bring in the New Year with the **NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS** in a special four-hour entertainment bonanza.

And 40 years on, **BLOWN AWAY** examines the myths surrounding Cyclone Tracy and its aftermath; Benedict Cumberbatch stars in the hit UK drama **SHERLOCK**; and **HUMAN UNIVERSE WITH BRIAN COX** offers an original new perspective on human life.

ABC2 will take viewers inside three very different workplaces as they let off steam in **OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY**; the comedy **PLEBS** follows three desperate young men as they try to get laid, hold down jobs, and climb the social ladder in Ancient Rome; and over three consecutive nights **ABC2** will screen one of the greatest sagas in movie history, **THE GODFATHER TRILOGY**.

For younger viewers **ABC3** celebrates Christmas with farting jesters and Christmas cards full of bacon in **HORRIBLE HISTORIES: HORRIBLE CHRISTMAS**; **THE ABC3 BASKETBALL SMACKDOWN!** sees everyone's favourite **ABC3** presenters as they battle intense rivalries to win the world's largest guinea pig; and **OPERATION OUCH** is packed with incredible facts about the human body.

On **ABC4KIDS**, join dirtgirl, scrapboy and a secret guest as they get grubby with kids across Australia in **GET GRUBBY TV**; *The Wiggles* take us on an exciting new adventure full of new songs in a new series of **READY, STEADY, WIGGLE!**; and **CHRISTMAS EVE ON ABC4KIDS** brings together special episodes from all of your favourites including *Peppa Pig*, *Giggle and Hoot*, *Charlie & Lola*, *Ben & Holly's* and the *Bananas In Pyjamas*.

Check out the full list of ABC TV's summer highlights:

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ABC

OUTBACK CHOIR **1x60'** **PREMIERE**

Sunday 30 November at 7.40pm

Follow the heart-warming journey of a regional children's choir, and its founder Michelle Leonard's personal mission to bring a desolate musical landscape back to life.

THE BOOK CLUB SUMMER SPECIAL: 10 CLASSIC BEACH BOOKS **1x60'** **SPECIAL EVENT**

Tuesday December 2 at 9.30pm

What is Australia's favourite classic beach book? Jennifer Byrne and regular panellists Marieke Hardy and Jason Steger are joined by best-selling author Graeme Simsion and comedian Kitty Flanagan to count down the Top 10 viewer-voted classic beach books of all time.

WILD KITCHEN **3x30'** **PREMIERE**

Starts Saturday December 6 at 6.30pm

Hosted by Indigenous chef Clayton Donovan and filmed on the north coast of NSW, this series uncovers Clayton's unique approach to food while exploring the diverse landscape and culture of the region.

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW **ABC PREMIERE**

Starts Sunday December 7 at 7.40pm

Part adventure, part history lesson, and part treasure hunt, Antiques Roadshow, now in its 35th year, invites members of the public to have their antiques and collectables examined and valued by experts. Hosted by Fiona Bruce.

WORLD WITHOUT END **4x60'** **ABC PREMIERE**

Starts Sunday December 7 at 8.40pm

Cynthia Nixon, Peter Firth, Charlotte Riley and Miranda Richardson head up the all-star cast in Ken Follett's epic sequel to *The Pillars of the Earth*, set in medieval England.

AT THE MOVIES FAREWELL SPECIAL **1x60'** **SPECIAL EVENT**

Tuesday December 9 at 9.30pm

Margaret and David say farewell after 28 years together with a fun-packed show which includes summer releases, bloopers, behind the scenes footage, some of their best interviews, and the best of their most amusing discussions. They will also present their Top 5 films of 2014.

SCHOOLIES: YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE **1x60'** **SPECIAL EVENT**

Tuesday December 16 at 8.30pm

For some it's 'Schoolies', for others 'Leavers', but whatever you call it, saying goodbye to high school with a week-long party is a firmly established Aussie rite of passage. From the hotel rooms of the Gold Coast to the nightclubs of Bali, **ABC** goes behind the bad headlines and inside the heads of young Australians as they experience the fun, anxiety, hope and confusion that has come to define this transition into adulthood. Followed by a live discussion on **ABC2 - AFTER SCHOOLIES: LIVE WITH TOM TILLEY**.

QI CHRISTMAS SPECIAL **1x30'** **AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**

Wednesday December 17 at 8pm

Stephen Fry returns with his panel of comedians to share Christmas anecdotes and trivia, and



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maybe answer some questions as well, in this popular comedy panel game in which being Quite Interesting is more important than being right.

