

Friday ON MY MIND



Week 48 Highlights

Sunday 26 November to Saturday 2 December 2017



 **Friday On My Mind**
Sunday 26 November 8:40pm

#ourABC



 **Making Muriel**
Sunday 26 November 7:40pm



 **Junior Eurovision Song Contest**
Monday 27 November 7:30pm



 **Back Roads**
Monday 27 November 8:00pm



Friday On My Mind

In 1964 when five young newly arrived immigrants met in a Sydney migrant hostel and formed a garage band, little did they know that they would take Australian rock'n'roll to the world. This is the story of The Easybeats.

George Young (William Rush) and Johannes Van Den Berg aka Harry Vanda (Mackenzie Fearnley) find kinship in modern music with fellow migrants Stephen Wright (Christian Byers) and Dingeman Van Der Sluys aka Dick Diamonde (Du Toit Bredenkamp) in the knockabout world of Sydney's Villawood Migrant Hostel. Determined to create their own band, the boys unite with Gordon 'Snowy' Fleet (Arthur McBain), who comes on board as their drummer and form The Easybeats.

The young guys break into the Sydney music scene and gain the attention of budding band manager Mike Vaughan (Alex Williams) and the entrepreneurial music publisher Ted Albert (Ashley Zukerman). Under Ted's stewardship the boys record their first smash hit songs, including Friday On My Mind, and they soon find themselves catapulted to phenomenal Australia-wide success. 'Easy-Fever' takes Australia by storm.

Friday On My Mind is more than a classic rags-to-riches tale. It is a story of identity, re-invention and belonging with a powerful contemporary relevance.

Short synopsis

In 1964 when five young newly arrived immigrants met in a Sydney migrant hostel and formed a garage band, little did they know that they would take Australian rock'n'roll to the world. This is the story of The Easybeats.

Production details

A Playmaker production

Contact

Safia van der Zwan on 0283333846 or vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au

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



Making Muriel

Making Muriel will give audiences exclusive behind the scenes access as P.J. Hogan adapts his iconic film *Muriel's Wedding* into a stage musical, produced by Sydney Theatre Company and Global Creatures (*Strictly Ballroom The Musical*, *King Kong The Musical*). The documentary examines the enduring popularity of *Muriel's Wedding*, the origins of the story and its characters. It explores how, 23 years after the film was a surprise box office hit, the uniquely Australian protagonist Muriel Heslop can be reinterpreted for the stage. Featuring never seen before archival elements, *Making Muriel* will chronicle the full creative process right up until the world premiere of the musical at the Roslyn Packer Theatre in Sydney.

Short synopsis

Making Muriel gives audiences exclusive behind the scenes access as P.J. Hogan adapts his iconic film, *Muriel's Wedding*, into a stage musical for Sydney Theatre Company, 23 years after the film was a surprise box office hit.

Production details

An In Film Production

Contact

Safia van der Zwan on 0283333846 or vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au

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

★**Top Pick**

Monday 27 November 7.30pm



Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Australia's Isabella Clarke, 13, is set to shine bright as she takes the stage to perform 'Speak Up', her modern pop anthem, at this year's Junior Eurovision Song Contest, held on Sunday 26 November. at the Tbilisi Sports Palace, Georgia.

ABC ME's broadcast of this incredible event will be hosted by Grace Koh, Pip Rasmussen and Tim Matthews. They'll take you through all the action from the event, including the performance of our very own Isabella Clarke, and the 15 performances from the other countries competing.

Adding to the excitement of this year's event, for the first time Australians will be able to vote online for their favourite JESC 2017 performer. ABC ME is calling on all Australians to get behind JESC 2017 and celebrate not only Isabella, but all of the young performers competing. Information on how to vote will be available shortly on the ABC ME website.

ABC ME's New To Me will air special JESC features leading up to the big event, include: a countdown from four weeks out, and 'get to know' Isabella profile pieces. In the week before JESC, Grace Koh will report on all the exciting action happening in Tbilisi.

Short synopsis

Join ABC ME's Grace Koh, Pip Rasmussen and Tim Matthews as they take you through all the action from this incredible event, including the performance of our very own Isabella Clarke.

