



## **BBC WORLDWIDE ANZ REPORTS STRONG GROWTH FOR 14/15**

BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand (ANZ) has announced headline sales of £81.9m in the company's Annual Review 2014/15, up 7.8% (2013/14: £76.0m).

This contributed to overall financial results for BBC Worldwide of £1,001.8m global headline sales in the year leading up to 31 March 2015, £138.6m headline profit and a record £226.5m returned to the BBC.

The principal drivers of growth in ANZ were a number of key partnerships. BBC Worldwide's partnership with Foxtel saw the new premium drama channel, BBC First, launch in August 2014 on the Drama tier, the most successful non-sport STV channel launch since 2006. For the first time, Australian viewers have a dedicated British drama channel where they have been able to enjoy top-rating dramas including *Peaky Blinders*, *Call The Midwife*, *The Musketeers* and *The Politician's Husband*. Meanwhile BBC UKTV moved to the Entertainment tier, resulting in an uplift to the channel's audience. BBC First, BBC Knowledge and BBC UKTV joined BBC World News on Fetch TV. While BBC UKTV and BBC Knowledge continued to perform well on SKY TV in New Zealand.

BBC Worldwide ANZ's entertainment format partnership with FremantleMedia Australia bore fruit, producing new commissions for *Dancing with the Stars* (Seven), *The Great Australian Bake Off* (Lifestyle FOOD), *Rachel Khoo's Kitchen Notebook Melbourne* (SBS). Other formats secured include *Coast Australia 2* (Great Southern TV for The History Channel), *Living With The Enemy* (SBS), *Coast New Zealand* (Great Southern TV for TV ONE) and *Dancing with the Stars* (TV3), boosting this new area of business for BBC Worldwide ANZ.

A strong year for TV sales was enhanced by sales of programs to new OTT entrants, including Stan, Netflix and Lightbox, taking BBC Worldwide content on to 15 digital platforms across the territory. Meanwhile BBC Worldwide ANZ's partnership with Roadshow saw DVD sales holding up well in this territory, with *Call The Midwife* the top selling title in Australia. Key performing titles sold to ABC this year include *Doctor Who*, *Call The Midwife*, *Silent Witness* and *Death In Paradise*.

Jon Penn, Managing Director of BBC Worldwide ANZ said: "Strong partnerships in this market have allowed us to grow our brands and find more homes than ever before for our content. BBC Worldwide ANZ's significant improvement this year reflects the company's strategy for a sharper regional focus to deliver an ambitious global strategy."

**ends**

**Press contact: Laura Dumbrell, Head of Communications at BBC Worldwide ANZ, on 02 9744 4502.**

### **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. 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.

### **About BBC Worldwide**

BBC Worldwide is the main commercial arm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). Its vision is to build the BBC's brands, audiences, commercial returns and reputation across the world. This is achieved through investing in, commercialising and showcasing content from the BBC around the world, in a way that is consistent with BBC standards and values. The business also champions British creativity globally.

In 2014/15, BBC Worldwide generated headline profits of £138.6m and headline sales of £1,001.8m and returned a record £226.5m to the BBC. For more detailed performance information please see our Annual Review website:

<http://www.bbcworldwide.com/annualreview>

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

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