

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue quilted jacket with yellow and red stripes on the sleeves, a brown turtleneck sweater, and dark jeans, is walking towards the camera on a wet, reflective street. The background features a coastal town with buildings, including a prominent yellow and blue structure, and mountains in the distance under a cloudy sky. Two red newspaper boxes are visible on the sidewalks.

MARTA DUSSELDORP TOBY LEONARD MOORE KERRY FOX

BAY OF FIRES

STARTS SUNDAY 16 JULY 8.30PM


TV | iview

CAST

Marta Dusseldorp	Anika/Stella
Imi Mbedla	Otis
Ava Caryofyllis	Iris
Toby Leonard Moore	Jeremiah
Kerry Fox	Frankie
Rachel House	Airini
Stephen Curry	Francis
Yael Stone	Robin
Tony Barry	Joseph
Pamela Rabe	Magda
Bob Franklin	Connor
Mitchem Everett	Jack
Oscar Redding	Arthur
Nicholas Bell	Graham
Emily Taheny	Jodie
Roz Hammond	Heather
Andre de Vanny	Jason
Anthony Sharpe	Manfred
Emily Milledge	Brony
Elle Mandalis	Kerry
Robert Rabiah	Reg
Kim Ko	Bong Cha
Ilai Swindells	Sammi
Scott Wells	Charlie
Ben Knight	Tarquin
Peter Sammak	Drago
Jalen Sutcliffe	Stretch
Nikolai Nikolaeff	Johann
Paul Roukchan	Ruslan
Vanya Essin	Yakov
Ben Winspear	Rowan
Rhys Muldoon	Vance
Matt Nable	Thaddeus
Mackenzie Grant	Elysha
Jacob Franklin	Caleb
Brigid Zengeni	Bethel
John Stanton	Douglas
Nikhil Singh	Kumar

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS AND CAST BIOGRAPHIES

ANIKA/STELLA (MARTA DUSSELDORP) is a high achieving woman from a family that values success over empathy. She's not the world's greatest mother - but that doesn't stop her pretending she is. So what if she can't cook or iron a school shirt? What she can do is manage a multi-million-dollar corporation and bring it into profit blind folded. Forced to take shelter in the remote town of Mystery Bay. Stella must survive and protect her children, by throwing out the old rule book and drawing on skills not even she is aware she has.

MARTA DUSSELDORP

Award-winning actress Marta Dusseldorp has worked extensively in theatre, film and television for over 30 years and is one of Australia's most recognised actresses.

Marta received the AACTA Award for Best Lead Actress in a TV Drama for ABC's *Janet King* in which she plays the title role and was also an Associate Producer. She starred in the popular series *A Place to Call Home* for Foxtel/Seven and in the ABC TV series *Jack Irish* opposite Guy Pearce. She has been nominated multiple times for AACTA and TV Week Logie Awards in Lead Actress categories for her work in these productions. She most recently appeared in the TV series *Wentworth* and *The Twelve* for FOXTEL and in the film *Ellie and Abbie*.

Marta is the Director of Archipelago Productions in lutruwita/Tasmania. She has co-created *Bay Of Fires* with Andrew Knight and Max Dann and has produced and starred in the eight-part television series mainly shot on the West Coast of Tasmania.

Archipelago recently produced *Women Of Troy* with Ten Days On The Island at the Theatre Royal in which Marta also performed. Marta is also developing other television series, feature films and theatre with various partners.

JEREMIAH (TOBY LEONARD MOORE) Jeremiah could have been a captain of industry, or a respected pillar of the community — but he never got the chance to be any of those things. Instead, he's dirt poor, self-reliant, self-taught and has a strong code of ethics. When not re-building an old boat, he runs the Mystery Bay tow trucking business.

TOBY LEONARD MOORE

Toby is best known for his work in US film and television work including drama series *Billions*, and movies *Daredevil* and *John Wick*. In 2020, Moore appeared as 'David O'Selznick' in David Fincher's Academy Award winning Netflix film *Mank* alongside Gary Oldman and in season two of *Condor*.

Moore was recently seen in the AACTA nominated series *The Unusual Suspects* bringing him home to Australia and working alongside his wife Michelle Vergara Moore for the first time.

Other television credits include *Mystery Road* Season 3, *The Pacific*, *Blue Bloods*, *White Collar*, *Dollhouse*, and *Underbelly: The Golden Mile*. His theatre credits include *Suicide, Incorporated*, *Stag*, *Dead Caesar*, *Saturn's Return* and *Peribanéz*.

FRANKIE (KERRY FOX) President of the local CWA. Frankie is a hardworking, down to earth, craft loving matriarch who controls a lot more than the local cake stall at the town fete. She believes in family, demands loyalty, and makes her own rules. She runs an unofficial foster home for stray youths and her home is a revolving door to those who are down on their luck and longing for community. For her the definition of her community is unfaltering alliance to Frankie.

KERRY FOX

Kerry Fox is one of New Zealand's most internationally respected and awarded actors. She appears in the BBC/Hulu series *Conversations With Friends*, Claire McCarthy's feature *The Colour Room* and the Netflix series *Half Bad*.

Kerry's recent directorial debut, the short film *Topping Out*, was selected to premiere at the Edinburgh International Film Festival & has screened in festivals in Europe & America.

Her other recent film credits include *Rare Beasts* at the 2019 Venice Film Festival, *Little Joe* at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival, *Baghdad In My Shadow* at the 2019 Locarno Film Festival, *Top End Wedding*, *The Rehearsal* which premiered at the 2016 New Zealand International Film Festival and also screened at the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival, *Patrick's Day*, *Holding The Man*, *The Dressmaker* and *Downriver* which premiered at the 2015 Melbourne International Film Festival.

Kerry's body of work includes *An Angel At My Table* for which she was awarded the New Zealand Film Award for Best Actress, the San Sebastian Film Festival Award for Best Actress and the Venice Film Festival Elvira Notari Award for Best Performance; *The Last Days Of Chez Nous* which earned her the Asia-Pacific Film Festival Award for Best Supporting Actress; and *Intimacy* which saw her win the Silver Bear Best Actress Award at the Berlin Film Festival and the film win the festival's Golden Bear for Best Film.

She has also starred in *Shallow Grave*, *Welcome To Sarajevo*, Richard Flanagan's *The Sound Of One Hand Clapping*, *Country Life*, *The Gathering*, *The Hanging Garden*, *Storm*, *Bright Star*, *Intruders* and *Burning Man*, *Mayhem*, *Brakes*, *War Book*, *Trap For Cinderella*, *Mister Pip* and *Mental*.

Kerry has appeared in numerous television productions in the UK including UK including *Last Tango in Halifax*, *MotherFatherSon*, *Silent Witness*, *The Split*, *The Women in White*, *Death in Paradise*, *National Treasure*, *The Crimson Field*, *Glue*, *Sex and Violence*, *A Village Affair*, *Saigon Baby*, *Déjà Vu*, *Waking The Dead*, *Trial And Retribution*, the telemovie *The Affair* and *Mr Wroe's Virgins*. In 2010, Kerry starred in Rowan Joffe's BAFTA Award winning telemovie *The Shooting Of Thomas Hurndall* and in 2011, appeared as Oriel Lamb in the ground-breaking Foxtel television series *Cloudstreet* based on the novel by Tim Winton. She also appeared in the third and final season of the popular Seven Network series *Wanted*.

