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June 2012 Highlights



World's Toughest Drive

UK PREMIERE TWO-PART SPECIAL

THURSDAY 21ST AND 28TH JUNE, 9.00PM

Strap yourself in for the ride of your life, as a trio of extremely courageous adventurers take on the *World's Toughest Drive* and attempt to complete the world's fastest ever drive on Polar ice, from the coast of Antarctica to the South Pole. In this thrilling 700-mile journey, the daredevils test man and machine on the Earth's most challenging terrain. The team comprises an experienced British Polar expedition leader Jason De Carteret; a British engineering specialist Kieron Bradley; and a member of the public who dreams of making history, a 6 foot 4 Canadian copywriter, who's never even camped in snow before - Jason "JT" Thomas. If they are to set a new world record, they must deal with deep crevasses that could suddenly swallow their car without trace, sub-zero temperatures of -89 degrees Celsius that make ball bearings shatter and fuel explode, and collisions with treacherous ice blocks.

The expedition has been years in the planning, and key to the mission is an astonishingly hardy, supercharged 4 x 4 car – they have named 'Polar' – which hurtles along at speeds of up to 75 mph. It is the ultimate petrol head's dream and has been modified to perfection over a three-year period. For their race to the South Pole, the team aim to smash the world record (currently held by one of the team members at just 2 days, 21 hours and 21 minutes), to become the ultimate fastest off-road adventurers in the world. It is an extremely challenging task, and to make it even tougher, there are no support vehicles or camera crews; they are alone.

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Whale Wars: Viking Shores

UK PREMIERE SERIES

FRIDAYS FROM 8TH JUNE, 9.00PM

In the North Atlantic, between Iceland and Scotland, lays a chain of islands with picturesque beaches and rolling green hills. The Faroe Islands are a self-governing Danish Territory of 50,000 people - descendants of Vikings, bound by proud tradition, who have fished these waters for thousands of years. But there is a dark shadow over this beautiful land. Every year, Faroese people gather to herd pilot whales to their shallow shores to be killed for their meat, which is a food source.

Whale Wars: Viking Shores a new five-part series, follows Sea Shepherd Conservation Society as it sets sail to end this ancient tradition known as "The Grind" - Faroese for "whale drive" - that takes place every summer.

For the first time in the history of the *Whale Wars* saga, the Sea Shepherds are not only at sea but also deploying a covert team to patrol the streets, interact with locals and carry out undercover missions. For this campaign, the Sea Shepherd arsenal has been upgraded with a new ultra-lightweight aircraft and mobile acoustical devices to deter the whales from the islands. The flagship *Steve Irwin* (captained by Paul Watson) and *Brigitte Bardot* (captained by Fraser Hall) join the land-sea-air operation to provide backup along the coast. A grind can happen at any moment, and the Sea Shepherds are vastly outnumbered and behind enemy lines in a new kind of face-to-face battle.

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Bear Grylls: Born Survivor

UK PREMIERE SERIES

MONDAYS FROM 4TH JUNE, 9.00PM

In the all new series of *Bear Grylls: Born Survivor*, Bear undergoes his most demanding tests yet. The six-part run kicks off with a special featuring actor Jake Gyllenhaal. Bear wants to see how the award-winning actor matches up in a head-to-head contest with Mother Nature. For two gruelling days and two nights, the pair undergo a survival challenge neither of them will ever forget. They are forced to negotiate a massively intimidating Icelandic landscape dominated by mountains, glaciers and some of the world's most active volcanoes. In later episodes, Bear

embarks on a hugely taxing journey traversing New Zealand's highest mountain range, the 30,000 feet Southern Alps; he heads to Iceland, the land of fire and ice, and is helicoptered onto the ice on top of an active volcano, before making his way down a treacherous glacier in blinding blizzard conditions. He then journeys to the red rock canyons of southern Utah, the heart of America's Wild West, where he crosses an arid wilderness and finds himself hanging 100 feet above a terrifying ravine. All this – and Bear's craziest aeroplane stunt ever!

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Curiosity

UK PREMIERE SERIES

SUNDAYS FROM 10TH JUNE, 8.00PM

What would it be like to live forever? How does life begin? What sank the Titanic? Returning series *Curiosity* attempts to uncover the truths behind these challenging questions. Hosted by a stellar line up of celebrity presenters including *Mythbusters'* Adam Savage, Courtney Cox and Bill Paxton (*Titanic*), each episode focuses on a single enduring question in science, technology, and society. Embarking on a fascinating voyage of discovery, this unique and engaging series goes to extreme lengths to seek surprising and exciting answers to life's mysteries. *Curiosity* launches with *Can You Live*

Forever? A remarkable programme that answers the questions: Could humanity one day become immortal? If so, when and how? Flashing forward to the year 2967, a '1000-year-old' host Adam Savage explores the evolution of the supercharged cyber-human and looks back on his long life revealing how medical science in the 21st century transformed his body, allowing him to live to such an incredible age. The following week Courtney Cox explores the journey from conception to birth in *Curiosity: How Does Life Begin?*

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NASA's Unexplained Files

UK PREMIERE ONE-OFF
SUNDAY 3RD JUNE, 8.00PM

In more than half a century of space exploration, NASA has captured images of some of the most extraordinary things in the universe. Desolate planets, giant solar flares and distant nebula, but, they have also captured remarkable images closer to home; including objects which seem to defy explanation, flying just outside the Earth's atmosphere.

