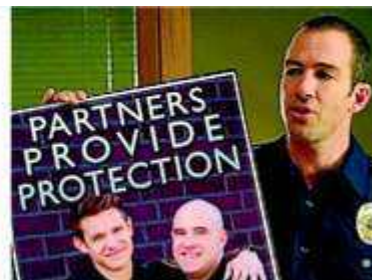




THE GUIDE PAY TV THIS WEEK BRAD NEWSOME



Sunday, February 5

Selling New York
LifeStyle Home, 8.30pm
 Ho-hum real estate reality. Agents try to flog a penthouse for \$9 million and a two-bedroom flat for \$1.6 million. Not even as exciting as it sounds.

 **Enlightened Showcase, 8.35pm**
 Two more terrific episodes tonight, both written by co-creator Mike White, who is also brilliant in front of the camera. Star and co-creator Laura Dern won a Golden Globe for her work as the angry, sad and self-deluding executive Amy Jellicoe, and White deserves similar recognition for his low-key performance as Amy's anxious, introverted workmate, Tyler. Sitting opposite Amy, Tyler sees how she's oblivious to the friendship of the people who care about her while desperately seeking the approval of those who can't stand her. Tyler has so far managed to exist more or less in the eye of Hurricane Amy but new developments tonight suck him into the wildest part of the storm.

Madeleine Peyroux: Live in Los Angeles
Stvdiio, 7.30pm
 The American jazz singer performs her own songs, as well as covers of the likes of Edith Piaf and Bob Dylan.

Worth a look
Boardwalk Empire (Showcase, 7.30pm)

The Chinese Hajj (National Geographic, 7.30pm) Follows a group of Chinese Muslims on the pilgrimage to Mecca.

I Survived... Stories of Australians (Bio, 7.30pm)
 Tonight's stories include the Black Saturday bushfires and a shark attack.

Monday, February 6

Love It or List It
LifeStyle Home, 10am
 An entertaining real estate show in which Canadians have a designer oversee light renovations on their home while an estate agent tries to find them a new one.

Extreme Couponing
Discovery Home & Health, 8.30pm
 This is like something out of a Chris Lilley show and not just because the first "extreme couponer" we meet is named J'aime. The characters – sorry, people – appear normal but are quite weird all the same. Obsessive use of discount coupons has enabled Maryland housewife J'aime to turn her home into a warehouse full of goods. We follow her on a supermarket expedition that nets her \$1902 worth of groceries for just \$103. But how can she use all this stuff? Madness.

 **The Marvellous Mrs Beeton**
LifeStyle Food, 8.30pm
 A fascinating doco in which British writer Sophie Dahl looks into *Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management*, a Victorian-era domestic bible that remains in print to this day. She tries out some recipes and ponders advice on how to choose a wet nurse. The most interesting parts, though, are when Dahl learns about the short but eventful life of the book's author and how the book was emblematic of momentous societal change.

Worth a look
How Earth Made Us (BBC Knowledge, 7.30pm)
Wife Swap Australia (LifeStyle You, 8.30pm)
Susan Boyle: An Unlikely Superstar (LifeStyle You, 9.30pm)

Tuesday, February 7

Ned Bruha: Skunk Whisperer
Animal Planet, 8.30pm
 Standard varmint-extraction stuff as Ned Bruha (a man fastidious about his appearance) and his employees round up recalcitrant Oklahoma wildlife. Tonight: a raccoon, a squirrel and a juvenile owl stuck dangling from a tree.

From Spain with Love
LifeStyle Food, 9pm
 Canadian foodie Annie Sibonney heads to the Basque country to check out the region's delicacies.

 **Death Valley**
MTV, 9.30pm
 The zombie, vampire and werewolf invasion of California's San Fernando Valley continues and the camera crew that follows the cops around has a new sound guy. The old one, Rodney, was last week bitten by a zombie and pre-emptively bludgeoned to death by Officer John John Johnson (Texas Battle). Macho panssexual Captain Dashell (Bryan Callen) provides a brief eulogy: "I didn't know Rodney well ... he was obviously a natural blond who smelled of apricots. He didn't deserve to die that way." Part of the appeal of this little horror-comedy is the way it uses language, combining thoughtless everyday platitudes and patterns of speech to make the cops describe extraordinary things in the most banal terms. Take Dashell on the problem with vampires: they're "the douchebags of the monster community, if you will." A fun spoof on a bunch of different genres.

