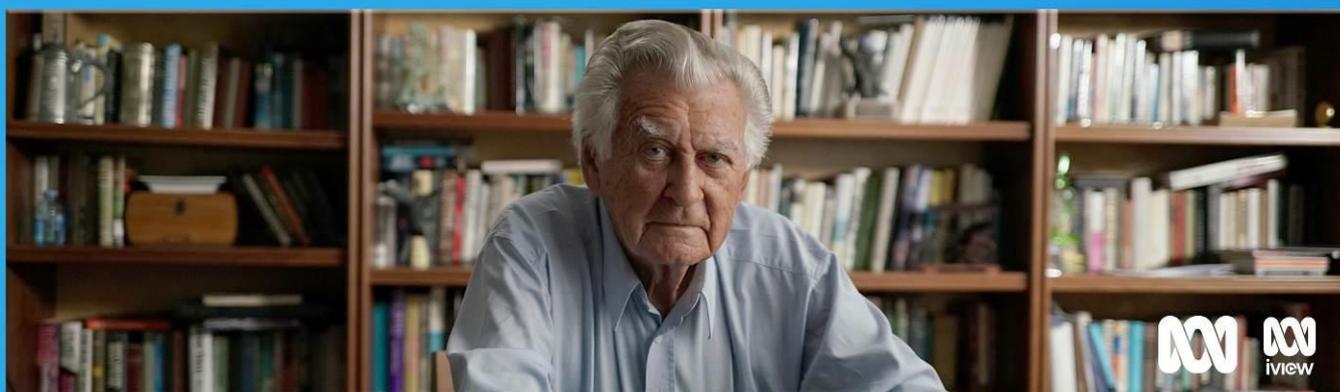


ABC HIGHLIGHTS



HARD QUIZ

Returns Wednesday 21 February 8.00pm



HAWKE: THE LARRIKIN AND THE LEADER

Concludes Sunday 18 February 7.40pm



#CELESTECHALLENGEACCEPTED

TV Premiere Monday 19 February 10.20pm

WEEK 8

SUNDAY 18 TO SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2018



★Top Pick

Returns Wednesday 21 February 8.00pm

iview



Hard Quiz

After the huge success of season 2 Hard Quiz is back in 2018 for a harder-than-ever third series.

Host and loveable grouch Tom Gleeson grills four self-declared experts on their own unique subjects as they battle each other, and the barbs, to become Hard Quiz Champion.

The contestants give as good as they get to take home the coveted Big Brass Mug™.

When it comes to entertainment, there's no question Hard Quiz is the answer.

Episode 1

Each week, Tom Gleeson crowns another Hard Quiz Champion and awards a reasonably-priced, taxpayer-funded Big Brass Mug to Australia's Hardest Quizzer. Tonight could be the hardest-fought show yet, with English Premier League Football expert Mark, Winston Churchill expert Tom, Audrey Hepburn expert Evelyn all matching wits against Leon's exhaustive knowledge of... Australian vintage washing machines. Yep. Seriously. It's time to play... HARD!

#HardQuiz

Short synopsis

Quizzing Hard with Tom Gleeson tonight: English Premier League Football expert Mark, Winston Churchill expert Tom, Audrey Hepburn expert Evelyn and vintage Australian washing machine expert Leon. Yep, you read that right.

Production details

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

Contact

Tracey Taylor on 03 8646 2313 or Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au

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



★Top Pick

Concludes Sunday 18 February 7.40pm



Hawke: The Larrikin and The Leader

Episode Two of *Hawke: The Larrikin and the Leader* unpeels the story of how an infamous larrikin who gave up the grog became a leader we'd never forget. It's the story of a Prime Minister who rode to power on the loyalty of the trade union movement, and used that allegiance to bring trade unions and business to the table for the very first time, cutting a unique series of deals and hard bargains that would transform Australia forever.

It's the story of a Prime Minister whose ascendancy marked a watershed in the very union movement that backed him into the top job, but who through the barnstorming 80s, opened a closed Australia to the world.

It's the story of a man with keen political instincts and even keener vanity; a man who stood by his core values on racism; who promoted relations with China but whose emotional response to Tiananmen Square changed the face of the nation.

Above all, it's the story of a man who contrary to all expectations, established a leadership model like no other, harnessing the capacities of an extraordinarily talented and diverse cabinet, whose "competitive relationship" with his Treasurer Paul Keating would become one of the most successful political partnerships in Australian history.

Throughout, we look at what Bob Hawke brought to the leadership, and what that means for Australia today. The result is a fascinating ride through the heart of one of the most groundbreaking governments Australia has ever had, and an extraordinary decade that has shaped us forever.

Short synopsis

We've never been so wary of politicians, but there was a time when things were different. Part two of this series takes a revelatory look at how an infamous larrikin who gave up the grog became a leader we'd never forget.

Production details

Southern Pictures

Contact

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



#CelesteChallengeAccepted

#CelesteChallengeAccepted is a celebration of the unique comedic personality of Celeste Barber. It's what has made her popular with over 2.5million Instagram followers. Except now...it's moving!

