



Sun August 14
to Sat August 20
2016

Week 34 Highlights



Forces Of Nature With Brian Cox
Tuesday 16 August at 8.30pm



You Can't Ask That
Wednesday 17 Aug at 9.20pm



Catalyst
Tuesday 16 August at 8.00pm



Army Girls
Wednesday 17 August at 9.20pm



Forces Of Nature With Brian Cox

Our Focus: Science

In this episode, Professor Brian Cox shows how Earth's basic ingredients, like the pure sulphur mined in the heart of a deadly volcano in Indonesia, have become the building blocks of life.

Hidden deep in a cave in the Dominican Republic lies a magical world created by the same property of water that makes it essential to life.

Clinging to a precipitous dam wall in Italy, baby mountain goats seek out Earth's chemical elements essential to their survival.

In the middle of the night in a bay off Japan, Brian explains how the dazzling display of thousands of glowing squid shows how life has taken Earth's chemistry and turned it into the chemistry of life.



Forces of Nature with Brian Cox is screening as part the ABC's OUR FOCUS: SCIENCE

Throughout National Science week (Aug 13 -21), the ABC will be looking closely at science-related issues from a myriad of angles, across all platforms. We'll have Professor Brian Cox kicking off the week on Monday by joining the Q&A panel, then on Tuesday his series *Forces of Nature* will air immediately after *Catalyst* takes a fantastic voyage, travelling to inner space of the human body while looking at the future of bionic limb technology. On ABC2, we'll have *Nano* running nightly, and *The Science Of Doctor Who*, plus a great range of themed programming in the ABC3 Education slot and a whole lot more on radio, iview and online.

Full details will be available at abc.net.au/science

Short synopsis

Professor Brian Cox investigates the ingredients which are the building blocks of life.

Production details

Presenter: Professor Brian Cox. Director: Matthew Dyas. Executive Producer: Andrew Cohen. Producer: Matthew Dyas. Series Producer: Danielle Peck. A BBC production with PBS co-produced by France Télévisions

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](#).



Catalyst

Our Focus: Science

Catalyst looks at a radically new approach in the field of "brain-machine interfaces" - technology that delivers mind-control over computers, robotic limbs or exoskeletons and gives people with paralysis the chance for more independence, using the power of thought. It's called the Stentrode, where a traditional stent is equipped with electrodes and implanted within a blood vessel in the brain. Here it can record the brain signals that are produced when a person decides to move, allowing that intention to be turned into action, via bionic limb technology.



Currently, the most effective brain-machine interfaces require major, invasive surgery where electrodes are implanted through the skull and penetrate the brain. Unfortunately, over time the signal they capture tends to deteriorate as the electrodes are rejected by the body. The Stentrode, being developed by a large team of scientists in Melbourne offers a new, minimally invasive way of collecting long-term, high quality brain signals via blood vessels. Human trials are due to begin in late 2017.

Also in tonight's episode – we've sent astronauts into outer space but travelling to the inner space of the human body still remains the stuff of science fiction – or does it? In a unique collaboration between art and science, a series of immersive 3D experiences is helping patients to better understand what happens in the brain during a stroke. Based on high resolution scientific data, the project also involves some of Australia's leading drug delivery researchers, who can now virtually travel inside a cancer cell, opening the door to future discoveries that may treat disease.

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Full details will be available at abc.net.au/science

#ABCCatalyst

Short synopsis

Catalyst looks at the game-changing new Australian device that aims to help the paralysed walk again. And virtual reality takes scientists and patients on a unique interactive journey inside the human body.

Production details

Series Producer, Ingrid Arnott

Contact

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

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



You Can't Ask That

“Why don't men have to cover up like women?”
“Do you secretly agree with the terrorists?”
“What's the deal with all the beards?”



Muslims answer the questions Australians wanted to ask but were too embarrassed or afraid to ever ask in person. No matter how naive, cheeky or downright offensive the questions, our guests answer with personal insight and surprising honesty.

“I was the first one in the family who started to wear it,” explains Anisa Khan, dressed in her Niqab with only her eyes showing. “It was sort of a big shock to all of my aunts and uncles, it was like ‘oh my god, how’s she going to work? How’s she going to study? Is she going to be confined in the four walls of her home?’ ”

Asked if he views non-Muslim dress as ‘lewd’, ‘slutty’ or ‘inappropriate’, Imam Mirza Uzair Akbar says, “at the end of the day we are all human beings, but it is against even the religious teachings that we look at anyone with disrespect.”