Worth a look
Supernanny USA (LifeStyle You, 8.30pm)
Primeval (UKTV, 8.30pm)
Boardwalk Empire (Showcase, 8.30pm)



Thursday, February 9



Wednesday, February 8

Cricket Superstar
 Fox8, 7.35pm

Sadly, this seems aimed more at people who love reality shows than people who love cricket. It's mostly a procession of non-cricket challenges tenuously related to themes such as "communication" and "strength". Tonight there are a few minutes of highlights of a 20-over match against retired first-class players. But it's not until the last few minutes, when Australian bowler Ryan Harris turns up, that we see any of the youngsters getting real feedback. No doubt they're getting instruction but *Australia's Next Top Model* teaches viewers more about the practicalities of modelling than this does about cricket.

 **Selling Houses Australia**
 LifeStyle, 8.30pm

Andrew Winter and friends have a real doozy here – a heritage-listed cottage in Sydney's Sutherland Shire just three metres from railway lines. A fence and double glazing are obvious places to start but there's a whole lot more that goes into the eventually stunning transformation. Practical and entertaining.

Damages
 W, 8.30pm

A suitably thrilling and whip-sawing finale. Things get bloody as Ellen (Rose Byrne) and Jerry (the marvellous Dylan Baker) try to rescue Chris (Chris Messina) and the Afghan boy from the ruthless mercenary boss (John Goodman).

Worth a look

Toddlers and Tiaras (LifeStyle You, 7.30pm)

Don't Tell My Mother ...

Indonesia (Nat Geo Adventure, 8.30pm)

Grimm (Fox8, 8.35pm)



Pay TV show of the week

Kings Cross ER

CI, 7.30pm

This is what a hospital reality show should look like – interesting cases that are clearly presented without sensationalism or emotional manipulation.

Tonight's casualties at St Vincent's emergency department are brought to you by drink, drugs and excessive exercise. Most urgent is the case of a heroin user who has overdosed in the hospital toilets. The staff inject him with

the anti-opiate drug naloxone, but there is some concern when he does not wake up right away. There is also concern about how he will react when he comes to – heroin users can wake up angry and even violent after being revived with naloxone. But why? It is here that the program-makers could be getting hospital staff to explain things in a bit more detail.

More detail would have been even more welcome in the next case, that of a 30-year-old man who has collapsed while running the Sydney Marathon. As hospital staff work to cool him down with ice packs and cold

intravenous fluid, we are told that his brain is not functioning properly. When he does eventually wake up, he can't speak and doesn't seem to understand what is going on. Neither, unfortunately, will most viewers.

All in all, though, it is a fine program that will leave you in awe of the doctors and nurses who run the emergency department. Not just for their obvious knowledge, skill and calm under pressure, but for the way they are positive and enthusiastic in what, at times, seems a constant procession of life-and-death emergencies.



Also today

American Idol
Fox8, 7.35pm

As ever, it's been a parade of wonderful talent and poignant self-delusion. Among the hopefuls is Jim Carrey's daughter, Jane (a single mum apparently working as a waitress), who belted out the Bonnie Raitt number *Something to Talk About* aboard the USS Midway at the San Diego auditions. Another interesting one is baby-faced 17-year-old David, who fancies himself as a ladies' man and who once beat country singer Scotty McCreery in a local singing comp. But it's the judges who make the

show. *American Idol* has the perfect triumvirate in the plain-spoken Randy Jackson, the kind and empathetic Jennifer Lopez and the hilarious Steven Tyler, who at his most sartorially splendid makes Jack Sparrow look like David Brent. Ryan Seacrest? He could have fallen off the aircraft carrier and nobody would have noticed.

Inside the Actors Studio:

Jennifer Aniston
Bio, 9.30pm

It's good to get new episodes – this one's so fresh that it has Jennifer Aniston talking about *Horrible Bosses*. She also provides the acting-student audience with some advice on dealing with sex scenes.

Worth a look

Anthony Bourdain: No

Reservations (TLC, 5.30pm)
 The New York chef heads to the Philippines to get better acquainted with the local cuisine and its Spanish and Chinese influences.

Wildest India (Animal Planet, 7.30pm)

Drugs Inc: Ketamine (National Geographic, 8.30pm)



Friday,
February 10

 **Norway Massacre:**
The Killer's Mind

Discovery, 7.30pm

It's not clear how much real insight this documentary provides into the mind of Anders Breivik, who in July last year killed 77 people in Norway. A British criminologist characterises Breivik as a paranoid, attention-seeking narcissist who didn't kill himself as police closed in because he wanted the political platform a trial might provide. That might be true but the most compelling parts of this program are the eyewitness accounts of his horrific rampage.