A piss-take of modern celebrity, this 6-part series is a satire of modern values, and a parody of the over-styled unrealistic imagery created by the Hollywood machine. From Miranda Kerr's smoothies to Kylie Jenner's make up, Celeste attempts to recreate the looks and styles of the rich and famous in her suburban Australian household.

Episode 1: Kylie Jenner Make Up

Instagram comedy superstar Celeste Barber attempts to recreate the 'Natural' makeup look used by Kylie Jenner.

Episode 2: Miranda Kerr Morning Smoothie

Celeste attempts to recreate Miranda Kerr's morning smoothie, but has none of the required ingredients in her cupboard.

Episode 3: Victoria Beckham's Bag

Celeste empties out the contents of her bag and lays them side by side with the contents of Victoria Beckham's trendy clutch.

Episode 4: Tracy Anderson Workout

Celeste puts on her workout gear and attempts to keep up with celebrity fitness trainer Tracy Anderson.

Episode 5: Khloe Kardashian Fitness Closet

Celeste opens her cupboard and compares her everyday workout gear to superstar Khloe Kardashian's designer fitness closet.

Episode 6: 73 Questions with...

Celeste is joined by her good friend Heath Franklin as he hits her up with 73 personal questions, at the worst possible time of the day.

#CelesteChallengeAccepted

Production details

A Red Christmas production for the ABC. Celest Barber: Presenter/Writer. Craig Anderson: Producer/Director. Guest stars Heath Franklin.

Contact

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

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



Fleabag

Meet FLEABAG. She's not talking to all of us; she's talking to YOU.

A hilarious and poignant window into the mind of a dry-witted, sexual, angry, porn-watching, grief-riddled woman, trying to make sense of the world.

As she hurls herself headlong at modern living, Fleabag is thrown roughly up against the walls of contemporary London, with all its frenetic energy, late nights, and bright lights, in this very modern mix of fatalism and hedonism, sustaining a merry-go-round of broken dreamers.

Unfettered and unfiltered, Fleabag tears through the series sleeping with anyone who dares to stand too close, squeezing money from any orifice, rejecting anyone who tries to help her, and keeping up the bravado all along. Because that's just the kind of fucked up, normal person she is.

By turns hilarious and heart-breaking, this is the thoroughly disarming confessional of a woman so totally detached, she's utterly lost, and ultimately wondering what the hell she ought to be doing in life. Much like the rest of us.

Starring: Fleabag: Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Claire: Sian Clifford, Godmother: Olivia Colman, Dad: Bill Paterson, Martin: Brett Gelman, Harry: Hugh Skinner, Bank Manager: Hugh Dennis.

Short synopsis

Angry, pervy, outrageous and hilarious Fleabag arrives with a bang, as she spins through the city grasping at anyone and anything that might keep her head above water.

Production details

Written by and starring Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Directors: Harry Bradbeer & Tim Kirkby, Executive Producers: Harry Williams, Jack Williams and Phoebe Waller-Bridge. *Fleabag* is a Two Brothers Pictures for BBC

Contact

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

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



Wednesday 21 February 8.30pm

ABC **iview**



Shaun Micallef's MAD AS HELL

In a move guaranteed to prompt a flurry of poorly worded questions at the next Senate Estimates Committee, Shaun Micallef's MAD AS HELL returns in 2018 for its own record-breaking eighth season. Like a frenzied ape running amok in a museum of priceless Tiffany lamps, the Mad As team cleverly deconstructs Australian politics in the hope that it can be rebuilt into something more useful, like a giant Lithium battery, a climate policy that makes sense or perhaps an ashtray. Stars Shaun Micallef, Roz Hammond, Emily Taheny, Stephen Hall, Tosh Greenslade and Francis Greenslade.

Short synopsis

A single unbroken shot of an orange rolling down the world's highest flight of steps at Mt. Niesen in Switzerland, set to the song 'Macho Man' by the Village People.

Production details

Produced by ITV Studios Australia and Giant Baby in association with ABC TV. Executive Producers: Peter Beck and Shaun Micallef. ABC Executive Producer: Tarni James.

Contact

Tracey Taylor on 03 8646 2313 / 0419 528 213 or taylor.tracey@abc.net.au

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



Squinters

Paul recounts to Romi that, at the Paralympics dinner he agreed to attend, Romi's wheelchair rugby playing friend got paralytic and ditched Paul for Grant Hackett. The two discuss how the night turned on an aspect of his genitalia. Later, Romi gets pissed at work drinks and role plays Brokeback Mountain, kissing Paul when he drops her home. Paul lovingly watches her sleep and confesses that he contrived the carpool to meet her. But did Romi know all along?

Career counselor Davis tries to convince Lukas to accept Kosciusko's offer of a redundancy but Lukas works out that the counselling is a strategy to hound him out of his job.

Ned suggests Macca help out at a soup kitchen to improve his mood after finding out his wife slept with his good mate, who also goes by the name Macca, as part of their open marriage arrangement, which she has accepted to Macca's horror (he thought it would get him out of the marriage altogether). Macca awkwardly hides his torment at his wife's sexual success, and sets new rules to exclude liaisons with friends and family.

