



Miss it & miss out

with JACKIE TRACY



Supernatural

Monday, 8.30pm, Ch 10

The battling brothers Winchester get straight back into it when Supernatural picks up right where it left off ... with the Devil (talk about a doozy guest role for Lost's Mark Pellegrino) emerging from a portal of Hell. Well, after a quick recap set to Acca Dacca number Thunderstruck, that is. With Lucifer risen and walking the Earth things are going to get really ugly in season five. Think angels v demon warfare, natural disasters ... in short the Apocalypse. Guilt-ridden Sam (Jared Padalecki) and big bro Dean (Jensen Ackles) definitely will be clocking up some kilometres in their '67 Chevy Impala trying to sort out this mess and save the world.

NEW THIS WEEK





Joanna Lumley in the Land of the Northern Lights

Sunday, 7.30pm, ABC1

Gorgeous Joanna Lumley (pictured) has campaigned for the Gurhkas, gained a cult following in comedy *Absolutely Fabulous* and dazzled as a Bond girl and Purdey in *The New Avengers*. She could probably still cut it in a catsuit, but instead rugs up to pursue the famous Northern Lights in the winter wonderland of Norway's Far North and the Arctic Circle. Braving temperatures of -30C, she travels by train, boat, husky-sled and snowmobile and sees all the snow, ice and reindeer you could dream of during a South Australian heatwave.



Glee

Sunday, 7.30pm, Ch 10

The Gleeks from McKinley High School have been called in to fill the song and dance vacuum left by *Australian Idol*. And that means more of this addictive, guilt-free delight leading up to Christmas. Sexy rap star Eve guests tonight, playing Grace Hitchens, the coach of their biggest glee-club rivals. The rapper/singer/actress - who even had her TV series for three seasons - stepped in when Whitney Houston passed on the role (might have been a better look than that Oprah interview, Whits). Expect some hair-raising choreography as the rival crew are played by past contestants from *So You Think You Can Dance*. Excellent



FlashForward

Monday, 8.30pm, Ch 7
(season final)

This breakout sci-fi hit winds down for the year, having collected plenty of Aussie devotees to the mysteries of the Mosaic Collective. Basically, it's going to black out during summer ratings hiatus, then a vision shows me it will be back in the New Year. This isn't actually the season finale, so don't expect any more jaw-dropping cliffhangers than usual, but a new character (played by Michael Ealy) will create some headaches for hot hero Mark Benford (Joseph Fiennes). John Cho also stars.



Flashpoint
Monday, 9.30pm, Ch 9

Not to be confused with *FlashForward*, this is a bit like *Rush*. It's shot in Canada, where it's a huge ratings success and recently grabbed a swag of Geminis (an Emmy equivalent). It's a high-end police procedural following an elite tactical unit in Toronto, which deftly blends adrenalin-surgeing action with intense human drama. Tonight, the Special Response Unit must save a little kidnap victim being held in a boobytrapped house in the 'burbs. The case has disturbing similarities to an earlier abduction, which provides a wicked twist as Team One weighs up their tactical and psychological strategies.



Survivor: Samoa
Tuesday, 7.30pm, Ch 9

Stand by for the usual back-stabbing, whining, psycho-babble, Tribal Council pow-wows and immunity idol palaver as 20 castaways are marooned on Samoa, in the South Pacific for the 19th season – yes, 19th is correct – of *Survivor*. This time, the Galu and Foa Foa tribes will battle it out for 39 days in hopes of becoming Sole Survivor. Expect truly Machiavellian machinations – there are some real pieces of work. This series is currently screening in the US – you can't get much more up-to-date than that.



Prince Charles' Other Mistress

Tuesday, 8.30pm, ABC1

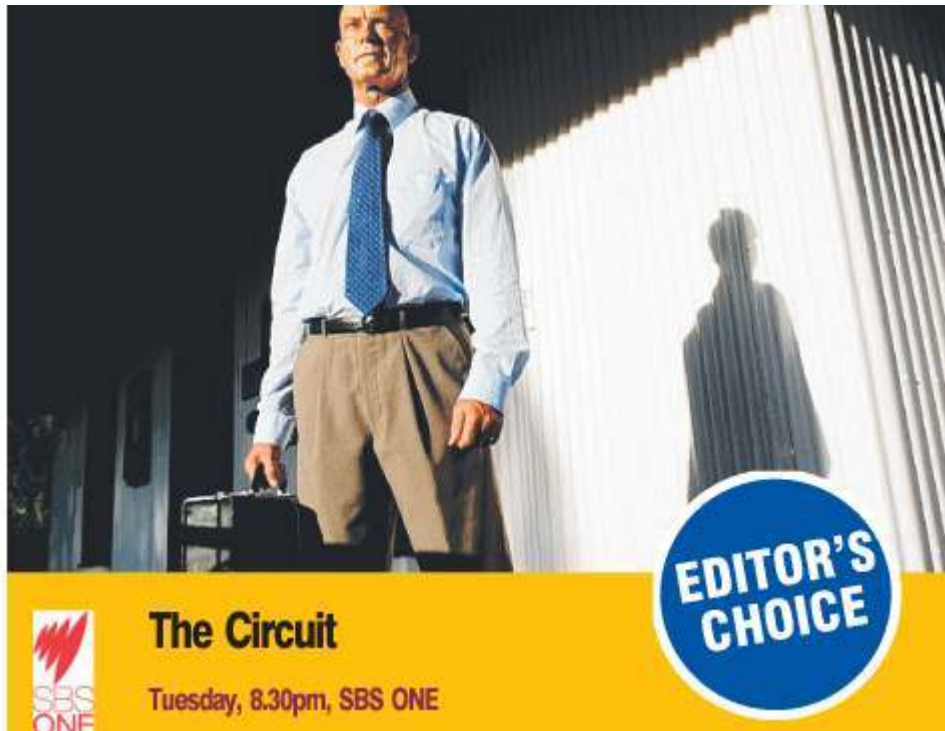
Back in the day, Lady Dale "Kanga" Tryon had a passionate affair with the Prince of Wales and was a serious rival to Camilla Parker Bowles. This documentary takes a stickybeak at the story of the blonde Aussie heiress who was loved and left by Charles in the 1970s, and would later die young, in tragic circumstances. Exclusive interviews with the unlucky Lady, and contributions from her friends and confidants, shed new light on her life and the familiar yet intriguing Charles-Camilla-Princess Diana triangle.



