

## OVERVIEW

SBS Television reached an average weekly audience of more than 7.7 million people in 2002-03. More people watched SBS news and current affairs programs and SBS comedy and youth programs attracted new viewers. SBS digital, multi-channel services reached more people, and innovative drama, documentary and animation, commissioned from the nation's best independent filmmakers, captured the vivid images and told the unique stories of multicultural Australia.

## SBS PRODUCTIONS

### Pizza

A third series of **Pizza**, the very popular cartoon reflection of contemporary multicultural Australia, was in production this year. The streetwise and politically incorrect sitcom about the perils of pizza delivery had some character changes with Pauly and Bobo joined by Davo Dinkum, and higher profile roles for scam-artist, Habib, and his mate, Rocky. Series two was successfully repeated earlier in the year.

(10 half-hour episodes produced for broadcast on Mondays from July 2003)

### The Movie Show

In its 16th year, **The Movie Show** continued to regularly attract strong audience interest, consolidating its reputation as Australia's pre-eminent vehicle of popular cinema review. In addition to their film reviews, analysis and interviews, Margaret Pomeranz and David Stratton provided reports from international film festivals in Venice, Cannes and Berlin.

(42 half-hour episodes, broadcast weekly on Wednesdays at 8pm)

### Life Support

The program parodies the glibness and complacency of the lifestyle television genre, offering subversive advice and black comedy. Presented by four stereotypical 'experts', the advice is sometimes politically incorrect, routinely satirical and often just plain silly. The second series, from independent producers, McDonald Eastway, continued to push the boundaries of new Australian comedy. A third series of **Life Support** has been commissioned.

(10 half-hour episodes broadcast Mondays in June-August 2002)

### A Fork in Africa

In his idiosyncratic examination of Africa, Pria Viswalingam looked for the exotic and the unexpected, steering us away from the more familiar images of civil war and famine and finding instead a rich culture and

unique beauty in a range of locations from Mali and Madagascar to Tunisia and Capetown and even the African diaspora of Paris.

(9 half-hour episodes broadcast Wednesdays in January-March 2003)

### Mum's The Word

Following the success of the first series, another series of **Mum's The Word** was produced this year. Built on the notion of shared experience, a diverse range of mothers shared candid stories and opinions under the guidance of Rebecca Le Tourneau. Complementing the round-table tales were AJ Rochester's cameos with a range of fathers who discussed their personal experiences of parenthood.

(8 half-hour episodes broadcast Tuesdays in April-May 2003)

### TwentyFourSeven

Following in the wake of the critical success of **Going Home**, McElroy Television produced for SBS a new fast turnaround drama series, **TwentyFourSeven**. Set in the editorial office of a glossy magazine, the program featured the make believe personal and professional lives of the magazine staff. Artifice and reality were further blurred by SBS New Media publishing excerpts of the magazine on its website.

(13 half-hour episodes broadcast on Wednesdays in August-November 2002)

### Living Black

The new indigenous magazine program, **Living Black** (developed from its predecessor ICAM) provided diverse and comprehensive reports from around Australia. The series dealt with indigenous issues such as foetal alcohol syndrome and fostering, as well as presenting weekly overviews of indigenous affairs in the news and in sport and arts/ culture. **Living Black** was hosted by Karla Grant.

(10 half-hour episodes broadcast on Fridays in March-May 2003)



### If Only...

We have all done those things we come to regret and subsequently think: "If only I'd done that differently."

This is the premise of the magazine style program

**If Only...** produced in association with Becker Entertainment. Stories in the series cover the broad spectrum of human experience, from the emotional and tragic to the comical and embarrassing.

(10 half-hour episodes produced for broadcast on Wednesdays from October 2003).

### The Food Lovers' Guide to Australia

The third series of Maeve O'Meara's and Joanna Savill's

**The Food Lovers' Guide to Australia** was broadcast in late 2002. The program explores the nation's culinary delights from a diversity of cultural sources, from the outback to the ocean, from country farms and suburban backyards to kitchens, both five-star and home-style. A fourth series has been commissioned and will be in production in late 2003.

(13 half-hour episodes broadcast Fridays in August-November 2002)

### Stories From the Golf

Some of life's defining moments take place in a small rental car. This is the premise of **Stories From The Golf**, a series of short, sometimes black, comedy pieces. It featured a cross-section of the southern city's leading comedians (including its creators) on location around Melbourne.

(13 five-minute episodes produced for broadcast in late 2003)

### Viva

Four musical Australians go back to the regions of their cultural origin and unearth their musical roots in **Viva**, a series of travel/music documentaries. Directed and photographed by independent producer, James Ricketson, the series vibrates with music and life over three continents, in Latin America, India and West Africa.

(10 half-hour episodes produced for broadcast in early 2004)

### Subsonics

Avant-garde music was presented in **Subsonics** in a format somewhere between music video and an arts magazine. Diverse, challenging, and sometimes musically confronting, **Subsonics** showcased experiments in both sound and image.

(6 half-hour episodes broadcast Thursdays in June-July 2003)

### 2002 IF Awards

The Inside Film magazine awards for independent film, hosted by Libbi Gorr, were an alternative to the more traditional AFI Awards. Telecast by SBS for the second year, the **IF Awards** were a tightly packaged one-hour presentation.

(1 hour telecast in November 2002)

### eat carpet

After 13 years, **eat carpet** remains Australia's only regular television program to showcase short films and videos from across the nation and around the world.

The unit produced the mini-mockumentary series, (S)truth, in association with Queensland's Pacific Film and Television Corporation for screening in late 2003.

(1 hour series broadcast Fridays at 11 p.m.)

### Global Village

Presented by Silvio Rivier, **Global Village** is a series of mini-documentaries about people and places around the world. Compiled from a purchased series, it includes locally produced segments highlighting Australia's cultural diversity.

(Half-hour episodes broadcast Monday-Saturday at 6 p.m.)

### Hotline

SBS continues its dialogue with its audience with its weekly presentation of viewer feedback – both complimentary and critical – on **Hotline**. Presented by Electra Manikakis.