Production details

An ABC Children's and Blink TV production

Contact

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

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

★Top Pick

Monday 27 November 8.00pm



Back Roads

Now in its third series, **Back Roads** returns to ABC TV introducing viewers to more of Australia's most interesting and resilient communities. These are towns full of colourful characters whose grit and good humour will uplift and inspire. In this nine-part series award winning journalist Heather Ewart uncovers more wonderful communities defined by their strength and humility. These Australians are as awe-inspiring as the landscape that surrounds them.

"They're proud communities like my hometown, full of surprises, fight and spirit", says Heather.

This series you'll meet 34-year-old Hunter McLeod, a former Melbourne commercial radio DJ turned pilot, who lives and flies in one of this country's most remote areas, South Australia's Oodnadatta track.

You'll meet best friends Doug Sheather and 'Snags' McKimmie, old 'bushies' from the foothills of the high country around Corryong in Victoria. Doug's bachelor shack is basic to say the least - with a view to die for. These cattlemen are as authentic as the whips they hand-braid.

And there's also Wayne Quach. He loves mangoes so much he left his life as a successful software developer in Arizona, in the USA, and moved to Pine Creek in the Northern Territory to become a mango farmer. The former Vietnamese refugee now runs 12 mango farms, and has recruited his son Robert from the US to help out.

Back Roads highlights the significance of place and how it inspires lives and passions writ large.

During episode one, Heather heads to Corryong, in the foothills of Victoria's high country. It's a stunning place where the legend of Banjo Paterson's Man from Snowy River lives on. But a bucket-load of beauty and a fascinating history haven't been enough to cement the town's success. But that's changing, with some of Corryong's young people starting to move back.

Short synopsis

Heather heads to Corryong, Victoria. A bucket-load of beauty and a fascinating history haven't been enough to cement the town's success. But that's changing, with some of Corryong's young people starting to move back.

Production details

Back Roads is the flagship series of the ABC Regional Division. Executive Producer, Brigid Donovan. Series Producer Louise Turley. Supervising Producer, Kerri Ritchie. Field Producers, Lisa Whitehead and Karen Michelmore.

Contact

Amy Reiha on (02) 8333 3852 or Reiha.amy@abc.net.au or Xenica Ayling on (02) 8333 2733 or ayling.xenica@abc.net.au

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

*****Under embargo until 6 Nov*****

Foreign Correspondent

Foreign Correspondent returns with The Dome, reported by Mark Willacy, produced by Ben Hawke and shot by Greg Nelson, one of the ABC's most talented cinematographers.

In The Dome, climate change meets nuclear legacy. The setting is a remote atoll halfway between Hawaii and Australia, and the Nevada desert. This episode tells the story of the aftermath of the US nuclear tests in the Pacific in the 1940s and 50s. When the testing ceased, the US spent eight years cleaning up, sending teams of US servicemen to scrape up contaminated soil and radioactive debris. This debris was then dumped into an atom bomb crater, and covered with concrete panels in the shape of a dome. It was never meant to be a permanent solution.

But nothing more has been done – and now, the dome is cracking and sea levels are rising, threatening a toxic spill into the Pacific. Meanwhile, the US veterans involved in the clean up are dying – and say the US government did nothing to protect them during the process and is still refusing to acknowledge culpability in their illnesses. They are suing for compensation.

Short synopsis

Foreign Correspondent: The Dome. Climate change meets nuclear legacy. Examines the aftermath of the US nuclear tests in the Pacific in the 1940s and 50s, and the US veterans involved in the clean-up suing for compensation.

Production details

The Dome, reported by Mark Willacy, produced by Ben Hawke and shot by Greg Nelson.

Contact

Peri Wilson on 02 8333 2263 / 0409 888 866 or wilson.peri@abc.net.au



Keeping Australia Safe

Keeping Australia Safe is arguably the most ambitious observational documentary series ever undertaken in Australia. More than 24 government and private institutions granted privileged access for cameras to record their operations over the same 48-hour period. The entire 6-part series was shot in 2 days – revealing what it takes to protect our national and personal security while asking the central question: “What are the real costs?”