Senior NASA astronauts remain disturbed by the phenomenon they've seen. Can these sightings be explained? Is there now evidence of advanced extraterrestrial life? This one-off special reveals NASA's top ten unexplained encounters using original footage and groundbreaking interviews with astronauts and scientists.

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Animal Airport

UK PREMIERE SERIES

WEDNESDAYS FROM 6TH JUNE, 8.00PM

Heathrow is the world's busiest airport. More planes, passengers and animals pass through here than any other International airport. Nowhere else will you find as many species bagged, crated and caged as they journey – some legally, many illegally – across the globe. The hub for this inhuman traffic is the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (The ARC) and with exclusive access to the ARC, Animal Planet's brand new 13 part series captures all the animal and human drama that goes on behind-the-scenes on the runways and in the terminal buildings.

They may call it the ARC, but the animals come not in two-by-two but in their hundreds. As well as thousands of dogs and cats, they've had sloths, giant octopuses, bears, elephants, tigers, lions, sharks, alpacas, venomous snakes, vampire bats, racehorses from the Gulf, the British Olympic

equestrian team - in fact pretty much any animal you can think of. The only thing they haven't had in the centre's 32-year history is a giraffe, but that's probably because it'd be a packaging nightmare!

In the series premiere episode it becomes clear that animals heading for the pet trade often arrive in a terrible condition, when a box of 100 chameleons was intercepted from Africa bound for Japan many were dead on arrival and the team had an emergency on its hands to save the rest.

In episode two, four cheetahs are detained on their way from South Africa to Russia. Despite their ingenuity and best efforts, the staff cannot find two of the cheetah's identifying microchips and they have to prepare for the big cats' for extended stay.

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Karina: Wild On Safari

UK PREMIERE SERIES

THURSDAYS FROM 7TH JUNE, 8.00PM

Meet Karina Holmes: model come wild African Adventurer and join her as she embarks on a two month safari to Zimbabwe and Zambia. Along with her trusty and highly knowledgeable guide, Craig, Karina encounters a wealth of wild animals as she explores the African Bush and experiences some truly spectacular moments as they observe elephants, hippos, wild dogs and lions in their natural habitats. Highlights of the series include Karina getting shoved by a huge bull elephant and being charged by lions, twice! This fun and entertaining series is full of emotion, drama, adrenaline and laughter.

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Wild Life At The Zoo

UK PREMIERE SERIES

SUNDAYS FROM 10TH JUNE, 7.00PM

Animal Planet's, exciting new documentary series *Wild Life At The Zoo* profiles the fascinating world of the Taronga Zoo in Sydney, Australia, which is home to over 2600 animals living on 28 hectares. The series will not only tell stories of Taronga's charismatic animals, but explore the intimate bond that exists between animals and their keepers.

The series kicks off with the culmination of one of the zoo's most ambitious ever projects, the movement of 18 chimps into their new multimillion dollar sanctuary. There is a dramatic twist when the chimps are anaesthetised which sends the zoo on it's highest alert. A flurry of births including those of endangered Tasmanian devils will warm the hearts but also demonstrate the challenges and importance of zoo based breeding programmes. In a rare event, viewers will witness cubs born to Taronga's sumatran tiger, a critically endangered species. The series also tracks difficult re-locations such as getting a giraffe to New Zealand. This gripping new factual series reveals the world of a zoo from a whole new perspective.

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My Strange Addiction

UK PREMIERE SERIES

TUESDAYS FROM 5TH JUNE, 9.00PM

Imagine finding comfort in behaviours that go beyond the call of bizarre. For example, sniffing petrol or eating rocks. This, second series of *My Strange Addiction* showcases individuals who have turned to extreme measures to ease their anxieties. The first episode introduces Riley who, to escape the stresses of the real world, lives life as a baby and wears a nappy; and Charmissa who fills her bra with the dryer sheets she chews on every day. Later in the series drug-addict Krista presents viewers with her 12 'children' - all of which are teddy bears.

Why have these individuals turned to such extreme measures in order to ease anxieties? Can anyone, or anything, shake them from their addictions before they injure themselves? Friends and family members confront their loved ones to discuss the financial, psychological and physical effects of these behaviours, and the strain they put on their relationships. Finally, the addicts will meet with a medical professional in an attempt to understand their compulsions, and take the first steps towards living an addiction-free life.

