

Week 44 Highlights



Sunday 29 Oct to
Saturday 4 Nov 2017



The Letdown
New Series Wednesday 1 November 9.35pm

#ourABC



Screen Time
Continues Tuesday 31 October 8pm

The Ex-PM
Continues Thursday 2 November 8.30pm

Rosehaven
Wednesday 1 November 9.05pm



★Top Pick

Wednesday 1 November 9.05pm



Rosehaven

When Barbara (Kris McQuade) passes on the offer of a speech at the local primary school (and tuckshop duty), it falls on a very reluctant Daniel (Luke McGregor) to step in. Buoyed by Emma (Celia Pacquola), Daniel concedes that facing down his classroom fears may actually promote the business.

Daniel's resolve is put to the test when he and Emma are accused of stealing at the local store and duly banned by local student, Tyler (Finn Sciculuna O'Prey).

Whilst on tuck shop duty, Emma and Daniel seize the opportunity to inspire the next generation of Rosehaven in their own very unique way. And, when Daniel sees bullying in the playground, he's compelled to intervene.

Guest Stars: Alan Flower, Anna Kidd and Finn Sciculuna O'Prey as Tyler.

#Rosehaven

Short synopsis

Barbara won't make a speech at the local primary school (or do tuckshop duty), and a reluctant Daniel steps in. But his resolve is put to the test when he and Emma are accused of stealing. CAST: Luke McGregor, Celia Pacquola.

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](#).

★Top Pick

Thursday 2 November 8.30pm



Following the volleyball ‘incident’, Henry decides on a ‘Small Target Strategy’ for Dugdale’s appearances. In a saucy local radio interview Dugdale reveals not only his penchant for Italian Ex-PMs – but an association with a billionaire energy magnate.

Local bank manager Mr Vole pleads with Andrew to help save his business and the local Nandos, which are about to be compulsorily acquired and ploughed under - to ‘make way for a new forest.’

Meanwhile Ellen confronts Sonny about the fact that billionaire energy magnate Fabian Silver is the campaign’s secret benefactor.

Dugdale’s visit to the local radio station results in a Celebrity Challenge to name which politician he’d ‘turn gay for’ – plus the public revelation that Fabian Silver’s energy company is behind the construction of the controversial new national park.

When Andrew puts a call into Henry to help protect the Nandos, billionaire Fabian Silver jumps on the first plane home from Prague to deal with the matter.

CAST: Shaun Micallef, Nicki Wendt, Kate Jenkinson John Clarke.

#TheExPM

Short synopsis

Henry decides on a Small Target Strategy for Dugdale’s appearances. In a radio interview Dugdale reveals not only his penchant for Italian Ex-PMs – but an association with a billionaire energy magnate. CAST Shaun Micallef

Production details

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

Contact

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



Screen Time

Binging, streaming, surfing, or just settling down with a bucket of popcorn in front of a good old-fashioned cinema screen. These days we have more choice than ever when it comes to how - and where - we watch our favourite screen content.

All over the world people are constantly talking about what to watch, from hit television shows, to home grown documentary series to big cut-through movies or the latest instalment from the Marvel or DC universe, or the quirky low-budget obscurity served up to you by the recommendation algorithms that now run the world.

A side-effect of this content obsession is the tyranny of choice. **Screen Time** is a series that will cut a path through the jungle of content and help each of us answer the burning questions “What should I watch next?” “Where can I find that clip that’s gone viral?” and “Is that hit show really all it is cracked up to be?”

Hosted by Chris Taylor, with an ensemble cast of regular panelists, *Screen Time* goes beyond the binge to bring you the latest from the world of TV, streaming, cinema and the web. From highbrow to lowbrow, prestige ‘golden age of television’ moments, to bedroom YouTube stars, it’s all worth talking about for our cast of screen timers. Entertaining, but rooted in cultural critique and analysis, *Screen Time* will be the go to show for anyone who likes to watch, well.....just about anything!

#ScreenTime

Short synopsis

Hosted by Chris Taylor, *Screen Time* goes beyond the binge to bring you the latest from the world of TV, streaming, cinema and the web.

Production details

Acting Head of ABC Arts, Linda Brusasco. ABC Arts Executive Producer, Jo Chichester. Series Producer, Martin Robertson.

