

THE HEIGHTS Premieres Friday 22 February 8.30pm



WEEK 8 HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY 17 TO SATURDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2019



THE CRY Sunday 17 February 8.40pm



ROSEHAVEN Wednesday 20 February 8.30pm

★Top Pick

Friday 22 February 8.30pm

ABC + iVIEW



The Heights

The Heights is a groundbreaking serial about a community trying to protect its way of life, while under the constant threat of gentrification and the social stratification of its neighbourhood.

The “slice of life” drama explores the relationships, work lives and everyday challenges faced by six families living in the Arcadia social housing tower and the gentrifying inner-city district that surrounds it – Arcadia Heights. The series presents a medley of characters, cultures, classes and backgrounds from the ‘tower’ community, exploring their relationships, work lives and everyday challenges faced by its characters.

The impressive ensemble cast includes Marcus Graham (*Secret City*, *Cleverman*) and Shari Sebbens (*The Sapphires*, *Thor: Ragnarok*) and Roz Hammond (*Muriel’s Wedding*, *The Dish*, *Shaun Micallef’s Mad As Hell* and *Thank God You’re Here*).

In episode 1, The residents of Arcadia Towers are left reeling after an abandoned baby is discovered. Hazel is stunned when her estranged son Ryan returns from London. Leonie struggles with Mich’s desire to move in with his dad.

In episode 2, following Shannon being identified as the abandoned baby’s mother, Hazel and Ryan are desperate for answers. Sabine navigates her first day at Arcadia High. Sully invites Ash to dinner with Iris – with disastrous consequences.

Short synopsis

The Heights is an exciting new Australian serial drama about a community trying to protect its way of life, while under the constant threat of gentrification and the social stratification of its neighbourhood.

Production details

Produced by Matchbox Pictures and For Pete's Sake Productions for ABC and developed and produced with the assistance of ABC in association with Screenwest, Lotterywest and NBCUniversal.

Contact

Safia van der Zwan, 02 8333 3846, vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au

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

★ Top Pick

Sunday 17 February 7.40pm



The Magical Land of Oz

Across Australia, as the dawn rises the marsupials go to bed – except for the ones that don't – because there are exceptions to every rule in this land of ancient wonders, big skies and jewelled seas. Magic does not have rules. It has splendid dragons, saltwater monsters and dancing spiders.

MAGICAL LAND OF OZ offers a blue chip, continent wide series ranging from the land's highest snow peaks to the depths of the frigid and wild southern seas; from its last populations of wild numbats to its largest diorama of giant cuttlefish. It's a land of diverse beauty, that delights and surprises. The series both entertains and deepens our understanding of how the natural world is made up of not just unique species, but distinct individuals, whose lives are far from predictable.

Using the latest camera technology, we capture animal populations only recently discovered and behaviours not associated with species we thought we knew well. We meet animal characters so enigmatic, most Australians are unaware they share not just their island continent – but their own suburban backyards.

We reveal the challenges these animals must navigate in a land of extremes, and extreme human-induced change. To do this, we fill the screen with colour, dance, acrobatics, music, mating and murder – all performed by the animals which make Australia a truly magical land.

EPISODE TWO – LAND - Sunday 17 February at 7.40pm on ABC + iView

Australia is one of the most biodiverse of all landmasses – its landscapes spectacularly varied. The Australian 'bush' is a generic term but its landscape is anything but. In equal amounts it is lush and wet, arid and sharp, a perfumed expanse of dappled light. We move from the continent's snow-covered peaks to its ancient rainforests and tropical savannahs, discovering how it is that animals have learnt to thrive across the continent's harsh and beautiful extremes.

Short synopsis

We move from the continent's snow-covered peaks to its ancient rainforests and tropical savannahs to discover how it is that animals have learnt to thrive across the continent's harsh and beautiful extremes.

Production details

3 x 1hr natural history series for ABC, BBC, PBS and Screen Australia. Produced by Northern Pictures and Oxford Scientific Films. Narrated by Barry Humphries. Series Director: Tosca Looby. Executive Producer: Karina Holden.

Contact

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

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



The Cry

We flashback to Joanna and Alistair's journey from Melbourne to Wilde Bay on the day they arrived in Australia. We discover that Noah died in the car. Alistair convinces Joanna they should fake the child's abduction. His death was an accident – Joanna accidentally gave Noah a dose of Vicodin rather than Baby Calpol, but Alistair believes she will be charged with manslaughter and he will lose all hope of gaining custody of his daughter.