(5 minute episodes, broadcast Mondays at 5.50 p.m. and repeated later in the week)



## NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

SBS News and Current Affairs programs are unique on Australian television. They bring to the homes of all Australians a snapshot of world events while giving a national perspective to domestic political, economic

### DATELINE 2002-03

Madagascar	An island divided by politics and violence
Russia	Drugs and HIV in Russia today
Iran	Filmmakers versus the Mullahs
Indonesia	The sinking of Siev-X
Sri Lanka	The workings of an ancient gem industry
Somalia	An American warlord in Mogadishu
Papau New Guinea	Pigs and Politics – elections in the highlands
Iraq	Baghdad braces for war
Turkey	Asterix and the Turkish gold
Israel	Crisis of conscience for some soldiers
India	Gujarat – Tale of complicity?
Chagos Islands	Winning back paradise
Indonesia	God's Decision – the Abu Quassey Story
Sudan	Lord's Resistance Army – Christian child soldiers
Hong Kong	One Country – Split families
East Timor	Children held by Indonesian nationalists
Afghanistan	No Place Like Home – The refugees return
Malawi	Time Bomb Ticking – famine and AIDS
Germany	Der Waltzing Matildas – itinerant workers
Iraq	A tale of two cities – Baghdad's rich and poor
Kyrgyzstan	USA accused of propping up a dictator
Vanuatu	A neighbour accuses Australia of spying
Israel	Armenians claim their genocide denied
Indonesia	Behind Bali's bomb
Venezuela	Anatomy of a coup
West Papua	Secrets and Lies – the Freeport killings
Zambia	GM in Africa
Saudi Arabia	Jamal Khalifa – Osama's best friend
Zimbabwe	Mugabe's musicians

### INSIGHT 2002-03

Islam Dreaming	Indigenous Australians converting to Islam
Forum: Anxious Nation Anxiety	War Talk Australians discuss going to war in Iraq
Green Desert	A mutant seaweed escapes fish tanks into the ocean
Labor Pains	Branch stacking and factional warfare in the ALP
Double Jeopardy	An accused murderer convicted and acquitted twice
Limited Generosity	Disagreement over East Timor's oil and gas reserves
Forum: Child Sex Abuse	Specialists explore the issue of child sex abuse
Wind Power	Wind power is clean but coal is cheaper
High Rise Safety	Inner city dwellers' concerns about fire safety
Shipping News	Australian maritime unions fight against foreign crews
Full Body Scans	The latest fad divides medical authorities and doctors
Forum: War?	A specialist panel debates the case for war on Iraq
Learning on the Job	Traineeships under the microscope
Disabilities & the Classroom	Should children with disabilities be integrated into mainstream schools?
Reinventing Mardi Gras	Money trouble and the future of the gay movement
Labor's Civil War	Branch stacking and factional warfare benefit the Greens
Sunken Treasure	Organised crime and Australia's abalone industry

and business events. SBS has access to more international news sources than any other Australian network. During the year, 3,289 hours of news and current affairs programs were broadcast by SBS

Television. Forty-one episodes of the international current affairs program, **Dateline**, and 35 episodes of the national current affairs program, **Insight**, were broadcast in 2002-03.

### DATELINE cont...

Canary Islands	Is the US Navy's sonar killing whales?
Nauru	The problem for the Pacific solution
Iraq	Baghdad before the War
Saudi Arabia	Inside the hidden kingdom
Nicaragua	Ben Hur – chariot race for the poor
USA	New York State of Mind – Manhattan before the war
Indonesia	The practice of kidnapping a bride
Morocco	Warning Bells – another war on terror
India	Tehelka – the sting that stung
Iraq	Peace Bus – human shields travel to Iraq
Iran	The Shi'ite factor
Hungary	Iraqi exiles train for war
Thailand	Speed Kills – the bloody war on drugs
Afghanistan	Unfinished business
USA	The lawyer and the sheik
Fiji	British Bomb – Fijian compensation claims
Slovakia	Roma women allege forced sterilisation
Iraq	Kurds return to Kirkuk
Kyrgyzstan	Making plastic models out of human corpses
Russia	The Boris Berezovsky story
Israel	Human Shields – dying for the Palestinian cause
Ethiopia	Coffee growers grow poor
Russia	The Moscow theatre siege
Iraq	The war of the Mullahs
Indonesia	Krakatoa – the big bang
India	Bhopal – the toxic wait for justice
New Zealand	Pesticide in suburban Auckland
Jordan	Torn between Iraq and the USA

### INSIGHT cont...

Unorthodox Church	The Macedonian Orthodox Church goes to court
Leaving Tennant Creek	Aboriginal students go to a Christian boarding school
Forum: Fertility Strike?	Experts debate Australia's low fertility rate
The Menopause Dilemma	Hormone Replacement Therapy versus alternative treatments
Who Dares Win?	Injured ex SAS members seek training compensation
Pausing The Limit	Teenagers under the influence of alcohol marketing
David Hicks	An Australian detained in Guantanamo Bay
Unanswered Prayers	Muslim prayer centre plans divide Sydney community
Searching for Nabella	A mother's search for her kidnapped daughter
Coming, Ready or Not	Opposition to the introduction of GM foods
Mohammed and Juliet	Mohammed Saleh's death in mandatory detention
Australian Babylon	Australian Iraqis discuss the future of Iraq
Profit for Prophets	Supporters and critics of a new church
With Friends Like These	The US influence in Australia and the defence alliance
Forum: The Price of Education	Experts and stakeholders debate planned changes to tertiary education
Plea For Justice	Plea bargaining – the case for and against
The New Reformation	Changes afoot in one of Australia's oldest churches

## GENERAL PROGRAMMING

### DOCUMENTARIES

SBS Television broadcast more documentaries than any other Australian free-to-air network in 2002-03.

These documentaries, both commissioned and purchased from outside sources, covered a very broad range of subjects: current affairs and politics, human relationships, science, the arts, religion and spirituality, sexuality and gender issues, race and racism, culture, food and health, and ancient and modern history.

History and archaeology-themed documentaries and documentary series were consistent ratings winners in our schedule. Among them were **Meet the Ancestors**, and **Empires of Stone** detailing the history of the Acropolis, the Coliseum and China's Great Wall; **Ancient Discoveries** which showed how robotics, computing and medicine all had their antecedents in the ancient world, **Sea Kingdoms** a history of the Celts' relationship with the sea, and the PBS series **Empires: Rome in the First Century** and **Empires: Kingdom of David**. Other documentaries included **Mystery of the Persian Mummy**, **In Search of Ancient Ireland**, **The Human Odyssey** and **Germany's War**.

Programs acquired through an output deal with WGBH, the US-producer of **Frontline**, were scheduled in the Cutting Edge time slot. Among these were **Bigger than Enron**, **American Porn**, **September 11: The Man Who Knew** and **In Search of Al Qaeda**. Several documentaries which examined Iraq and achieved sizable audiences were **The War Behind Closed Doors**, **After Saddam**, **Saddam's Friends**, **The Long Road to War** and **Blair's War**.

### COMEDY

Comedy programs are consistently among the most watched on SBS Television.

