

BBC Worldwide Press Office
BBC Worldwide Australia
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Smart British Factual TV with credibility & character BBC Knowledge launches *Richard Hammond's Crash Course* and *Dragons' Den S8*

This August, BBC Knowledge's charismatic presenters will stimulate minds, conversations and curiosity with brand new Australian premiere factual programmes, ***Richard Hammond's Crash Course*** and series 8 of the world's number one business show, ***Dragons' Den*** plus new episodes of the BBC flagship science programme ***Horizon***.

A new global commission for BBC Worldwide Channels from BBC AMERICA, ***Richard Hammond's Crash Course*** will premiere for the first time on Australian television on Sundays at 8:30pm, from August 19, exclusive to BBC Knowledge.

The series follows Richard Hammond, presenter of the BBC's *Top Gear* - the world's most popular motoring show - as he travels across the US and faces the ultimate challenge of learning how to operate America's largest and most dangerous vehicles. Immersed in some of the country's most extreme environments, he has only days to master these monstrous machines, a task that takes years for most people to achieve. Throughout his journey, Hammond works alongside local experts who operate these machines daily, while getting a true taste of American hospitality.

The Dragons are back and hungry to secure themselves the best deal when ***Dragons' Den*** series 8 premieres weeknights at 7:30pm, from August 27.

Entrepreneurs pitch bold new ideas and inventions to five hard-nosed multimillionaires, the Dragons, in this intelligent and inspiring show with high stakes and real jeopardy. They must convince one or more of the Dragons to invest a specific amount of their own money – or they fail. If the Dragons are impressed by a pitch, they negotiate aggressively to own the biggest possible share in the venture in exchange for their cash.

These are challenging times economically but that hasn't deterred the nation's entrepreneurs. In this series, a record number of entrepreneurs walk up the famous stairs to ask for an all-important cash injection that could transform their businesses and change their lives. This series the Dragons are James Caan, Peter Jones, Theo Paphitis, Duncan Bannatyne and Deborah Meaden.

Tim Christlieb, Head of Programming and Production, BBC Worldwide Australasia said, "*Richard Hammond's Crash Course, Dragons' Den* and *Horizon* are great examples of the sort of distinctive, premium factual series audiences have come to expect from BBC Knowledge. They are full of ambitious new ideas, insight and personality, and come with the stamp of quality the BBC is recognised for around the world. *Crash Course* also demonstrates our commitment to create original programmes that showcase the very best British talent to the world."

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Also this August, new episodes of *Horizon*, the BBC's flagship science programme Mondays at 9.30pm, from August 6. *Horizon* explores topical scientific issues and their effects for the future. Specials in August include *What Makes a Genius?*, *Is Everything About the Universe Wrong?*, *Back From the Dead with Dr Kevin Fong* and *Death of the Oceans*.

Horizon screens Mondays at 9.30pm, from August 6

Richard Hammond's Crash Course screens Sundays at 8.30pm, from August 19

Dragon's Den screens weeknights at 8.30pm, from August 27

BBC Knowledge is available in Australia exclusive to Foxtel.

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About BBC Worldwide Australasia

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About Channels

BBC Worldwide Channels is one of five BBC Worldwide businesses. Formed in 2005, the business' diverse portfolio of channel brands provides a global showcase for the best mix of British TV across factual, entertainment, children's and lifestyle programming. The company is the UK's leading international broadcaster, operating a network of localised channels that reach over 300 million homes in more than 100 countries around the world.

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