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Quints By Surprise

UK PREMIERE SERIES

FRIDAYS FROM 15TH JUNE, 10.00PM

Casey and Ethan Jones had the perfect life in Texas; great jobs, a dream home, and a beautiful six-year-old daughter named Eliot. Then they decided one more baby would complete the package. But instead of one, they got five! In this returning series of *Quints By Surprise* there is never a dull moment, from the mountain of dirty diapers to the endless temper tantrums. But, even with the chaos of raising six children, Ethan and Casey let nothing stop them from living life to the full and letting the kids experience the world outside of their home. Between their first trip to the zoo to camping in the wilderness, it's a world of new experiences for the family. There is even a new addition to the family who might just give the quints a run for their money.



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The Real Sleeping Beauty

NETWORK PREMIERE ONE-OFF
THURSDAY 21ST JUNE, 9.00PM

In 1984, 18 year old Sarah Scantlin was run over by a drunk driver. The severe brain injuries left her in a coma for twenty years. Doctors had to remove the part of her brain that governs speech to save her life. The prognosis was that she would be in a vegetative state for the rest of her life, with feeding tubes to keep her alive. In 2005, Sarah miraculously woke up in the nursing home where she lay for two decades and began to speak. She asked the nurse for a manicure. No-one has ever been in a coma for that long and regained the power of speech.

The film meets Sarah two years after she spoke those first words. Now, she wants to prove once more she can achieve the impossible. Sarah's goal is independence. To feed herself, and be able to stand and walk unassisted. This one-off special follows her rapid progress and her family's struggle to finance further intensive rehab for her after already losing everything they had on medical bills. Sarah's loved ones also come to terms with the guilt, sacrifice, and loss that they suffered over those years that Sarah 'disappeared'. The film explores how Sarah's brain rewired itself and how there is much more going on in the brains of coma victims than anyone ever thought possible.



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The Girl With 8-Limbs

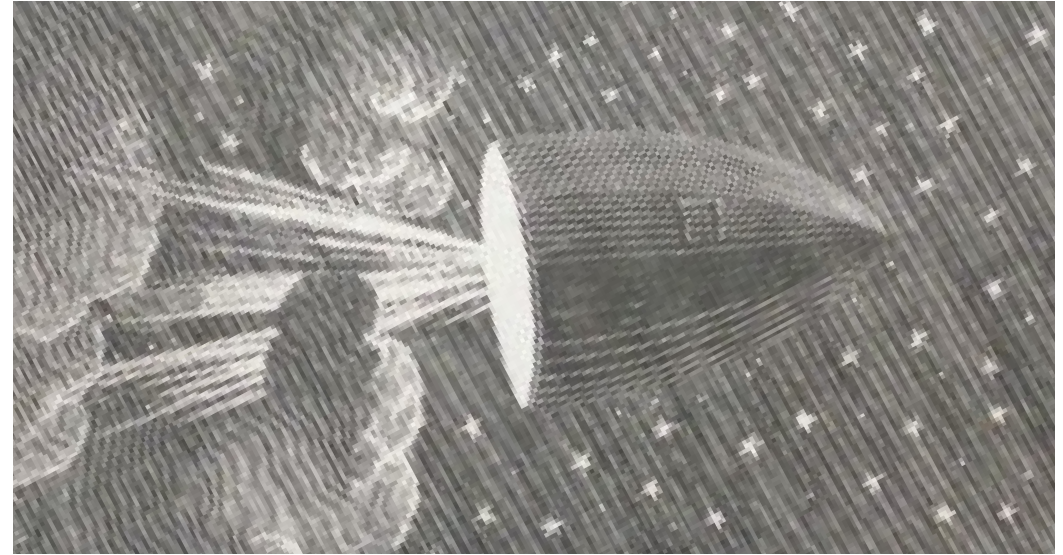
NETWORK PREMIERE ONE-OFF
THURSDAY 28TH JUNE, 9.00PM

In 2007, a girl was born in rural India with one of the world's rarest physical abnormalities. Lakshmi Tatma was born with four arms and four legs, she was joined at the pelvis to her half-formed twin. Locals revered her as the re-incarnation of Lakshmi, the Goddess with eight limbs; doctors regarded her as a child with a life threatening disability and her parents agonised – should their daughter undergo a potentially fatal operation or should they remain in the village under the constant gaze of villagers and pilgrims? This one-off documentary follows Lakshmi and her family as she undergoes the operation that changed her world



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Prophets of Science Fiction

UK PREMIERE SERIES

SUNDAYS FROM 3RD JUNE, 9.00PM

Ridley Scott, the creative genius behind legendary Hollywood classics including *Alien*, *Blade Runner* and *Gladiator*, makes his Quest debut with the brand new eight-part series, *Prophets of Science Fiction*. An auteur of science fiction himself, Scott goes from behind the camera to on-air guide to explore the relationship between genre and the constantly-evolving worlds of science and technology. From Jules Verne and Isaac Asimov to George Lucas and Phillip K. Dick, the dreams of storytellers often become the inspiration for researchers seeking mankind's next transformative discovery. Each episode of *Prophets of Science Fiction* focuses on a visionary sci-fi figure whose spark of imagination changed our reality.