New series of **South Park** and **Quads!** attracted good audiences, along with **Crank Yankers**, which features real crank calls by professional comedians, re-enacted by puppets.

### DRAMA (Feature films)

In 2002-03, SBS Television showed more films than any other free-to-air broadcaster in Australia, with an average of 18 films broadcast each week. Recent movies were presented each weeknight with specially selected 'cult' movies on Saturdays and 'classics' on Sundays. Among the most popular movies of the year were: **The Devil's Nightmare**, **Erotic Ghost Story**, **The Libertine**, **The Secret**, **The Mating Game** and **Criminal Lovers**.

### DRAMA SERIES

**Queer as Folk**, a provocative drama series centred on the life and loves of seven gay people, has become an important and popular addition to SBS Television's Monday night line-up.

The adventurous Austrian police drama, **Inspector Rex**, continues to build on its success, while a number of drama series from various countries were shown in the late night time slot.



## ARTS PROGRAMS

Opera seasons were the main feature of the Arts on Saturday time slot, complemented by documentaries about the composers, the conductors, or the artists who appeared in them. These seasons were in addition to SBS's regular arts programming, **The Movie Show** and the Masterpiece strand, in which artists from various disciplines are profiled.

Masterpiece highlights in 2002-03 were: **The Complete Beckett** (all of Samuel Beckett's plays interpreted by some of the world's leading film-makers), documentaries on the film-makers Jean Cocteau, Ingmar Bergman, Louis Malle and Pedro Almodovar, photographers Spencer Tunick and Peter Darren Moyle, painters Leonardo Da Vinci and Mark Rothko, architect Santiago Calatrava, conductor Daniel Barenboim and actor Bruce Lee.

Many of the programs shown in Masterpiece and Arts on Saturday were scheduled to coincide with tours and performances around Australia.

## SEASONS

Throughout the year, a number of special seasons examined specific themes through a broad range of feature films, documentaries, short dramas and comedies. These seasons are unique to SBS and have proved very popular with viewers. Each season sees parts of the schedule devoted to a particular subject, enabling the topic to be thoroughly dissected and examined from a variety of perspectives, some serious and some in a lighter vein. July saw a special season on perhaps the most widely known and admired non-English speaking actor, Gérard Depardieu. Beginning with an intimate and revealing documentary portrait, the week long series of Depardieu movies culminated with the four-part series **Les Misérables**.

In the lead-up to the anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, a range of programs was scheduled to mark the event, including **The Twin Towers: A History** and **Letter to America** and **Letter From America**, which provided a human view of the consequences of 11 September.

'Middle East Perspectives', a season of programs dealing with the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, encompassed 11 programs across a variety of time slots to provide a broad range of viewpoints to the complex history and the evolving problems that have led to the current situation in Middle East.

**Steps for the Future**, a collection of films from seven countries in the southern African region, dealt with the ever-present tragedy of HIV/AIDS in Africa, which were scheduled across a number of timeslots in the lead-up to AIDS Awareness Week.



## INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

SBS Television broadcasts more programs of interest to Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders than any other Australian free-to-air network: over 40 hours of material in the past year. Most significant among these was **Living Black**, 10 half-hour episodes of news, current affairs, interviews and review produced from an indigenous perspective for a general audience. SBS Independent also commissioned a number of relevant programs, most notably the six-part series **Everyday Brave**, focusing on the lives of successful indigenous Australians.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### NAIDOC Week

Seven documentaries and one feature film with themes relating to indigenous Australians were scheduled during NAIDOC Week.

### Australia Day

Australia Day was marked with two programs commissioned by SBS Independent: **From Korea with Love**, about an Australian family seeking to adopt a child from South Korea, and **Two Thirds Sky**, about Australian painters, both indigenous and non-indigenous, who have been inspired by Australia's desert landscape and two locally produced programs about Australian indigenous artistic practices.

### International Women's Day

International Women's Day was marked with the documentary **First Ladies**, in which first ladies from Europe, Africa and Latin America discuss their roles as spouses of their countries' leaders.

### 1 April

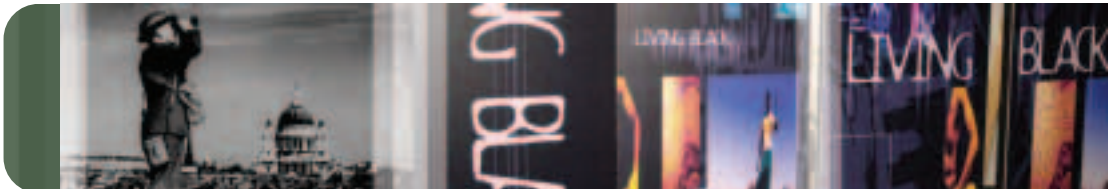
Scheduled in the Cutting Edge time slot, **Dark Side of the Moon** was a hoax documentary alleging that the first moon landing never actually happened but was staged in a studio and filmed by Stanley Kubrick at the instructions of the US government.

### Holocaust Remembrance Day

A number of documentaries were scheduled to coincide with Holocaust Remembrance Day, including **Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport**, **Long Shadows: Stories from a Jewish Home**, **Visitor from the Living** and **Zygielbojm's Death**.

### Anzac Day

Two documentaries were scheduled for Anzac Day: **The Kokoda Trail: More Than Just a War Memorial** and **John Simpson Kirkpatrick: The Man with the Donkey**.



## SPORT

Building on the success of SBS's 2002 World Cup coverage, which reached a record national audience of 10.4 million, SBS launched in September its most ambitious weekly sports program to date:

### **The World Game.**

The six-hour program of soccer games, highlights and analysis, established a deliberate and unique link with SBS's soccer website of the same name. The 'look' of the program utilised a number of creative elements associated with the highly successful website and, through cross-promotion, large audiences were attracted to both mediums. **The World Game** program also maintained strong links with SBS's nightly program, **Toyota World Sports**. Content, particularly breaking news stories, often flowed across the two shows.

Two other pioneering SBS programs launched during the year involved cycling and American football. Following the signing of a strategic partnership between SBS and Cycling Australia, the network launched **Cycling Weekly**, an eight-episode series and the first regular cycling program on Australian television. NFL Touchdown, another half-hour weekly series, was produced in SBS's Melbourne offices and launched prior to SBS's live telecast of the NFL Superbowl in February.

## SPECIALS

SBS Television's annual broadcast of the **Eurovision Song Contest**, this time hosted for SBS by Des Mangan in Riga, saw a marked increase on the previous year's audiences.



## SBS INDEPENDENT

In 2002-03, SBS Independent (SBSi) maintained a dynamic profile in the Australian television and film industry, providing Australian audiences with high quality and innovative programs made by some of Australia's best independent filmmakers.

