

ABC HIGHLIGHTS



ANH'S BRUSH WITH FAME

Series Premiere Wednesday 18 July 8.00pm



JACK IRISH

Sunday 15 July 8.30pm



YOU CAN'T ASK THAT

Wednesday 18 July 9.00pm

SUN 15 JULY TO SAT 21 JULY 2018

WEEK 29



Jack Irish

Looking into Eddie's (George Zhao) calendar, Jack (Guy Pearce) discovers that Lakshmi (Rubi Balasingam) was seeing a psychiatrist, Dr Rory Finch (Danielle Cormack). She and Jack have instant chemistry, but she refuses to tell him anything that may break doctor/patient confidentiality and Jack notes a wedding ring on her finger. Rory looks into the details of Lakshmi's autopsy and finds out the body was shipped back to India. When Jack discovers that Lakshmi's father, Ajeet (Sachin Joab), is in Melbourne to find out what happened to his daughter's remains, he realises Lakshmi's body never made it home to India. As he considers this, Jack springs a burglar in his courtyard, only to realise that it's Charlie Taub's granddaughter, Gus (Tiarnie Coupland). Suspecting that she may be struggling, Jack tells her she's welcome to stay any time, an offer met with derision from the damaged teenager.

Jack receives a cryptic message that tells him to meet at a restaurant later that day. Cautious, Jack enlists the help of hapless hitman, Brendan O'Grady (Bob Franklin), as back up. When Jack shows up at the restaurant, Brendan isn't there and Jack is joined by a man who has clearly been sleeping rough. He refuses to tell Jack anything until he's sure that Jack isn't working for 'them' – but before he can tell Jack anything, he's shot in the back of the head by an unseen drive-by gunman. Homicide detective Barry Tregear (Shane Jacobson) attends the crime scene and informs Jack that the murder victim is off the grid; a man with no known identity.

With Harry's (Roy Billing) wife having lost all their money in a bad investment deal, Harry is elated to return to the track to win it back. He and Cam (Aaron Pedersen) are eager to make their mark on the first race but when the favourite is disqualified after testing positive in a random drug test Harry is immediately suspicious. Cherry Blossom (Ivy Mak) battles with the Fitzroy Youth Club against the changes she's making, but Stan (Damien Garvey) is left horrified after Immigration show up and deport Cherry back to China, claiming their marriage is a sham.

Jack visits Meritus' migration agent, Denis Bontempelli (David James), who admits that a group of students were deported the day after Lakshmi died. One of them who escaped Immigration – Javed Nazeem (Malith Jay) – has recently been arrested and placed in detention after an attempted terrorist attack at a corporate building in Doncaster. But, to Jack's surprise, Eddie Chin wasn't on the list of those to be deported. Jack pokes around at Immigration, but they give him nothing. On his way home, he's grabbed in the street, shoved in the boot of a car and abandoned in the middle of nowhere. A clear warning. Meanwhile, in detention, Javed Nazeem is in a near catatonic state. The guard lets in a visitor to see him... Dr Rory Finch.

Short synopsis

As Jack Irish investigates Eddie's and Lakshmi's deaths, he delves deeper into the murky world of international colleges. CAST: Guy Pearce.

Production details

Written by Andrew Knight, Matt Cameron, Andrew Anastasios and Elise McCredie. Directed by Mark Joffe, Kriv Stenders and Fiona Banks. Inspired by the Jack Irish novels by Peter Temple, an Easy Tiger Production for ABC in association with Film Victoria, produced by Ian Collie, Andrew Knight and Matt Cameron.

Contact

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



Anh's Brush with Fame

Beloved comedian, author, and artist Anh Do returns to capture a new line-up of extraordinary personalities, combining his passion for painting with his love of conversation, hearing all about his guest's history while capturing them on canvas.

Terri Irwin has raised her children through public grief after the death of her husband, Crocodile Hunter Steve Irwin. She speaks to Anh Do who hopes to capture her dignity and her drive as she continues Steve's legacy in wildlife conservation.

Short synopsis

Beloved comedian, author and artist Anh Do returns to his painting studio with nine prominent high-profile personalities for the third series of *Anh's Brush With Fame*. He captures not only their likeness, but their spirit.

