



Sun December 18
to Sat December 24
2016

Week 52 Highlights



Simply Nigella
Christmas Special Tuesday 20 December 8.00pm



Little Lunch
Christmas Special Friday 23 Dec 6.00pm



Hard Quiz
Final Wednesday 21 Dec 8.00pm



QI Christmas Special
Premieres Wednesday 21 Dec 8.30pm



Simply Nigella

In an hour-long Christmas special, Nigella shares her foolproof guide to stress-free festive cooking and easy entertaining – with a line-up of celebratory dishes which are both indulgent and practical.

Inspired by the sparkling Christmas lights in Kansas City USA, Nigella shows us how to have our most relaxed, most spectacular Christmas yet. She'll introduce us to the local, home-spun food that has inspired some of this year's favourite festive recipes, adding a British twist back in her kitchen.



Her slow-cooked black treacle ham is this party season's centrepiece, paired with an easy make-ahead potato and pepper bake and a dazzling sweet and sour slaw. Followed by not one, but three spectacular bundt cakes for dessert.

Other sweet treats include Nigella's irresistible triple chocolate buckwheat cookies. For those cold wintery nights, there's a glorious spiced parsnip and spinach soup. Finally, making the most of the leftover ham, Nigella rustles up her stir-fried rice with double sprouts, chilli and pineapple topped with a fried egg.

Short synopsis

Getting into the Christmas spirit, Nigella shares her foolproof guide to stress-free festive cooking and easy entertaining – with a line-up of celebratory dishes which are both indulgent and practical.

Production details

A BBC Production/Pabulum Production.

Contact

Amy Reiha on 02 8333 3874 or Reiha.amy@abc.net.au

For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Little Lunch: The Nightmare Before Graduation

The countdown to Christmas and summer holidays is exciting every year but no more so than now, when Mrs Gonsha's class is graduating from Grade 6. Everyone is thrilled to be going to High School, even Debra-Jo, who has been having a difficult time letting go of primary school – 'the best years of her life'. The children are feverishly immersed in their Graduation plans, but when they uncover the explosive news that Rory is unable to graduate with them, no one is excited about leaving school any more. It's too unthinkable to be abandoning Rory so the children enact a plan. The Nightmare Before Graduation encapsulates the contemporary meaning and spirit of Christmas – that love, kindness and generosity can override any obstacle.



CAST: Flynn Curry, Joshua Sitch, Oisín O'Leary, Madison Lu, Faith Seci, Olivia Deeble and Heidi Arena.

#LittleLunch

Short synopsis

Mrs Gonsha's class is graduating from Grade 6 and everyone is excited about going to High School, but when they uncover the explosive news that Rory is unable to graduate with them, no one is eager to leave school any more.

Production details

A Gristmill Production in association with ABC3, Australian Children's Television Foundation, Screen Australia and Film Victoria. Produced by Robyn Butler, Wayne Hope and Ben Grogan. Executive Producers Robyn Butler, Wayne Hope and Geoff Porz. ACTF Executive Producer Bernadette O'Mahony. ABC Executive Producer Chris Rose.

Contact

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For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Hard Quiz

In the season finale, Tom Gleeson interrogates four so-called experts to test exactly how much they know about their so-called specialty, before handing one a so-called Big Brass Mug... but not before checking what they know about his topic of the week, and making sure they'd also survive in the real world. Who will be crowned the final Hard Quiz Champion of 2016 - Downton Abbey fan Kim, cricket expert Kieren, Brady Bunch tragic Rowena, or the mysterious European languages expert, Daniel?



#HardQuiz

Short synopsis

In tonight's final Tom Gleeson grills four so-called experts to crown the final Hard Quiz Champion of 2016. Downton Abbey fan Kim takes on cricket expert Kieren, Brady Bunch tragic Rowena and European language expert Daniel.

Production details

A Thinkative TV production. Exec Producer: Chris Walker. Producers: Kevin Whyte, Charlie Pickering, Tom Gleeson. Series Producer: John Tabbagh. ABC Executive Producer Tarni James.