Contact

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



The Letdown

Parents Group triggers a reverse anxiety in Audrey when she realises she's the only one who isn't following a parenting book. Misinterpreting Ambrose's book club theme, Audrey brings Frankenstein - honest mistake or searing metaphor? Either way it throws Audrey in a spin. Is her relaxed attitude simply bad parenting?

She heads for the nearest bookshop, but is quickly caught out by Sophie. She begrudgingly agrees to borrow Sophie's stack of parenting manuals.

Determined to get Stevie in a routine and restore some dignity at Parents Group, Audrey hits the books and it's not long before she's slipping into old habits – scrawling illegible study notes, drinking instant coffee, working late into the night. A nightmare of (romantic) gothic proportions awaits ...

Night one of sleep training begins well enough but tensions soon rise when partner Jeremy proves a sleepy and ineffective wingman. By night two, Jeremy starts to question whether he's match-fit for fatherhood and night three brings much of the same, only worse; less sleep, more tears, self-loathing and another confession from Jeremy.

Sophie invites Audrey to a Parents at the Pics movie for 'social outing' time. But when Sophie falsely accuses a man of inappropriately gawking at a breastfeeding Audrey, things go awry.

Later that night, Audrey settles Stevie to sleep. And, just when peace and calm in the house is restored, there's a knock at the door ... the in-laws arrive. CAST: Alison Bell.

#TheLetdown

Short synopsis

Parents Group triggers a reverse anxiety in Audrey when she realises she's the only one who isn't following a parenting book. Misinterpreting Ambrose's book club theme, Audrey brings Frankenstein - honest mistake or searing metaphor?

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](#).**



The Doctor Blake Mysteries

It's the week before Christmas, and Blake has been called upon to investigate the murder of a local farmer shot to death at point blank range after what appears to be a deliberately lit fire on his land.

But is it actually his land? Because Edward Tyneman claims to have purchased the dead man's farm, which promises to one day soon become the first vineyards in Ballarat. He'd even taken Rose out there the day before (under the false pretext of pursuing a story), hoping that his latest acquisition may somehow impress her.

Blake and Charlie will soon find a tangled web of dodgy land deals, old grudges, frustrated ambition and familial intrigue. Amidst all this a familiar face suddenly arrives back in Ballarat – could he have something to do with this case?

As the police dutifully follow the chain of evidence, Blake, as always, will trust his instincts and follow his gut. But this time those instincts, and a series of disastrous spur of the moment decisions, will lead him horribly astray. It will not only bring his official role as Police Surgeon into question, but also threaten to fracture Lucien's relationship with his old friend Lawson completely.

And then, when it seems things couldn't get any worse, Blake's divorce proceedings are suddenly made very, very public, leaving Lucien and Jean to cope with the fallout. Has Rose betrayed Jean's confidence in pursuit of yet another story? And can Blake solve this case even as both his professional and his private life falls apart?

#DoctorBlakeTV

Short synopsis

As Blake investigates the murder of a farmer and a mysterious case of arson, an unlikely party suddenly throws his future with Jean into chaos. CAST: Craig McLachlan, Nadine Garner

Production details

A December Media Production in association with ABC TV and Film Victoria. Producers George Adams and Tony Wright. Executive Producer Stuart Menzies and Associate Producer Craig McLachlan. ABC Executive Producers Brett Sleigh and Alastair McKinnon.

Contact

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



ABC ME and ABC KIDS Halloween programming

ABC ME and ABC KIDS are celebrating Halloween with special spooky themed episodes of some of their most popular shows.

ABC ME

This Halloween settle in for a the Australian premiere of **Terror In Doomsville** screening on Tuesday 31 October at 6.10pm.

Are you in the mood for a good horror story? Well the truck drivers from Doomsville can help you with that! *Terror in Doomsville* tells the terrifying but fun mishaps of 4 truckers, who suffer at the expense of a terrible monster haunting the people of Doomsville.

This halloween special is written by the renowned Tommy Donbavand, writer of horror books for children and creator of *Scream Street*.

Plus, from Sunday October 29 to Tuesday October 31, ABC ME will be playing its spookiest best with special Halloween themed episodes of **Little Lunch**, **Horrible Histories**, **Shezow**, **Fairly Odd Parents**, **Kung Fu Panda** and more!