Production details

Screentime Australia for ABC.

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



You Can't Ask That

Do you want to kill me? Aren't you just a fame whore? Where do you hide your dick? What's it like watching the love of your life get pounded? How much did you lie? What batshit crazy things did they make you do? Has it completely ruined your life? are just a few of the tough questions being asked in series 3 of **You Can't Ask That**.

This proudly homegrown ABC original format, puts misunderstood and marginalised Australians front and centre. The series confronts prejudice and discrimination by offering searing insights into the lives of diverse Australians who live in judgement. By asking only the hard questions and allowing interviewees to answer in their own words with conviction, candour, fervour and humour, the series adds new voices and fresh perspectives to subjects often dismissed.

You Can't Ask That series 3, will feature the first-person voices of survivors of sexual assault, ex-reality TV stars, former cult members, people with eating disorders, swingers, people living with schizophrenia, drag performers and priests. The series shines a light into all corners of Australian culture and identity, uncovering unique perspectives rarely heard with such honesty or clarity.

This episode of **You Can't Ask That**, asks if the idea of fame and fortune is all it's cracked up to be. Eight ex-reality TV stars tell all about what's it's like to jump head first into the world of reality TV and come out the other side. We think we know these people, but never before have they spoken about their experience with such honesty, reflection and awareness. This is the real reality of reality TV.

Short synopsis

Is the idea of fame and fortune all it's cracked up to be? Ex-reality TV stars tell all about what's it's like to jump head first into the world of reality TV and come out the other side. This is the reality of reality TV.

Production details

You Can't Ask That is an ABC Production. The series was produced and directed by Kirk Docker and Aaron Smith. ABC Executive Producer, Lou Porter.

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

Deadlock

Deadlock, a 5 x 12-minute high-octane series, explores the incredible highs, lows, joys, heartbreak, camaraderie, laughs and bittersweet sorrow that makes up a teenager's life.

A clandestine 'tunnel party' in the depths of the hinterland draws kids from all over the area with the usual fare of sex, drugs and thumping music, but mostly with the lure of a spectacular stunt – that then goes awesomely awry.



As fire spreads through the bush, cops descend, and teens flee onto the dark roads in panic, the crash that follows becomes the transformative event that drives the main characters and the mystery of the show. The crash is an end point for some and a catalyst for others, forging new alliances and triggering events that transform their lives and the idyllic town.

Each of the five episodes explores a pivotal change for the lead characters – Sadie's (Luca Sardelis) tough decision to leave her home town and her mother's crazy antics in a bid for freedom in the city; Laila's (Bijou Gracie Henry) ridiculous plan to fabricate her best friend's pregnancy in a prank that backfires horribly; Aero's (Thomas Weatherall) elaborate cover-up of his involvement in the crash to preserve the 'indigenous success story' of his life; Zai's (Amit Pala) determination to protect his secret sexuality from a traditional family determined to invade his privacy on every level; and Jed's (Michael Philippou) absurd attempts at denial and his fitful metamorphosis into an individual.

As one character's journey weaves into the next, passing the baton on, the unfolding mystery of the crash is resolved. The night of the accident will become the touchstone for each episode - a vignette of experience that will introduce us to our next 'hero character', reveal a new perspective and offer up another piece of the ongoing puzzle.

Starring YouTube sensations Michael Philippou and Danny Philippou (aka RackaRacka), Luca Sardelis (*Nowhere Boys*) and Darcy McGrath (*My Place*), **Deadlock** also features exciting young talent from across the Northern Rivers region – including Bijou Gracie Henry, Audrey Spence, Paddy Swaine, Theodore Bourgoin, Sophie Wright and Ned Sacks.

Short synopsis

Ep 1

Sadie is offered the chance to realise her dreams, but it means leaving home & everything she knows. She's determined to chase the freedom she's yearning until a fire leads to mass panic & a car crash that changes everything.

Production details

Produced by Every Cloud Productions in association with Screen Australia, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Create NSW and Film Victoria. Producer: Belinda Mravivic, Executive Producers: Fiona Eagger and Deb Cox. Writer and Director: Billie Pleffer. Mentor Director: Tony Tilse. ABC Executive Producers: Sally Riley and Que Minh Luu.