“If a lady is covered in a way that is not modest it is God Almighty who is going to make the judgement and he’s the one who knows what is in the heart,” he says.

“I think everyone breaks the rules sometimes,” says Sam Howat. “You’re supposed to get up, have your hearty morning meal at four o’clock in the morning and then pray. Sometimes you just kind of pretend that you don’t hear the alarm, and when you wake up you kind of lie to yourself, ‘oh, we slept through *again*. Oh!’”

Insightful, irreverent, moving and unpredictable, this episode sets the record straight about what it’s *really* like to live as a Muslim in Australia.

#ycat

Short synopsis

Muslims answer the questions Australians wanted to ask but were too embarrassed or afraid to ever ask in person.

Production details

An ABC Production. Series Produced and Directed by Kirk Docker and Aaron Smith. ABC Executive Producer Lou Porter.

Contact

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

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



Army Girls

Series Premiere

Army Girls, a three-part factual series following a troop of female recruits through basic training as they attempt to become soldiers in the British Army. Over a 14 week training period, the series follows 47 women, between the ages 17 and 47, who are being trained to survive in combat on the frontline.



Pirbright Army Training Centre in Surrey turns out over 2000 soldiers every year but less than 400 of those will be women and this series offers a fascinating insight into what life is like for a woman in the military - they'll have to go through exactly the same training as any male recruit and if they get through will end up serving alongside them in roles as diverse as the artillery to combat engineers to driver.

The recruits are subject to a strict regime under a team of serving soldiers, who are given the difficult task of transforming the women from civilians, often with no military experience at all, to soldiers.

With a combination of tough words, humour and no-nonsense forcefulness the training team push the recruits to their limits as they teach them everything from marching, shooting a rifle, surviving a gas attack and mounting an attack, the essential skills they will need to operate effectively on tour.

Army Girls offers an unprecedented insight into the ups and downs, tears and laughter of a group of women as they struggle through the hardest 14 weeks of their lives, hoping to find out if they have what it takes to succeed in what has traditionally been a man's world.

#ArmyGirls

Short synopsis

Army Girls follows a troop of female recruits through basic training as they attempt to become soldiers in the British Army.

Production details

Lion TV for Channel 4, UK

Contact

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

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

Sunday 14 August 7.40pm



Grand Designs New Zealand

Architect Nic Ballara clearly has a head for heights as he starts to build his dream home for his family.

Nic's site in the earthquake prone city of Wellington is so steep that it looks virtually impossible to build on, however Nic is convinced he has a solution and is determined to build his first home there.

A logistical nightmare lies ahead as this Grand Design looks to be an uphill battle throughout.

#GrandDesignsNZ

Short synopsis

An architect attempts to build his four-storey dream home on a steep slope overlooking Wellington - and has a creative solution to protecting it against earthquakes.

Production details

Presented by Chris Moller.

Contact

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

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Wallander

Wallander and his colleagues discover a middle-aged woman's body half buried in the forest swamp. As they search the victim's home, it becomes clear there has been an intruder and, more disturbingly, that the victim's teenage daughter is missing.

The return of a long-lost love provides Wallander with a much-needed distraction but, just as it looks like Wallander may finally prioritise his personal life, an unexpected shadow will start to haunt him.

Also stars Kitty Peterkin, Jeany Spark, Harry Hadden-Paton, Terrence Hardiman.

#Wallander

Short synopsis

Wallander investigates the murder of a woman and the disappearance of her teenage daughter. But as tensions escalate, the detective begins to sense he is being followed, but by demons that he cannot yet identify.

Production details

From the novels by Henning Mankell. Writers: James Dormer and Peter Harness. Director: Benjamin Caron. Executive Producers: Andy Harries, Daniel Gylling, Kenneth Branagh, Anni Faurbye Fernandez, Peter Harness, Rebecca Eaton, Matthew Eaton, Åsa Sjöberg. Producer: Sanne Wohlenberg.

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](#).



Gruen

This week **Gruen** continues to find out why we buy what we buy...and why the ads on the side of our internet browser want us to buy more.

Wil, Russel, Todd and a team of new and familiar faces are back to deconstruct our vast advertising landscape which gets more freakishly sophisticated every year we find ourselves around the Gruen desk.