Since its establishment in 1994, SBSi has commissioned more than 600 hours of remarkable, innovative programming. In this financial year, SBSi commissioned 92.5 hours of documentary, drama and animation and provided 44.5 hours of similarly diverse programming for broadcast on SBS Television. Over its lifetime, SBSi has commissioned film and television productions that have won more than 460 national and international awards.

During the year, SBSi pioneered a new production model that won strong support from filmmakers and enthusiastic backing from Australian audiences. Instead of concentrating on single, 'one-off' programs, SBSi turned its attention to the commissioning of series. A key part of this strategy involves linking experienced producers with groups of first-time filmmakers for the production of a number of four-part documentary series.

SBSi believes these series have far wider audience appeal and greater potential for overseas sales than 'one-off' programs. The success of these series also provides Australian producers entrée to international co-productions. A long-term benefit identified by filmmakers is the chance for up-and-coming film directors to receive wide-ranging mentoring by experienced producers. The SBSi commissioned **Handle With Care**, **Hard Choices** and **Red Heart Hospital** are examples of this new initiative.

SBSi actively encourages producers and directors to multi-task. For example, the program, **John Safran vs God** has experienced director Richard Lowenstein as its Executive Producer, and the award-winning, **Making Venus** is produced by director, Tom Zubrycki, for first-time director Gary Doust.

In anticipation of changes to SBS's television schedule, SBSi commissioned 10 dramas, each of 50 minutes duration, from independent writers and directors.

These dramas, to be broadcast in prime time, will give exposure to new talent and provide them with a stepping-stone from short dramas to full-length features. Other programs, previously scheduled for broadcast in 2002-03, will be shown in the coming financial year, including the new strand, **Aussie Docs**, featuring 'blue chip' documentaries, many made under the film accord between SBSi and the Australian Film Finance Corporation.

During the year, SBSi launched a database for film and television talent who are from non-English speaking backgrounds. The resource, which is a service to producers and writers, helps to promote Australia's diverse creative resources.

A collaboration between the National Gallery of Victoria and the Australian Centre for the Moving Image will in 2003-04, produce a series of interstitials made by high profile visual artists.

In line with its commitment to encourage and promote independent Australian filmmakers, SBSi regularly assists producers with sourcing international finance and sales for their projects by supporting them at film and television markets, and at venues such as the Amsterdam Forum and Sunnyside of the Doc at Marseille.

### Indigenous Productions

SBSi continues to enthusiastically support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island productions. In 2002-03, a total of 17.5 hours of indigenous programs were commissioned and 6.5 hours were transmitted. In addition, work continued on the development of SBS's landmark series, **First Australian Nations**.

The indigenous projects commissioned in 2002-03 were: **Cold Turkey** (50 min. drama); **Queen of Hearts** (50 min. drama); **Call Me 'Mum'** (90 min. telemovie); **Token Kooris: Blackfellas for Hire** (6x26 min drama series); **Red Heart Hospital** (4x26 min. documentary series); **The Circuit** (6xOne hour drama series); **Dramatically Black** (6x26 min. drama series).

### SBSi/Co-financing

SBSi maintains funding and creative alliances with all Federal and State film and television agencies in order to maximise opportunities for Australian program makers.

### Australian Film Finance Corporation /

#### SBSi Accords

Eleven hours of documentary were made under the Accord. They were: **The Tasty Bust Reunion**; **Sandman in Siberia**; **A Girl, A Horse, a Dream**; **The President versus David Hicks**; **Why Men Pay For It**; **Without Prejudice**; **Fine Line**; **Gough Whitlam: In His Own Words**; **Molly and Mobarak**.

Documentaries co-financed by the FFC, SBSi and other (usually international) financiers were: **Selling Sickness**, **Dying To Leave**, and **Helen's War: Portrait of a Dissident**. In addition, features commissioned by SBSi with further investment by the FFC were: **More Than Scarlet** and **Illustrated Family Doctor**.

### Australian Film Commission

SBSi's collaboration with the AFC's Indigenous Unit resulted in the production of five 10-minute dramas: **Mimi**; **Black Talk**; **Turn Around**; **Flat**; and **Shit Skin**. Five National Indigenous Documentary Fund films are in production. SBSi's 'first look' deal with the AFC resulted in several 50-minute dramas, including **Lennie Cahill Shoots Through** and **Preservation**. In addition, SBSi and the AFC co-financed three, three-minute animation pilots – with a view to selecting the best to inspire a 13-part series in 2004 – and the 26-minute animation, **The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello**.

### Pacific Film and Television Corporation

Production began on the four-part documentary series, **Hard Choices**, featuring the landmark **Trouble With George** as well as the development of the mini-series, **Triple Zed**.

### South Australian Film Corporation

SBSi maintains an active engagement with the South Australian Film Corporation with a view to commissioning programs for the forthcoming documentary series, **Inside Australia** as well as feature films to be premiered at the Adelaide International Film Festival.

### Screenwest

Along with the new four part series, **Hard Choices**, SBSi commissioned the international series **Dinosaur Dealers**; oversaw script development of the prime time series', **The Getting of Wisdom** and **Post Reality**; and jointly financed the half-hour documentary, **Leederville 6007: The Club That Would Not Die**, for the **Australia By Numbers** series, and **Roll**, a 50-minute drama.

### Film Victoria

Co-financing agreements covered **Two Men and A Baby**; **Me! Me! Me!** and **A.H.A.D.**; **The Mombassa Manifesto**; and the animation, **The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello**.

### Screen Tasmania

An increased amount of work was discussed during the year, and script development of the 50-minute drama, **Cable**, continued with a view to production in early 2004.

### NSW Film and Television Office

Two dramas, **So Close to Home** and **Preservation**, as well as the series, **Knot At Home**, were co-financed with funds from the NSWFTO.

### State Agencies and Showtime

Production was completed of the 50-minute drama, **So Close to Home**, which is part of the Friday night drama strand. Series three of **Australia By Numbers** gives filmmakers in all states the opportunity to document the real world behind the postcode.

## COMMISSIONED PROGRAMS

### General Production Fund

Under its General Production Fund, SBSi commissioned 33 hours of Australian documentary.