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



Teenage Boss

Hosted by Australia's star mathematics teacher, Eddie Woo, *Teenage Boss* follows fifteen teenagers from across Australia taking control of the family finances for a month, with some surprising (or perhaps not so surprising) results.

Under Eddie's mentorship, tough life lessons are learnt as we follow the teenagers through the ups, downs, fun and fear of the real world financial challenges their parents have to face every day - but that they'll only be experiencing for the first time.

Provoking hilarious discussions between the teens and their families around financial priorities, the 15 *Teenage Bosses* learn valuable lessons about financial responsibility, planning and the art of negotiating an allowance during this observational documentary series.

Episode four: Susan: Sunday July 15 at 6.25pm on ABC ME

With a massive party for her mum's birthday to pay for as part of her monthly expenses, can fifteen-year-old Susan still save enough money for the awesome headphones she dreams of buying?

Short synopsis

With a massive party for her mum's birthday to pay for as part of her monthly expenses, can fifteen-year-old Susan still save enough money for the awesome headphones she dreams of buying?

Production details

15 x 26mins. A McAvoy Media production for the ABC in association with Screen Australia and Create NSW. John McAvoy (*Kings Cross ER*) and Simon Steel (*Outback Coroner*) are the executive producers for McAvoy Media, with Matt Tomaszewski (*Great White Matrix*) as executive producer/director.

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

F*!#ing Adelaide

Adelaide is a place Eli (Brendan Maclean) said he'd only return to for Christmases and funerals. But now, at twenty-eight, his auto-tuned show at a Sydney pub draws crowds he can count on one hand, and his recently ex-boyfriend has kicked him out of the apartment.

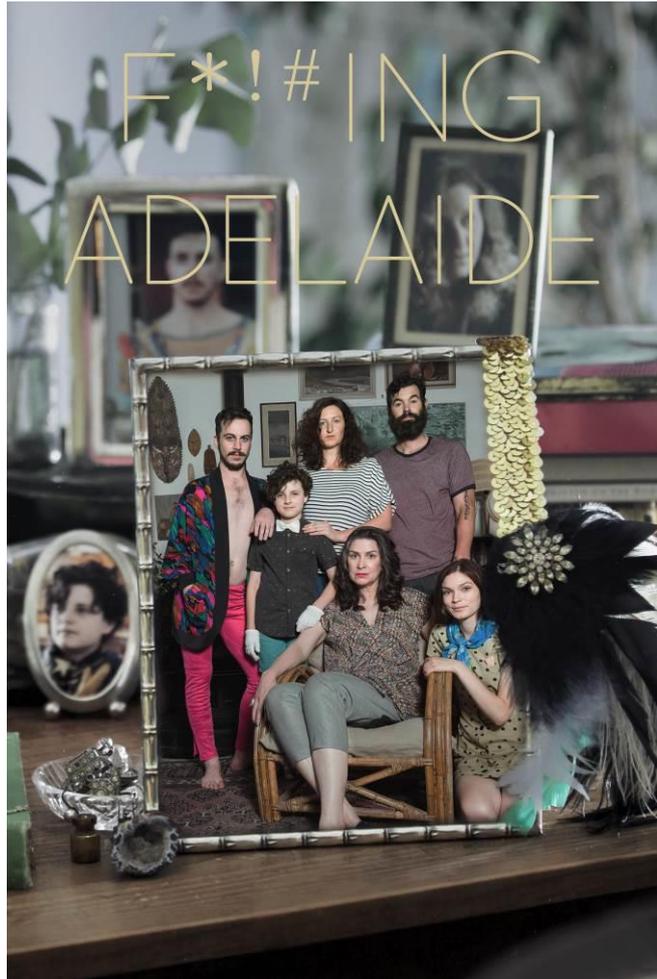
So when his mother Maude (Pamela Rabe) asks him back to help clean up their family home, Eli finds himself on a plane back to 'f!#king' Adelaide hoping to score a bed to sleep. Unfortunately, the house is full as his big sister has returned with her family and he's stuck on the couch. When Maude reveals she's selling their home, the family is shocked, confused, and demanding answers.