ABC KIDS

From Sunday 29 October – Tuesday 31 October, ABC KIDS ‘Big Boo’ features preschoolers favourite characters celebrating Halloween.

Sunday 29 October

Sesame Street: Halloween Special, Australian premiere at 5.00pm

It’s Halloween on *Sesame Street*, and Elmo is dressed as Galactic Stan from *Outer Space*, a costume that he made all by himself. Elmo becomes jealous of another boy’s costume, thinking it’s more real-looking. Alan explains that Elmo doesn’t need a fancy costume to be Galactic Stan, all he needs is his imagination. Elmo doesn’t feel jealous anymore, and soon he and the boy start to play together by using their imaginations!

Ready, Jet, Go!: Jet’s First Halloween, Australian premiere at 5.30pm

The Propulsions learn all about Halloween and the strange Earth traditions that go along with the holiday. And this is an especially exciting Halloween, because there will be a Super Moon! Jet is excited to join Sydney, Sean, and Mindy in enjoying each and every Halloween tradition. When Carrot and Celery Propulsion try to make a haunted house in their garage, Little Mitchell Petersen discovers a perfect opportunity to don a disguise and sneak into the Propulsion house to snoop around. Meanwhile, Sydney, Sean, and Mindy do their best to keep Jet and his parents from revealing their alien identities.

Plus, everyone’s favourite special **Room on the Broom** and **Peppa Pig** in *Peppa’s Pumpkin Party*.

Monday 30 October

Dot: Scare Master 2.0, Australian premiere at 5.00pm

Dot gathers the crew together to give her Dad, the self-proclaimed “Scaremaster”, a fright he won’t soon forget... but in the end, it’s the one person she didn’t see coming who delivers the final scare.

Tuesday 31 October

Screening Halloween themed episodes throughout the day, the Australian premieres are:

Get Grubby TV: Spooky at 8.20am

A spooky tale in a torch's glow, sets the scene...it's Halloween!... and anything can happen.

dirtygirl is hosting a spectacular spooky party. Right from the start, trouble is brewing. There's mischief on the verandah with a bunch of boo-nanas, a disappearing ghost and a warning from scrapboy not to, under any circumstances, water the pumpkin.

Floogals: Project: Halloween at 8.35am

When the Hoomans wear costumes and adorn their house with spooky decorations for a Halloween party, the Floogals are convinced trouble-making aliens have invaded the household. Soon they must decide whether or not to warn the Hoomans, at the risk of exposing their own secret mission.

Miffy's Adventures Big & Small: Miffy's Halloween at 4.25pm

There's lots of fun to be had getting ready for the Halloween party, and it seems like everyone has a different costume to dress up in – except Miffy.

Dot: Ghoul Away at 5pm

When a ghost moves into Mister Sherman's house, Dot takes on the job of getting rid of it in the hopes she can sway her neighbour into liking Halloween again.

Contact

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

Australia Remembers: Centenary Of The Battle Of Beersheba

On 31 October 2017, the Australian Government will conduct a National Commemorative service - the Centenary of the Battle of Beersheba, Sinai–Palestine Campaign at Beersheba War Cemetery and Park of the Australian Soldier in Be'er Sheba, Israel.

LIVE SERVICES - 31 October 2017

Service 1 - Australia Remembers: Beersheba Centenary Service
ABC NEWS Live 6pm AEDT / ABC 12.20am

Service 2 - Australia Remembers: Beersheba Australian Service
ABC TV and ABC NEWS Live 1.30am AEDT

On 31 October 2017, the Australian Government will conduct a National Commemorative service - the Centenary of the Battle of Beersheba, Sinai–Palestine Campaign at Beersheba War Cemetery and Park of the Australian Soldier in Be'er Sheba, Israel. This service will commemorate the centenary of many battles within the region. Malcolm Turnbull and Benjamin Netanyahu to attend Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, Beersheba.

Coverage includes; Joint Australian and New Zealand Commemorative Service, ANZAC museum opening, Turkish memorial service and a re-enactment of the charge of the Light Horse.

In association with the Department of Veterans' Affairs the ABC will broadcast coverage of the events.

Senior government and military officials from Australia, Israel and the Commonwealth will attend both services.

EXTRA COVERAGE IN THE LEAD UP WILL INCLUDE:

ABC News will screen preview stories in the lead up to the event.