Kerry is an accomplished theatre actor having recently performed in Tennessee William's *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* at London's Apollo Theatre, Andrew Bovell's *Speaking In Tongues* at London's Duke of York's Theatre and Noel Coward's *The Vortex* at the Rose Theatre.

AIRINI (RACHEL HOUSE) At first glance, Airini is a professional, non-assuming woman who enjoys being a part of her local church choir. A straight talking senior official for the government, she tells Stella almost nothing about herself or how she has access to a vacant property in Tasmania.

RACHEL HOUSE (NGĀI TAHU, NGĀTI MUTUNGA)

Rachel is one of New Zealand's most highly regarded actors. She has had a long and celebrated career both locally and internationally on stage, TV and Film. Highlights of her career include *Moana, Thor, Boy, Hunt For The Wilderpeople, Penguin Bloom, Cousins, Millie Lies Low, Going Going, Next Goal Wins, Cowboy Bebop* and the recent feature *The Portable Door*. She is also a celebrated voice artist having starred in *Sherwood, The Lion Guard, Underground Uglies, Amphibia* and recently *Princess And Pony, 100% Wolf* and *Koala Man*.

As an acting coach she has also worked alongside Jane Campion for *Top Of The Lake* and *Power Of The Dog* and with Taika Waititi for *Boy, HFTW, Jojo Rabbit* and *Next Goal Wins*.

Her recent TV credits include *Heartbreak High* for Netflix and *Foundation* Season 2 for Apple TV+.

She is also an award-winning theatre director most notably for the reo (Māori language) version of *Troilus And Cressida* performed at the Globe Theatre in London. She studied at Prague film school where she won Best Director and the Audience Award for her two short films. She has directed commercials for ASB with Curious films and Auckland Transport with Adrenalin road safety "Yeah, nah" commercials aimed specifically at young Māori, which she also wrote - these super low budget commercials went viral garnering over a million hits.

Rachel has also been awarded an Arts Laureate, NZOM, Mana Wahine (WIFT) and Te Waipuna a rangi (Matariki awards) as an actor and director.

OTIS (IMI MBEDLA)

Otis is fifteen and he is angry. He's smart, highly critical and lost. After their unexpected dash to Tasmania he tells his mum he doesn't want any part of it. He's done the research. Tasmania has the highest proportion of cigarette smokers out of all the other states. It also has the highest unemployment, lowest incomes, least educated, poorest longevity, highest teenage pregnancy, highest petty crime and worst domestic violence. But gradually, he too comes to love it.

IMI MBEDLA

Imi Mbedla was born in the Republic of South Africa and moved to Australia at the age of 2. As well as being an actor, Imi is an accomplished hip hop dancer. His television credits include the ABC series *How To Do Stuff Good*, *Ready Set Dance* for Nickelodeon and numerous advertising campaigns for both Australia and America. He has appeared in a number of music videos and was thrilled to work on Marvel feature film *Thor: Love And Thunder* as an Asgardian Kid.

IRIS (AVA CARYOFYLLIS) Iris is an old soul in a young body. Self-aware, wise beyond her years, odd, a loner and is always matter of fact. She secretly believes that she is the glue that holds the family together. Iris doesn't hate anyone. She goes with the flow. Unlike her brother, Iris is open when moved to Mystery Bay where she immediately adopts a stray goat and quickly forms friendships with Graham and Jeremiah.

AVA CARYOFYLLIS

Ava was born in 2011 in Sydney, Australia. She began acting when she was 5 years old. Her film credits include the Netflix feature *Kate*, *Little Monsters*, *Dirt Music*, *Hearts And Bones*, *On Halloween* and most recently as Young Jane Foster in the Marvel film *Thor: Love And Thunder*.

Television credits include Foxtel series *The Twelve* and before that as Little Julia in *Chris And Julia's Sunday Night Takeaway*. Ava has also featured in over 25 television commercials.

As well as acting Ava enjoys singing and is learning the flute and the ukulele.

THADDEUS (MATT NABLE) Thaddeus is the leader of the 'The Community' - that live on the fringe of Mystery Bay. Their way of life is an isolated one - fenced off grounds, completely cut off from modern technology and outside influence. Thaddeus devout and considers all non-believers to be sinners and unworthy of his time or sympathy. To allow for a peaceful co-existence between Mystery Bay and The Community, an unspoken agreement has prevailed since the beginning - they stay out of each other's way.

MATT NABLE

Matt is an Australian actor, writer and director. In 2007, Nable wrote and played the lead in the critically acclaimed *The Final Winter*. Following that success, he headed to the U.S. where he played the lead role in the television pilot *SIS*. Nable went on to star in feature films including *The Killer Elite*, *33 postcards*, *k-11* and *The Turning*. Other feature film credits include *Riddick*, *Fell*, *Around The Block*, *Son Of A Gun*, *Hacksaw Ridge*, *Incarnate* and *Jasper Jones*. In 2018, Nable wrote and starred in the Australian feature film *1%*. Followed by *The Dry* in 2021, and in 2022 *Poker Face*.

On the small screen, Nable starred in *East West 101*, *Underbelly: Badness*, *Bikie Wars: Brothers In Arms*, *Arrow* Season 3 and 4, *Winter* and the mini-series *Gallipoli*. In 2016 he was seen in the US TV series *Quarry*, *Legends Of Tomorrow* and the ABC mini-series *Barracuda*, with his performance as swimming coach 'Frank Torma' garnering him an AACTA nomination. He then starred in *Hyde & Seek* and the mini-series *Blue Murder: Killer Cop* as well as *Mr Inbetween* Seasons 1-3. Followed by the ABC series *Wakefield*, and the co-production *The Sounds*. In 2022, he featured in *The Twelve* for Foxtel and in *The Year Off* for Stan.

Nable has also published three books with Penguin: *We Don't Live Here Anymore*, *Faces In The Clouds* and *Guilt*. His most recent book *Still* for Hachette is a number one Australian best seller.

Most recently Matt wrote the script and made his directorial debut for the feature film *Transfusion* for Stan starring opposite Sam Worthington. *Transfusion* won the Howard Frank Van Norton Award for Best Film at the 2022 Veteran's Film Festival Red Poppy Awards.

FRANCIS PIKE (STEPHEN CURRY) Friendly, affable and liked among his peers, Francis is the Mystery Bay Real Estate Agent. He is a man who increasingly finds himself walking a tightrope. Francis knows when to smile, when to laugh, when to talk hardball, and most importantly, when to look the other way. But sometimes his ambition clouds his judgement.

