

THE CHASE

AUSTRALIA



Weekdays 5.00pm on





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The Chase is on... Seven's all-new general knowledge game show is starting Monday September 14 at 5pm.

The Chase is a race where players must ensure they stay one step ahead of the Chaser, some of the finest quiz brains in Australia. The Chasers are: The Governess, Supernerd, The Shark and Goliath.

Hosted by Andrew O'Keefe, contestants must answer general knowledge questions and play their tactics right in order to get themselves in the Final Chase, where they could win thousands of dollars.

However, standing in their way is their common enemy, the Chaser, a supremely, self-confident quiz genius. They will chase contestants down the board in a tense and thrilling test of knowledge to try to catch them and throw them out of the game.

Four contestants will face a sequence of quick-fire and multiple-choice question rounds to build up their cash pot, but if they allow the Chaser to catch up to them, they're out of the game.

Working as a team, players who make it through to the Final Chase then unite one more time before their common enemy: the Chaser.

Stay ahead of the Chaser and they share the cash pot. Get caught and they lose the lot!

Have they got what it takes to beat the Chaser?

The Chase Australia is produced by ITV Studios Australia and is based on the popular UK version of The Chase which is now in it's eighth series.



HOST

ANDREW O'KEEFE

Andrew is co-host of Australia's favourite weekend breakfast show *Weekend Sunrise*, as well as the host of *The Chase Australia*.

Andrew originally trained as a lawyer, following in the footsteps of his late father, the esteemed former Supreme Court judge Barry O'Keefe. But entertainment was also in his blood – not surprising as his uncle was Australian rock and roll legend Johnny O'Keefe - and Andrew also trained as a classical singer.

Andrew's television career started with the ARIA-nominated sketch comedy *Big Bite*. Since then, in addition to *Sunrise* and 11 seasons of *Seven's Deal or No Deal*, he has co-hosted the historic tri-network tsunami appeal *Reach Out to Asia* (in 2004), the *Logie Awards* (in 2005) and two seasons of *The Rich List* (2007-2008).

In 2013, Andrew took to the stage playing the role of King Herod in the Australian tour of the *Jesus Christ Superstar* arena show. However, he was forced to relinquish the role when he injured his neck during a performance.

Andrew is also a passionate advocate of social justice. He is Chairman of the *White Ribbon Campaign* (to end violence against women) and was a member of the expert Committee which drafted Australia's *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children*. He is also a proud supporter of *Amnesty International*, the *Garvan Gene Research Institute* and the *Bell Shakespeare Company*. He and wife Eleanor have three children, Barnaby James, Rory Ignatius and Olive Mary.

THE CHASERS

THE GOVERNESS

Anne Hegerty

Be afraid Australia, be very afraid. The Governess has come all the way to the colonies to teach us a thing or two. She is the most feared of the English Chasers and is the most successful with an 80% win rate. Be prepared for The Governess to look down her nose at you. When you are in her presence it's hard not to feel like you've done something wrong and been sent to the headmistress. Pity the contestant that goes up against her alone.

Anne has never been beaten in the Final Chase by a single person team.

In her other life, Anne works as an editor and proofreader so be careful with your pronunciation or you'll receive one of her infamous death stares.

She is ranked the second best female quiz champion in the world and has appeared on Mastermind, Eggheads and has featured on The Chase UK since Series 2 (2010).

The UK host of The Chase, Bradley Walsh, calls her Frosty Knickers, but I wouldn't call her that if I were you, unless you want to be kept in after school to clean the dusters.

You have an 80% win rate. Do Australians stand a chance against you?

Absolutely because there will be all sorts of things they know that I don't. I've only just found out the name of the brown birds I kept seeing everywhere - apparently even small children know they're Indian mynas!

What do you think of the Australian contestants so far?

They're excellent - up for a challenge and full of sass. I love it when I insult people and they insult me right back! It's just what I expected from Australians, who I imagine aren't easily intimidated.

You have appeared on The Chase in the UK since the second series in 2010.

What are your stats?

Regular shows 219: won 171, lost 48 for a 78% winning percentage (the best).