The pressure of maintaining the lie begins to tear them apart. The police investigation closes in on them. Joanna wants to tell the truth but Alistair convinces her otherwise. The couple appear on television, recounting the tragic story of their missing child.

Joanna discovers that Alistair has destroyed Noah's bib, the only thing she had left of him. She begins to realise she has succumbed to Alistair's manipulation for too long. She calls Kirsty and admits she killed her son but Kirsty thinks she's just punishing herself.

Alistair is unravelling. The pressure of the police investigation and Joanna's increasingly uncontrollable behaviour has rattled him. He burns Noah's bib and goes to the police station to find out what they know. In the garden back at Elizabeth's Joanna demands to know where Noah is buried. Joanna tells Dr Wallace she was betrayed. We flash forward to the courtroom. Joanna is on the stand. She is being tried for her husband's murder.

Short synopsis

As the police investigation ramps up, the pressure of maintaining the lie begins to tear Joanna and Alistair apart.

Production details:

Synchronicity Films Production for BBC One made in association with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Film Victoria and Creative Scotland. Produced by Brian Kaczynski for Synchronicity Films and Stuart Menzies for December Media. Executive Producers Claire Mundell for Synchronicity Films and BBC One Executive Producers Elizabeth Kilgarriff and Gaynor Holmes.

For previews or interview opportunities contact

Yasmin Kentera (03)8646 2629 / 0418 813 071, or Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au

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

★**Top Pick**

Wednesday 20 February 8.30pm



Rosehaven

Emma is at home, sick, and feeling very sorry for herself. Grace and Daniel go to check on her, but Daniel keeps his distance – after all, he doesn't want to get sick.

Daniel has an open home that day, but with Emma out of action and not able to help, Barbara is concerned it'll be too much for Daniel alone. He insists all will be fine. The house is lovely and there is a great turnout



for the open home. But when the owner returns they realise their rare fish is missing from the tank. Daniel promises to get it back.

Feeling alone and neglected, Emma shows up at the office with a 'friendship marriage' contract for Daniel. She has decided that he (or his kids) have to look after her until she's dead. Daniel isn't so sure.

Grace's medical research on the population of Rosehaven is coming along - she's hoping to find some results interesting enough to continue her study and stay in Rosehaven. But her results show there's nothing unique about the residents of Rosehaven. At all.

At a big town hall meeting, Grace announces the findings of her study to the residents, who are disappointed they're not unique, but still want answers. Who has the best bones? Who's got the highest vitamin D? They want to know. Grace gives in and embraces it – revealing the results via an impromptu award ceremony.

Finally Daniel acquiesces and signs a new version of the 'best friend' contract and gives it to Emma. But she doesn't need it anymore, she's off on a date with Farmer Dan...

Short synopsis

When Emma gets sick, it makes her question her life choices. Who will take care of her when she's old?

Production details

A What Horse? / Guesswork Television production presented by Screen Tasmania, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and SundanceTV. Created and Written by Celia Pacquola and Luke McGregor. Produced by Andrew Walker. Co-Producer Fiona McConaghy. Executive Producer Kevin Whyte. ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Brett Sleigh.

Contact

Yasmin Kentera (03)8646 2629 / 0418 813 071, or Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au

Sunday 17 February 9.40pm



Mrs Wilson

Golden Globe winning actress, Ruth Wilson stars in this powerful three-part drama, inspired by the memoir of her Grandmother Alison, about her family's history. After the sudden death of ex-SIS man Alexander, wife Alison investigates when mysteries from her late husband's past come knocking.

It's 1963, and Alison Wilson returns home to find husband Alexander dead. Soon afterwards, a woman unexpectedly arrives at the door, claiming to be Alec's 'real wife'. Alison embarks on a mission of discovery to try and find out who her husband really was; but from their wartime romance whilst working

for the secret service, to a mysterious period in India – it soon becomes clear that Alec died holding his secrets close to his chest. Alison is left craving the truth as she makes discoveries that threaten to tear her carefully crafted world apart.



In this episode Alison's search for answers sends her on a difficult journey, where she soon arrives at the door of a reluctant collaborator in her late husband's lies

All three episodes will be available on iview after the broadcast on episode 1 on Sun 10 Feb.

