



MEDIA RELEASE

October 3, 2013

NEIL OLIVER IS COMING TO AUSTRALIA, LIVE ON STAGE

Presented by Lateral Events and BBC Worldwide Australia and New Zealand

Lateral Events and BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand (ANZ) are bringing Neil Oliver, historian, archaeologist and presenter of acclaimed BBC TV series such as *Coast*, *Vikings* and *A History of Ancient Britain*, to the Australian stage for a fascinating live show. **Neil Oliver – History in the Making** will coincide with the broadcast of Oliver's new series *Coast Australia* on Foxtel in December.

In *History in the Making*, Neil will bring British and Australian history to life. Shedding light into the turbulent Dark Ages when King Arthur was rumoured to have held court and the Saxons and Vikings invaded, Neil will give a unique insight into this intriguing and transformative era in Britain. Neil will also discuss his new series *Coast Australia*, in which he has gathered stories, amazing facts and revelations about Australia's own history, people, archaeology, geography and marine life.

Neil is one of the UK's most compelling TV presenters, popularising history programming with stories of heroic figures and everyday lives from the past. Presenter of *Coast*, the UK series which explores the natural and social history of the British coastline and is now in its eighth series, Oliver has recently completed filming of *Coast Australia* for The History Channel. The series starts Monday December 2nd at 7.30pm.

Trained as an archaeologist and journalist, Neil made his television debut in the BBC's *Two Men in a Trench* which featured Neil and close friend Tony Pollard visiting historic battlefields and recreating the battle situations using state of the art archaeological techniques.

His shows *A History of Scotland*, followed by *A History of Ancient Britain*, *A History of Ancient Britain - Celtic Britain* and *Vikings* have seen him delving into Britain's historic past to tell the amazing stories of the technical, cultural and political revolutions which shaped Britain.

Neil Oliver – History in the Making will have its world debut in Australia, extending Lateral Event's 'Intellectual Entertainment' series of events which have included live shows with Heston Blumenthal, Sir David Attenborough and most recently Prof Brian Cox, which was presented in association with BBC Worldwide ANZ in August.

"For me - the characters and events of the past are every bit as exciting as breaking news today. I want everyone to feel the same excitement about these stories as I do - even a sense of personal connection to them - so I am very much looking forward to presenting *History in the Making* live on stage in Sydney and Melbourne," said Neil Oliver. "We'll be evoking some of the most exciting periods of history and bringing them to life. If you'll excuse the pun this will be a ground breaking experience!"

Helen Pendlebury, Head of Brand Licensing and Live Entertainment, BBC Worldwide ANZ, said, “Neil Oliver has a fascinating story to tell about the discoveries and insights he gained for his TV shows in both the UK and Australia. We are delighted to work with Lateral Events once more to allow fans to engage with these passionate experts on a whole new level.”

neiloliverlive.com.au

Neil Oliver – History in the Making

MELBOURNE

Wednesday 27 November at 8pm The Plenary, MCEC

Bookings: www.ticketmaster.com.au or 136 100

SYDNEY

Wednesday 4 December at 8pm State Theatre

Bookings: www.ticketmaster.com.au or 1300 139 588

TICKETS ON SALE Monday 14 October

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Notes to Editors

About BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand

Australia & New Zealand (ANZ) is a priority territory for BBC Worldwide, focusing on growth across all its core business areas. Based in Macquarie Park, Sydney, BBC Worldwide ANZ wholly owns five channels: UKTV, BBC Knowledge and CBeebies in Australia; UKTV and BBC Knowledge in New Zealand; and is responsible for the distribution and promotion of BBC World News which transmits in both countries. In August 2014 it will launch a new premium BBC channel showcasing premiere drama and comedy on the Foxtel platform in Australia. BBC Worldwide ANZ distributes great British content from the BBC and other producers to all free-to-air and most subscription channels in Australia and New Zealand. It works with partners to bring BBC Worldwide DVDs, magazines, digital apps, innovative products and live events to the local market, as well as offering advertising opportunities for the BBC's world renowned bbc.com news site and lonelyplanet.com. Australia is the most successful territory for the global BBC iPlayer.

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