STEPHEN CURRY

Stephen Curry has been entertaining Australian audiences since his breakout performance as 'Dale Kerrigan' in the classic Aussie movie *The Castle*. He has had leading roles in many film and television productions, including most recently feature films *June Again* and *Lone Wolf*, as well as the Paramount+ series *Spreadsheet*. Other projects include *Mr Black*, *Pine Gap*, *Hounds Of Love*, *The Time Of Our Lives*, *Redfern Now*, *Hiding*, *Rake*, *Cloudstreet*, *The Cup*, *False Witness*, *The Informant*, *The Secret Life Of Us* and *Thunderstruck* to name a few. His performance in *The King* won him the AFI award for Best Actor, a Silver Logie award for Most Outstanding Actor and an ASTRA award for Best Actor in a Drama. Stephen was also the recipient of the Best Actor award at the Film Critics Circle Awards of Australia for his performance in the feature *Hounds Of Love*.

ROBIN (Yael Stone) Robin is a public servant working for the Department of Finance. She is the kind of person who knows how many paperclips are left in the box at any given time, or perhaps gets a deep sense of calm from colour coding her stationery. She is sent Mystery Bay to investigate some dodgy government payouts and has the unfortunate task of asking questions of the townsfolk.

Yael Stone

Yael is best known for her 7-season portrayal of 'Lorna Morello' in *Orange Is The New Black* earning her 3 SAG Awards for Outstanding Comedy Ensemble and Emmy Award Nominations for Outstanding Comedy and Outstanding Drama. More recent screen credits include Del Katherine Barton's feature film debut, *Blaze*. Feature film *Blacklight* with Liam Neeson. *Firebite*, an outback vampire series created by Warwick Thornton and Brendan Fletcher. *High Maintenance*, *Picnic At Hanging Rock*, *Deep Water*, *Childhood's End* and Celeste Barber's Netflix series *Wellmania*. Yael has enjoyed an extensive career in the theatre and has received numerous nominations and awards for her onstage performances.

Johann (Nikolai Nikolaeff) Good looking, supportive, smooth talking and affectionate - Stella considered Johann a pretty good catch. Johann felt some affection for Stella - but it wasn't enough. He is now part of the team sent to kill her.

Nikolai Nikolaeff

Niko will next appear in the film *Last Voyage Of The Demeter* as Petrofsky. He featured in the fourth season of *Stranger Things* as well as *Bruised*, starring and directed by Halle Berry (an award-winning entry at TIFF 2020). He also starred in the Pete Berg film *Mile 22* and had a great supporting role in the Disney feature *Togo* directed by Ericson Core. Other Television credits include *The Oa*, *Six*, season one of *Daredevil* and a starring role in the NBC Comedy *Camp*. His career began as a child actor in Australia with numerous TV shows in that market including *Crash Zone* for Disney, season two of *The Saddle Club*, *Wicked Science S2* for ABC, a season of *Power Rangers* and three seasons of the hit series *Sea Patrol*. Niko speaks fluent Russian.

Graham (Nicholas Bell) Graham lives in the Mystery Bay motel. A blind and softly spoken, philosophical soul he stays out of Frankie's way for the sake of keeping peace. When Stella arrives in town, he forms an unlikely friendship with her daughter, Iris, and offers Stella guidance and wisdom whenever he can.

Nicholas Bell

Nicholas is well known in the Australian entertainment industry since moving from Britain over 25 years ago. His feature film roles include most recently *Elvis* (dir: Baz Luhrmann), as well as *Noise*, *I Love You Too*, *Caterpillar Wish*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Opal Dreams*, *Bad Eggs*, *The Great Raid*, *Take Away*, *Ned Kelly*, *The Dish*, *Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark*, *Kath & Kimderella*, *Crawlspace*, *Mission Impossible II*, *The Craic*, *Dark City*, *Shine*, *Hotel Sorrento* and *I Frankenstein*. He has performed numerous roles for major theatre companies in Australia and the UK. Theatre credits include *The Architect*, *North By Northwest*, *Madagascar*, *The Hypocrite*, *Enlightenment*, *Festen*, *Dumbshow*, *Memory Of Water*, all for MTC, *North By Northwest* Australian Tour, *Warhorse*, *The*

Great, The Wintering, Richard III, Loves Labours Lost, Red Noses, Hamlet, Henry V. Notable television roles include *Thai Cave Story, Shantaram*, as well as *Wanted* (series 1 & 2), *The Ex-PM* (series 1 & 2), *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries, The Games, Newstopia, Stingers* and *Satisfaction*. Other television roles include *How To Stay Married, A Place To Call Home, True Story With Hamish & Andy, The Bureau Of Magical Things* (series 1 & 2), *Underbelly Files: Chopper, Mad As Hell, Seven Types Of Ambiguity, Time Of Our Lives, Winners & Losers, Power Games, Childhood's End* and *Parer's War*. He was the recipient of the Best Actor Award at the New York City International Film Festival in 2011 for his performance in the short film *Afterglow* directed by Nadine Garner. In 2001 he also accepted the Award for the Most Outstanding Comedy Program, on behalf of the cast and crew of the Australian comedy series *The Games* at the TV Week Logie Awards.

JOSEPH (TONY BARRY) Stubborn, proud, and rough as guts, Joseph is Jeremiah's wheelchair bound father. You can usually locate where he is at any given moment by following the sound of loud cursing or cackling laughter. He has a penchant for offending people - usually to do with his wildly inappropriate sense of humour. A man who isn't afraid to voice what he is thinking.

TONY BARRY

Tony Barry was an iconic Australian actor with a career spanning four decades. Tony's career began in 1977 with *The Mango Tree, Weekend Of Shadows* and *Break Of Day*. His career continued to blossom with credits in film, television, radio, theatre and various documentaries. Tony's film credits include *Paperback Hero, Mullet, The Crop, Ned, The Night We Called It A Day, A Man's A Gotta Do, Lennie Cahill Shoots Through, Father, My Kind Guem-Ja, The Silence, Solo, Middle Of Nowhere, Hunt Angels, Cross Life, Providence Park* and *When The Dust Settles*. Some of his most notable film credits include *Australia, Home By Christmas, Mystery Road* and *Seriously Red*. His television credits include *City Life, Wildside, Stingers, All Saints, Halifax F.P, Water Rats, Hero's Mountain, Grass Roots, Blackjack, Go Big, Hell Has Harbour Views, Four Corners, Chifley's 50 Days, False Witness, Dirt Game, Paper Giants, Wild Boys, Time Of Our Lives* and *Rake* and most recently *Harrow* and *Total Control*. His theatre credits include *A Local Man* with the Ensemble Theatre, *King Lear* with Bondi Pavilion and *Fallen Angels* with Galaxy Theatre in New Zealand. He has received many prestigious awards including the Asia Pacific Screen Award, High Distinction in Best Performance by an actor for *Home By Christmas*. New Zealand Qantas Award for Best Actor in a Feature Film for *Home By Christmas*. Tony has also received a Penguin Award for the best single performance by a supporting actor in a miniseries for playing Nipper Jackson in *Scales Of Justice*. Sadly, Tony passed away on 21st Dec 2022. We were honoured to have him play Joseph - may he Rest In Peace.

JODIE (EMILY TAHENY) Jodie runs the local pub. She's a pragmatist. Smart, driven and funny, she is all too aware of wasting away in a town dubbed 'Misery Bay'. She and Jeremiah keep each other company and although fond of him, she's too much of a realist to call what they have 'love'.

