

Week 01 Highlights



New Year's Eve 2015 Special Event Thursday 31 December from 8.30PM



ABCE Ready For This Season Final Monday 28 December at 6.20PM





Vera From the Beginning Sunday 27 December at 8.30PM



New Year's Eve 2015

Counting us down to the sensational fireworks on Sydney Harbour, host Eddie Perfect will guide us through the biggest night of the year, NEW YEAR'S EVE 2015. The four-hour live show will be broadcast from the forecourt of the Opera House, and inside the Lord Mayor's Party at Bennelong Point, Sydney Harbour.

Special Event



ABC Children's (ABC KIDS/ABC3) will kick off the celebration with 30 minutes packed with family friendly content from 8.30pm, leading us into the 9pm family fireworks, launched by the winner of the ABC3 "Design your own Firework" competition.

Then, live from the Lord Mayor's Party, Eddie will take us through to midnight with an entertainment bonanza featuring a range of family friendly entertainment, including an amazing line-up of music coming from The Falls Festivals and The 2015 Pub Quiz. Hosted by Lawrence Mooney, The 2015 Pub Quiz panellists Alan Brough, Michala Banas, Emma Alberici, Nazeem Hussain, Luke McGregor and Tom Ballard will take a look back at all the big news of 2015. You can play along at home, or just sit back with the family and watch the fun ensue - it's the perfect way to see out the old year in the lead up to the midnight fireworks, which will bring in 2016.

#NYE2015

Short synopsis

Host Eddie Perfect guides us through NEW YEAR'S EVE 2015, counting down to the fireworks on Sydney Harbour with a four-hour show featuring live musical, theatrical and comedic performances and The 2015 Pub Quiz.

Production details

An ABC TV Production

Contact Safia van der Zwan on 0432 732 887 or vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au

Will also be available on iview

Not available for preview. For more information and images visit the <u>media portal</u>.

Final



Ready For This: My Life

As the year closes, each housemate attempts to cling onto the dream they began with.

Zoe must swallow her pride, make up for Colorado by winning the relay for Kellett St.

Levi has to stop trying to please everyone, including Zoe, and finally make a choice about where he's going to spend the summer.

Lily faces her fear when she confronts the 'meme' boys at debating, and Reece questions his place in the house.

And Dylan races off to get Ava back to SIM in time to do her showcase, but she's not allowed to sing. She encourages Dylan to go onstage where he performs a spoken word piece that blows his teachers away. In spite of everything – Dylan is starting to find his voice. CAST: Madeleine Madden, Aaron McGrath, Leonie Whyman, Liam Talty.

#ReadyForThis

Short synopsis

As the year closes, each housemate attempts to cling onto the dream they began with.

Production details

A Blackfella Films and Werner Films Production in association with Screen Australia, Screen NSW, Australian Children's Television Foundation for ABC TV.

Contact

Tracey Taylor on 03 9524 2313 / 0419 528 213 or taylor.tracey@abc.net.au

Will also be available on iview



★Top Pick Sunday 27 December, 8:30pm



Vera

From The Beginning

Set amid the wild beauty of the Northumberland landscape, DCI Vera Stanhope (Brenda Blethyn), investigates chilling crimes it seems only she can solve.

The shambolic but perceptive detective does not make friends easily. Grumpy and often short-tempered, what Vera lacks in charm, she makes up for in wisdom and insight.



After two beautiful young people are killed in the same manner – placed in water and surrounded by flowers – DCI Vera Stanhope knows that she must find the murderer before he strikes again.

With the help of her trusted team, primarily Sergeant Joe Ashworth (David Leon), she unpicks the complex and dysfunctional relationships amongst a group of bird-watching friends. As they initially protect and ultimately betray each other, she gradually discovers that an innocent act of teenage blackmail, and an illicit affair involving one of the group, has driven someone to kill to preserve the status quo.

Short synopsis

Set amid the wild beauty of the Northumberland landscape, DCI Vera Stanhope investigates chilling crimes it seems only she can solve. CAST: Brenda Blethyn, David Leon, Gina McKee.

Production details

Writer: Paul Rutman; Director: Adrian Shergold; Producer: Ellen Rowlands. An ITV Studios Production

Contact

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Will also be available on iview



Banged Up Abroad

From an exotic holiday to a living hell, **Banged up Abroad** is back to reveal more terrifying tales of every traveller's worst fear - imprisonment abroad. This season looks at the extraordinary story of an orthodox Hasidic Jew who becomes a cocaine kingpin in Brazil; a father and son smuggling team busted in China; two backpackers abducted in Panama on an orchid hunting expedition; and an American drugs courier caught in Nicaragua and accused of being a Drug Enforcement Administration agent. From gruesome jails to chilling kidnappings, live through the panic, tears and desperation as each frightful story unfolds.

In this episode jobless Duane Wollum needs money to maintain his party life style and support his daughter. The lure of easy cash leads him to smuggle cocaine from Nicaragua into the US. At the airport, a routine security check reveals he is concealing a package on his body. Suddenly people around him are diving for cover. Duane is surrounded and looking down the barrel of several rifles.

#BangedUpAbroad

Duane needs money to maintain his party lifestyle, however his plan to smuggle cocaine from Nicaragua to the US goes very wrong when he's stopped at the airport for a routine security check.