Mia suggests Bridget teach Chloe the correct word for vagina rather than using infantilizing terms for genitalia. Garry's future with Bridget is threatened when he reveals his pet name for her nether regions is "lady garden".

Talia is surprised to discover that Kosciusko stocks and sells virgin hair worth \$24,000 a pop. Simoni reveals she doesn't trust anyone who hasn't dyed their hair. And somehow, she has gotten over her resentment of Talia's supervisor job, and found a new lease on life.

Short synopsis

Ned finds out his wife slept with his best mate, Romi kisses Paul, Lukas considers his redundancy offer, Simoni has gotten over her resentment of Talia's supervisor job and Garry's future with Bridget comes under threat.

Production details

A Jungle Entertainment Production for the ABC. Principal production investment from Screen Australia, in association with Create NSW. Created by Trent O'Donnell and Adam Zwar. Producer Chloe Rickard. Executive Producers Jason Burrows, Trent O'Donnell, Adam Zwar and Chloe Rickard. ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Andrew Gregory.

Contact

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



Thursday 22 February at 8.00pm



Call The Midwife

The phenomenally successful series starring Jenny Agutter, Helen George and Linda Bassett returns with more touching and compelling stories from the nurses and nuns of Nonnatus House.

During tonight's episode, Sister Ursula continues to reign with an iron fist, and the midwives at Nonnatus House struggle to toe the line – especially when she insists they must not be emotionally involved with their patients.

This unpopular new edict is immediately put to the test when new father George Marsh is badly burnt in an explosion at the docks and is unable to support his new family; and when expectant mother Penny Reed and her anxious husband Derek are brought to the attention of Nonnatus House.

Penny and Derek both have achondroplasia (colloquially known as Dwarfism) and problems with the pregnancy are anticipated, including their baby being stillborn or only living for a short time. As the midwives prepare the Reeds for an infant that may not live their unconditional devotion to one another and to their unborn child makes a deep impact, especially on Patsy, who is facing one of her toughest decisions yet.

Short synopsis

Sister Ursula continues to reign with an iron fist, and the midwives at Nonnatus House struggle to toe the line – especially when she insists they must not be emotionally involved with their patients.

Production details

Neal Street for BBC and PBS.

Contact

Amy Reiha on 02 83333852 or Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au

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



Death In Paradise

The president of the local cricket club is found shot dead in the middle of the pitch after a recent victory. Suspicion falls on his family and fellow players, but all of them have an alibi. JP thinks Dwayne is keeping something from him and wonders how well he knows his friend, and Humphrey dreads Martha's imminent departure from the island.

Stars Kris Marshall, Danny John-Jules, Josephine Jobert, Tobi Bakare.

Short synopsis

When Jerome Martin, president of the Saint Marie's local cricket club, is found shot dead in the middle of the cricket ground as the sun rises over the island, suspicion falls over his teammates.

Production details

Created by Robert Thorogood. Executive Producers: Tony Jordan and Tim Key. A Red Planet Pictures production for the BBC.

Contact

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



Comedy Next Gen

Comedy Next Gen showcases the next generation of stand-up comedians as they perform their latest live shows. The series features 13 comedians in their own special episode with an exclusive interview at the start of each episode.

Filmed over 13 separate nights, the best up-and-coming stand-up comedians perform their acts live at venues around Australia.

Short synopsis

Daniel Townes bangs out almost an hour of his classic jokes, with killer one-liners, razor-sharp social commentary, and dark, hilarious personal stories.

Production details

ABC TV Executive Producer, Nick Hayden. Series Producer: Lin Jie Kong. Associate Producer: Michele Esteves.

Contact

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

Marketing Contacts

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Kristine Way (LSL)	(02) 8333 3844 / 0419 969 282 Way.Kris@abc.net.au	
Safia van der Zwan	(02) 8333 3846 VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au	Hawke: The Larrikin and The Leader, Anh's Brush with Fame, Rake, Mystery Road, Invictus Games
Peri Wilson (Acting Publicity Lead & Communications Specialist - News and Current Affairs)	(02) 8333 2263 / 0409 888 866 Wilson.Peri@abc.net.au	ABC NEWS, 7.30, Four Corners, Foreign Correspondent, Media Watch, Q&A, Insiders, News Breakfast, The Drum, Offsiders, Behind the News, National Press Club, The Mix, The World, One Plus One, The Business, Australian Story, Best of Fresh Blood
Amy Reiha	Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au	Tonightly with Tom Ballard, Back Roads, The Checkout, The New Legends of Monkey, My Year 7 Life, Play School

Melbourne

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Yasmin Kentera	(03) 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au	Squinters, Think Tank, RIOT, Glitch, Rosehaven, War On Waste, Kiki and Kitty, Pine Gap, Don't Stop the Music, Monash
Tracey Taylor	(03) 9524 2313 / 0419 528 213 Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au	Shaun Micallef's Mad As Hell, Harrow, The Weekly, Hard Quiz, Back in Very Small Business
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Find publicity images and press kits for highlighted and ongoing programs at abc.net.au/tvpublicity