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Fatal Encounters

UK PREMIERE SERIES

MONDAYS FROM 18TH JUNE, 10.00PM

Investigation Discovery's new series *Fatal Encounters* recounts the ill-fated relationship between killer and victim as their paths intertwine. Chance meetings, everyday decisions, and random acts of violence send ordinary people down a deadly collision course toward their own mortality. Each episode begins with the introduction of the victim and the killer as they go about their normal business, unaware of what's about to transpire. While an on-screen clock counts down the victim's final hours, days, or even years, viewers track the decisions and actions that bring the victim closer to their killer's fatal trap, not knowing until the last moment which person will fall prey and who will have blood on their hands...

In the premiere episode, two young women are drawn together, both about to become mothers. But one of these women aren't who they say they are and in less than 24 hours tragedy will strike but who will make it to the other side?

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Meteorite Men

UK PREMIERE SERIES

FRIDAYS FROM 1ST JUNE, 10.00PM

For thousands of years meteorites have slammed into the earth's surface, carrying an invaluable record of the very beginnings of the solar system. But finding meteorites, some buried over centuries by thick layers of dirt and sediment, is no easy task. *Meteorite Men*, returns to Discovery Science with this second series and welcomes back modern day meteorite hunters, Geoff Notkin and Steve Arnold, who search for these alien treasures and lost pieces of our universe. Notkin and Arnold chase down these ancient UFOs that raced through space at speeds of 30,000 miles per hour before crash landing on our planet. Each episode of this eight part series is an all-encompassing hunt for outer space objects that are often more than 40 million years old.

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Edge Of Battle

UK PREMIERE SERIES

SUNDAYS FROM 3RD JUNE, 10.00PM

Brand new six-part series *Edge Of Battle* revisits the string of events that paved the way for the world's most critical declarations of war, examining each pivotal decision's unfurling with minute-by-minute storytelling. Hosted by retired U.S. Army General Wesley K. Clark, *Edge Of Battle* transports viewers into the minds, war rooms, and military operations that shaped the world as we know it. From World War II to Korea, Argentina, and the Middle East, see how leaders brought their countries to the very edge, and learn their motivations in risking it all.

Providing expert commentary throughout, *Edge Of Battle's* host Gen. Wesley K. Clark, a 38-year veteran with the U.S. Army who, during that time, rose to the rank of four-star General and served as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander and Commander in Chief of the United States European Command. In 2001, Gen. Clark penned the best-selling book "Waging Modern War: Bosnia, Kosovo, and the Future of Combat," which offers implications for how NATO's war in Kosovo changed the way war will be waged in decades to come.



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God's Wrath

UK PREMIERE SERIES

THURSDAY 21ST JUNE, 10.00PM

Floods. Plagues. Fire and brimstone. These legendary punishments were inflicted by a vengeful God... Such Biblical tales of death and destruction are from mankind's past, but could they also be a vision of our future? And if we are to face *God's Wrath* again, could the consequences be even more serious? While scientists now believe they can explain the natural forces behind these Biblical tests, that does not mean the modern world can escape from the kind of events that decimated the ancient world. In fact, now they might bring even greater destruction upon us. *God's Wrath* explores what the repercussions might be if these events were to occur again.



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Matt Hayes 24 Hour Rod Race

UK PREMIERE SERIES

FRIDAYS FROM 22ND JUNE, 10.00PM

Featuring Matt Hayes, Europe's leading fisherman, this six-part series sees Matt set a series of ultra-tough fishing challenges. Once the challenge is delivered at the start of each programme, Matt has to race around the country as he fishes against the clock to catch his prize fish.

It's a show of tactics and skills as Matt works out how to combat everything that is thrown at him. From lost fish to extreme weather, he has to battle through to achieve his dream... and all in just 24 hours!

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Bet The House

UK PREMIERE SERIES

WEEKNIGHTS FROM MONDAY 11TH JUNE, 8.00PM

Bet The House is a studio based game show where two families compete for beautiful rooms of furniture they both desperately need... And, for the first time in game show history, families watch as those pieces won in the studio are immediately moved and set up in their homes. Within minutes their rooms undergo incredible transformations, but in later rounds, those new rooms can be stolen by the other family and moved right out of one house and into the other! In the end, the family that wins the most rooms advances to the final round and plays for the big prize.



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