Peter McCutcheon presents *Indig Beersheeba*: One little-known contribution to the Battle for Beersheba is the significant number of indigenous soldiers who stormed the Turkish positions in charge of the Light Brigade. And while indigenous soldiers were respected in their units, their experience returning home was different.

Phil Williams presents *Return to Beersheeba*: Families of soldiers who fought at Beersheba – including those who took part in the charge – are recreating the journey. Around 100 riders will recreate the charge of the Light Horse.

Bedouin Beersheeba – Sophie McNeill spends time with the Bedouin tribes who still live as nomads across the lands where the campaign fought - truly displaced by WW1 fighting. Talent talk about family stories told of the campaign and one man who says his horses are descendants of the whalers left behind by the light horse.

Short synopsis

Australia Remembers: Beersheba Centenary Service. Recognises 100th anniversary of the Battle of Beersheba. The Australian Government will conduct a National Commemorative service.

Contact

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Australia Remembers: Kokoda 75 Years

On its 75th anniversary, the ABC recognises, perhaps the most significant battle fought by Australians in World War II, Kokoda. More than 600 Australians were killed and some 1680 wounded during this battle.

COVERAGE INCLUDES:

Online

- A digital explainer on what the Kokoda battle was about and what they were fighting for
- Short form video from the Last Post ceremony from the day
- Photo story of Kokoda veterans

Television

Australia Remembers: Kokoda 75 Years

A one hour special presentation from 4.30pm AEDT Live on ABC TV and ABC NEWS

Presented by Siobhan Heanue – this special broadcast from the Australian War Memorial includes interviews with Brendan Nelson and veterans of the Kokoda Battle. It looks at the past and present of PNG and explores the recent discovery by Australian historians of an unknown battlefield with a Japanese built road on the Kokoda track.

BTN will also take a behind the scenes look at the Kokoda 360 project and how it was developed.

Short synopsis

Australia Remembers: Kokoda 75 Years. On its 75th anniversary, the ABC recognises, perhaps the most significant battle fought by Australians in World War II, Kokoda.

Contact

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



Catalyst

We're living through a golden age of scientific discovery – and Catalyst returns to take you to the heart of the biggest science stories from Australia and around the world.

The series is made up of hour long programmes; each one looking at the latest science on single subjects from human health and medical breakthroughs to astronomy and technology.

We're aiming to capture the wonder and excitement at the heart of these stories and meet the scientists and researchers working at the cutting edge of these fields.

#ABCCatalyst

Short synopsis

Catalyst presents a new series of one hour specials exploring the latest science on diverse topics from human health and medical breakthroughs to astronomy and technology.

Production details

Catalyst is an ABC Production. Executive Producer: Aidan Laverty, ABC Head of Factual: Steve Bibb

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](#).**

Artsville: Horror Movie – A Low Budget Nightmare

Artsville is back, presenting a broad cross section of stories displaying the very best of arts documentary filmmaking in the country. This season of beautifully crafted films kicks off with a fascinating and funny look at the making of an Australian low budget horror movie.

Attempting to live out his life-long dream, actor and filmmaker Craig Anderson quits his TV day job and embarks on a rollercoaster journey to make his first super-low-budget horror feature film, *Red Christmas*, about an aborted foetus that seeks revenge on its family.

With budget issues, union troubles, Hollywood ‘scream queen’ Dee Wallace, and even a circumcision to overcome, this documentary follows Craig’s crazy ride from pre-production to the end as he gambles his life savings and borrowed funds to make a feature film.

Stars Craig Anderson, Dee Wallace, Gerard O’Dwyer and Rob Anderson.

Short synopsis

Actor and filmmaker Craig Anderson sets out to make a super-low-budget horror film, but things quickly go off the rails when budget and union issues threaten to shut the production down.

Production details

Producer/Director, Gary Doust. Executive Producer, Megan McMurchy.

Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 9524 2580 or bassett.kim@abc.net.au

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

Prisoners and Pups

In the Adelaide Women's Prison, a small group of prisoners have signed up to take part in a trial program to foster ex-racing greyhounds and get them ready for adoption.

The greyhounds have been born and raised in kennels, never knowing the sights, and sounds of life beyond the racetrack. Trained only to chase a lure at high speed, most don't know their names or how to take food from someone's hand. They are among thousands of greyhounds that are bred for racing in Australia every year and then retired - or rejected as poor racers - and put up for adoption. After spending most of their lives in cages with other dogs, they are confused and frightened by the strange world of people outside.