Plus. in Gruen's hotly contested race *The Pitch*, two agencies will once again make the case to sell the unsellable – and this week that is 'bronze medals are best'.

The extended Gruen XL will also be seen on ABC2 and iview.

#Gruen

Short synopsis

Gruen continues to explore why we buy what we buy. And why the ads on the side of our internet browser want us to buy more. Wil, Russel, Todd and a team of new and familiar faces will deconstruct the advertising landscape.

Production details:

CJZ and ABC TV co-production; Executive producers: Nick Murray (CJZ); Wil Anderson; Richard Huddleston (ABC); Series Producer Polly Connolly

Contact

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

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



Soul Mates II

In Episode 3, Bondi Hipsters, Dom and Adrian are shooting a short film. Dom's acting remains flat until director Adrian digs deep, dredging up vulnerable wounds. Phoenix, who has crowd-funded his transition back from female to male, suggests crowd-funding a feature film.

In the Kiwi Assassins world, Mum and Dr Hackett discover an incision scar on Phar Lap's heart that suggests Australian scientists have already unlocked its secret. Thingie discovers Mayor Polkinghorne and Dr Whistlesmith have a secret slush fund to prop up St Scotty's rugby team and Roger takes heavy hits during team selection. To ensure Roger's spot on the team, Mum pays a visit to Roger's coach and Thingie overhears the tryst.

In the Egyptian tombs, following being bitten by a puff adder, Seti is nursed back to health in Amram's hovel, surrounded Amram's wife Jochebed and his mother. Seti is shocked to discover Amram's mother and wife are two different people until Amram explains the possibility of having sex with someone you aren't related to.

Meanwhile the Cavemen set out to decipher what is funny and what is offensive and whether the two things ever overlap. They create the first writers' room and learn some jokes are better in concept than in execution.

#SoulMatesTV

Short synopsis

Bondi Hipsters Dom and Adrian shoot a short film; Mum takes measures to ensure Roger's spot in the rugby team, Seti is shocked to discover Amram's mother and wife are two different people and the Cavemen explore comedy.

Production details

A Van Vuuren Bros and Ludo Studios in association with ABC, Seeso, Screen Australia and Screen NSW.

Contact

Contact Safia van der Zwan on 02 8333 3846 or vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au

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

Marketing Contacts

Sydney

Chris Chamberlin	(02) 8333 2154 / 0404 075 749 Chamberlin.Chris@abc.net.au	News Publicist - 7pm News, ABC News 24, 7.30, Four Corners, Foreign Correspondent, Media Watch, Q&A, Insiders, Lateline, ABC News Breakfast, The Drum, Offsiders, Behind the News, Australia Wide, National Press Club, The Mix, The World, One Plus One, Grandstand, The Business, Planet America, Federal Election 2016, Kitchen Cabinet
Bridget Stenhouse	(02) 8333 3847 / 0419 846 333 Stenhouse.Bridget@abc.net.au	ABC2, Compass, Live From The BBC, Ice Wars, Man Up
Kristine Way	(02) 8333 3844 / 0419 969 282 Way.Kris@abc.net.au	The Code, Rake, Janet King, Gruen
Safia Van der Zwan	(02) 8333 3874 VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au	Play School 50 th Birthday, Soul Mates, Nowhere Boys, You're Skitting Me, Kazoops

Melbourne

Kim Bassett	(03) 9524 2580 / 0409 600 456 Bassett.Kim@abc.net.au	Catalyst, Gardening Australia, Grand Designs, The Book Club, Grand Designs NZ, Forces of Nature, Wallander, PLM, SOYT
Yasmin Kentera	(03) 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au	Comedy Showroom, The Katering Show, Rosehaven, Dr Blake Mysteries, Australian Story
Tracey Taylor	(03) 9524 2313 / 0419 528 213 Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au	The Weekly With Charlie Pickering, Shaun Micallef's MAD AS HELL, Barracuda, Seven Types of Ambiguity, Upper Middle Bogan, Tomorrow When The War Began

Communications Manager :

Imogen Corlette	(02) 8333 3845 / 0410 520 776 Corlette.Imogen@abc.net.au
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Programming Enquiries:

Tania Caggegi
(ABC & ABC News 24)
(02) 8333 4633

Anna Bruter
(ABC2 & ABC3)
(02) 8333 3843

Media Portal

Mary Fraser	(02) 8333 3848
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