THE CHASERS

SUPERNERD

Issa Schultz (pronounced EE-sa)

He has a brain the size of a planet. He may look meek but he is a scary prospect for any team. He eats, drinks and breathes quizzes. Ever since he found an old Trivial Pursuit game when he was a kid he has been obsessed with trivia. He attends quiz nights every night of the week; the rest of the time he spends studying for quizzes.

He won big on The Rich List in 2009. He also won on The Einstein Factor.

Issa has won the Australian leg of the World Quizzing Championships three times.

He is a pathological truth teller. This can often get him into bother, because the truth hurts.

He hates the idea of upsetting other people, but will never back down in a contest. He has to win because he wants to be the best. Fortunately for him, he is.

Issa grew up in Cornwall and moved to Brisbane as a teenager in 1995. He works in the IT department for a bank. His name is an Arabic version of the name Jesus. His parents worked in Qatar in the 70s and their best friend was a man named Issa.

You look like the nice chaser. Is that all an act?

Well I am nice but I am very determined. I don't like to lose.

Your life seems to revolve around quizzes. Do you do anything else in your spare time?

Quizzes are my life!

THE CHASERS

THE SHARK

Brydon Coverdale

The Shark will do whatever it takes to win. He is confident and cocky. He is better than you and he knows it. He is more than happy to let you know it too. Imagine an Australian cricket team, completely fully of Dave Warners and Shane Warnes... that's The Shark.

If there is trivia he doesn't know then it's not worth knowing. He trains on quizzing with the dedication of an elite athlete. He also has a deep understanding about how games work and can spot your weaknesses as soon as he looks at you. He not only has the skills, but also the strategy to win.

Being good at trivia has always come naturally to him. He has worked as a writer for a pub trivia company.

In 2014, Brydon won big on Million Dollar Minute taking home \$307,000.

Brydon grew up in country Camperdown in Victoria, but moved to the city to study journalism. He has always loved sport, particularly cricket. He now writes for the biggest cricket website in the world. And now he is a professional Chaser. He has two of the best jobs a man could want.

You train on quizzing like an elite athlete. How many hours a week would you train?

Quite a few, in fact I'm always training.

You say you can spot weaknesses as soon as a contestant looks at you.

Do you care to reveal one secret?

Nerves. I can see nerves!

How do you think you will go on The Chase? What will your win rate be?

I'm pretty confident it will be 100%. It would take good team work to bring me down.

THE CHASERS

GOLIATH

Matt Parkinson

One look from Goliath will bring you to your knees. He is cold, calculating and let's face it completely terrifying.

And it's not just his tremendous height – 198cms or six feet, six and a half inches in the old system – that will intimidate you and make you feel small. It's his glare. He would be a brilliant police interrogator - criminals would rat out their mother just to get away from him.

In a former life he was a comedian, so he is brilliant with a one-liner. Most of these lines will be at your expense. Don't hit one back at him because you will be bound to lose.

Matt grew up in Perth and moved to Melbourne where he performed on the Big Gig and Full Frontal and a much-loved radio interviewer.

Matt's love for trivia comes as a by-product of his passion for knowledge and reading. He devours books. Matt won big on Sale Of The Century and has been a regular expert on The Einstein Factor.

Should contestants be very afraid of you? Or is it all a big act?

I don't like to kick an opponent when they are down, but if it intimidates the next player, I'll go there. In a fair contest, I'll do whatever I can to put you off. It's called gamesmanship.

You have been a comedian in a former life. How will you react if the contestants try their own gags on you?

What really makes me laugh is when somebody says something on the spur of the moment that tells you how they are truly feeling. When I've got my game face on, would-be jokers will need their best material.

You devour books! What's your favourite?

My favourite book is The Book of Lists. I still have the original, given to me as a present in my teens. I'm a bit superstitious about it and I like to keep it handy. It's full of lists like: 'Ten authors who wrote best-sellers in prison' or 'Fifteen famous events that happened in the bathtub'. It's an amazing collection of facts and stories and it's still fascinating after all these years.



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