Production details

Raw Television for National Geographic Channel

Contact

Bridget Stenhouse on (02) 8333 3847 or stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au

Will also be available on iview



Burger Bar to Gourmet Star

Britain boasts some of the best chefs and restaurants in the world. But it's also home to some of the worst food on the planet. In Burger Bar to Gourmet Star six fast food cooks with no formal training are given the opportunity of a lifetime: to be taught by some of the country's most refined Michelin-starred chefs and fast tracked through years of tough training in just a few weeks.

If that's not enough, following the gruelling training period the 'worst chefs', from greasy spoons, burger vans and local cafes will then face the ultimate test of passing themselves off as seasoned professionals to some of the crème de la crème of British cuisine.

In this episode, we meet 33 year old Aylin who runs a burger van at the side of a road near Abermule, Wales. But despite having always worked with food in her family's café, she's a self-confessed 'terrible cook' and feels like her dream of owning her own pub will never happen.

Her mentor for the next three weeks is Aiden Byrne, 42, one of the youngest British chefs to ever earn a Michelin star. Aylin soon finds herself completely out of her depth in Aiden's £3 million restaurant and struggles to keep up in the precise world of Michelin star cooking. But after a disastrous service where raw fish is sent back to the kitchen, Aylin digs deep and discovers she's a determined cook and finds the inner skills and confidence that no one could have predicted.

All that stands in her way is a final test of working for Chef Alain Weissgerber, in the world renowned Austrian two Michelin star restaurant, Taubenkobel. Alain thinks one of Aiden's chefs will be joining him for the day and he has no idea that less than a month ago Aylin was cooking deep fried sausages. Can she impress him and make Aiden proud?

#GourmetStar

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Some of Britain's best chefs train up some of the country's worst. Aylin runs a burger van in Wales but dreams of owning her own pub – will it ever happen? First she has to impress Chef Aiden Byrne.

Production details

Exec Producer Ian Carre, Producer Zoe Page, Series Director Tom Peppiatt, Production Betty Productions for Discovery Networks

Contact

Bridget Stenhouse on (02) 8333 3847 stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au

Will also be available on iview



Our Zoo

Series Premiere

A charming series based on the true story of the Mottershead family who, despite staunch opposition and huge personal sacrifice, founded Chester Zoo in the 1930s.

When George Mottershead (Lee Ingleby), an ex-serviceman still struggling to come to terms with the effects of the Great War, finds a monkey locked up in a quarantine cage, it sparks an idea that becomes a life-long mission.

He dreams of building Britain's first zoo without bars. Unable to see a creature in distress, he soon starts buying up unwanted animals. But George lives with his parents Lucy (Anne Reid) and Albert Mottershead (Peter Wight), his loyal wife Lizzie (Liz White) and his daughters Mew (Amelia Clarkson) and June (Honor Kneafsey). The family home is bursting at the seams. Something has to change...

George soon spies a large rambling estate in the countryside. In a poor state of repair, the house and land are up for auction. It's the perfect spot for his zoo. But how to raise the funds?

Lucy Mottershead finds her world turned upside down when her husband, Albert, decides to help his son in his madcap scheme, and sells the family business and puts their life savings into the project.

From struggling to win over the hostile locals, to coaxing two bears off a hillside and working out the best way to transport a dozen penguins, *Our Zoo* follows the ups and downs as the Mottershead family tries to get George's idea off the ground.

Funny and tender, *Our Zoo* shows how with dogged determination and a little recklessness, anything is possible.

Short synopsis

Deeply affected by his war trauma and driven by his unique love of animals, George attempts to build his dream – a zoo without bars. Cast: Lee Ingleby, Liz White.

Production details

6 x 60 minutes. A Big Talk production in association with Aenon Productions for the BBC.

Contact

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Will also be available on iview



Satellite Boy

Premiere

Abandoned by his mother, 10-year-old Pete (Cameron Wallaby), lives with his elderly grandfather, Jagamarra (David Gulpilil), in a deserted outdoor cinema in the Western Australia outback town of Wyndham. His grandfather tries to teach him skills – hunting and tracking, but Pete just wants his mother to return.

Though he misses his mum terribly, Pete manages to make the most of his situation, putting up with his grandfather's stories and tearing around the countryside on his homemade bike with his best friend, Kalmain (Joseph Pedley).

Pete's carefree existence is suddenly shattered when news arrives that the cinema has been purchased by a mining company, and is slated for demolition. Panicked that his mother will not be able to find him when she returns, Pete convinces Kalmain that they can persuade the new owners to keep the cinema intact if they can just get a face-to-face meeting with them in the city.

Together the boys travel through epic Kimberley country and when they get lost, miles from anywhere, in the bush, Pete and Kalmain find true friendship. Starving and thirsty, Pete must remember some of the traditional bush skills his grandfather taught him to survive. Now the knowledge imparted in his grandfather's stories take on real meaning for the youngster.

Short synopsis

Heartwarming story of a young Aboriginal boy who travels to the city with his best friend to try and save his home from developers. Along the way he learns about the importance of family and true friendship. CAST David Gulpilil

Production details

Writer/Director: Catriona McKenzie. Producers: David Jowsey and Catriona McKenzie. Executive Producers: Colin McCumstie and Troy Lum. A Satellite Films production in association with Screen Australian, Screen NSW, Screen West and ABC TV.

Contact

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Will also be available on iview

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