Short synopsis

Alison's search for answers sends her on a difficult journey, where she soon arrives at the door of a reluctant collaborator in her late husband's lies.

Production details

A Snowed-In Productions co-production for BBC and Masterpiece in association with all3media international.

Written by Anna Symon, directed by Richard Laxton, produced by Jackie Larkin, executive produced by Ruth Wilson, Ruth Kenley-Letts, Neil Blair, Lucy Richer for the BBC and Rebecca Eaton for Masterpiece.

Starring: Ruth Wilson (Alison Wilson), Iain Glen (Alexander Wilson), Anupam Ker (Shahbaz Karim), Keeley Hawes (Dorothy), Elizabeth Rider (Gladys), Fiona Shaw (Coleman).

Contact

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

Australian Story



Putting the "real" back into reality television, *Australian Story* returns for a brand new season in 2019. The award-winning documentary series with no narrator and no agendas — just authentic stories told entirely in people's own words. Take 30 minutes to immerse yourself in the life of an extraordinary Australian. It's television guaranteed to make you think and feel.

Short synopsis

Jack Thompson has been a legend of the Australian screen for 40 years. For many years, he's used his profile to help Indigenous people and champion their issues. Now, unexpectedly, as Jack faces a serious kidney condition, the Northern Territory's Indigenous community is helping him, by lending him their mobile kidney dialysis unit, The Purple Truck, enabling him to carry on his acting work.

Production details

EP, Caitlin Shea.

Contact

Jillian Reeves on 02 8333 3969 or reeves.jillian@abc.net.au

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



Catalyst

Catalyst brings together 15 ordinary Australians to take part in a revealing scientific experiment - to see if practicing mindfulness can help treat conditions like chronic pain, anxiety and stress that affect millions of us.

Across the world, mindfulness has become a multi billion dollar industry, but what is the truth about the claims being made for it? Has it become the latest well-being fad?

In the Truth About Mindfulness, a team of researchers from the University of Melbourne track the progress of the course participants and investigate whether mindfulness has any measurable effects on the body and brain.

The program also looks at the effectiveness of mindfulness through the eyes of our participants themselves. From the army veteran with chronic pain to the overworked architect on the verge of a nervous breakdown, can mindfulness have an impact on their quality of life, offering them an alternative to a lifetime of pills or therapy?

Short synopsis

Catalyst brings together 15 ordinary Australians to take part in a revealing scientific experiment - to see if practicing mindfulness can help treat conditions like chronic pain, anxiety and stress that affect millions of us.

Production details

ABC A/Head of Specialist, Richard Buckham. Manager Science, Aidan Lavery.

Contact

Jillian Reeves on 02 8333 3969 or reeves.jillian@abc.net.au

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

Hard Quiz

In 2018, Wednesday night became Hard Quiz night as over a million Australians sat down each week to watch a parade of self-appointed experts take on Australia's grumpiest TV host, Tom Gleeson.

Now Tom is sharpening his wit for another season of Australia's greatest-ever quiz show, and an army of nerds and obsessives are queuing up to face him. Only those who can answer the brain-teasers and the insults will hoist the coveted Big Brass Mug™!

Don't miss a moment of the next instalment of Hard Quiz!

Short synopsis

Tom Gleeson is sharpening his wit and an army of nerds and obsessives are queuing up to face him. Only those who can answer the brain-teasers and the insults will hoist the coveted Big Brass Mug™

Production details

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

Contact

Tracey Taylor 03 8646 2313 or taylor.tracey@abc.net.au



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



Get Krack!n

It's Get Krack!n's one-day-of-the-year thirty-minute 'International Day of People Living with a Disability' special and The Kates are determined to put disabled people front and centre. They claim to have done everything they possibly could to make their show more accessible; they've covered every square inch of their set in disability symbols to raise awareness about...disability symbols; they've hired an Auslan interpreter and installed a box of easy grip cutlery should anyone have an appetite for a pre-dawn meal.

They've also jam-packed the running order with a line-up of wonderful disabled talent. The Kates chat to a wellness kracksper who suffers from a chronic illness; a woman who McLennan & McCartney have never met but nonetheless deign to be a worthy recipient of their inaugural 'Most Inspirink Person Award'; and a wheelchair racing Paralympian who is sure to make for a great interviewee should she be able to access the Get Krack!n set.