Eli's younger, breathtakingly optimistic sister Kitty (Tilda Cobham-Hervey) still lives at home, and secretly cherishes a box of belongings of the father she never really knew, that her siblings just want to burn. And while her sunny cup cake-loving outlook maintains her position as the baby, in reality she's a struggling art student who obsessively seeks anonymous sex in public, and who is beginning to realise that maybe it's time to move out before her vengeful siblings torch all of her dad's shit.

Eldest sister Emma (Kate Box), from Maude's previous marriage, left home young, and is now a successful CEO of a non-profit in Thailand. She's come home to try to save her childhood from what she thought was a vigorous spring clean, but it may be the end of a home she's always counted on. She's organised and ruthless in her efficiency in helping Maude pack up decades of a life lived, but the two can't be in the same room together without arguing - and neither of them are ready to face what that's really about.

Maude, however, is harbouring a secret: when it's revealed that she never actually divorced Kitty and Eli's abusive father, the long absent Geoff (Geoff Morrel), Emma is galvanised to help her mother, which means staying in Adelaide a bit longer than planned.

Emma's family has returned with her, so Toby (Beau Travis Williams), her partner and father to their ten-year-old child, Cleo (Audrey Mason-Hyde), are stuck here too. Toby has spent an itinerant life with Emma, happy to support the important work. Now that they're here though, Toby thinks this might be a place he can call home, news that comes as a shock to the driven Emma. And while this is Maude's chance to be finally rid of her bastard husband once and for all, the kids' singular focus on getting what they want brings the volatile Geoff storming back into their lives.



As for young Cleo, she just wants to put on a magic show and figure out why everyone keeps confusing her for a boy. When Maude and Cleo have one last ditch attempt at a performance they are interrupted by an uninvited audience member and Cleo's attempts at the perfect costume and perfect magic trick brings unimagined consequences for her grandmother and family.

A deeply intimate riff on how f#!ked (and glorious) it can be to return home, we experience each episode of this six part comedy-drama through a different lens. Each episode unfurls the chronological story of the dismantling of a home with a dark past but is told from the distinct point-of-view of a different character, illuminating the funny story of this heart-breaking family reunion.

The complete series is available anytime on iview.

Short synopsis

A comedy drama told from six different perspectives of a family who reunite in Adelaide when mum plans to sell the family home. Any sense of togetherness quickly crumbles to reveal how fucked and glorious it is to be home.

Production details

An ABC Comedy drama; Produced by Rebecca Summerton, Sophie Hyde and Bryan Mason; Created by Sophie Hyde; Story by Matthew Cormack and Sophie Hyde
Screenplay by Matthew Cormack; Ep 4 by Matt Vesely; Directed by Sophie Hyde.

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



Back Roads

Heather Ewart visits Robinvale in far northern Victoria, right on the border of New South Wales. The town was named after a local soldier, Lieutenant George 'Robin' Cuttle, who was killed at the Somme during the First World War, near the town of Villers-Bretonneux in France.

After the first and second world wars, the government of the day parceled out blocks of Crown land to returned soldiers. The rich soil and then-plentiful water led to a landscape of thriving citrus orchards, vineyards and almond groves.

The area has drawn a workforce from right around the world. There are more than 20 different cultural groups and nationalities represented in the town – speaking more than 16 languages other than English. Settlers both old and new make the town what it is today.

Heather meets Leon Johnson, the assistant coach at the Football Netball Club and he also heads the Clontarf Project at the school. Its aim is to keep Indigenous boys in school. The project's having real success, with an increase in local boys gaining their VCE.

Like many people in Robinvale, Akesa Kea's family came from Tonga. Akesa was quite often in trouble at school before her life turned around after being inspired by a Tongan community leader, and now Akesa has become something of a role model herself. After studying sport management and business at university, she's now creating weekly rugby league training sessions for Pacific Islanders through her job as an official game development officer.

Jack Forbes is the only remaining soldier settler in Robinvale. After the Second World War, 246 'blockies' were allocated land in Robinvale. The blocks are gone now, swallowed up by big enterprises, and there's only one 'blockie' couple still alive – Jack and his wife Val.

