

# PRESS RELEASE

12th JANUARY 2015

## NEW SERIES OF TOP GEAR RACES TO AUSTRALIA EXPRESS FROM THE UK



For the first time, Australian viewers will be able to watch the new series of **Top Gear** on BBC Knowledge within minutes of it airing in the UK. The latest series of **Top Gear**, will premiere on the 26<sup>th</sup> January (time to be confirmed later this week) and features a segment filmed in the Northern Territory, airing in episode two, transmitting the 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

To celebrate the new season of **Top Gear**, BBC Knowledge will also be showing brand new car construction and challenge competition series **Mud, Sweat and Gears** starting the 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 8.30pm and the one-off special **Inside Rolls Royce** on the 18<sup>th</sup> February at 8.30pm.

**Top Gear**, the world's biggest car programme, returns for an explosive and extra-long run of brand new programmes. In the first episode of the series, Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May are in Russia for an incredible race across the vast and very beautiful urban landscape of St Petersburg. May defends the honour of the car in a very small Renault, Hammond tries to prove that pedalling is faster by saddling up a bicycle, whilst Clarkson attempts to demonstrate that water is the quickest way across town, especially if you're in a hovercraft. To make matters more complicated, all three presenters are racing not only each other but also The Stig, who is silently making his way towards the finish line on public transport.

Also in the first episode, Richard Hammond is at the test track to find out if the dramatic new Lamborghini Huracan is as flamboyant and fun as an Italian supercar should be. Plus, another top celebrity guest tests their steely eyed driving skills as the "Star in the Reasonably Priced Car".



In new series ***Mud, Sweat and Gears***, hosts Tom 'Wookie' Ford, Jonny Smith and their team of petrolheads go head-to-head super-customizing, super-racing and generally blowing up the craziest mutated cars this side of Mad Max! With a different theme for each episode, rival team leaders, Jonny and Wookie, select a pretty ordinary base car, then work against the clock with their team members to rip it apart and radically redesign it. Once the teams have their machines fixed up and ready to race, epic adventures unfold in a contest where literally anything can – and will – happen. In an added twist, after the thrills and spills of the three stunt challenges, the losing team has to stand by and watch as their lovingly-crafted vehicle is dramatically destroyed.

***Inside Rolls Royce*** offers a privileged peek into the exclusive world of one of Britain's most famous luxury brands. This documentary follows the Rolls Royce team as they create The Celestial, their most expensive car ever. This one-off, bespoke car comes complete with a diamond-studded interior and its own platinum-encrusted picnic hamper.

In a world where money is no object, the customer can have anything they want; from rabbit-fur detailing to their own unique paint colour. This documentary reveals the obsessive attention to detail that goes into making and selling cars to the super-rich and the extraordinary lengths the team go to in pursuit of perfection.

**-ENDS-**

**Notes to Editors:**

**Twitter:** @bbcknowledgeau **Hashtag:** #TopGear

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/bbcknowledgeau](http://www.facebook.com/bbcknowledgeau)

**Photos:** [www.bbcmedia.com.au](http://www.bbcmedia.com.au)

**For more information please contact**

Phoebe Price, Senior Communications Executive 02 9744 4507 [phoebe.price@bbc.com](mailto:phoebe.price@bbc.com)

**BBC KNOWLEDGE**

*Top Gear* broadcasts on BBC Knowledge on Foxtel and will be available on Fetch TV from the 1<sup>st</sup> February.

**AN EVENING WITH TOP GEAR**

Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May will preview the forthcoming new series of *Top Gear* in front of a live and online global audience of fans at a special event in London on Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup> (Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> in Australia). The one-off event will broadcast on *Top Gear's* official [YouTube](#) channel at 2100hrs GMT (19<sup>th</sup> January 0800hrs AEDT).

**TOP GEAR FESTIVAL SYDNEY: APRIL 2015**

Tickets are now on sale to see **Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond** and **James May** host the fastest and loudest Top Gear Festival ever at Sydney Motorsport Park, Eastern Creek on 18-19 April 2015.

More information about the Festival here - <http://www.topgearfestivalsydney.com.au/>

Tickets are on sale now from Ticketek – [www.ticketek.com.au/topgearfestivalsydney](http://www.ticketek.com.au/topgearfestivalsydney)

**TOP GEAR EXTREME PARKING APP**

Take on the challenge of the official, world famous *Top Gear* Test Track for the first time on smartphones and tablets with the *Top Gear* Extreme Parking game, free to download from the [App Store](#), [Google Play](#) and [Amazon](#).

### **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 six channels: BBC First, 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. 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](http://bbc.com) news site.

[bbcworldwide.com](http://bbcworldwide.com)

[twitter.com/bbcwpress](https://twitter.com/bbcwpress)