But when The Kates' make a series of ableist blunders their ally reputation is called into question online. The hosts are therefore left with no choice but to drag McCartney's new P.A., Matthew, onto the set to help reinstate their gold-star able-bodied ally reputation. However, The Kates' misguided attempts at inclusivity are quickly usurped by an announcement out of Parliament, where everyone is presented with news that deeply effects McCartney's P.A., Matthew almost as badly as McLennan is deeply affected by not having her own P.A.

Short synopsis

It's the one day of the year that Get Krack!n puts the focus on disability. But The Kates' ill-advised attempts at putting disabled people front and centre are gazumped by an announcement out of Parliament House.

Production details

A Katering Productions and Guesswork Television production for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Principal production investment from ABC in association with Screen Australia. Financed with support from Film Victoria. Created and Written by Kate McCartney and Kate McLennan. Directed by Hayden Guppy, and Kate McCartney and Kate McLennan. Produced by Tamasin Simpkin. Co-Producer Antje Kulpe. Executive Producers Kevin Whyte, Kate McCartney and Kate McLennan. ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Brett Sleigh.

Contact

Tracey Taylor on (03) 8646 2313 or taylor.tracey@abc.net.au

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

Series Premiere

Wednesday 20 February 9.40pm

**COMEDY
+ iVIEW**



Sick Of It

Karl Pilkington, star of ratings hits *The Moaning of Life* and *An Idiot Abroad*, is back in his own scripted comedy.

Karl Pilkington has always seen the world in a different way. Now he stars in a unique comedy that serves up a double helping of Karl Pilkington – with Karl playing himself as well as the grumpy voice inside his head who appears as a doppelgänger only he can see.

Sick of It follows Karl after he loses his long-term girlfriend and finds himself living with his elderly American Auntie and working as a taxi driver. As Karl struggles to move on, get his life in order, and start dating again, the voice inside his head pops up to annoy him when he's stressed, to criticise him when he messes up, and to dispense witty philosophy.

Who should Karl listen to? The irritable voice inside his head, his ballsy American Aunt Norma, or the other people he comes across? Perhaps he should just keep to himself. As Karl says, people are much less annoying when you don't know them.

Sick of It captures what it's like to be inside Karl's head and is packed with his trademark witticisms, philosophy, and observations about the world, with equal measures of daftness, physical comedy and pathos.

Short synopsis

Down-on-his-luck taxi driver Karl (Karl Pilkington) moves in with his auntie Norma after a break up. As he muddles through life, his closest friend is the uncensored voice in his head - a version of him who will not shut up.

Contact

Safia van der Zwan, 02 8333 3846, vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au

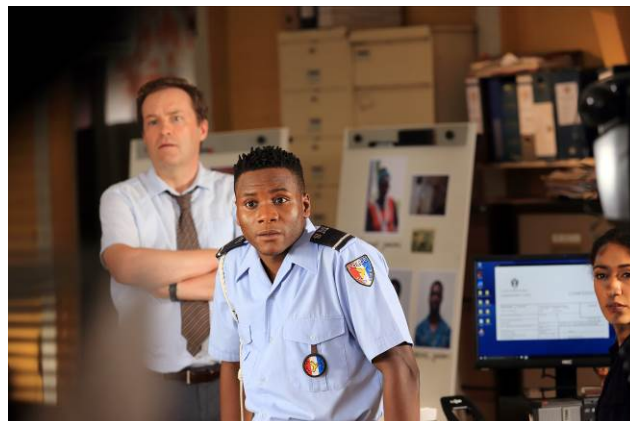
For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).

Saturday 23 February 7.30pm



Death In Paradise

DI Jack Mooney (Ardal O’hanlon) is settling into the sun-soaked idyll of Saint Marie and beginning to make the beach shack his home. But when his daughter Siobhan (Grace Stone) decides to leave for university, he finds himself living alone for the first time. Luckily, he has his team to support him as he faces some fiendishly taxing cases.



Jack’s laconic style belies a sharp mind and relentless determination. He’s a brilliant detective, but he’ll need all his instinctive genius to solve the mysterious murders ahead: a champion poker player apparently poisoned at the table in front of an astonished audience: a novelist murdered in a plot more surprising than anything he’s ever written: and a spiritual leader strangled at a time when all the suspects were each other’s alibis. Jack needs to solve these seemingly impossible mysteries if he’s to impress Commissioner Selwyn (Don Warrington) and make his mark on the island.