EMILY TAHENY

Emily is an actress and singer with a particular flair for comedy. She has worked extensively on screen in various comedic and dramatic roles. Emily made her television debut as part of the ensemble cast in the long running Channel 9 sketch series, *Comedy Inc.* She is a regular core ensemble member of the award-winning ABC comedy series *Shaun Micallef's Mad As Hell* and has been nominated for the AACTA's 'Best Comedy Performance' award. Other selected television appearances include; *Secret Bridesmaids Business*, *How To Stay Married*, *The Ex-PM*, *Get Krack In*, *The Doctor Blake Mysteries*, *House Husbands*, *Open Slather* (also as co-writer), *Never Tear Us Apart: The Untold Story Of INXS*, *Spicks And Specks*, *Stupid Stupid Man*, and *The Chaser's War On Everything*. Emily's film credits include *The Flip Side* opposite Eddie Izzard, *That's Not My Dog*, *The Heckler* and *Now Add Honey*. Emily and her sister Fiona co-wrote and co-produced the critically acclaimed *Fiona*, *Her Sister* and *Some Guy* touring Edinburgh and Melbourne where they were awarded the MICF 'Best Newcomer' award.

BRONY MCCLEISH (EMILY MILLEDGE), Brony was adopted into Frankie's foster family in Mystery Bay. After spending a one-off night with local cop, Jason, she fell pregnant with their son, Buzz. She finds pleasure in the small things - her friendship with Jack, Buzz sleeping peacefully in her arms and although she finds Jason's constant attempts at rekindling a romance completely annoying, she sometimes catches herself in a moment of enjoyment with him.

EMILY MILLEDGE

Emily has appeared on television in *Fires* for the ABC, along with *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*, *Paper Giants II: Magazine Wars*, *The Mystery Of A Hansom Cab* and *The Saddle Club*. Her stage credits include *The Heartbreak Choir* for MTC, the Australian Premiere of David Bowie and Enda Walsh's ground-breaking musical *Lazarus*, *Adele In The House Of Bernarda Alba* for MTC, and the Critical Stages production of *Therese Raquin*. Other notable stage roles include Dorothy in *The Wizard Of Oz* for Belvoir; *Antigone* for the Malthouse; *Gaybies*, the titular role in *Carrie: The Musical*; *The Good Person Of Szechuan*, under the direction of acclaimed Chinese Director Meng Jinghui (Malthouse and Beijing and Shanghai Festivals); and The Production Company's season of *La Cage Aux Folles*. Emily has worked closely with The Rabble, one of Australia's most exciting and boundary-breaking theatre companies, in *Joan* (Theatreworks), *Frankenstein* (Malthouse Theatre), *Room Of Regret* (TheatreWorks/Melbourne Festival) and *The Story Of O* (MTC Neon). For Red Stitch Theatre in *The Feather In The Web* and *Out Of The Water*.

CONNOR (BOB FRANKLIN) Connor runs the Mystery Bay garage. However, first job was a tango instructor and he is a brilliant clay pigeon shooter. Connor also has a keen interest in UFO's believing his wife was abducted by aliens. She went down to the delicatessen to buy a roast chicken one afternoon and never came back.

BOB FRANKLIN

Bob Franklin is an award-winning stand-up comic, writer, director and actor. He has been twice nominated for the Melbourne International Comedy Festival Most Outstanding Show Award and has won the MIFC Piece of Wood Award, the Sunday Age Best Comedy Show of the Year Award and the Melbourne Fringe Best Comedy Award. His television and film work includes *Bad Eggs*, *The Librarians*, *Stupid*, *Stupid Man*, *Please Like Me*, *Jack Irish* and *Thank God You're Here*.

He has written and directed two short suspense films. He most recently directed two episodes of *Little Lunch* for the ABC, Frank Woodley's stage shows, *I, Woodley* and *King Clown*, *Death Of A Daulman*, *Lano And Woodley Fly* and Tom Ballard's *Enough*. He followed up his Australian Shadows Literary Award-winning 2010 collection of short stories *Under Stones* with the release of his first novel *Moving Tigers* in February 2015.

JASON (ANDRE DE VANNY) Jason is the local police officer in Mystery Bay. A few years ago, Jason and Brony spent a drunken night together – one of the greatest nights of his life. That night they conceived their son, Buzz and although they don't parent together, Buzz and Brony are Jason's pride and joy! Sadly his caravan is both his home and the local police station.

ANDRE DE VANNY

Andre recently appeared in acclaimed Irish monodrama *Swansong* (Old Fitz Theatre), and the award winning *Of Mice And Men* (Sport For Jove Theatre Co). In 2015 he won Best Actor at the Melbourne Green Room Awards for his work in *Glory Dazed* (Red Stitch Theatre Co). Other theatre credits include *Red* (Melbourne Theatre Company) and the Australian tour of *War Horse* (National Theatre of London). His film credits include the upcoming feature *The Hard Road*, as well as *The Pacific*, *Nightmares & Dreamscapes*, *Salem's Lot*, and *Hercules*. His TV credits include *Blue Heelers*, *Mda*, *Canal Road*, *Rush*, *City Homicide*, *Killing Time*, *Miss Fishers Murder Mysteries* and *The Doctor Blake Mysteries*.

ARTHUR (OSCAR REDDING) Frankie's younger brother and her greatest ally, Arthur is a stunted thespian who dreams of the dazzling lights of Broadway. He has an exceptional gift for remembering dates, quotes and music from any iconic musical, which he regularly performs for Frankie and her less enthusiastic family.

OSCAR REDDING

Oscar has been working in the industry for over 30 years across theatre, film and television as an actor, director, writer and producer. Over forty theatre productions Oscar has had the privilege to work with some of Australia's most exciting and respected theatre makers and companies including Ilbijirri, Belvoir, Malthouse, Yirra Yaakin and the Sydney Theatre Company. Some of his film and television credits include *Sea Change*, *The Turning*, *Redfern Now*, *Puberty Blues*, *Beaconsfield*, *The Principal*, *Deep Water* and *The Secret Life Of Us*. He's recognised internationally for his roles in both Jane Campion's *Top Of The Lake* and the feature film *Van Diemen's Land* that he co-wrote with director Jonathan Auf Der Heide. Most recently he featured in the Foxtel production *The Twelve* and *The Royal Hotel* a See Saw film that he co-wrote with director Kitty Green, which stars Julia Garner and Hugo Weaving.

MAGDA (PAMELA RABE) With a photographic memory, Magda is probably the cleverest person in Tasmania. Over the years she had an array of lovers around the globe, but when she met Heather in Tasmania, her life changed overnight. Magda now enjoys a simpler, slower existence in Mystery Bay. Her time is spent with Heather truffle hunting, doing crosswords, and going for long walks with their beloved pet pig, Truffles.