#### Documentaries produced under SBSi's Accord with the Australian Film Finance Corporation:

<b>The Tasty Bust Reunion</b>	You've got to fight for the right to party! In 1994, the Victorian police raided a gay nightclub called The Tasty and strip-searched 463 patrons. This is their story. (52 min.)
<b>Sandman In Siberia</b>	Steve 'The Sandman' Abbott takes his mother back to their ancestral home in Siberia to meet his long lost relatives - or are they? Part documentary, part travelogue, part Beverley Hillbillies! (52 min.)
<b>A Girl, A Horse, A Dream</b>	The provocative story of Australia's talented women jockeys and their determination to win against the odds - in this case the men of Australian racing. (52 min.)
<b>The President versus David Hicks</b>	The story of Australian, David Hicks, imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba without charges and awaiting trial by a military court. (52 min.)
<b>Why Men Pay for It</b>	Why do men visit brothels? Is it more than libido? (52 min.)
<b>Without Prejudice</b>	Real judges, real lawyers and real jurors, allow the audience into the real drama behind the scenes of a major criminal case. (52 min.)
<b>Fine Line</b>	Journalists speak of the ethics and work practices that govern their daily lives and the moral dilemmas on whether or not to report on some well-known events. (6x26 min. series)
<b>Gough Whitlam - In His Own Words</b>	The life and times of one of Australia's most famous prime ministers. (Feature length)
<b>Molly and Mobarak</b>	In the town of Young, a love story unfolds in a community beset by good intentions, a racist history and some newly arrived Afghan asylum seekers. (Feature length)

#### Documentaries, or documentary series, commissioned by SBSi which involve pre-sale broadcast rights from other broadcasters, mostly international.

<b>Selling Sickness</b>	Is there a connection between the invention of pharmaceuticals and the discovery of new medical syndromes and conditions for which they might prove effective? (52 min.)
<b>Petra's Journey</b>	When a Melbourne couple decide to adopt Petra, a small Croatian girl, they embark on an emotional roller-coaster that uncovers a tragic past and raises some moral questions. (52 min.)
<b>From the Sky to the Sea</b>	The story of the Japanese midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour in 1942. (52 min.)
<b>Designer Babies</b>	The technology exists to allow us to design our own babies and Australian doctors are in the forefront of the genetics race. But is it a good thing? (52 min.)
<b>Dying to Leave</b>	The human cost of international people smuggling and trafficking. (2x52 min. series)
<b>Convicts</b>	A history series based on the original letters and diaries of convicts transported to Australia. (3x52 min. series)
<b>Lilita</b>	Does Argentine presidential candidate, Lilita, have what it takes to save her nation from debt and corruption? (52 min.)
<b>Helen's War: Portrait of a Dissident</b>	The life of anti-nuclear campaigner, Dr Helen Caldicott. (52 min.)



**A new SBSi initiative resulted in the following documentary series being financed wholly in Australia.**

<b>Hard Choices</b>	Stories of some big, life-changing decisions. (Made by new Queensland directors in conjunction with the PFTC.) (4x26 min. series)
<b>Hard Choices</b>	Stories of some big, life-changing decisions. (Made by new Western Australian directors in conjunction with Screen West.) (4x26 min. series)
<b>Bush Doctor</b>	A glimpse of the community of Walgett through the eyes of their doctor, Dr Vlad Matic (Part 1 of 2x26 min. programs.)
<b>Handle With Care</b>	The Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Retrieval Team at work. (4x26 min. series)
<b>Inside Australia</b>	<p><b>Grandpa's Games</b> Did Grandpa really cheat to win his gold medal at the Veteran Olympics and does it really matter? (26 min.)</p> <p><b>The Godfather of Bodies</b> George Tabban is retiring after years of playing godfather to Melbourne's female body building champions. (26 min.)</p> <p><b>Bob Brought the War Home</b> For Bob and his family, the Vietnam War is still raging. (26 min.)</p>

## Special Production Fund

Under its Special Production Fund, SBSi commissioned a total of 56.5 hours of programs, including: Drama (29 hours); Documentary (26.5 hours); and Animation (1 hour).

### DRAMAS

<b>Cable</b>	Family conflict, Italian style, on a remote Tasmanian fishing island. (50 min.)
<b>Preservation</b>	In the dead heart of a taxidermist's shop the spark of love ignites. (50 min.)
<b>So Close to Home</b>	A chance encounter between two women on a train provokes a journey into the nature of exile and belonging. (50 min.)
<b>Cold Turkey</b>	Set in Alice Springs, one brother wants to go to Coober Pedy, but the other is determined to stop him. (52 min.)
<b>Queen of Hearts</b>	A young girl in Alice Springs learns about life and the value of family. (52 min.)

### DRAMA SERIES

<b>Post Reality</b>	The family has allowed a reality TV show into their home and lives and it's about to go to air. (6x26 min. series)
<b>Triple Zed</b>	Life at a radical Brisbane radio station during the time of Premier, Joh Bjelke Petersen. (6x26 min. series)
<b>Dramatically Black</b>	Indigenous drama series in development for production in 2004. (6x26 min. series)

### FEATURE FILMS

<b>More Than Scarlet</b>	In a winter landscape of rural Australia, an adolescent girl discovers the difference between sex and love.
<b>Call Me "Mum"</b>	One son, three mothers and many truths battle it out on the domestic front.



## DOCUMENTARIES

Trash	The story of the man who runs the only Freaky Cult trash video store in Brisbane. (An Accord documentary co-produced with the PFTC) (26 min.)
The Mombassa Manifesto	From Metals to Mambo, aliens to Jesus, the world of Reg Mombassa, artist and rock star comes to life. (26 min.)
Big All At Once	Life as it is for three 18 year olds as they leave school and struggle to become instant adults. (52 min.)
Tales From the Turnbuckle	A glimpse into the arcane working class world of a professional wrestler. (52 min.)
Troubled Minds	The story of the discovery of Lithium, a drug that changed psychiatry and people's lives forever. (52min.)
Silent Storm	The secret story of nuclear testing in South Australia. (52 min.)
Two Men and a Baby	Two gay men buy a baby. A modern morality tale. (52 min.)

