

RELEASED: Monday 5 December, 2016

## ABC will keep you entertained and laughing all summer

ABC will keep Australian audiences entertained throughout the long summer days with a stocking full of specials, premieres and events throughout December and January.

The festive fun kicks off with ABC iview's **Binge on the Best of Australian Comedy** featuring some of Australia's best comedians and actors in shows that will keep audiences laughing. These include (amongst many others) Josh Thomas' **Please Like Me** (all 4 series), Luke McGregor and Celia Paquola's loveable new comedy **Rosehaven**, Shaun Micallef's unique political comedy **The Ex-PM**, side-splitting satirical kitchen comedy **The Katering Show** (both series) plus two new series **Fancy Boy** and **Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am** will premiere.

Wrapping up 2016, Charlie Pickering, Tom Gleeson and Kitty Flanagan dissect the year with their trademark caustic humour in **The Yearly with Charlie Pickering**. A range of Christmas specials will delight audiences including the convivial Steven Fry in the **QI Christmas Special** (his last ever!), the comic **Would I Lie to You? Christmas Special**, festive feasts in the **Simply Nigella Christmas Special**, **Father Brown Christmas Special**, **Call the Midwife Christmas Special** and on Christmas Day the star studded **2016 Royal Variety Performance** with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. On Boxing Day, Dr Who fans will receive a belated present with **Dr Who: The Return of Doctor Mysterio** and **The Power of The Daleks** on ABC iview.

If you just want to escape it all, Robyn Davidson narrates a remarkable new Australian documentary looking at the story of camels first bought into the country for the Burke and Wills expedition in the 1860's whose descendants continue to populate our deserts, in **Running Wild: Australia's Camels**. And lovers of Australian stories will delight in the AACTA Award nominated coming of age film **Girl Asleep** based on the critically acclaimed play which premieres in December. Other premiere summer titles include the entertaining travel special **Stephen Fry in Central America**, the absolutely fabulous **Joanna Lumley's Japan**, David Walliams first sketch show since Little Britain **Walliams and Friends**, and everyone's favourite, Kevin McCloud, returns in a new four-part series of **Grand Designs Living in the City / Wild / Suburbs / Country**.

For the young at heart, ABC2 Sunday Best returns with a spotlight on the web with **We Steal Secrets: The Story of Wikileaks** and new series **Stupid Man, Smart Phone** which asks "can you survive the most remote locations in the world using only your mobile phone?". And you can dial up your Christmas cheer factor with **Ricky Gervais Live** and a special Christmas episode of **Live at the Apollo**. Music lovers will find a happy home on ABC2 from Christmas Day onwards. Tune in for the premiere of a new documentary **Queen: From Rags to Rhapsody** followed by an encore of **Queen: Live at the Odeon**. On Boxing Day we showcase the Rolling Stones with **The Stones in Exile** and **Ladies and Gentlemen: The Rolling Stones** and an encore of the magical **Crowded House: Live at Sydney Opera House**.

Finally, not to be missed is the 2016 Family Fireworks and Midnight Fireworks. Broadcast live from Sydney, available for the first time this year in spectacular HD and live on ABC iview.