Stafford Brothers

Fox8, 8.35pm

Australian DJs the Stafford Brothers seem determined not to endear themselves to the viewer. Matt in particular. His model girlfriend Brooke has decided to have a go at the DJ caper herself and Matt is dead against it. "It's something I've asked her not to do and she's gone ahead and done it," he complains. He seems to think failure on her part could somehow damage the Stafford Brothers brand. What's more likely to damage said brand is Matt being the kind of tool who thinks he can tell his girlfriend what she can and can't do. Tonight everyone's on the Gold Coast, where Brooke has her first gig.

Conspiracy 365

FMC, 8.55pm

Harrison Gilbertson, Rob Carlton and Julia Zemiro star in the Australian family thriller series.

Worth a look

Murdoch Mysteries (13th Street, 6.30pm)

Steve Coogan as Alan Partridge (Comedy, 8.30pm)

Warehouse 13 (Sci Fi, 8.30pm)



Saturday,
February 11

World Kitchen

LifeStyle Food, 5.30pm

Kiwi chef Nici Wickes heads to Istanbul to sample some sweet and savoury dishes (the Kurdish-style stuffed pastries look great) and to whip up some of her own.

 **Legends of Cricket:**
Imran Khan

ESPN2, 8.30pm

A reasonably interesting biography of Pakistani cricket great Imran Khan with former teammates, opponents and other observers sharing their recollections. Richie Benaud provides good insights, recalling how Imran was the first bowler to make use of reverse swing and rating him as Pakistan's best captain because he was the only one who could get his troops to carry out his instructions properly. It's a pity Imran himself isn't interviewed but it's good to hear from the likes of Wasim Akram, Ramiz Raja, Michael Holding, Ravi Shastri, Allan Border and Richard Hadlee.

Saturday Night Live

Comedy, 10.30pm

Saturday Night Live is always hit-and-miss but this episode is mostly miss. The guest star is Melissa McCarthy (*Bridesmaids*, *Gilmore Girls*), who is usually great to watch. Here, though, the handful of sketches take forever to pummel one-note jokes into the ground (and all seem based on the fact she's fat). Even the normally funny Weekend Update news falls flat. Next week's episode with Ben Stiller is funnier.

Worth a look

The Ray Harryhausen
Chronicles (Studio, 6.30pm)

Britain & Ireland's Next Top
Model (Fox8, 7.30pm)

Skins (Fox8, 8.30pm)



Sunday, February 12

Boardwalk Empire Showcase, 7.30pm

In this season two finale Nucky (Steve Buscemi) heads to trial for election fraud and things could go either way. Much hinges on the meeting between Margaret (Kelly Macdonald) and Esther Randolph (Julianne Nicholson), the assistant US attorney trying to get her to testify against him. It's a fine episode full of bloodshed and double crosses as Jimmy (Michael Pitt) seeks unlikely reconciliation with Nucky. The climax, when it eventually comes, is an absolute stunner.

Louis Theroux: Most Hated Family in America

BBC Knowledge, 8.30pm

Louis Theroux heads to Kansas to visit the Phelps family, whose Westboro Baptist Church is infamous for picketing the funerals of American military personnel in a protest against homosexuality.



Enlightened Showcase, 8.40pm

Two very different episodes bring this wonderful first season to a close. The first doesn't focus on Amy (Laura Dern) but on her mother, Helen (Dern's real-life mother, Diane Ladd). Helen has so far seemed content to live a quiet life but when she goes grocery shopping tonight, a chance encounter with an old friend (Barbara Barrie) exposes old wounds that remain painfully raw. The second episode sees Amy try to get Levi (Luke Wilson) to check in to a new-age retreat that so manifestly failed to fix her own problems.

Worth a look

Toddlers and Tiaras (LifeStyle You, 7.30pm)

The Glades (W, 8.30pm)

Shameless (W, 9.20pm)



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Watch This

We've trawled through the best and worst of this week's TV programs to let you know what's worth watching. Whether it's comedy, drama or documentary, here's our guide to what's hot and what's not. **By Anooška Tucker-Evans and Michelle Collins**



THE BIG BANG THEORY

Monday, 8.30pm, Nine

NO matter how bad a day you've had, you can always count on this show to put a smile on your face.

This week's episode is guaranteed to do exactly that as the newly-

coupled and relationship-challenged Sheldon learns an important lesson about being a boyfriend.

The uber-geek is sharing date night with Amy Farrah Fowler when she shares some important news about her job.

When Sheldon seems unimpressed with her career accomplishment,

they experience their first fight as a couple.