Contact

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For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



QI Christmas Special

Jenny Eclair, Johnny Vegas and Bill Bailey join regular panellist Alan Davies for an edition of the quiz show, in which host Stephen Fry awards points for the answers he finds most interesting - regardless of whether they are correct. This time, the host prepares for the festive period with some seasonal merriment.



Short synopsis

Jenny Eclair, Johnny Vegas, Bill Bailey and Alan Davies join host Stephen Fry, who awards points for the answers he finds most interesting. Stephen prepares for the festive period with some seasonal merriment.

Production details

A Quite Interesting Talkback Production (Fremantle Media) for BBC.

Contact

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**Not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Joanna Lumley's Japan

Joanna travels to the island of Shikoku to undertake a pilgrimage, visiting a selection of temples to gain a better understanding of Japanese Buddhism. She then takes a bullet train to the fourth of Japan's main islands; Kyushu, where she finds the Henn Na Hotel, the world's first robot hotel.

Joanna travels south to Nagasaki – the site of the second atomic bomb to be dropped on Japan in 1945. She visits Shiroyama Elementary school which was the school closest to the bomb's hyper centre, and one of the only buildings to survive. Joanna meets Matsuyoshi Ikeda – a student of the school, the day the bomb dropped. He shares his miraculous story of survival.

Joanna travels south to Kagoshima and home to one of Japan's most active volcanoes, Sakurajima. She witnesses a volcano drill at the local elementary school and takes to the skies in a plane, to get as close as possible to the crater.

Joanna's final destination is the islands of Okinawa where one of the bloodiest battles of WW2 was fought between Japanese and American troops. This is where the Japanese Navy made the ultimate sacrifice - committing seppuku (suicide, Samurai style) instead of being captured by the American forces.

For her final destination Joanna travels to Kohama, an island whose population is famed for the longevity of its residents. She meets members of KBG84, a group of charming elderly ladies who produced a pop video that topped the Japanese charts.

Short synopsis

Joanna travels to the island of Shikoku to visit a selection of temples to gain a better understanding of Japanese Buddhism. She then takes a bullet train to Kyushu where she finds the world's first robot hotel.

Production details

A Burning Bright production

Contact

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For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Back Roads

Heather Ewart arrives by ferry on Thursday Island to be greeted by local woman Elsie Seriat, who says 'TI' should be on everyone's 'bucket list'.

Thursday Islanders live by the sea and their culture and identity revolve around it.

It's also entrenched Rugby League territory, and Heather is visiting during TI's biggest celebration of the year – the Island of Origin Rugby League Carnival.

Elise shows Heather how sport, music and new industries are helping Thursday Island remain a fascinating and viable part of Australia. Heart disease and diabetes are big problems here, so Elsie has set up the TI Deadly Runners group, which even Elsie's mum has joined.

Elsie introduces Heather to Hip Hop artist Patrick Mau who is also part of this new generation of Torres Strait Islanders. Patrick performs around the world, but the internet allows him to base himself on TI and raise his young family by the sea.

Heather meets Patrick's grandfather, famous musician Seaman Dan, or 'Uncle' Seaman as he's known to everyone on TI. Uncle Seaman is proud of his people and tells his grandchildren, they're Torres Strait Islander, "stand up straight, look people in the eye and keep smiling, that's what I do".

Heather learns about the struggles of the local Kaurareg Aboriginal people, and discovers the biggest issue currently facing the island is a severe housing shortage.

But during her time on TI, Heather learns that this is a place bursting with creativity, with determined and resilient locals, who are coming up with new ways to meet challenges head on.

#BackRoads

Short synopsis

Thursday Island is a laid-back paradise that most Australians have never visited and know little about. While its isolation can present problems, locals are rising to the challenge and are carving out a new future.

Production details

Executive Producer: Brigid Donovan. Supervising Producer: Kerri Ritchie. Field Producers: Karen Micheltore and Lisa Whitehead.

Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 9524 2580/0409 600 456 or bassett.kim@abc.net.au

For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Humans

Catch the final episode of this gripping drama.

Humanoid synthetics have become an inextricable part of society, obediently serving, and protecting the human population. But what happens when these synths are given the right to consciousness and their own free will?

#Humans

Short synopsis

The final episode of this gripping drama in which humanoid synthetics have become a part of society serving the human population. But what happens when these synths are given the right to consciousness and their own free will?