**Full list of summer programs and TX dates for ABC, ABC2 and ABC iview**

## **ABC**

### ***Would I Lie To You?***

tx: Thursday 1 December at 8pm

*New Series*

### ***Joanna Lumley's Japan***

tx: Sunday 4 December at 7.40pm

*Series Premiere*

### ***Girl Asleep***

tx: Sunday 11 December at 10pm

*Premiere*

### ***Running Wild: Australia's Camels***

tx: Monday 12 December at 9.20pm

*Premiere*

### ***The Book Club's Five of the Best***

tx: Tuesday 13 December at 9.30pm

*Special*

### ***The Yearly with Charlie Pickering***

tx: Wednesday 14 December at 8.30pm

*Special*

### ***Simply Nigella Christmas Special***

tx: Tuesday 20 December at 8pm

*Premiere*

### ***QI Christmas Special***

tx: Wednesday 21 December at 8.30pm

*Premiere*

### ***Wallams and Friends***

tx: Wednesday 21 December at 9.10pm

*Premiere*

### ***Would I Live To You? Christmas Special***

tx: Thursday 22 December at 8pm

*Premiere*

### ***Father Brown Christmas Special***

tx: Saturday 24 December at 7.30pm

*Premiere*

### ***2016 Royal Variety Performance***

tx: Sunday 25 December at 7.30pm

*Premiere*

### ***Dr Who: The Return of Doctor Mysterio (Christmas Special)***

tx: Monday 26 December at 7.30pm

*Premiere*

### ***Call The Midwife Christmas Special***

tx: Monday 26 December at 8.30pm

*Premiere*

### ***NEW YEAR'S EVE 2016***

tx: Saturday 31 December from 8.35pm

*Exclusive*

### ***Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2016***

tx: Sunday 1 January at 7.30pm

*Premiere*

### ***Grand Designs: Living In The... Specials***

tx: From Sunday 8 January at 7.40pm

*Series Premiere*

**Stephen Fry in Central America**

tx: Tuesday 10 January at 8.30pm

*Series Premiere*

**Australian of the Year 2017**

tx: Wednesday 25 January at 7.30pm

*Exclusive*

**ABC2**

**All New Penn and Teller**

tx: Saturday 3 December at 7.30pm

*New Series*

**Stupid Man, Smart Phone**

tx: Wednesday 7 December at 8.30pm

*New Series*

**Candidate Games**

tx: Wednesday 7 December at 9.20pm

*Special*

**My Mania and Me**

tx: Wednesday 7 December at 9.50pm

*Premiere*

**Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am**

tx: Thursday 8 December at 9.30pm with all episodes available immediately on iview

*Series Premiere*

**Fancy Boy**

tx: Thursday 8 December at 10pm with all episodes available immediately on iview

*Series Premiere*

**Archer series 6**

tx: Tuesday 13 December at 10.10pm

*New Series*

**Opening Shot: The End of the Line**

tx: Wednesday 14 December at 9.20pm

*Premiere*

**Mr Posh: Million Dollar Fraudster**

tx: Wednesday 14 December at 9.50pm

*Premiere*

**Queen: Rags to Rhapsody**

tx: Sunday 25 December at 8.30pm

*Premiere*

**Stones in Exile**

tx: Monday 26 December at 8.30pm

*Special*

**Ladies and Gentlemen: The Rolling Stones**

tx: Monday 26 December at 9.30pm

*Special*

**Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man**

tx: Monday 26 December at 11pm

*Special*

**Joy Division**

tx: Tuesday 27 December at 11.05pm

*Special*

**Raw Nerve Short Films**

*Premiere*

tx: from Monday 2 January to Friday from 10.30pm

***Tattoo Disasters UK***

tx: Tuesday 10 December at 8.30pm

*New Series*

***How To Build A Human***

tx: Wednesday 18 January at 9.15pm

*Special Premiere*

***Red Dwarf***

tx: Thursday 19 January at 9.40pm

*New Series*

***Reggie Yates Inside the Billionaire's Wardrobe***

tx: Monday 23 January at 9.30pm

*Special*

**ABC iview**

**BINGE ON THE BEST COMEDY SEASON**

*From December 8<sup>th</sup>*

- ***Rosehaven***
- ***Please Like Me series 1 – 4***
- ***Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am***
- ***Fancy Boy***
- ***The Ex-PM***
- ***Sammy J and Randy in Ricketts Lane***
- ***The Katering Show series 1 and 2***
- ***Soul Mates series 1 and 2***
- ***It's a Date series 1 and 2***
- **ABC Comedy Showroom including *Ronny Chieng International Student* and *The Letdown***

**OTHER ABC IVIEW TITLES**

***Goober***

tx: Monday 26 December

*Digital First*

***Lost in Pronunciation***

tx: Monday 26 December

*Digital First*

***Almost Midnight***

tx: Monday 26 December

*Digital First*

***Doctor Who: The Power of the Daleks***

tx: Monday 26 December

*Series Premiere*

Don't forget that ABC TV switches on its (HD) HIGH DEFINITION channel on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Viewers with HD compatible TVs (with MPEG-4 functionality) will be able to tune in. More details available [here](#)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND IMAGES VISIT THE ABC MEDIA PORTAL**

[www.abc.net.au/tvpublicity](http://www.abc.net.au/tvpublicity)

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