PAMELA RABE

Pamela is one of Australia's most prolific and highly awarded actors. Her work in television includes *The Secret Life Of Us*, *Mercury*, *The Bite*, *Stingers*, *Fucking Adelaide*, *The Hunting*, *Rosehaven*, *Deadloch* and *Wentworth*, for which she won a Silver Logie award for Most Outstanding Actress in 2018, and the AACTA award for Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama in 2015. Pamela has appeared in several feature films including *Sirens* alongside, *Paradise Road*, *Vacant Possession*, *Cosi*, and *The Well*, for which she won the 1997 AFI, Stockholm Film Festival and Variety Club awards for Best Actress. For her work in theatre and musicals, she has been awarded 3 Helpmann Awards for Best Actress for *The Children*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Grey Gardens*, 8 Green Room Awards, a Sydney Critics' Circle Award and a "Mo" Award. Other notable credits include *The Dance Of Death*, *Ghosts*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Wizard Of Oz*, *The War Of The Roses*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Hamlet*, *The Season At Sarsaparilla*, *Mother Courage And Her Children* and Barry Kosky's *The Lost Echo*. Pamela has also directed plays for the Sydney Theatre Company, Melbourne Theatre Company and the Malthouse Theatre.

HEATHER (ROZ HAMMOND) Heather moved to Mystery Bay back in 1972. A hippie who built her own mud brick house on land no-one seemed to be using and now owns by default. She met Magda at the local “organic truffle association collective” gathering in 1986. They’ve been inseparable ever since.

ROZ HAMMOND

A highly accomplished actor, writer and director, Roz recently appeared in the series *Irreverent*. More recent drama roles include the three-part *Jack Irish* telemovies, *Five Bedrooms* and *The Heights*. Other notable credits include AFI award winning *The King* and ABC telemovie *Curtin*, ABC comedies *Please Like Me* and *The Letdown*. Roz has appeared in 10 seasons of award-winning Shaun Micallef’s *Mad As Hell* and played the controversial character Christine in the ABC comedy *The Librarians*. She was a core cast member in 3 seasons AFI winner *The Micallef Programme*, 3 seasons of *Skithouse* and ensemble member for two seasons of *Thank God You’re Here*. Film credits include *Muriel’s Wedding* and *The Dish*, together with internationally acclaimed short film *Titsianna Booberini*. She has performed lead roles for Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide and Sydney theatre companies. Her own self-penned theatre shows have toured internationally with Roz receiving a Best Female Performance nomination at the Dublin Fringe and best show at the Glasgow Comedy Festival for *Full Blown Rose*. She was nominated for The Golden Gibbo at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival for *Garden Ho*. Her third show *Gym And Tonic* toured nationally and was nominated for Best Theatre at the Perth Fringe Festival 2014. Her writing credits include her own plays, and for television, *Home And Away*, *It’s A Date*, *Little Lunch*, *Polly Flowers*, *Small Tales And True* and *skithouse*. Her short story *Because You’re Worth It* was included in The Best Comedy Writing Anthology of 2015. As director her theatre credits include the Greg Fleet biopic *These Things Happen*, *This Is Not A Love Song* and the television pilot, *Shine Bright* and 2017 short film *Busting Out The Bells*. As a producer, she was awarded Best Show at Adelaide Fringe Festival 2017 and Critics Circle Award Winner at Adelaide Fringe 2017.

BONG CHA (KIM KO) Runs the Mystery Bay Motel. Bong Cha’s loyalty is only to herself and to the paycheck. She’s tough, judgemental, and pragmatic enough to keep Frankie on side.

KIM KO

Kim has appeared in notable TV shows including *Neighbours*, *Wentworth*, *Utopia*, and *Secret Bridesmaids’ Business*. Kim previously appeared in award-winning short films including *Drum Wave*, *Heart Station*, and *Mother Tongue* on SBS. She performed at the Fringe Festival in *The Intelligent Design Of Jenny Chow* and at the Comedy Festival in *Fairytale News*. She also participated in creative development for two Malthouse Theatre productions; *Going Down*, and *Little Emperors*. Kim graduated from the Full Time Program at Howard Fine Acting Studio Australia in 2014, and previously trained with the VCA Drama School. Her background is Malaysian Chinese and she migrated to Australia in 2005. She’s multilingual in seven languages, with Mandarin being her first language. She’s musically trained in instruments (piano, Chinese yangqin), singing, and dancing.

She also loves writing and published her debut novel *July Seventeenth* in 2020. In between acting and training, she is a practicing medical doctor.

SAMMI (ILAI SWINDELLS) A millennial computer-whizz with a dark sense of humour, Sammi oversees the control unit for Frankie's DIY CCTV system run from the Mystery Bay Motel.

ILAI SWINDELLS

Ilai got his acting debut after he attended an open casting call in his home state; Queensland for the Foxtel teen drama *SLIDE*. Having always wanted to be an actor from a very young age, being born in Townsville and then growing up in Central QLD. His most notable credits include *Open Slather* in which he performed and created original characters in a sketch series alongside local comedic giants; Magda Szubanski, Gina Riley and Jane Turner. Landmark TV series *Redfern Now* and lead role as Ramsay in the Award-winning ABC series *Retrograde* centered around and filmed in 2020 Covid pandemic. Plus lending his voice for the titular character in the popular animation feature and series *100% Wolf*. He will next be seen in feature film *5 Blind Dates* opposite the lead actress and creator Shuang Hu. Ilai has also worked as a presenter for TV and Radio; having racked up some decent mileage on the airwaves of Triple J.

MANFRED (ANTHONY SHARPE) A man who has more beard than face. He is the local School Run Bus Driver. Manfred used to be a roadie for rock groups, such as The Eagles and the Grateful Dead. He lives a quiet life now and is into affirmations, self-help, and smoking hooch.

ANTHONY SHARPE

With a career spanning over 20 years Anthony Sharpe has performed in some of Australia's best-known series. Breaking out as 'Cecil Yates' in the award winning and global hit series *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* Anthony earned an Equity ensemble award nomination. He went on to appear in US films *Robert The Bruce*, *Hunters Moon* and in *Nova Vita* season one. Since returning to Australia, Sharpe has continued working in major films and series including *Black Water Abyss*, *Crypt Of Tears*, *Fires*, *Blacklight* and *Joe Vs Carole*. Most recently Anthony has worked on the feature film *Kid Snow*, award winning ABC comedy series *Fisk* and TV series *Black Snow*.

REG (ROBERT RABIAH) and KERRY BROWN (ELLE MANDALIS) Reg and Kerry run the Mystery Bay Thai restaurant. They utterly detest each other, and when they aren't cooking the most horrific tasting Thai food imaginable, they're at each other's throats.

ROBERT RABIAH

Robert Rabiah won Best Actor (Monaco Charity Film Festival) for his performance in *Face To Face* by Michael Rymer, Best Writer at the Australian Writer's Guild (Monte Miller Award) and Best Writer at the National Literary Awards (Fellowship of Australian Writers). His other notable distinctions include a Top 5 Award at the first Spaamart (Screen Producers Association of Australia Film Market) a Spark Award given by the Australian Film Commission.

