

RELEASED: Tuesday 24 November 2015, 8pm

Catch the Wonderful on ABC TV in 2016

ABC TV reveals an outstanding line-up of programming

ABC TV invites you to **Catch the Wonderful** with an exciting slate that promises to delight and entertain in 2016.

ABC iView will continue to lead the way with a range of digital-first exclusives, including the second series of the highly inappropriate and hilarious YouTube hit, **The Katering Show**. **You Can't Ask That** will pose the awkward questions you've always wanted to ask but never could; and from WA's up-and-coming online stars Mad Kids, a comedy about a group of reporters at **DAFUQ?**, the hottest thing in non-mainstream, cross platform news.

Our diverse drama offering includes the high-concept **Cleverman** - set in the near future where a species from ancient mythology must live amongst humans and battle for survival. It will star an international cast including Iain Glen (*Game of Thrones*), Frances O'Connor (*The Missing*), Deborah Mailman (*Redfern Now*), Rob Collins (*The Lion King*), and Steph Dawson (*The Hunger Games*), with creatures and effects by Jacob Nash (*Bangarra Dance Theatre*) and the world-renowned Weta Workshop.

Barracuda, based on the bestselling novel by Christos Tsiolkas, is an unflinching look at Australia's national obsession with sporting heroes. The series will introduce two newcomers in the lead roles – Elias Anton and Ben Kindon – two emerging stars of tomorrow. Rachel Griffiths also stars.

Plus, there are new series of favourite dramas **Jack Irish**, **Janet King**, **The Doctor Blake Mysteries**, **Rake** and **The Code**.

As the home of Australian conversations and stories, our factual slate is sure to provoke discussion and hold a mirror to us all.

Howard on Menzies is a not-to-be-missed profile of our longest-serving PM – all through the eyes of our second longest serving PM John Howard. **Ice Wars** pulls no punches as it provides unprecedented access to frontline police and health services to reveal the true cost of the ice epidemic; while 100 cameras filmed for 24 hours to provide a truly national snapshot of the Australian health system in **Keeping Australia Alive**.

Our education system will be put under the microscope as **The Great Education Experiment** tries to understand if there is a better way; and **Hatch, Match & Dispatch** is a behind-the-scenes look at the men and women of the Office of Births, Deaths and Marriages and The Public Trustee.

We'll also celebrate our successes on Australia Day. The ABC is pleased to announce that the ABC will be the official TV, radio and online media partner of the **Australian of the Year Awards** for the next three years. In 2016, the Awards will screen in prime time on January 25, to ensure as many Australians as possible can join in the celebration.

And when we head to the polls in 2016, Australians will again turn to the ABC's federal election coverage when **ABC News** provides audiences with the most trusted news and

analysis on television, radio, online and mobile.

Food writer Silvia Colloca joins ABC TV and invites Australia's most interesting personalities into her kitchen to show them how to cook, while sharing stories the Italian way in ***Silvia's Italian Table***.

We also have a hilarious line-up of funny and entertaining programming for 2016.

Comedian Luke McGregor takes us on an embarrassingly honest and humorous look at sex in ***Luke Warm Sex***; he'll also pair up with Celia Pacquola to star in ***Rosehaven***, a new comedy series filmed in rural Tasmania.

The **ABC Comedy Showroom** brings together some of Australia's best comedic talent – including Eddie Perfect, Ronny Chieng, Lawrence Mooney, Kate McCartney and Kate McLennan - for six new pilots, each the first episodes of a brand new sitcom. Audiences will get to vote on the episodes they'd like to see as a full series.

There are new seasons of firm favourites including ***Black Comedy***, ***Upper Middle Bogan***, ***Soul Mates***, ***Shaun Micallef's Mad As Hell***, ***The Weekly with Charlie Pickering*** and ***Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery***.

Our most revered film critic David Stratton returns to our screens in his own three-part series ***David Stratton's Story of Australian Cinema***; comedian Tim Ross takes us on a tour to discover why our suburbs look the way they do in ***Streets of Your Town***; and the hit series ***Stop Laughing... This Is Series*** returns to more deeply explore how humour, laughter and comedy have been integral to our national identity.

For the younger viewers, we're pleased to announce there will be a third series of the popular teen drama ***Nowhere Boys***; an exciting new Australian animated sci-fi series ***Prisoner Zero***; and the premiere of dramatic adventure series ***Tomorrow, When the War Began*** - based on the era-defining novels by John Marsden.

In 2016, ***Play School***, one of Australian television's most iconic programs, will celebrate 50 years, and we're excited to announce that actress Miranda Tapsell will join the cast. And ***Hoot Hoot Go!*** will explore friendship, laughter and problem solving with best of friends Hoot, Hootabelle and Hootly.

And from December 2015, ABC's flagship channel will be available as a live stream on ABC iView, along with ABC News 24, and from June 2016 we're planning to broadcast all content in high definition.

"As the national broadcaster, we will continue our commitment to Australian content, delivering a high-quality, deep and diverse slate, said Richard Finlayson, ABC Director of Television

"2016 is set to be a wonderful year of TV at the ABC. I invite you to Catch the Wonderful..."

#ABCTV2016

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