And it’s not just Jack who has challenges to face, as injury strikes DS Florence Cassel (Joséphine Jobert); JP (Tobi Bakare) confronts a face from his past; Commissioner Selwyn is forced to reopen a case that’s close to home; and Dwayne (Danny John-Jules) finds himself out of his depth – and in love.

In Episode Four, Jack finds himself embroiled in the mysterious world of faith healing when a woman is poisoned during a ceremony and all evidence points to the arrogant healer himself.

Short Synopsis

Jack finds himself embroiled in the mysterious world of faith healing when a woman is poisoned during a ceremony and all evidence points to the arrogant healer himself.

Production details

Created by Robert Thorogood; Executive Producers: Tony Jordan and Tim Key; A Red Planet Pictures production for the BBC. Produced with the support of the Guadeloupe Regional Council

Contact

Mary Fraser on 02 8333 3848 or fraser.mary@abc.net.au

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



Agatha Raisin

The Curious Curate Part 1

Carsely is buzzing with excitement at the arrival of hot new curate, Tristan Delon. Temporarily taking the place of Jez whilst he's away, the church pews are suddenly packed to the rafters with adoring fans. However, one villager who is definitely not joining the fan club is Sarah Bloxby, appalled at the way Tristan has turned her husband's beloved church into a pop concert.

Desperate to win her over, the ever charming Tristan invites Sarah to dinner at his lodgings that evening... but little does he know this would in fact be his last supper as Sarah is shocked to find him murdered the very next morning— and in her own vicarage!

As Sarah becomes a possible suspect, the gang rally around her and begin to work on narrowing down the list, until an unintentionally bad steer to the police from Agatha leads to a local villager becoming the next victim. Will Agatha's guilt be enough to make her drop investigating forever?

Short synopsis

There's a dishy new church curate in town, but all is not angelic in sweet happy Carsely as murder rips through the heart of the village. Will all of Agatha's friends be safe and could one have been driven to murder?

Production details

Acorn Productions Ltd - United Kingdom

Contact

Mary Fraser on 02 8333 3848 or fraser.mary@abc.net.au

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

Marketing Contacts

Sydney

Peri Wilson
**Marketing and
Communications
Lead**

(02) 8333 2263 / 0409 888 866
Wilson.Peri@abc.net.au

Amy Reiha

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

Magical Land of Oz, Escape From The City, Bluey, Play School, Doctor Who, Nowhere Boys: Battle for Negative Space, Mustangs FC

Bridget Stenhouse

(02) 8333 3847 / 0466 541 642
Stenhouse.Bridget@abc.net.au

Mrs Wilson, Aftermath: Beyond Black Saturday, Mrs Wilson, Employable Me 2, Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds, Love on the Spectrum, You Can't Ask That.

Jillian Reeves

(02) 8333 3969 / 0419 892 379
Reeves.Jillian@abc.net.au

Q&A, Foreign Correspondent, The Great Australian Bee Challenge, Catalyst, China Love, The Drum, Australian Story, Don't Stop the Music, ABC NEWS, 7.30, Four Corners, Media Watch, Insiders, Offsiders, News Breakfast, Behind the News, National Press Club, The Mix, The World, One Plus One, The Business, China Love, Catalyst

Safia van der Zwan

(02) 8333 3846
VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au

Anh's Brush with Fame, Unravel True Crime, The Heights, The Good Place

Melbourne

Kim Bassett

(03) 8646 2580 / 0409 600 456
Bassett.Kim@abc.net.au

Australian Of The Year, Australia Day Live 2019, Back Roads, Gardening Australia, Grand Designs, Grand Designs Australia, Grand Designs New Zealand

Yasmin Kentera

(03) 8646 2629 / 0418 813 071
Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au

The Cry, Rosehaven, New Year's Eve, War on Waste: The Battle Continues, Spicks and Specks Reunion Special

Tracey Taylor

(03) 8646 2313 / 0419 528 213
Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au

Get Krack!n, Hard Quiz, Shaun Micallef's Mad as Hell, The Weekly With Charlie Pickering

**Programming
Enquiries:**

Tania Caggegi
(ABC & ABC NEWS)
(02) 8333 4633

Matthew Vieira
(ABC KIDS, ABC COMEDY, ABC ME)
(02) 8333 1167

Media Portal:

Mary Fraser

(02) 8333 3848

Death in Paradise, Agatha Raisin

Find publicity images and press kits for highlighted and ongoing programs at abc.net.au/tvpublicity