It's then up to poor Penny to help the emotionally inept Sheldon make it up to Amy.

The result - particularly the final scene - will have you practically rolling around on the ground laughing. It's an absolute classic!

Meanwhile, Howard and Bernadette face a major hurdle in their relationship when Bernadette reveals her distaste for children.

Seeing her dislike for rug rats when the pair perform together at a child's birthday party is something many will be able to relate to or, at least, just get a good laugh out of.



It's fight night

Romance doesn't always go smoothly, especially for insensitive geeks

SELLING NEW YORK

Sunday, 7.30pm, Lifestyle Home

If you love New York, you will love this series which takes viewers inside the city's high-end property market.

A cheap place in this series is \$1.6 million, while some of the true gems cost much more than \$10 million.

They have all the latest fixtures and fittings and views to die for and, even if you can't ever afford them, it is certainly nice to dream.

As well as falling in love with the properties, you will fall for the over-the-top and ultra-driven real estate agents and brokers who bring this show to life and walk away with commissions of up to \$600,000.

SUBURGATORY

Sunday, 8.30pm, GO!

This new US comedy is like *Desperate Housewives* meets *Clueless* with a bit of *Juno* thrown in.

It follows single dad George (Jeremy Sisto) who moves from New York City to the suburbs with his teenage daughter Tessa (Jane Levy) in

the hope of giving her a better environment to grow up in and a more normal childhood.

Newcomer Levy is captivating as the series narrator and tortured teenager who is struggling to come to grips with the superficial world of the suburbs, where spray tans and super short skirts rule and desperate housewives prey on any man with a pulse.

Law & Order star Sisto also proves he can handle comedy just as well as drama as the caring but out-of-his-depth dad trying to rein in a rebellious teenager.

While you won't be laughing out loud from beginning to end, there are definitely funny and entertaining moments balanced by a few touching scenes. It's a comedy with heart.



HOMELAND

Sunday, 8.30pm, Ten

This new series is simply brilliant - so brilliant it won the Golden Globe for best TV drama last month.

Featuring a standout cast led by the superb and Golden Globe-winning Claire Danes, it follows US marine Nicholas Brody who returns from service in the Middle East, eight years after being captured and presumed dead.

Danes' character, CIA agent Carrie Mathison, believes Brody is now working as a terrorist plotting an attack on America and she wants to be the one to catch him.

If you haven't seen the first two episodes, jump on to the Channel 10 website and watch them and then get ready for this week's thrilling instalment in which Brody prepares for his first in-home television interview.

In this episode, viewers are given more glimpses into Brody's time in Iraq and the life he led and are provided with an insight into what life has been like for his family, especially his daughter, thinking he was dead the entire time.

While you will be kept glued to your screen throughout, it's the final minutes that will have you eager to tune in next week.

MARVELLOUS MRS BEETON

Monday, 7.30pm, Lifestyle Food

This insightful and enjoyable special sees the beautiful and pregnant Sophie Dahl explore the extraordinary life and times of her food heroine Mrs Beeton - the creator of the original domestic bible *Mrs Beeton's Book Of Household Management*.

Sophie's goal is to determine who the real Mrs Beeton was, rather than the strict and bossy persona she is now known for.

In this mission, Sophie cooks recipes from the book; investigates Mrs Beeton's childcare advice and home remedies and even throws a full Victorian dinner party.

She also delves into the personal tragedies the author endured.

The only thing letting this

documentary down is the fact that the first book was published in 1861, which means there is no footage to illustrate Mrs Beeton's life, bar a few photos of the woman, so a lot of the vision is simply camera pans of random parts of England or Sophie looking into the distance. That said, you will still walk away wanting to buy your own copy of the book.

TWO AND A HALF MEN

Tuesday, 8.30pm, Nine

The series returns this week and, dare we say it, it may be back to the highs of the Charlie Sheen days.

The writers have finally decided who Walden (Ashton Kutcher) is - rather than just a sad copycat of Charlie - and the decision has meant Kutcher can at long last really sink his teeth into his character and deliver the laughs he brought us in the sitcom *That '70s Show*.

This week Walden seems like he's finally ready to move on from his ex-wife Bridget and start afresh with sexy British love interest Zoe.

There's just one hurdle, Bridget decides she actually wants him back. It's a scenario that creates plenty of funny moments and witty one-liners, especially from the intellectually stunted Jake.

Also, make sure you keep watching until the end for the return of an old favourite - you won't want to miss it.

ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Wednesday, 8pm, ABC1

Eddie and Patsy are still fabulous two decades on and three anniversary specials have been made to mark the occasion. And those who loved the antics of the *Ab Fab* ladies when it was first a hit won't be disappointed. This is still laugh-out-loud satirical comedy cleverly written with a few surprises.

Aside from the two main characters, all the favourites are back including Saffy, Bubble and Eddie's long-suffering mum.

It was a brave decision to bring the ladies back but it does work and this initial story is better than some of the old episodes.

OUTLAND

Wednesday, 9.30pm, ABC1

Max has just come out of two closets - he likes science fiction and he is gay. And that is perhaps the only slightly humorous line from this new six-part series which follows the lives and loves of a gay science-fiction fan club.

Unlike the characters of *The Big Bang Theory* who just look like losers, these guys and one girl (Christine Anu) are losers. They simply sit around and watch videos and have none of the endearing qualities of a Sheldon, Leonard, Howard or Raj.

DRAGONS' DEN

Thursday, 9.30pm, ABC1

Watching reality show contestants who don't succeed is more interesting than seeing those who do.

It is good for this show's business then that most of the pitches made by budding entrepreneurs fail miserably.

Very few contestants are polished enough to entice one of the dragons (self-made millionaires) to invest any of their hard-earned cash. But the dragons' bark isn't as bad as their bite. Just a few questions about the proposed business plan and most contestants' dreams to get rich are killed off.

STAFFORD BROTHERS

Friday, 7.30pm, FOX8

Life is certainly never dull for Gold Coast DJs and brothers Matt and Chris Stafford.

In between touring the world with their music, they also own three nightclubs on the Coast, a bar and are working on a new song.

This week's show follows the boys as they take ownership of the third nightclub with manager Joey Lamattina. With the joint a former gay club famous for its drag shows, the boys discover a few interesting items hidden in the cupboards.

But the real focus of the episode is the hunt for a vocalist for their new single.



NO GO: Outland characters just sit around and have no endearing qualities



Gavin Wheeler and Jenni Molloy



Jordan Petersen and Emma Dickey



Emma Juleff and Craig Duran



Franco Ciottarello and Christina Christiansen

SINGLES SOIREE

Cloudland, Fortitude Valley

With impeccable timing a few weeks out from Valentine's Day, Cloudland hosted their Singles Soiree event, giving the unattached a chance to change their Facebook status before the most romantic day of the year. A stylish crowd enjoyed creations from the superclub's talented mixologists while mingling and looking for love.

Pictures: Isaac Lawrence



John Allen and Sarah Brough



Ben and Rebecca Davis



Wes Dening and Joey
Lamattina



Amy Peel and Marni
Fullerton-Smith

**STAFFORD
BROTHERS SERIES
2 LAUNCH**

Oh Hello!, Fortitude Valley

Gold Coast DJ sensations Chris and Matt Stafford know how to party and guests got to do just that for the launch of Season 2 of their popular Fox8 show, *The Stafford Brothers*, produced by Wes Dening and Brisbane's TPD Media. Guests viewed the first episode while enjoying Oh Hello!'s jamjar cocktails.

Pictures: Isaac Lawrence



Huyen Le and Kiri Tsang



Stafford Brothers hit the 'beach'

TWENTY-four tonnes of beach sand, two brothers from the Gold Coast and a sold-out crowd equals one massive Australia Day Eve party at The Geraldton Hotel.

The beer garden was transformed for the beach party, which hosted the returning DJ partnership of the Stafford Brothers.

This time the pair were minus the film crews for their Fox8 television series, the second season of which premiered on Friday.

The brothers couldn't confirm

if their Geraldton visit six months ago made the cut for the series but said their WA tour definitely did. They have two episodes left to film for the current season and hope to secure a third season. The pair plan to move to Los Angeles in March to try to crack the US market, hopefully with cameras rolling.

Chris said America was vast but they believed they could conquer it.

"We believe in ourselves and you always want to better yourself," he said.

For patrons of The Gero, the

brothers didn't need to better themselves.

Fans couldn't get enough of the pair, who if nothing else pay close attention to their fans.

Both Chris and Matt interacted with the audience and allowed them right up, close and personal — basically overflowing onto the decks throughout the performance.

The InTheMix number one DJs entertained with a mix of Triple J Hottest 100 number one Somebody That I Used To Know by Gotye, Promises by Nero, Toca's Miracle by Fragma, Feel So Close by Calvin Harris and Save the World Tonight by Swedish House Mafia.

— Sophie Elliott



IN THE GROOVE: Chris and Matt Stafford play to an adoring crowd at the Geraldton Hotel
Picture: SOPHIE ELLIOTT