The prisoners have just eight weeks to socialise and transform these institutionalised pack dogs into obedient, house-friendly pets. None of them have ever trained a dog before. At the end of the eight weeks, the dogs must undergo a strict behaviour and temperament test to make sure they are 'civilised' and suitable for adoption. If they fail, they can never be placed in a home, and some may even be euthanised.

Now these women prisoners have to attend classes, work long hours, and take 24/7 responsibility for the dogs. They also must learn how to manage a kennel house and work cooperatively for the first time. As the program progresses, the dogs have trouble adjusting to close contact with people and learning good social behaviour. The women struggle with their new responsibilities and argue amongst themselves. Sam threatens to remove the dogs and pull the program. Just as the team starts to get back on track, two of the prisoners are forced to leave the program. Raine steps in as a new handler, but an excessive attachment to her greyhound threatens her ability to catch up with the others.

As the adoption test approaches, the women and the dogs face an uphill battle to be prepared. But the hardest test for the women turns out to be facing up to themselves and the actions that led to their imprisonment. Can the prisoners and the dogs work together to give each other a second chance? And how will they all deal with the looming day of separation, when the women must say goodbye to the dogs they have fostered - and come to depend on - and give them up to the outside world?

Short synopsis

A small group of women prisoners have just eight weeks to transform retired racing greyhounds into obedient, house-friendly pets. Can the dogs help the women get their lives back on track?

Production details

Directed, Written and Filmed by Shalom Almond, Produced by Shalom Almond and Lauren Drewery.

Prisoners and Pups is a Cocoon Films Production and is an initiative of the South Australian Film Corporation and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Contact

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

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



In this ninth season of Gruen...

...There will be grandiose language, hastily gathered quotes and just enough information to sound enticing without actually giving anything away.

We are drowning in more marketing than ever. People are now brands, while brands pretend to be people, emailing you on your birthday and trying to seduce you to 'join the conversation'. We're living in a world where the US President is the biggest brand of all, celebrities are "influencers", influencers are celebrities and words like "influencer" have lost all meaning.

Whether you're spooling through Gumtree for a second-hand fridge, skipping through a podcast selling you a mattress, or checking the weather on the BOM website- you can't avoid advertising. It's as ageless as the airbrushed actor spruiking expensive face gunk. The only anti-venom is understanding how it all works.

Enter host Wil Anderson, Russel Howcroft, Todd Sampson and a trusty team of advertising experts, including veteran panellist Dee Madigan and some brand-new faces. The weekly topical series will drive through new marketing terrain - Amazon in Australia, the NBN and any PR disasters unlucky enough to erupt during the course of the season. Gruen will celebrate the good, the bad and the ugly. Plus, The Pitch returns with a whole new slate of impossible briefs and top agencies to battle it out in the Gruen ring.

Join us as we sneak ads onto the ABC and call bullshit on brands pretending they're just like us.

Short synopsis

Wil Anderson, Russel Howcroft & Todd Sampson pick over the good, the bad and the ugly of advertising. They explore the dark arts of branding & spin with a trusty team of advertising experts, including panellist Dee Madigan.

Production details

A CJZ and ABC co-production; Executive Producers: Nick Murray (CJZ), Wil Anderson, Richard Huddleston (ABC); Series Producer: Polly Connolly.

Contact

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

Bucket

For her 70th birthday, Mim Morgenstein (Miriam Margoyles,) wants her only child Fran (Frog Stone) to drive them on “the mini-break they never had”. Fran obliges, but no good deed goes unpunished.

After a childhood dream is ruined for the second time, Fran vows never to go anywhere with her mother again, but Mim has a devastating trump card up her sleeve. She’s dying. And there’s no way Mim is going to sit at home and wait for death.

She has compiled a “bucket list” of destinations she simply has to see to die happy. This is Mim’s dream. For Fran, this is her nightmare: spending time with the mad mother who sprinted naked around the quads at Cambridge, is determined to go sky-diving, and refused to attend her graduation. But the stakes are high – it’s now or never for a mother and child reunion – so she says yes.