Production details

Humans is written by Sam Vincent and Jonathan Brackley (Spooks: The Greater Good) with Joe Barton, Charlie Covell and Iain Weatherby. Humans is produced by Kudos, in association with Matador Films. Humans was commissioned for Channel 4 by Beth Willis and Simon Maxwell; and Joel Stillerman and Kristin Jones for AMC.

Contact

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

**Not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Rick Stein: From Venice To Istanbul

Capturing the flavour of an ancient empire, chef Rick Stein embarks on a memorable odyssey through Italy, Croatia, Albania, Greece and Turkey during this new seven-part series.

Exploring the culinary legacy of the legendary Byzantine Empire, Rick uncovers its little-known history and cuisine, and relishes the food that many people associate with holidays in the eastern Mediterranean and the Adriatic – healthy, light, tasty dishes that go so well with sunshine, remote islands, chilled wine and clear, aquamarine seas.

Rick's culinary odyssey begins in Venice, a place that played a major role at both ends of Byzantine history and his travels twist and turn past the shorelines of the Adriatic, Ionian and Aegean seas. Continuing through the stunning mountains of Croatia, Albania and Greece, down to the Peloponnese, and through western Turkey, he concludes his journey in Istanbul, formerly known as the city of Byzantium and gateway to the flavours of the Middle East. Along the way he visits local markets, cafés, restaurant kitchens and people's homes to show how their evocative dishes have developed over thousands of years.

Episode Five: Tuesday, December 20 at 9pm on ABC

At the new time of 9pm, Rick continues his journey and from Venice to Istanbul, and arrives in the Greek Peloponnese where he samples memorable dishes like Rooster Stew Hilopites with Mizithra Cheese and the best home-made moussaka he's ever had. In his Symi island kitchen he cooks Galaktoboureko, Greece's all-time favourite dessert.

Short synopsis

Rick arrives in the Greek Peloponnese where he samples Rooster Stew Hilopites with Mizithra Cheese and the best home-made moussaka he's ever had. In his Symi island kitchen he cooks Greece's all-time favourite dessert.

Production details

Producer/Director: David Pritchard, Executive Producer: Grace Kitto, Associate Producer: Arezoo Farahzad. A Denham production.

Contact

Amy Reiha on (02) 8333 3852 or reiha.amy@abc.net.au

For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Walliams And Friend

Bafta, British Comedy Award and Rose d'Or winner David Walliams returns to the sketch comedy show format in this laugh-packed spectacular.

Filmed in front of a live studio audience, Walliams & Friend captures the joyous theatricality of classic British comedy with rib-tickling skits and spoofs.

This special sees Joanna Lumley guest star in sketches including a Bond send-up, an unproductive meeting of Liars Anonymous, and a surprising peek behind the scenes of The Great British Bake Off.

Short synopsis

Bafta, British Comedy Award and Rose d'Or winner David Walliams returns to the sketch comedy show format in this laugh-packed spectacular with rib-tickling skits and spoofs. Joanna Lumley guest stars.

Production details

Writers: David Walliams and Dawson Bros. Producer: Sarah Fraser. Executive Producer: Jo Sargent. King Bert Productions for BBC.

Contact

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**Not yet available for previews.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Digilante

Five young Australian filmmakers are firing their OPENING SHOT, with a fourth instalment of five half hour documentaries from Australia's next generation of documentary filmmakers.

Disillusioned by a revival of public shaming via social media, filmmaker Mike Nayna confronts the real-world damage caused by an online furore he created. In 2012, Mike Nayna uploaded a shaming video that sparked international media attention, resulted in two gaol terms, and inspired a surprise spate of copycat incidents. But while the narrative of good conquering prejudice played out on computer screens around the world, a far more complex and morally ambiguous story was taking place. Through exploring the untold story behind the high profile public shaming, Mike must face the unintended consequences of his 'digilantism'.

#OpeningShot

Short synopsis

Disillusioned by a revival of public shaming via social media, filmmaker Mike Nayna confronts the real-world damage caused by an online furore he created. Mike must face the unintended consequences of his 'digilantism'.

Production details

Director/Writer/Editor: Mike Nayna.