Parks And Recreation

Tuesday, 11pm, Ch 7

Baby Mama's zany Amy Poehler stars as a council drone with big dreams in this new mockumentary-style sitcom. One unkind critic skewered it as a "bad day at *The Office*", but it's got some potential. Poehler's wide-eyed character Leslie Knope sees beyond the mundane machinations of local government in Pawnee, Indiana, to a Hillary Clintonesque future. Her springboard is a plan to turn an unsightly construction pit into a leafy local park. First, she'll have to contend with her venal, mean and passive-aggressive fellow bureaucrats. At least it doesn't have a laugh track.

The Circuit
 Tuesday, 8.30pm, SBS ONE

The award-winning Outback legal drama is back, with Aaron Pedersen and Gary Sweet (pictured) reprising their roles as Aboriginal lawyer Drew Ellis and magistrate Peter Lockhart. The acclaimed first series introduced Ellis, a city lawyer who moves to the bush to join the travelling court that dispenses justice to remote communities in the Kimberley. In this six-part miniseries, Ellis, Lockhart and other familiar characters such as liaison officer Sam Wallan (Kelton Pell) and clerk of courts Bella (Tammy Clarkson) face new cases and new challenges as well as personal tragedy.



Oz and James' Big Wine Adventure

Thursday, 8pm, SBS ONE

Veteran wine expert Oz Clark takes on *Top Gear's* James May as his apprentice, as they motor around France's most splendid and picturesque wineries in a Jaguar. It's a tough job but someone's got to do it – and it might as well be this amusing odd couple. Tonight, the boy racer joins the bon vivant for an introduction to the art of wine tasting at the 150-year-old Chateau Pichon-Longueville-Comtesse-de-Lalande of Grand Dame Madame May-Elaine de Lencquesaing. Try saying that after a few standard drinks.



No Leave, No Life

Saturday, 6.30pm, Ch 7

Far from our international image as laid-back beach bums throwing shrimps on barbies, Aussies apparently are sad workaholics too busy to take a holiday. Ernie Dingo is solving the problem, one overworked minion at a time, which could potentially see this new series extend ad infinitum, or even as long as his flagship show *The Great Outdoors*. For starters, Ernie surprises paediatric nurse Lauren Allen and two mates with a cowgirl escape – with a celebrity surprise – in our beautiful Flinders Ranges. Comedian Lano, meanwhile, pretends to assume some of Lauren's duties on the kids' ward.



Rudely Interrupted

Thursday, 9.35pm, ABC1

Australian band Rudely Interrupted's infectious indie rock has taken them from pub gigs to making history at the UN in New York. For each member, creating music and building a devoted following has meant surmounting a mental and physical challenge, such as blindness, deafness, Aspergers, autism and Down syndrome. This inspiring, uplifting and funny rockumentary follows the band and their manager on the road to the Big Apple. The journey is daunting – most of them have never left Victoria before – as they play five cities across two continents. The pressure of living cheek-by-jowl on tour has undone many pros. But not this mob.



Merlin

Saturday, 7.30pm, Ch 10

This medieval magical romp takes pardonable liberties with the legend of Camelot to deliver rollicking family viewing with 21st-century attitude. Colin Morgan is terrific as the brash teenaged Merlin, who is apprenticed to wise old physician Gaius (Richard "I don't believe it" Wilson from *One Foot in the Grave*) in the court of King Uther (a suavely evil Anthony Head) at a time when magic is forbidden on pain of death. The repeats start here if you missed it the first time.



Crusoe

Saturday, 7.30pm, Ch 9

There are slim pickings when you're looking non-sitcom/cartoon/reality viewing for all the family, so you can forgive a few faults in this escapist adventure series. The latest re-imagining of Daniel Defoe's classic shipwreck tale is sumptuously filmed and full of swashbuckling action. Robinson Crusoe (Phillip Winchester) sails for the New World in search of his fortune, but winds up stranded on a desert isle. Rescuing a native man from cannibals is one of his smarter moves. Together, Crusoe and sophisticated Friday (Tongayi Chirisa) deploy ingenuity to survive and thrive in their harsh environment and tackle ruthless pirates.



Law & Order

Friday, 8.30pm, Ch 10

It's America's longest running prime time cop show (although still lagging behind *The Bill* and *Taggart*). And after 19 years, fans know it always delivers a reliable hit of police procedural and courtroom action. It returns well into season 19, which has been boosted by quality hires Jeremy Sisto and British actor Linus Roache. Tonight, the case of a murdered FDNY firefighter and his wife leads the team down some dark paths, as they investigate their brothers in arms.