Our governments commit billions of dollars to keeping Australians safe. Politicians and the media commit millions of words reminding us how dangerous the world we live in is. But how does this look, day to day? In the Middle East, an RAAF Strike Fighter pilot flies into battle against Islamic State. In Hobart, a desperate mother faces court with her drug recovering son. In Sydney, Border Force’s Counter Terrorism Unit allows cameras in for the first time. In a Canberra bunker, the Crisis Coordination Centre is monitoring activities around Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull’s first face to face meeting with President Donald Trump.

#KeepingAustraliaSafe

Short synopsis

In the Middle East, an RAAF Strike Fighter pilot flies into battle against ISIS while in Tasmania a mum visits Drug Court with her son and in Sydney, Border Force’s Counter Terrorism Unit allows cameras in for the first time.

Production details

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Screen Australia present **Keeping Australia Safe**, an ITV Studios Australia production. **Keeping Australia Safe** is produced by Elle Gibbons (*Keeping Australia Alive*, *Paddock to Plate*) with executive producers Ben Ulm (*Keeping Australia Alive*, *The First ANZACs*, *Trishna & Krishna: The Quest For Separate Lives*) and Rob Wallace (*MasterChef*, *Find My Family*) for ITV Studios Australia. ABC Head of Factual, Steve Bibb and ABC Commissioning Editor, Stephen Oliver.

Contact

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

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



Artsville: You See Monsters

You See Monsters is a film about the power of art to challenge assumptions and change the way that we view the world.

The documentary explores the work of a new generation of Australian Muslim artists who are asserting their own agency and fighting anti-Islamic bigotry with satire, imagination, and irreverence.

Following the creative endeavours of contemporary artists working on the fault line where identity, Islam and racism intersect, *You See Monsters* is an inspirational story about the capacity of art to question prejudice, articulate identity, and enrich the idea of what being an Australian means.

Short synopsis

This documentary explores the work of a new generation of Australian Muslim artists who are asserting their own agency and fighting anti-Islamic bigotry with satire, imagination, and irreverence.

Production details

Production credits: Writer, David Collins. Executive Producer, Linda Brusasco. Commissioning Editor, Mandy Chang. Produced and Directed by Tony Jackson. Produced by Chemical Media. Developed and Produced with the assistance of Film Victoria. Developed and Produced in association with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 8646 2580 or bassett.kim@abc.net.au

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



Rosehaven

Rosehaven is under siege. Overnight the main street, including McCallum Real Estate's shop front, has been covered in graffiti. The letters "SD" have been spray painted everywhere. Who or what is SD? Emma is keen to investigate.

When Daniel learns that his nemesis Bruce will have to move out of his rental, he is thrilled knowing that Bruce will now have to come to him asking for somewhere else to rent. Finally, Bruce will need something from Daniel and it's time for REVENGE!

Meantime, attending a final inspection for a rental, Emma and Daniel get more than they bargained for. While the property is well kept, the current tenant has gone to town with some unapproved, bespoke interior design choices that defy belief. Who on earth will rent it now?

That night, nocturnal noises coming from Daniel's room wake Emma and force her out of the house. She encounters a figure spray-painting.....

CAST: Luke McGregor and Celia Pacquola

Short synopsis

Rosehaven is under siege with a nocturnal graffiti artist on the loose. Emma is keen to investigate.

Production details

A What Horse?/Guesswork Television production with Screen Tasmania, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and SundanceTV in association with Film Victoria. Created and written by Celia Pacquola and Luke McGregor; Directed by Jonathan Brough; Produced by Andrew Walker; Co-Producer Fiona McConaghy; Executive Producer Kevin Whyte; ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Brett Sleigh.

Contact

Yasmin Kentera (03) 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 or kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au

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



The Letdown

With tensions still high after Jeremy's failed baptism attempt and Audrey's secret church date with Ruben, Audrey willingly packs her bags for a weekend away with Verity at her grandmother's country cottage. In a last minute decision, she leaves the baby with Jeremy.

Whether it's Lois' loveless treatment of Verity, or Verity's abandonment of Audrey, it's a fraught weekend for mothers and daughters. When Verity reneges on her promise to take Audrey on an early morning bushwalk and search for mobile coverage, Audrey is forced to go alone. She returns to find Verity drinking tea in the sun and she unleashes her fury.