BLOWN AWAY

1x60'

PREMIERE

Tuesday December 23 at 8.30pm

On Christmas Eve 1974, Cyclone Tracy devastated Darwin. 40 years later, many of the myths about the disaster and its aftermath are examined, and untold stories are shared. **BLOWN AWAY** is a story full of drama and tragedy, heroism and bloody-minded stupidity, told by the people who were there.

WOULD I LIE TO YOU AT CHRISTMAS?

1x30'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Wednesday December 24 at 9pm

Rob Brydon is back along with lightning-quick team captains David Mitchell and Lee Mack for a festive edition of the comedy panel show. Celebrity guests will reveal amazing stories about themselves, some of which are true, and some of which are not. The aim of the game is to fool the opposition into mistaking fact for fiction and fiction for fact.

THE QUEEN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

SPECIAL EVENT

Thursday December 25 at 7.20pm

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth delivers her annual Christmas message to the Commonwealth.

THE 2014 ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE

SPECIAL EVENT

Thursday December 25 at 7.30pm

Bette Midler, Ed Sheeran, Sarah Millican, Ellie Goulding, Jack Whitehall, Dame Shirley Bassey, the cast of Miss Saigon, plus many more, perform in this gala evening, staged for the first time in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

DOCTOR WHO CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

1x60'

SPECIAL EVENT

Date and time TBC

Actor and screenwriter Nick Frost stars as Santa Claus in the highly anticipated 2014 **DOCTOR WHO CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**, which promises to be an action-packed, unmissable adventure. The special also stars Michael Troughton who follows in the footsteps of his father Patrick Troughton, who played the second incarnation of The Doctor.

TSUNAMI: 10 YEARS ON

1x60'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Tuesday December 30 at 8.30pm

Marking the ten year anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, this documentary tells the story of that fateful day by gathering personal accounts from those who survived being swept away by the wave, along with user-generated content, home movies, news archive, and previously unseen footage.

NEW YEARS EVE FIREWORKS

1x240'

SPECIAL EVENT

Wednesday December 31 at 8.30pm

Counting us down to the sensational fireworks on Sydney Harbour, Julia Zemiro and Toby Truslove guide us through the biggest night of the year. This four-hour entertainment bonanza will feature a special mini-episode of *Nowhere Boys*, Lawrence Mooney will host Australia's biggest ever Pub Quiz, and Adam Zwar presents a special edition of *The Agony of New Years Eve*. While the harbour is showered with fireworks, home viewers will be dazzled by a night of comedy, music and more celebrities than you can shake a sparkler at.

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SHERLOCK – SERIES 1 & 2

6x60'

ABC PREMIERE

Starts Sunday January 4 at 8.40pm

Benedict Cumberbatch stars as Sherlock Holmes and Martin Freeman as his loyal friend, Doctor John Watson in this thrilling, funny, fast-paced contemporary reimagining of the Arthur Conan Doyle classic. Co-created by Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss.

HUMAN UNIVERSE WITH BRIAN COX

5x60'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Starts Wednesday January 7 at 8.30pm

In this spectacular series, Professor Cox offers an original new perspective on human life: the story of a group of apes that evolved to leave their home planet and step out into the universe.

ADAM HILLS: THE LAST LEG – SERIES 5

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Starts Wednesday January 7 at 9.30pm

Adam Hills returns with co-hosts Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker to provide some offbeat commentary on the significant moments of the past seven days.

AFC ASIAN CUP - AUSTRALIA 2015

SPECIAL EVENT

Starts Friday January 9

ABC TV is the official, free-to-air broadcaster for the biggest football tournament ever staged in Australia. Every game featuring Australia's Socceroos will be broadcast on **ABC** commercial free and in its entirety and also simulcast on iView. The Socceroos finals matches will be broadcast live. Each night ABC will also screen a 30 minute highlight package bringing you the best of the day's action across all four groups.

SOUNDS LIKE TEEN SPIRIT: TRIPLE J AT 40

1x60'

SPECIAL EVENT

Monday January 19 at 9.20pm

In January triple j turns 40! To celebrate this irreverent cultural icon we take a look back at the radio station which, from the start, tapped into the hearts and minds of Australia's youth culture. With a pumping soundtrack evoking the mood of each decade, this program features interviews with Roy & HG, Jono & Dano, Missy Higgins, Daniel Johns, Wil Anderson, Adam Spencer, Myf Warhurst, Hilltop Hoods, Peter Garrett, plus many more.

AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2015

1x60'

SPECIAL EVENT

Sunday January 25 at 6pm

The Australian of the Year Awards celebrate the achievements and contributions of eminent citizens throughout the last year. **ABC** will cover the official announcement live on Australia Day Eve, January 25, hosted by Stephanie Brantz and announced by the Prime Minister.

ABC2

AFTER SCHOOLIES: LIVE WITH TOM TILLEY

1x60'

SPECIAL EVENT

Tuesday December 16 at 9.30pm

Following the broadcast of *Schoolies: You Only Live Once* on **ABC**, tune in to **ABC2** for **AFTER SCHOOLIES: LIVE WITH TOM TILLEY**, a live forum filmed from the Gold Coast that will investigate the issues raised in the documentary.

OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY

3x60'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Wednesday December 17-Friday December 19 at 8.30pm

In workplaces across the country, the tensions, rivalries and romantic crushes have an outlet that

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comes but once a year at the office christmas party! Meet three very different businesses and their staff as they prepare to celebrate the end of the year and the beginning of the holidays by partying hard and letting off steam at the annual Christmas extravaganza.

THE GODFATHER TRILOGY

3x180'

SPECIAL EVENT

Over 3 nights - Starts Wednesday December 24 at 9pm

Over three consecutive nights, **ABC2** will screen one of the greatest sagas in movie history. Starting on Christmas Eve and concluding on Boxing Day, follow the compelling story of the life and times of the Mafia patriarch Don Corleone and his family. The winner of three Academy Awards and based on the novel by Mario Puzo, this multi-generational crime saga stars Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, Diane Keating and James Caan.

CATFISH – SERIES 2

17x30'

ABC PREMIERE

Starts Friday January 2 at 9.20pm

From the producers of the acclaimed documentary film, *Catfish*, comes the second series where young couples take their online romances into the real world. What will happen when they meet in person for the first time?

MISSION TO LARS

1x76'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Tuesday January 6 at 8.30pm

Critically acclaimed, feature documentary **MISSION TO LARS** is the story of two siblings' (Kate and William Spicer) attempt to fulfill their brother Tom's dream of meeting rock God Lars Ulrich of Metallica. Tom Spicer has Fragile X Syndrome, a form of autism and a dream to meet to his hero. His siblings promise to make it happen with hopes of good times and a bonding road trip. But Tom's disabilities, a dysfunctional family, and heavy metal labyrinthine backstage world thwart the mission at every turn.

SCRAPPERS

6 X 30'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Starts Wednesday January 7 at 9.30pm

This highly entertaining series follows self-made millionaire Terry Walker who started with just £500 in his pocket. Believing in second chances, Terry has built a scrap heap empire and a family from employing the people that no one else will.

STORY CLUB

9x30'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Starts Wednesday January 7 at 10pm

It's a comedy event with a difference. Think stand-up, but sitting down. Then add a narrative. Sophisticated and hilarious, each *Story Club* brings together two of Australia's finest raconteurs, including politicians, stand-up comics, novelists, journalists, commentators, poets and musicians to create an event that is both funny and unexpected. Executive Produced by Craig Reucassel and Julian Morrow.

PLEBS

6x30'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Starts Thursday January 8 at 9.50pm (TBC)

Plebs follows three desperate young men from the suburbs as they try to get laid, hold down jobs and climb the social ladder in the big city – a city that happens to be Ancient Rome.

NEVER MIND THE BUZZCOCKS

12X30'

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Starts Tuesday January 13 at 9.30pm

This popular British series comes back to **ABC2**. Never Mind the Buzzcocks is an Irreverent pop quiz, with guest competitors and regular captains from the worlds of music, TV and comedy, lining up in two teams.

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ABC3

OPERATION OUCH - SERIES 3 **10x30'** **PREMIERE**

Weekdays, starts Wednesday December 10 at 7pm

Operation Ouch is packed with incredible facts about the human body and fronted by identical twins Dr Chris and Dr. Xand van Tulleken who experiment and explore their way through the fascinating world of medicine and biology.

HORRIBLE HISTORIES: HORRIBLE CHRISTMAS **1x30'** **PREMIERE**

Wednesday December 24 at 6pm

Christmas is a time for charity, hope, and goodwill to all men... or if it's the Horrible Histories Christmas Special it's a time for farting jesters, Christmas cards full of bacon, and having the festive meal confiscated by Oliver Cromwell.