When Jack and Val arrived at their property, there was a tin shed in the middle of a wheat paddock. "We were given a shovel and a waterbag," says Jack. "We all considered ourselves to have won Tattsлото, because that's what it was."

Short synopsis

Heather Ewart visits Robinvale, in Victoria, which was named after a local soldier, Lieutenant George 'Robin' Cuttle, who was killed at the Somme during the First World War, near the town of Villers-Bretonneux in France.

Production details

Production credits: *Back Roads* is the flagship series of the ABC Regional and Local Division. Executive Producer, Brigid Donovan. Series Producer Louise Turley. Supervising Producer, Kerri Ritchie. Field Producers, Lisa Whitehead, Gerri Williams and Damian Estall.

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Everyone's A Critic

The critics visit Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA). Sitting on the edge of Circular Quay, the MCA was established in 1991 with the aim of connecting the Australian public with ground-breaking contemporary art.

Adorning the MCA's entry hall is the 15-metre-long mural by Khadim Ali, titled the *The Arrival of Demons* (2017). This is the first artwork our critics deconstruct today. The next artwork visited is *Monument #28: Vortex* (2003) by Callum Morton. Morton's pieces often comment on the ways in which we live with each other and interact with our environment. The critics are shocked when they walk into the room housing this installation: it's confronting, and they struggle to interpret its intention.

Untitled '*Clock*' (2014) is by Stuart Ringholt. Stuart Ringholt specialises in works that push the audience outside their comfort zone. At first, this piece doesn't interest many of the critics, but as they begin to contemplate the thought behind it, there's a new appreciation. Next the critics take in *Manuhiri (Travellers)* (2014-2015) by Fiona Hall. Hall has achieved international renown for her works created through bricolage, the practice of collecting and collating found objects into a work of art. The critics like this, and as they notice the likeness of the wood to animals, their appreciation of the work grows. Lastly, the critics take in *The Craftiest of Eyes (borrowed dress)* (1994) by Sally Smart. Like many of her works, this is a collage, comprised of paint, scraps of newspaper, fabric, and inkblots. With this work, she challenges audiences to examine their everchanging identities, provoking discussion amongst the critics.

Short synopsis

The critics visit Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art. Sitting on the edge of Circular Quay, the MCA was established in 1991. The critics view works by Khadim Ali, Callum Morton, Stuart Ringholt, Fiona Hall and Sally Smart.

Production details

Narrated by Kat Stewart. Series Producer/Director: Nick McNerney. Executive Producer: Kylie Washington. ABC Production Executives: Richard Huddleston and Michelle Frampton. ABC Head of Entertainment: Debbie Cuell. ABC Head of Non-Scripted Production: Josie Mason-Campbell. Developed and produced in association with ABC and Film Victoria. Matchbox Productions Pty Ltd.

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



Shakespeare & Hathaway

It's a slow day in the office for Frank (Mark Benton) and Lu (Jo Joyner) until a hysterical Sally Balthasar (Morgana Robinson) flies into the office in a whirlwind of tears.

Sally's in town staging her new adaptation of Romeo and Juliet, but someone's left a menacing message on her hotel room window. She insists Frank and Lu have to help her as she simply cannot perform under these conditions.

The gang immediately get to work, but then someone attempts to poison Sally during the preview performance. Looking around the cast it's not hard to find someone with a bone to pick with Sally: from the frustrated director, Roman (Ramon Tikaram), to the quietly seething understudy, Belle (Gemma Lawrence), Sally has been in ruffling a few feathers whilst staging her masterpiece.

With opening night fast approaching Frank and Lu must uncover the would-be killer, before they get a chance to strike again...

Short synopsis

Frank and Lu investigate death threats made against a former soap star who's about to stage her return to the limelight. CAST: Mark Benton, Jo Joyner.

Production details

A BBC Studios Production; Ep 7 – written by Jeff Povey; Series story consultants Paul Matthew Thompson and Jude Tindall; Series Producer is Ella Kelly.

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

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Kristine Way	(02) 8333 3844 / 0419 969 282 Way.Kris@abc.net.au	Wentworth, Gruen, Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery, Agatha Christie's Ordeal by Innocence, Shakespeare & Hathaway, Miriam's Big American Adventure
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