## DOCUMENTARY SERIES

Knot at Home	What causes drama at home and how to survive it. (8x26 min. series)
The Colony	Based on the experiences of a sailing ship that arrived in Sydney in 1802. (In development.) (6x52 min. series)
Under One Roof	<b>The Chakos Family</b> The Chakos family of San Souci is three generations under one roof. (52 min.) <b>The Puckeridge Family</b> The Puckeridges of Concorde have five children under 10. (52 min.) <b>The Kapsalides Family</b> Mum and two daughters take pride in their achievements as a sole parent household. (52 min.)
Little Siberia	Oral and visual history of a Russian Aboriginal family that spans Australia's 20th century. (3x52 min. series)
The Getting of Wisdom	What's happening in Australia's public schools? (4x26 min. series)
Divorce	The law and divorce as seen across different cultural groups. (In development.) (6x26 min. series)
Red Heart Hospital	Life and death in the world's most remote major hospital. (4x26 min. series)
Inside Australia	<b>The Trouble with George</b> A recently separated woman continues to care for a homeless man. (26 min.) <b>Matthew's Fight for Life</b> A boy's survival as seen through the eyes of his parents and doctor. (26 min.) <b>Prep for Life</b> A man is shaken by an old TV show's footage of his dead brother. (26 min.)
Over the Fence	True stories from the Australian urban battlefield. (4x26 min. series)

## COMEDY SERIES

John Safran vs God	From Amishism to Zoroastrianism, religious zealot John Safran puts 10 faiths under the microscope. (10x26 min. series)
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## ANIMATION

The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello	A captivating tale of horror and adventure in a strange land. (26 min.)
The Safe House	When the lead characters from a real life spy drama move next door, a seven-year-old's life is never quite the same. (26 min.)



## AUDIENCES

### REACH

In 2002, SBS Television was watched by more than 7.7 million Australians each week. In the five major cities – Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth – the average weekly reach was 5.4 million viewers. SBS Television's audience share of home viewing in these cities between 6 p.m. and midnight was 5.59%.

In those areas outside the five mainland capital cities, SBS Television reached an additional 2.2 million people. These included: regional NSW (1.1 million); regional Queensland (510,000); regional Victoria (381,000); and Tasmania (200,000). Other areas not covered by audience reports, including Darwin and more than 150 self-help transmitters, would increase the average weekly SBS Television audience to more than 7.7 million.

### WEEKLY REACH OF AUDIENCES

Total people	1998 000s	1999 000s	2000 000s	2001 000s	2002 000s
<b>FIVE MAJOR CITIES</b>					
Sydney	1,305	1,378	1,293	1,796	<b>1,798</b>
Melbourne	1,229	1,291	1,233	1,712	<b>1,586</b>
Brisbane	723	785	756	804	<b>863</b>
Adelaide	442	465	451	501	<b>522</b>
Perth	505	540	517	581	<b>632</b>
<b>CITIES TOTAL</b>	<b>4,204</b>	<b>4,459</b>	<b>4,250</b>	<b>5,394</b>	<b>5,401</b>
<b>REGIONAL AREAS</b>					
NSW REGIONAL	874	910	970	1,133	<b>1,148</b>
VICTORIA REGIONAL	189	261	271	351	<b>381</b>
QUEENSLAND REGIONAL	363	360	457	494	<b>510</b>
TASMANIA	194	188	186	203	<b>200</b>
<b>NATIONAL TOTAL</b>	<b>5,824</b>	<b>6,178</b>	<b>6,134</b>	<b>7,575</b>	<b>7,640</b>

Areas for which audience reports are not received, such as Darwin and those covered by 176 'self-help' transmitter services, would increase the average weekly SBS audiences to over 7.7 million people.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

People aged 40 years and above continued to be the biggest watchers of SBS Television. It was more popular among men over 18 years (49%) compared to women over 18 years (41%). The most regular viewers of SBS Television, both men and women, were aged 55 years and above.

## WEEKLY REACH BY KEY DEMOGRAPHICS

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth combined

BY AGE AND SEX	Reach 000s	Reach %
Children 0–4	208,000	25.2
Children 5–12	348,000	25.2
Teens 13–17	269,000	29.9
People 18–39	1,760,000	39.4
People 40+	2,816,000	49.3
Men 18–24	259,000	37.5
Men 25–39	721,000	46.2
Men 40–54	703,000	49.7
Men 55+	767,000	57.7
Men 18+	2,450,000	49.1
Women 18–24	183,000	27.4
Women 25–39	597,000	38.5
Women 40–54	592,000	41.3
Women 55+	754,000	49.2
Women 18+	2,126,000	41.0

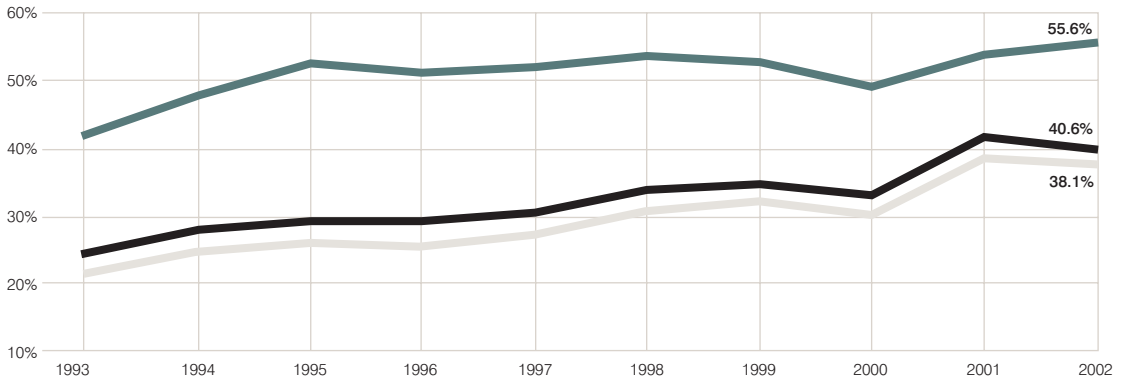
## WEEKLY REACH BY ETHNICITY

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth combined

- Born overseas in a non-English speaking country
- Total People
- Born in Australia or in an overseas English speaking country

## ETHNICITY

Viewing of SBS Television by people born overseas in a non-English speaking country increased to 55.6% while slight declines were recorded among viewers either 'born in Australia' or 'born overseas in an English-speaking country'.



Over the past seven years, SBS has commissioned Quadrant Research to conduct 51 audience surveys of the viewing and listening patterns of many of the key language communities in Australia. These included:

- 1996 - Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Italian, Mandarin, Vietnamese
- 1997 - Arabic, Cantonese, Khmer, Polish, Spanish
- 1998 - Bosnian, Croatian, Korean, Macedonian, Maltese, Serbian, Slovenian
- 1999 - French, German, Indonesian, Persian-Farsi, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian, Turkish, Ukrainian
- 2000 - Assyrian, Thai, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Hungarian, Kannada, Punjabi, Sinhalese, Tamil, Urdu
- 2001 - Arabic, Armenian, Greek, Italian, Romanian, Vietnamese, Laotian, Samoan, Tongan
- 2002 - Turkish, Khmer, Cantonese, Mandarin

The latest survey into the SBS viewing habits of the Turkish, Khmer, Cantonese and Mandarin speaking communities is analysed below.

## NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Both the nightly **SBS World News** at 6.30 p.m. and the weekday **World News Tonight** at 9.30 p.m. increased their overall annual audience reach in 2002. All three news services were watched by an (unduplicated) audience during the year of more than 8.4 million people in the five major cities in 2002. The percentage of people reached in these cities was 64%.

The international current affairs program, **Dateline**, reached more than 4.3 million viewers in 2002 - a 24% increase over the previous year. The national affairs program, **Insight**, reached 3.9 million over the year, a 12% increase over 2001.

## INDIVIDUAL LANGUAGE GROUPS

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth combined

	TURKISH	KHMER	CANTONESE	MANDARIN
	%	%	%	%
Viewed SBS TV in the last 7 days	59	57	62	74
Viewed 1–5 programs in the last 7 days	56	43	55	45
Viewed 6+ programs in the last 7 days	44	56	43	53
Wouldn't be without/find a lot of value in SBS TV	61	60	60	43
Find some value in SBS TV	33	32	33	52
Role of SBS TV in today's culturally diverse society				
– Very important	56	46	56	61
– Somewhat important	37	49	37	33

## AUDIENCE OPINION SURVEYS

Over the past six years, SBS Television has commissioned Newspann to conduct surveys into SBS's role and performance as a multilingual and multicultural

broadcaster. This year, the surveys of people 18 years of age and over, recorded the most positive responses ever given in the six categories canvassed.

### It is important that SBS be available to provide an alternative to the commercial stations.

Strongly agree	64.7
Somewhat agree	23.8
Total 'agree'	<b>88.5</b>
Somewhat disagree	4.8
Strongly disagree	2.4
Neither/Don't know	4.3

### It is important that SBS be available to provide an alternative to ABC Television.

Strongly agree	48.0
Somewhat agree	31.7
Total 'agree'	<b>79.7</b>
Somewhat disagree	8.3
Strongly disagree	5.1
Neither/Don't know	6.9

### SBS has types of programs you would not see on other stations.

Agree	<b>87.2</b>
Disagree	2.5
Neither/Don't know	10.3

### SBS has better coverage of overseas news than other stations.

Agree	<b>69.5</b>
Disagree	10.0
Neither/Don't know	20.5

### SBS plays an important role in today's culturally diverse society.

Very important	45.2
Somewhat important	43.3
Total 'important'	<b>88.5</b>
Not important	6.0
Don't know	5.5

### Value of SBS Television

I wouldn't be without SBS	20.1
A lot of value	9.9
A reasonable amount of value	43.5
Find Value in SBS	<b>73.5</b>
Little value	21.4
None/Don't know	5.1

## TOP 50 PROGRAMS 2002

Programs			Total people 000s
1	2002 FIFA World Cup: Quarter Final – B	Soccer	1,027
2	A History of Britain	Documentary Series	654
3	World News Tonight	News	564
4	Roy Orbison: In Dreams	Documentary Series	545
5	Egypt's Golden Empire	Documentary Series	539
6	South Park	Comedy Series	532
7	World News	News	530
8	Secrets of the Stone Age (Rpt)	Documentary Series	507
9	World News Saturday	News	500
10	Queen Victoria's Empire	Documentary Series	499
11	World News Sunday	News	478
12	Hitler's Holocaust	Documentary Series	477
13	Silent Scream	The Cutting Edge	467
14	The Twin Towers: A History	As It Happened	463
15	A History of Britain (Rpt)	Documentary Series	457
16	The Railwaymen	As It Happened	429
17	Passions for the Past (Rpt)	Documentary Series	422
18	Secrets of the Dead	Documentary Series	418
19	The New Energy Revolution	David Suzuki Series	413
20	Hitler's Women	Documentary Series	412
21	Meet the Ancestors (Series 5)	Documentary Series	400
22	South Park (Rpt)	Comedy Series	396
23	Empires: Napoleon (Rpt)	Documentary Series	388
24	Erotic Tales	Drama Series	383
24	Phallacies (Rpt)	David Suzuki Series	383
26	The Hidden Killer: Portrait of an Epidemic (Rpt)	David Suzuki Series	382
27	Conspiracies	Documentary Series	381
28	Gough Whitlam: In His Own Words	Documentary	379
29	Life Support	Comedy Series	378
30	The World Cup Show	Soccer	372
31	Stonehenge (Rpt)	Documentary Series	369
32	Eurovision Song Contest	Special	367
33	The Unknown Peter Sellers	Masterpiece	366
34	Saddam Hussein: The Master of Baghdad	As It Happened	363
35	"Me, My Brain and I"	David Suzuki Series	362
36	Orgazmo (Rpt)	Monday Movie	357
37	John Safran's Musical Jamboree	Comedy Series	354
38	Scandinavia's Porn Revolution: Letting (Rpt)	Documentary	350
38	The Celts (Rpt)	Documentary Series	350
40	Crank Yankers	Comedy Series	348
40	Ancient Apocalypse	Documentary Series	348
42	Atlantis Uncovered (Rpt)	As It Happened	343
43	American Porn	The Cutting Edge	342
44	Martin Luther	Documentary Series	341
44	Neanderthal (Rpt)	Drama Series	341
46	Inspector Rex	Drama Series	340
47	The Mystery of the Tomb of Jesus	As It Happened	336
48	Chet Atkins: A Life in Music	Documentary Series	334
49	Movie Show	Movie Show	333
50	Florence Nightingale: Iron Maiden	As It Happened	332

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

SBS Television Programming branch responded to 280 letters, comprising: 22 compliments; 60 requests for repeat transmissions; 30 programming suggestions or requests for programs with particular content; 27 requests for further information about programs or about scheduling; 29 requests to acquire copies of programs; 106 comments critical of SBS programs; and six that were passed to other branches.

A total of 1,386 letters was received by SBS Public Relations in 2002-03. Of these: 560 were requests for information about various SBS programs, including the availability of video copies; 62 requested the repeat of a documentary, film or series; 160 were complimentary about SBS programming; 232 made general comments about SBS programming or the Corporation in general; 174 were comments critical of SBS programs or other aspects of SBS; and another 198 were of a miscellaneous nature.

More than 1,000 'viewer enquiry forms' – supplied by SBS and designed to streamline common viewer requests – were returned to SBS and answered by the SBS Public Relations Unit.

The SBS switchboards remain a major source of feedback about programming, as well as a means of providing callers with information. Telephone comments from members of the public about programming continue to be distributed to SBS staff and management. Comments received via the SBS website are similarly distributed throughout the organisation.

