

TVNZ acquire Comedy, Science, Factual & Entertainment programming from BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand

Comedy, science, factual and entertainment titles make up a raft of BBC Worldwide content recently licensed to New Zealand's national broadcaster Television New Zealand.

Comedy series ***Uncle*** follows the misadventures and growing pains of an irresponsible out-of-work musician who forges an unlikely alliance with his neurotic 12 year old nephew. Thirty-something 'man-child' Andy staggers through life leaving chaos in his wake. So when his sister Sam uses a bit of emotional blackmail to get him to look after her son Errol, how will Andy manage to keep the youngster out of trouble while constantly being knee deep in the stuff himself?

In ***Billy Connolly's Big Send Off*** effervescent comedian and Hollywood star Billy Connolly explores changing attitudes, beliefs and approaches towards death whilst also considering his own approach to the final curtain. Billy strolls around America's largest funeral convention, discovering the hundreds of ways that you can put someone in the ground and he also catches up with old friend Eric Idle to discuss how the *Monty Python* star's 'Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life' has become one of the UK's most played funeral songs, and ponders what music he'd choose as a part of his own final send off.

Do animals think and what do they know? A revolution is occurring in how science understands animal minds and it is providing remarkable answers. ***Inside the Animal Mind*** overturns long-standing theories about how animals think, revealing the truth about how animals understand the world around them. This fascinating series explores these breakthroughs through three, iconic creatures – dogs, birds and dolphins – and discovers how the origins and causes of animals' cognitive abilities lie in their environment.

Prostitution: What's The Harm? is a lively and thought-provoking documentary investigating the current state of prostitution in the UK and looking at young people's attitudes to the world's oldest profession. It is legal to buy sex in the UK, but there is a growing political movement to change that law. Reporter Billie J D Porter asks what the impact would be on those involved – the men who pay for sex, the women who sell it and the traffickers, brothel owners and pimps – and she travels to other European countries to see how they deal with it.

My Baggy Body is a warm and intimate film following three people as they decide how to deal with the excess skin they've been left with after extreme weight loss. Pauline, Gregg and Sarah have lost over 40 stone (255 kg) between them, but their dreams have turned into nightmares. The weight loss they craved has left each of them with something even worse hidden beneath their clothes – excess skin and lots of it.

Said Irene Read, Head of TV Sales, BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand: 'This deal is a testament to our long-standing relationship with TVNZ and demonstrates that there is a strong demand in New Zealand for great British content.'

Said Andrew Shaw, General Manager – Commissioning, Production & Acquisitions, TVNZ: 'We are delighted to have secured this strong slate of high quality programming. We expect these programmes will find substantial audiences and enjoy critical acclaim.'

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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 channel BBC First, 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. Australia is the most successful territory for the current global BBC iPlayer trial.

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