THE ABC3 BASKETBALL SMACKDOWN! **1x18'** **PREMIERE**

Monday January 26 at 7.45am

Smackdown is back and this year the sport is basketball! The ABC3 presenters must battle their intense rivalries, hypnosis, cheating, and oh yeah, win the actual game if they are to claim the grand prize: the world's largest guinea pig!

OUTNUMBERED - SERIES 5 CHRISTMAS SPECIAL **1x30'** **ABC PREMIERE**

Wednesday December 24 at 7.30pm

This year Sue, Pete, Jake, Ben and Karen throw a party for their neighbours, who by the looks of it include Mark Heap and Sanjeev Bhaskar. Hattie Morahan makes a return as Jane too, so she and Sue have obviously patched things up since last Christmas...

DEADLY 60: POLE TO POLE **31x30'** **PREMIERE**

Weekdays, starts Thursday December 29 at 7:00pm

Steve Backshall embarks on an epic journey that takes him and his trusty crew from the Arctic to the Antarctic in search of the deadliest animals on earth.

LEONARDO SERIES 2 **13x30'** **PREMIERE**

Weekdays, starts Wednesday January 21 at 5.45pm

The bold action-adventure series set in 15th century Florence, returns with more mystery, intrigue and madcap inventions, following the teenage Leonardo da Vinci and his group of streetwise friends. After the explosive events of last series, at least now Leo knows who his enemy is...until a surprising twist of fate changes everything.

ABC4KIDS

GET GRUBBY TV **1x30'** **PREMIERE**

Friday 5th December at 8.30am and 4.50pm

It's the unreal world hanging out in the real world. Join dirtgirl, scrapboy and a secret guest as they get grubby with kids across Australia - for real!

CHRISTMAS EVE ON ABC4KIDS

Wednesday 24th December – All Day

Includes *Peppa's Christmas*, the *Giggle and Hoot Christmas Special*, *Timmy's Christmas Surprise*, *How Many More Minutes Until Christmas (Charlie & Lola Special)* and Christmas episodes of

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favourite shows: *Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom*, *Bananas In Pyjamas*, *Mike The Knight*, *Mister Maker* and *Shaun The Sheep*.

THE GRUFFALO & THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD 2 x 30'

Thursday December 25 from 4.10pm

Based on the best-selling books, these films tell the magical tale of a mouse who takes a walk through the woods in search of a nut and a little Gruffalo who ignores her father's warnings.

PETER RABBIT: NUTKIN SPECIAL

1x30'

PREMIERE

Saturday January 3 at 5pm

Peter tells a curious Cotton-tail how he and Squirrel Nutkin became friends and how the squirrel lost his tail. Soon Peter is on an adventure to retrieve Nutkin's tail, even though it means going to Owl Island!

READY, STEADY, WIGGLE! – SERIES 2 (NEW SEASON) 52x11'

PREMIERE

Daily from Monday January 12 at 4.25pm

Like their earlier work, the second series continues to present bright and engaging entertainment for young children and like all *The Wiggles'* work there are many opportunities for learning that underlie each episode. It includes songs from *Taking Off!*, *Furry Tales*, *Pumpkin Face*, *Apples & Bananas*, *Wiggle House*, and their 2014 Australia Day Concert performance.

PLAY SCHOOL: KNOCK KNOCK

5x30'

PREMIERE

Weekdays from January 26 at 9.30am

Who are the surprise guests knocking at the Play School door? Will it be an artist, or a dragon, a magician or a new pet? Find out in Knock! Knock!

MIKE THE KNIGHT – JOURNEY TO DRAGON MOUNTAIN

1 x 60'

PREMIERE

Saturday January 11 at 5pm

Mike's father the King is on a mission to save Glendragon by returning a crystal jewel to the giant dragon of Dragon Mountain. Mike and his sister Evie secretly follow their father and unfortunately for the King, Mike's attempts at being knightly only make the mission harder. But when Evie accidentally causes a rock fall, it's Mike who bravely saves the day.

iview

SUMMER NIGHTS OF COMEDY

ABC iview is the place to be over summer, with the ultimate comedy binge-fest running throughout January and February.

Tune in whenever you want, for the complete series of your favourite Australian comedies starting in December with the first series of **UPPER MIDDLE BOGAN**, **IT'S A DATE**, **A MOODY CHRISTMAS**, **LAID** and Chris Lilley's **JA'MIE: PRIVATE SCHOOL GIRL**.

Then during January watch the second series of **UPPER MIDDLE BOGAN**, **IT'S A DATE**, **THE MOODYS**, **LAID** and the Chris Lilley's **JONAH FROM TONGA**.