Back in the city, Jeremy's weekend with Stevie is far from perfect. After meeting Pete at the pub, things start to unravel: Stevie's bowel movements interrupt the game, Jeremy misses key moments; he's forced to use the women's toilets to change her nappy. When his team wins he stays for too long celebrating and completely mucks up Stevie's routine.

He spends the night with an unsettled baby trying desperately to get her to take the bottle.

In the morning, Martha and Barb come armed with their own 'fail-safe' techniques.

Whether it's the restorative nature of the bush, the emotional release following her fight with Verity, or her equine therapy session with Barney the Horse, Audrey returns home empowered and renewed. But as she pushes through the living room door ready to make all things right with Jeremy, she's not prepared for what she sees

Short synopsis

The annual spring cleaning trip to Audrey's grandmother's farm exposes some hard financial truths. Jeremy struggles to get Stevie to take the bottle and turns to the Parents' Group for help.

#TheLetdown

Production details

A Giant Dwarf production for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation with funding from Screen Australia in association with Create NSW. Executive Producer Julian Morrow. Produced by Martin Robertson. ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Rebecca Anderson. Directed by Trent O'Donnell. Written by Sarah Scheller and Alison Bell.

Contact

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

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

My Online Nightmare

In the final episode, single mum Annie Ruddock had just lost her father and was due to come into a life-changing inheritance when she met Matthew Samuels through an online dating site. Matthew was clever, witty and polite - and an exceptionally good listener. He told her he was a semi-retired businessman worth £80 million and offered to manage her money by reducing her debts and investing her inheritance. By the time Annie realised Samuels was anything but, he had scammed her out of a substantial chunk of the £80,000 inheritance, leaving her £22,000 in debt. Samuels, who had fathered ten children, was later jailed for eight years after being found guilty of conning five women, and one man out of £180,000 over three years.

Joe and Keith Barnett tried desperately for a baby, pouring their savings into futile IVF procedures. But when Keith received a pay-out from an accident at work, the couple decided to track down egg donors and surrogate mothers online. When Louise Pollard, an experienced surrogate, contacted them, so began the Barnett's year-long relationship with a woman who turned out to be duplicitous, cunning, and manipulative. She lied about how she was suffering ante-natal nausea and tiredness, and had two miscarriages. Joe would receive texts describing her as 'Mummy Joe'. In response, she nicknamed Pollard 'Miss Amazing' and 'Mummy Tummy'. When Louise Pollard was jailed for three years, the Barnetts had been defrauded of £10,000. She is believed to have also targeted Osama Bin Laden's son Omar and his wife Zaina.

Shortly after her husband died, 67-year-old Judith, a university professor, began chatting to 'John' online. She felt an "immediate connection" and they were soon chatting and exchanging emails. A widowed interior designer, he was, like Judith, a committed Christian who professed to set great store by the values of honesty and integrity, and they were soon making plans for their long-term future. But 'John' didn't exist, and by the time she discovered the truth, Judith had lost £140,000 - the victim of a sophisticated online fraud that left her emotionally devastated and with a very uncertain financial future. You wonder how an articulate and highly respected academic who has reached the very top of her profession could be so foolish! That, Judith says, is exactly the reason she is speaking out now.

Short synopsis

Annie lost her inheritance to an online dating scammer; a couple desperate for a baby are conned by a duplicitous, and manipulative would-be surrogate; and a university professor lost £140,000 to a man who didn't exist.

Production details

A Blast! Films production; Producer: Sarah Lambert; Shooting Producer/Director: Christian Watt; Produced and Directed by Ali Naushahi

Contact

Kristine Way on 02 8333 3844 or 0419 969 282 or way.kris@abc.net.au

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



The Ex-PM

It's the day of the big town hall debate! This is the key to everything the team has been working towards. Will Dugdale finally step up and say what he thinks? Or will he serve up the same empty calories the electorate is accustomed to?

Henry has kept the \$15 million Chigwell sale under wraps and the team urge Dugdale to play his part and win the debate and election. He just has to not-say anything meaningful. At all. Dugdale confronts his opponent Lorelei Baggins before the debate about her campaign funding.

Meanwhile Myles uncovers a threat against Dugdale's life, which it seems comes from an unlikely ghost from his past.

Will Dugdale finally speak his mind or forever toe family and party lines? CAST: Shaun Micallef, John Clarke. Guest Stars Lisa McCune.