Each episode contains a self-contained story that illuminates aspects of the mother-daughter relationship, from guilt and blame to love and affection and right back again. But there is also an unfolding narrative across the series with secrets, lies and a few well-cooked chickens coming home to roost...

Short synopsis

On her 70th birthday Mim reveals she’s dying and drags daughter Fran on the ‘mini break they never had’. Fran makes the effort, but new starts and openness are easier said than done. CAST: Miriam Margoyles, Frog Stone.

Production details

Creator/writer and star Frog Stone, Executive Producer: Judy Counihan (*Fresh Meat*) for Solution 3 Productions, Producer: Katie Mavroleon (*David Brent: Life On The Road*).

Contact

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



Comedian Aaron Chen is kicking goals in comedy. Earlier this year he won best newcomer at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, then became an overnight Twitter sensation following his infamous role as sports reporter at the Liverpool v Sydney FC soccer match, and now he's got his own Tonight Show!

Aaron Chen leads a team of fresh-faced Aussie comedians who've come together to create an unruly and unforgettable TV experience: Will Erimya, Jenna Owen, Ben Russell, Penny Greenhalgh, Sam Campbell, Victoria Zerbst, Clinton Haines, Edan Lacey and special appearances from Tom Walker and Cassie Workman. These Aaron Chen Tonight players are a ragtag collection of clowns, improvisers, comics, writers, field hockey goalies, royal butlers, failed musicians and, above all, friends (as expected in their contracts).

Aaron Chen Tonight was staged very much within the bounds of a small café bar in Darlinghurst. It's bright, colourful and delicious, but not safe to eat. It's the little show that could...blow your socks off.

#AaronChenTonight

Short synopsis

Aaron Chen Tonight was staged very much within the bounds of a small café bar in Darlinghurst. It's bright, colourful and delicious, but not safe to eat. It's the little show that could...blow your socks off.

Production details

A GNWTV production, filmed in front of a live audience.

Contact

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

Victoria

As Melbourne's (Rufus Sewell) popularity in the house wanes, the Tories eagerly await their imminent triumph. Most impatient of all is Victoria's wicked uncle Cumberland (Peter Firth), who is just waiting to prey on Victoria's (Jenna Coleman) vulnerability and establish a co-regency with the Duchess of Kent (Catherine Flemming) and Conroy (Paul Rhys).

Predictably, Victoria is devastated when Melbourne regretfully announces he is stepping down, and bewildered that she must ask a stranger, Sir Robert Peel (Nigel Lindsay), to form a government. The Duchess reminds her that she can rely on her and Conroy, but the very mention of her mother's wicked advisor only reminds Victoria of how alone she is.

Skerrett (Nell Hudson) sympathises with her from afar, but she has problems of her own – the head chef Francatelli (Ferdinand Kingsley) seems to know more than he should about her previous life...

Desperate, Victoria implores Melbourne to return as her Prime Minister and is stumped when he rejects her saying Peel is the rightful candidate. Unable to accept this, Victoria concocts a plan that humiliates Peel, leaving him no choice but to refuse to form government, paving the way for Melbourne to return... But Melbourne is outraged rather than impressed by her manipulative behaviour, and what's more, Cumberland and Conroy plot to make this "erratic" conduct grounds for a regency... Will Victoria get what she wants?

Short synopsis

Melbourne's resignation as PM leaves Victoria devastated; as the ambitious Conroy and her uncle Cumberland scheme against her, Victoria devises a risky plot to get Melbourne back. But will her stubbornness work?

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

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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	Gruen, The Checkout, Pulse, Thirteen, The Insider: Reggie Yates, Victoria, Bucket
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
Sarah Smith	Smith.Sarah@abc.net.au	Classic Countdown
Amy Reiha	Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au	ABC ME, ABC KIDS, James Galea's Best Trick Ever, Aaron Chen Tonight, Junior Eurovision, International Day of the Girl, The Deep, Nippers, Play School

Melbourne

Kim Bassett	(03) 9524 2580 / 0409 600 456 Bassett.Kim@abc.net.au	Gardening Australia, Australian Story, Utopia, Short Cuts To Glory: Matt Okine vs Food, Home Fires, Sideliners, Artsville, Screen Time
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 Krack!n, The Edge of the Bush, The Ex-PM S2, The Letdown, Mustangs FC
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Find publicity images and press kits for highlighted and ongoing programs at abc.net.au/tvpublicity