He was nominated for Best Actor at the 2012 AFI/AACTA's, 2011 Inside Film Awards and received a nomination for Best Actor in an Ensemble at the annual Australian Equity Ensemble Awards (the only actor-voted awards in Australia) for his performance in *Safe Harbour*, which went on to win for Best TV Movie/Mini-Series at the International Emmy® Awards. His film and television show credits include *Chopper*, *Deadline Gallipoli*, *Jack Irish*, *Ali's Wedding*, *Below*, *Secret City*, *Safe Harbour*, along with TV series *Irreverent* and feature film *Land Of Bad*.

ELLE MANDALIS

Elle won an AFI award for her performance in the Ana Kokkinos film *Only The Brave*. Elle has featured in numerous feature films such as James Vinson's *Slant*, Ana Kokkinos's *Head On* and *Down River* directed by Grant Scicluna. For television, Elle's credits include Olivia in Gristmill's *Back In Very Small Business*, ABC's *Fires*, *How To Stay Married* on Network Ten, Working Dog's *Utopia*, Matchbox Pictures *Nowhere Boys*, *Rush*, *Tangle*, *Offspring*, *Dead Gorgeous*, *Dirt Game*, *Last Man Standing*, *Scooter*, *The Forest*, *Blue Heelers*, *Marshall Law*, *Mda*, *The Secret Life Of Us*, *Something In The Air*, *Thunderstone*, *Raw Fm*, *Correlli* and *A Country Practice*. Her theatre credits include *Antigone* (The Store Room), *Snoop* (Melbourne Theatre Company) and *Bear Hunt* (Hoist Theatre Group). Elle is also the Co-Director of two successful Acting and performance training Schools in Melbourne -Brave Studios and Greentree Acting School.

TARQUIN (BEN KNIGHT) Tarquin also runs the Mystery Bay op-shop. Thickset and heavily tattooed, he is loyal to Frankie and has a fondness for Graham. He once fell in love with the wrong girl and this mistake cost him dearly, yet he still secretly pines for her.

BEN KNIGHT

Ben is a Queensland teacher who made the move to Melbourne eight years ago to pursue comedy and acting. He has sold out his past two Melbourne International Comedy Festival runs and was a NOVA FM radio favourite with his monthly (w)rap ups. His TV credits include *Five Bedrooms*, *Upper Middle Bogan*, *The Warriors* and *Offspring* and films roles include *The Merger*, *Judy & Punch* and *Spiderhead*.

DRAGO (PETE SAMMAK) AND STRETCH (JALEN SUTCLIFFE) Drago and Stretch came to Frankie's make-shift foster family at a similar time. Having never known family, both are utterly loyal to Frankie and refer to her as mum. They crave her approval, and like making her proud.

PETE SAMMAK

Pete has been acting for over a decade – making his speaking debut on *Underbelly Razor*. Since then Pete was the main cast in the feature film *Convict* directed by George Basha and David Field and received critical praise on stage as *Sherker* in the AACTA and SPAA nominated show *Taking On The Chocolate Frog*. His recent film role is *Mad Max – Furiosa* and he has also been cast as a lead in a drama series being developed by WME IMG, Greg Haddrick and Grant Thompson.

JALEN SUTCLIFFE

Jalen is a proud Darumbal and Papua New Guinean man, also a national actor, comedian & musician from Townsville, NQ. Throughout his illustrious early career Jalen has had multiple amazing opportunities such as performing at QPAC, the G20 Summit as well as performing in the opera *Pecan Summer* at the Sydney Opera House as a member of the SBO (Short Black Opera) company established by the amazing Deborah Cheetham. Jalen also starred in and wrote for season 4 of *Black Comedy* as well as featuring on season 3, 4 & 5 of *Rosehaven*. Jalen has been blessed to take out the national final of *Deadly Funny*, which is a part of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

ELYSHA (MACKENZIE GRANT) Like most teenagers, Elysha, the daughter of Thaddeus is plagued with confusing contradictions. A member of The Community, she is attracted to the outside world, but simultaneously fearful of it.

MACKENZIE GRANT

The role of Elysha is Mackenzie's first professional performance. Mackenzie lives in Tasmania and in 2022 was completing year 11 at High School.

JACK MCCLEISH (MITCHEM EVERETT) Frankie's only biological child, Jack is quickly learning how to serve his family. Jack had little interest in his cultural heritage - until a friendship with the local postie, Charlie, introduces him to his Palawa identity.

MITCHEM EVERETT

The role of Jack is Mitchem's first professional acting role. He is a proud young Pakana, Trawlwoolway northeast bunurong kulin nation Aboriginal man who is dedicated to cultural education. Mitchem specialises in dance choreography, traditional tools as well as past and present cultural practices and shares these knowledges with schools and the broader community through different workshops and programs. His artistic practice with dance and woodwork naturally flows from his interests and cultural connections.

CREATIVE BIOGRAPHIES

NATALIE BAILEY – DIRECTOR EPISODES 1-4

Natalie has had a solid career in the arts for the last 25 years. Her career spans theatre, music, film and television, both as a performer and behind the lens. Beginning as an Actress in the theatre, Natalie soon discovered that she was a skilled storyteller. She moved into film, training as an Editor and Sound Designer at QUT, which led to her cutting short films in the late 90s. It was during this period she started writing and directing short films, funded by SBS, WIFT and PFTC. Moving to the UK in 2000, Natalie joined the BBC Comedy Department as a Producer's Assistant and Researcher, working on *Absolutely Fabulous* and *French & Saunders*. She was later mentored as a Producer and Director by Armando Iannucci, working on the development and production of cult hits such as *The Thick Of It* and *Time Trumpet*. She jumped back into directing as Series and Lead Director on all three seasons of CBBC sitcom, *Hot Trubble* and later helped launch the BBC Comedy online portal where she developed and made online content with new and established comedians including Stewart Lee, Mitchell and Webb and Morwenna Banks.

After leaving the BBC, Natalie focused on directing, becoming Lead and Series Director on UK shows including the Emmy Award-winning David Hasselhoff comedy, *Hoff The Record*, BBC2s award-winning, political-comedy *The Thick Of It* Series 4 and the Jo Brand & Morwenna Banks critically acclaimed C4 series, *Damned* Pilot & Season 2.

In 2019 Natalie re-joined forces with Armando Iannucci, directing 3 episodes of his new HBO Comedy *Avenue 5*, starring Hugh Laurie. Natalie also directed HBO series, *Run*, starring and executive produced by Phoebe Waller-Bridge. Other Guest Directing gigs include Comedy-Drama's *Loaded* for Channel 4/AMC and E4/TNT's *Gap Year*. Wanting to move her career closer to home Natalie relocated to Melbourne in 2014, joining Princess Pictures as a Development Producer and Director. In 2018 she was part of the development team, as well as Lead Director, on the hit Peter Hellier and Lisa McCune comedy, *How To Stay Married*, for Network Ten.

During Australia's first COVID-19 lockdown, Natalie remotely filmed *Retrograde*, a six-part narrative comedy for ABC following the lives of a group of 30-something friends, as they drown their sorrows at a 'virtual bar' during the pandemic.

Natalie set up and directed 3 episodes of the 4-part dramedy series *The Unusual Suspects* produced by Aquarius Films for SBS and directed *Joe Exotic* for NBCU and Amazon created by and starring Kate McKinnon.