Producers: Mark Conway and Lauren Elliot.

Executive Producers: Eddie Martin and Susie Jones.

DIGILANTE is a Checkpoint Media / Mad Kids Co-production.

Contact

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**Not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am

Three angry men fight after their touch footy match was lost. The fight gets interesting and the girls watch on with vigour. In the Ladies Room, Greta finds a can of deodorant to spruce up for her impromptu rendezvous with a bar goer.

Katrina Hogger Wellness Blogger tries some new products for her latest wellbeing video. Sheree is upset because her phone was destroyed by Katrinas' Prius. Rose, our Smoke Bomb Girl gets a little too handsy with a new girl at work - so she gets the hell out of there fast. A typical 1950's ad becomes re-animated and we see a woman who is being spanked by her husband reveal a little too much about what she's been up to lately.

Our three hilariously misogynistic boys - Charlie, Barney and Shelton - are at it again with their casual sexism - this time, it's directed at Charlie's sweet, harried old mother. Our conjoined twins, Simon and Simone attend the same events but have very different fashion requirements. A song about taking insti photos to cure all of your problems. Barbie One and Ken are having dinner - but Barbie is distracted by Ken's weird man speak and Officer Michaels, Australia's first male police officer, botches target practice.

Short synopsis

A touch footy game ends weirdly, women who don't understand the way men speak, Simon and Simone have different fashion requirements, deodorant use in a ladies room, Barbie dolls have a tense dinner and young parents race home to their baby.

Production details

Skit Box Pty Ltd in association with Hardy White Pictures and Sticky Pictures. Written, Directed and Starring Sarah Bishop, Greta Jackson and Adele Vuko. Producer Michelle Hardy. Executive Producer Donna Andrews.

Contact

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Not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Fancy Boy

When Susan and Michael's teenage son disappeared two years ago, they never thought they'd see him again. So when Boyd suddenly returns, it seems their prayers have been answered. Michael is elated that their son is home, but Susan struggles to accept Boyd back into their family, mainly because he is now a fully-grown man, with a thick beard and an American accent. Also when did he start eating so much smoked salmon and drinking litres of coffee?

Gareth is a developer whose dream is to create the ultimate fart app for mobile phones. But gradually his search for the perfect fart sound takes its toll on his partner, his body and his whole life. Eventually Gareth asks himself, how far will he go for the perfect fart?

Glenn and Simon are two dads who volunteer to help at the primary school tuckshop. But with the tuckshop struggling for money, and unhinged tuckshop boss Roz looking for extra revenue, Glenn and Simon are forced to do much dirtier work than they could have imagined.

Short synopsis

A mother struggles to accept her missing child back into the family. An app designer tears himself apart while looking for the perfect fart sound. And two dads have a difficult first day in the school tuckshop.

Production details

A December Media production in association with Checkpoint Media and Fancy Boy TV. Producer Nicole Minchin. Series Producer Declan Fay. Executive Producer Stuart Menzies. ABC Executive Producer Tarni James.

Contact

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Comedy Next Gen: Dilruk Jayasinha

A regular headliner on the Melbourne comedy circuit, Dilruk Jayasinha has performed to packed rooms across Australia as well as headlined shows in Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Singapore.

Arriving in Australia from Sri Lanka at age 19, with the aim to finish and make good use of his finance and accounting degree, Dil was soon unceremoniously fired by a big accounting firm. They established that he had absolutely no interest in being an accountant and he couldn't agree more. *Sri Wanka* is Dil's latest stand up show.

Short synopsis

A regular headliner on the Melbourne comedy circuit, Dilruk Jayasinha has performed to packed rooms across Australia as well as headlined shows in Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Singapore. *Sri Wanka* is Dil's latest stand up show.

Production details

Production credits: ABC TV Executive Producer, Nick Hayden. Series Producer: Andrew Garrick. Associate Producer: Michele Esteves.

Writers: Aunty Donna, Dave Eastgate, The Bear Pack, Luke Heggie, Zoe Coombs Marr, Rhys Nicholson, Dilruk Jayasinha, Simon Taylor, Michael Hing, Alice Fraser, Nath Valvo, Damien Power, Laura Davis, Corey White, Ivan Aristeguieta.

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