#TheExPM

Short synopsis

It's the big debate! Will Dugdale finally step up and say what he thinks? Or will he serve up the same crap the electorate is accustomed to?

Production details

A CJZ production in association with ABC TV and Film Victoria.

Contact

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

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

The Dream Factory

Ripponlea (Victoria) was a place where Australia learned to make television.

Known as The Dream Factory, the iconic ABC studios were a unique creative hub where actors, comedians, set designers, costume makers and make-up artists collaborated and honed their craft under the one roof.

Presented by Ben Knight, ***The Dream Factory*** is a collection of untold behind-the-scenes stories and a tribute to the programs that Australian audiences have grown up with. It reveals how AC/DC's Jailbreak music video concept didn't quite go to plan, how Deborra-lee Furness and Hugh Jackman's relationship blossomed after they met on the set of *Corelli* and how simple sound effects are created, including that famously controversial slap in the award-winning, critically-acclaimed ABC drama series *The Slap*.

The Dream Factory features well-known and much-loved stars including Deborra-lee Furness, John Waters, Sigrid Thornton, Simon Westaway, Red Symons, Myf Warhurst, Charlie Pickering and Shaun Micallef, whose program *Mad As Hell* was the last ever show to be recorded in the renowned Studio 31.

Short synopsis

The Dream Factory is a tribute to ABC's Ripponlea studios, where Australia learned to make television. Actors, entertainers, costume & set designers honed their craft inside this creative hub, bringing drama, film, comedy & music to audiences across the country.

Production details

Executive Producer: Erin Vincent.

Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 8646 2580 or bassett.kim@abc.net.au

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

Joyride

Joyride will screen across the world in the first week of December to coincide with World AIDS Day on 1 December 2017.

When the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation offered grants to drive the development of a “next generation” condom, it was strongly suggested that the user experience needed to be improved so uptake would increase. Greater usage alone would prevent more unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Las Vegas based Frank Sadlo was one of only a few who developed a female condom in response. He named it *Luvli*. He proudly describes his invention as the first “unibody” condom in the world, meaning it is a single one-form design with no sponges, plastic rings, sticky pads or other additional elements. Frank worked with Brian Lai, a leading Thai manufacturer of latex medical gloves, (latex is cheaper) and Thai sculptors to etch pleasure-enhancing ridges into Luvli’s ceramic formers. Frank also collaborated with a condom manufacturer in South Africa and a lube maker in Australia. Luvli is typical of female condoms in that it is shaped like a male condom but is bigger.

Wondaleaf however is different, because it covers the skin all around the vagina too, further reducing the risk of body fluids being exchanged during sex. Some joke that removing *Wondaleaf* will be like getting a free wax and hairy users are advised to rub a thin layer of lotion over their genital hair for easier removal.

Referring to female condoms in general, Dr Mags Beksinska from the MatCH Research Unit at the University of the Witwatersrand in Durban explains, “Their main problem is that they can actually get pushed inside the woman's body.” The difficulty of resolving these challenges partly explains why there are no widely accepted brands among the few products available. The PATH woman’s condom is seen as the gold standard and it took 17 years to bring to market. But it being polyurethane, price could be a problem.

Clive Kohrs who, alongside his wife Vera, is managing director of a condom factory in South Africa, says, “We are unfortunately in a HIV/AIDS hotspot we lose easily between 10 and 12% of our work staff annually. It’s heartbreaking.” They hope Frank will reach a financial agreement with American investors to enable clinical trials of Luvli to go ahead soon if the Kohrs are to meet a commitment they’ve made to the South African Government to locally manufacture female condoms.

Short synopsis

For some, creating an effective, affordable, pleasure-enhancing *female* condom is an obsession. For millions, accessing such a device is a matter of life and death for the unwanted pregnancies and infections it would prevent.

Production details

Screen Australia presents a Smith & Nasht and Storyland production in association with Screen Queensland with co-production partner ZDF/ARTE; Writer/Director: Randall Wood; Producers: Ruth Cross and Randall Wood; Executive Producer: Simon Nasht

Contact

Kristine Way on 02 8333 3844 or 0419 9569 n282 or way.kris@abc.net.au

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

Victoria

Lehzen (Daniela Holtz) interrupts a private moment between Victoria (Jenna Coleman) and Albert (Tom Hughes) in their bedroom. When Albert mentions children Victoria stiffens, but the servants eagerly discuss when she'll fall pregnant.