Most recently Natalie directed the feature film *Audrey*, an Australian black comedy produced by Invisible Republic (*Slam, Three Summers*) and written by Lou Sanz with financing from Screen Australia.

Natalie is also an experienced producer, and has helped create and deliver comedies, dramas and format shows, working closely with new and established talent.

WAYNE BLAIR - DIRECTOR EPISODES 5-8

Wayne Blair is an acclaimed film, television and theatre director, writer, actor and producer.

Wayne's debut hit feature film, *The Sapphires*, a musical comedy, had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in 2012. The film has since played at festivals including Telluride, Toronto, Aspen, Zurich and Hamburg, earning him worldwide recognition. *The Sapphires* was the highest grossing Australian film of 2012 and won eleven AACTA Awards, including Best Director and Best Film. In 2013 Wayne directed *Septembers Of Shiraz*, which featured at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival and opened the San Diego Film Festival, with an impressive award-winning cast including Salma Hayek and Adrien Brody. In 2015 and 2016 Wayne co-produced and directed *Cleverman* series 1 and 2 – for Sundance TV / ABC-TV, starring Iain Glen, Frances O'Connor and Deborah Mailman.

In 2019, Wayne's feature film *Top End Wedding* starring Miranda Tapsell, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. His most recent film is the feature documentary *Firestarter*, which he co-directed with Nel Minchin. The film tells the story of the Page brothers and the Bangarra Dance Company.

His TV credits include *Total Control* series 2 for ABC TV; *Mystery Road* series 2 for ABC TV co-directed with Warwick Thornton; *Sea Change* for Channel 9; *Bite Club* for Channel 10; *Love Child* for Channel 9; *Redfern Now* for ABC TV, *Lockie Leonard* Series 1 and 2 for the Channel 9; Australian-British children's supernatural comedy TV series *Dead Gorgeous* for the BBC and Australian children's TV series *Double Trouble*.

Wayne directed and performed in *Jesus Hopped The A-Train* and directed *Ruben Guthrie* while he was an associate artist at Belvoir in 2009 and 2010. Wayne wrote and directed a stage adaptation of *Njunjul The Sun* for the Kooemba Jdarra Theatre Company in Brisbane and directed *Unspoken* at the Old Fitz which toured nationally in 2006 with Performing Lines and won Best Independent Production at the Sydney Theatre Awards. Other theatre directing credits include *The Removalists*, *The 7 Stages Of Grieving* and *Romeo And Juliet* for the Sydney Theatre Company; Debbie Tucker Green's play *Dirty Butterfly* and the biographical play, *Namatjira*.

Writing credits include the short film *Ralph* which Deborah Mailman directed and won the IF Award for Best Short in 2010; *Bloodland* a concept by Stephen Page and Kathy Marika for Sydney Theatre Company's 2011 main stage season. The play was directed by Bangarra's Stephen Page and performed in traditional language. *Bloodland* toured to Adelaide Festival and Queensland Theatre Company in 2012.

Wayne wrote and directed short film *The Djarn Djarns* which won the 2005 Crystal Bear Award in the Kinderfilmfest competition at the Berlin Film Festival. The film also won a Deadly Award for Outstanding Achievement in Film in 2005, Best Screenplay at the Flickerfest Film Festival 2006, Best Short Screenplay at the AWGIES, Best Australian Short at the Film Critics' Circle Awards and has screened on SBS and Foxtel. The Short film *Jubulj*, which Wayne wrote and directed, won Best Film at the ImagiNATIVE Short Film Festival in Canada. In 2011 Wayne was awarded the Bob Maza Fellowship by Screen Australia to provide opportunities for career development, the Andrew Myer Fellowship by the Australian Film, Television and Radio School in 2007 and the Richard Wherrett Fellowship by the Sydney Theatre Company in 2006.

ANDREW KNIGHT - WRITER/CO-CREATOR/EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Andrew Knight is a multi-award-winning Australian writer and producer. The recipient of AACTA's 2015 Longford Lyell Award for outstanding contribution to the enrichment of Australia's screen environment and culture, Andrew has written for both international and Australian features, and written, produced, co-created or executive-produced more than 1000 hours of television.

Andrew co-founded Artist Services in 1989 and served as its Creative Director. The production house quickly became the top production house in the country, producing a string of successful TV series for free-to-air and cable until its sale to Granada.

Andrew's credits include co-writing and co-producing the latest instalments in the *Jack Irish* and *Rake* series, both for ABC. He co-wrote: *Ali's Wedding* with Osamah Sami, AWGIE-Award winning *The Water Diviner* with Andrew Anastasios, and *Hacksaw Ridge* with Robert Schenkkan for director Mel Gibson. Other iconic titles Andrew has been involved with include *After the Deluge*, *Kangaroo Place*, *SeaChange*, *The D-Generation*, *Siam Sunset*, *Fast Forward*, and *The Broken Shore*.

Amongst his many accolades and awards, Andrew received the 2017 Australian Writers Guild Lifetime Achievement Award for his longstanding commitment to the industry.

MAX DANN - WRITER/CO-CREATOR

Max Dann was born in Yarraville, Victoria, the setting for most of his books for children and adults. Dann worked as a carpenter's apprentice, handyman, factory worker, and gardener before taking up writing full time.

Like many of his fellow television script-writers, including Doug McLeod, Brendan Luno, and Louise Fox, Dann got his start in television scripting skit comedy: in this case, *Fast Forward*. Around this time, he also contributed material to the scripts for the feature films *The Big Steal* and *Spotswood*, both set in Yarraville.

In the 1990s, Dann contributed scripts to a number of television programs across a variety of genres, including *Wedlocked*, *Flipper*, *Full Frontal*, *Crash Zone*, and *SeaChange*, as well as writing the film scripts for *Mumbo Jumbo* and *Siam Sunset*.

This blend of writing for both children's and adults' television programs continued after 2000: in that decade, Dann contributed scripts to programs such as *Stingers*, *Worst Best Friends*, *CrashBurn*, and *McLeod's Daughters*, as well as writing for numerous Jonathan M. Shiff Productions.

Dann has produced scripts for *Bed of Roses*, and written the film scripts for *The Sunset Six* (a film about a formerly successful rock star who is terrified of playing live, despite his band's desperation to stage a comeback) and *Ektopos* (a claustrophobic independent science-fiction film about a failing lunar mining colony).

His sense of the absurd is reflected in most of his books for children, particularly the series that features the characters Roger Thesaurus and Dusting. Dann won the Book of the Year Award of the Children's Book Council for *Bernice Knows Best* (1983). He has also written books for older readers and adults.

STORYLINES

EPISODE 1

Sunday, 16 July, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

Targeted by two hitmen, successful CEO of ProperAus Finance, Stella narrowly escapes with the help of a mysterious woman called Airini. Stella is instructed to pick up her kids, Otis and Iris, and prepare to leave town immediately if she wants to stay alive.

The family arrive in Mystery Bay- fondly renamed as Misery Bay- a strange town with equally strange inhabitants. The locals aren't exactly welcoming of the new arrivals and are mostly unhelpful, hostile, or just downright confusing. They meet Jeremiah, a rough tow truck driver, Jodie, the owner of the rarely frequented pub, Connor, the local mechanic and Magda and Heather, who have a beloved pet pig called Truffles.