Albert needs some purpose, and seems to think that children will give him the respect he craves. To make matters worse Sussex (David Bamber) refuses to let Albert take precedence at a state dinner. Albert complains to Ernest that he has no position, and Victoria tries in vain to comfort her humiliated husband. He passes Ernest (David Oakes) drawing Harriet (Margaret Clunie), Victoria's Mistress of the Robes, and warns him to be careful. And when he sees them flirting whilst they play archery, Albert is alarmed at his older brother's blossoming romance with a married woman and instructs Ernest to go back to Coburg.

When Victoria regrettably declines an offer from Representatives of the Anti-slavery Society to open their convention, Albert tells Anson (Robert MacPherson) that he would like to do it.

Having learned from Jenkins (Eve Myles) about a deadly fever in Seven Dials, Skerrett (Nell Hudson) asks Francatelli to help her cousin Eliza and her child escape and find new lodgings. She's grateful, and in return Francatelli asks for her real name in return. 'Nancy' she tells him.

Emma (Samantha Colley) reveals to Victoria that Sussex's wife never comes to court because she is not recognised under the royal marriages act. Victoria gives his wife a discretionary title in exchange, so when Sussex and his wife arrive for another dinner Albert is given precedence. That night Ernest tells Harriet he is leaving. Meanwhile Albert practices for his speech late into the night, with Anson's help.

En route to the anti-slavery convention, an anxious Albert tells Anson his nerves will settle once he sees Victoria. But Victoria doesn't appear and later explains to Albert that she wanted him to have his own victory.

Short synopsis

The Royal couple's happiness is threatened when Albert is publicly humiliated by the Duke of Sussex. Alarmed by her husband's discontent, Victoria determines to use all her cunning to get Albert the respect he deserves.

Production details

Directors: Sandra Goldbacher, Tom Vaughan, Oliver Blackburn; Executive Producers: Dan McCulloch, Damien Timmer, Daisy Goodwin; Producer Paul Frift; A Mammoth Screen & Masterpiece co-production

Contact

Kristine Way on 02 833 1500 or 0419 969 282 or way.kris@abc.net.au

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

Marketing Contacts

Sydney

Imogen Corlette (Communications Manager)	(02) 8333 3845 / 0410 520 776	
Bridget Stenhouse	(02) 8333 3847 / 0466 541 642 Stenhouse.Bridget@abc.net.au	ABC2, Compass, Catalyst, Keeping Australia Safe
Kristine Way	(02) 8333 3844 / 0419 969 282 Way.Kris@abc.net.au	Janet King, Gruen, The Checkout, Victoria, My Online Nightmare, Joyride
Safia van der Zwan	(02) 8333 3846 VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au	Mystery Road, Rake, Australian Music Month, Friday on My Mind, Making Muriel, NYE
Peri Wilson (News and Current Affairs)	0409 888 866 wilson.peri@abc.net.au	ABC NEWS, 7.30, Four Corners, Foreign Correspondent, Media Watch, Q&A, Insiders, Lateline, News Breakfast, The Drum, Offsiders, Behind the News, Australia Wide, National Press Club, The Mix, The World, One Plus One, Grandstand, The Business
Amy Reiha	Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au	ABC ME, ABC KIDS, Junior Eurovision, The Deep, Nippers, Play School, Back Roads

Melbourne

Kim Bassett	(03) 9524 2580 / 0409 600 456 Bassett.Kim@abc.net.au	Gardening Australia, Australian Story, Utopia, Artsville, The Dream Factory
Yasmin Kentera	(03) 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au	Glitch, The Doctor Blake Mysteries, Rosehaven
Tracey Taylor	(03) 9524 2313 / 0419 528 213 Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au	Hard Quiz, Get KrackIn, The Edge of the Bush, The Ex-PM S2, The Letdown, Mustangs FC
Programming Enquiries:	Tania Caggegi (ABC & ABC2) (02) 8333 4633	Matthew Vieira (ABC NEWS & ABC ME) (02) 8333 3843

Media Portal:

Mary Fraser (02) 8333 3848

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