Francis- a dodgy real estate agent, eventually gives them keys to their new house, which Stella tells the kids they will be living in longer than expected. They soon discover it is falling apart- the floorboards are rotten and there are gaping holes throughout various rooms. During the night, the family are woken by trucks passing through the property's front yard. Just as Stella decides to go outside and assess the danger, she falls through the floor to a cellar below.

EPISODE 2

Sunday, 23 July, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

Jeremiah turns up at Stella's house to fix the rotten floorboards, so Stella and the kids go to stay in the local motel until it's done.

Frankie the town matriarch, and her younger brother Arthur, begin asking questions about Francis selling Stella the house. Frankie introduces herself to Stella. In the spirit of being neighbourly Frankie brings Stella a casserole.

Stella, Otis and Iris get more acquainted with the townspeople. Iris befriends Graham, an older blind man who lives in the motel. Otis meets Elysha, the daughter of Thaddeus and Bethel who run "The Community" on the edge of town, and Stella finds herself somewhat less irritated by Jeremiah. They also meet Bong Cha- the discerning motel owner and her helper Sammi, a young tech guy also living in the motel.

When Stella and Otis relationship becomes particularly strained, she calls Airini in the hopes of leaving, but Airini insists that the family must remain in Mystery Bay. Stella decides to reveal the truth to Otis in the hopes of regaining trust and connection. However, it only adds to his criticism of her parenting skills and resentment towards her.

Upon returning to the house when Jeremiah is finished, the floorboards have been redone, and to Stella's surprise - it's beautiful. Stella begins to feel more comfortable with Jeremiah who is proving to be more helpful and less grumpy than she initially thought.

She takes the kids for a picnic by the lake, and for the first time since the beginning of the ordeal, Stella feels somewhat happy but that feeling doesn't last long.

EPISODE 3

Sunday, 30 July, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

Robin, a public servant is sent to Mystery Bay to investigate suspicious government payouts to people in town. But when she tries to locate the people listed in the file, she is left with more questions than answers.

Stella, Otis and Iris attend an uncomfortable dinner Frankie's and meet her gang of adopted children. Frankie tries to get more information around why the family has come to Mystery Bay and grows increasingly suspicious of Stella.

Otis and Iris start attending the local school where Otis finds himself increasingly drawn to Elysha.

Stella and Jeremiah get further acquainted when he gives her a lift home from town. She also meets his father, Joseph, and learns about his brother Billy. Stella persists in trying to get out of Mystery Bay and sends Airini the USB that Kumar had left her in the hopes of it giving some much needed answers.

EPISODE 4

Sunday, 6 August, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

Stella receives help from Jeremiah to dispose of a body in the Tasmanian wilderness. However, after becoming separated from Jeremiah and losing the raft, Stella finds herself lost.

When Jeremiah comes back for her, they spend the night in an abandoned hut where their curiosity in each other increases.

Meanwhile, Frankie now feels her control of the townsfolk is under threat and orders Stella to be picked up.

Seeking answers Airini enlists the help of an old friend to try and make sense of ProsperAus Finance and have the hitmen arrested.

EPISODE 5

Sunday, 13 August, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

To reassert her power, Frankie puts Stella on trial in front of the townsfolk, however Stella negotiates to pay the entire town a large sum of money every two weeks with no idea of how she is going to do it.

Now threatened by the townspeople's growing disloyalty to her, Frankie orders punishments to those who sided with Stella during the trial.

As Airini continues her investigation into ProsperAus Finance, she calls upon an old colleague to help decode Kumar's USB vindaloo recipe.

Getting dangerously close to solving the case, she begins preparations for the trial and organises a private plane out of Mystery Bay for Stella and the kids and tells her to prepare to leave at a moment's notice.

Tensions rise between Otis and Stella, and his resentment grows when she forgets his birthday. Otis and Elysha's interest in each other grows as the pair deepen their connection. However, Elysha informs Otis she can only be with someone from inside The Community and is already promised to another.

As Stella, Otis and Iris make try to make their escape from Mystery Bay, things start to unravel.

EPISODE 6

Sunday, 20 August, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

Returning to Mystery Bay after their failed attempt to escape, Stella receives important documents Airini posted to her only to find its contents unreadable. She calls upon her allies in the town- Sammi, Magda and Heather, who use their former skills to help her crack the code.

Frankie continues to lose support after punishing several townsfolk for being disloyal to her.

After an awkward dinner party, Jeremiah and Stella come together to take action against Frankie's Bay of Fires operation and find themselves closer than ever.

Stella's father, the former CEO of ProsperAus Finance, appears in Mystery Bay attempting to convince her to return home with the kids. Wary of his intentions and who he may be working for, both Stella and Iris are dubious. Meanwhile, Johann starts trying to locate Stella's whereabouts.

Otis runs away to pursue Elysha and after refusing Stella's wishes to come back home, he comes face to face with the dangers of Thaddeus and The Community.

EPISODE 7

Sunday, 27 August, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

With her 'Bay of Fires' operation sabotaged by Stella and Jeremiah, Frankie finds herself in hot water when unable to pay her 'business partner' or the townspeople who grow increasingly impatient with her. Furious and desperate, she launches a violent investigation to find out who is responsible.

Knowing that Frankie will be on a warpath, Jeremiah hatches a plan to protect Stella by steering attention off her and onto himself.

While Jodie seeks to protect Jeremiah and convinces him to leave Mystery Bay with her for good. As they plan their escape, Jeremiah says goodbye to a confused Stella, but also pays a visit to police officer Jason- leaving him with a specific set of instructions.

Meanwhile, the hitmen arrive in Mystery Bay to kill Stella and the townsfolk rally to protect her.

Magda and Heather finally crack the code to get into the ProsperAus account- only to discover a crime so large that Stella doesn't know what move to make next.

Meanwhile, Otis is held captive by Thaddeus and The Community and Elysha takes a risk to help him.

After his terrifying experience during the 'Bay of Fires' operation, Jack runs away from Frankie and seeks comfort in his newfound friendship with the postman, Charlie.

EPISODE 8 Sunday, 3 September, 8.30pm on ABC TV and ABC iview

After several failed attempts to have Stella murdered, Johann and his hitmen arrive in Mystery Bay and he is determined to finish the job himself. When Stella is informed of her ex-lover's arrival, she leads him to Frankie's farm.

Meanwhile, Stella plans to get the townsfolk the money she promised them and the townspeople all come together to help her – but will they be able to pull it off? And just how far is she willing to go?

Unable to shake Stella from his mind and accidentally receiving love advice from Johann, Jeremiah returns to Mystery Bay to be with Stella.

While Frankie, left scrambling for support and desperate to regain control, goes to Thaddeus for help.

Jack pays a visit to Frankie to inform her he is staying with Charlie.

Now bonded through their experience at The Community, Otis and Elysha are closer than ever. Elysha begins to learn what a life outside of the Community looks like, and Otis begins to reconcile his relationship with his mother.