## TELEVISION TRANSMISSION

In 2002-03, SBS Television transmitted its programs throughout Australia via:

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211 terrestrial transmitters that deliver its analogue service through contracts with four service providers, Broadcast Australia, Broadcast Engineering Services, Imparja, and Watson's Technical Services;

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more than 150 self-help transmitters owned and operated by local communities in mostly remote regions of Australia;

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twenty-seven digital terrestrial services which covered all capital cities and many regional centres, reaching an estimated 75% of the national population; and

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re-transmission services via the cable subscription services of Optus Vision and Foxtel and the satellite services of Austar Pay TV.

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### Analogue transmission

Additional Government funding has been provided to extend SBS coverage to areas with populations of 5,000 or more. The first of these began service during the year and the remaining 20 are expected to begin during the 2003-04 financial year. Two of these services will be operated by a new transmission service provider, Watson's Technical Services. This will bring the total number of SBS analogue TV transmitters to 231.

### Self-help transmitters

The Federal Government's Black Spot Program is providing funding for local communities to install self-help transmitter services in locations with poor reception. Of the sites identified, 234 have been licensed to commence SBS services with many already on air. When completed, the network of self-help transmitters will number almost 400.

The Self-Help Subsidy Scheme, funded by the Federal Government and administered by SBS, provides eligible self-help community groups or local government instrumentalities with 50% of their start-up capital costs for transmitter installations. Two booklets, *Self-Help Guide* and *Self-Help Subsidy Guidelines* are available from SBS Transmission Services. In addition, PDF and HTML version are available on the SBS website.

### Digital transmission

SBS's digital service, which began in January 2001, has continued to expand beyond the state and territory capitals. During the year, new services were launched in the Gold Coast, Currumbin, Illawarra, Wollongong, Bouddi, Gosford, Kings Cross, Kotara, Manly/Mosman, Merewether, Wyong, Stanwell Park, Gympie, Gympie Town, Noosa/Tewantin, Sunshine Coast, Ballarat and Western Victoria.

By year's end, 27 digital transmitters were on air and a further 53 are in the design and construction phase. Plans are well advanced for the connection of Darwin's digital transmitter to Telstra's digital video network. This will provide Darwin, which currently receives a single standard definition digital channel, with the full suite of SBS digital services.

In June 2003, SBS commenced the satellite distribution of digital services to the eastern states with South Australia and Western Australia scheduled thereafter. This will enable transmitter installation in more remote locations.

### SBS satellite services

SBS continues to provide direct-to-home television and radio services through the Optus C1 satellite that has replaced its B3 satellite. One SBS service is also available to viewers of the Austar pay TV service and SBS is negotiating with Foxtel for the provision of SBS Television to Foxtel satellite subscribers. In addition, the SBS Western Australia service is available on the PanAmSat PAS 2 satellite.

### Digital Capital Planning

2002-03 was the final year of SBS's five-year Phase One Digital Capital Plan. This plan provided for \$22.7 million over five years to convert SBS's standard definition television and radio studio equipment from analogue to digital technology. Of this amount, SBS contributed \$5 million and the Government \$17.7 million.

Expenditure in 2002-03 amounted to \$8.24 million, comprising \$3.19 million for television, \$0.91 million for radio and \$4.03 million for the construction of digital broadcasting facilities in Federation Square, Melbourne.

The 2002-03 financial year was the third year of SBS's Phase 2 Digital Television Strategy Plan. This plan covers the estimated expenditure requirements to convert SBS's transmission network, and related studio and distribution systems, from analogue to digital technology. The Phase 2 plan is scheduled to run for nine or more years.

Phase 2 digital expenditure in 2002-03 was \$16.91 million, comprising \$2.74 million of capital expenditure and \$14.17 million in recurrent expenditure. The capital expenditure covered equipment requirements to enable the simultaneous play out of one high definition, three standard definition and two radio channels to seven geographical zones. Other upgrades and new facilities included: a number of camera upgrades to wide-screen capability; new non-linear editing booths; a rebuilt audio sweetening post-production suite; a live broadcast-capable studio inside the newsroom; a high definition and multi-channel playout centre; and an all digital television facility at SBS's new Melbourne premises at Federation Square.

On the phone, discussing the day's line up, Chief Producer, David Foale coordinates news input and allocates stories to World News producers.



Miriam Corowa is one of three young people undertaking a one-year journalism trainee course at SBS News and Current Affairs.

Chief of Staff, Gordon Westcott, who's responsible for national coverage, assigns a story to trainee, Miriam Corowa, for inclusion in SBS World News.

## SBS TELEVISION NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Over the years, the flagship news programs, the nightly **SBS World News** at 6.30 p.m. and the weekday **World News Tonight** at 9.30 p.m. have secured SBS's reputation as the pre-eminent international news service on Australian free-to-air television. No other network provides such breadth of coverage and depth of analysis of world events.

The bulletins summarise and analyse the breaking stories of the day. The daily agenda is determined by the SBS editorial philosophy to report the news most likely to have an impact on Australians and to provide an Australian context. Events in our region, stories that affect international security, developments that influence relations between countries, advances in science or medicine, and just plain interesting stories are some of the ingredients in the **World News** bulletins.

SBS accesses more international news sources than any other Australian network. APTN, Reuters, ABC America, the BBC, AFP, AAP and daily satellite feeds from major broadcasters in Europe, the Middle East and Asia provide a formidable range of information and images. Every day, SBS records more than 50 hours of satellite feeds to distil into the most succinct and powerful pictures to include in **SBS World News** and **World News Tonight**.

The international coverage is supplemented with reports from our region by SBS journalists assigned to cover significant events, and the reporting of the three or four major news stories in Australia each day. The journalists who produce **SBS World News** and **World News Tonight** are among the most experienced in Australian media, and each bulletin that goes to air is

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# 09:30

09:45 09:50

10:05

10:38

the sum total of many parts: camera crews, tape editors, graphic designers, studio crews, make-up and presentation staff. Behind the scenes, for their advice and expertise, are lawyers and publicists.

Supplementing the **World News** bulletins, and often providing exclusive vision, is the daily seven-hour news omnibus program, **WorldWatch**. Beginning at 5.30 a.m. each day, a cavalcade of international news bulletins is broadcast.

**WorldWatch** began in August 1993 with daily news bulletins from China, France, Germany and Russia. In 2002-03, the **WorldWatch** schedule included 20 different news services in 16 languages from 17 countries. Daily satellite feeds are received from CCTV China, France 2, DW Germany, ERT Greece, ATV Hong Kong, TVRI Indonesia, RAI Italy, NHK Japan, NBN Philippines, NTV Russia, TVE Spain and PBS of the USA. In addition, five news review programs are airfreighted to SBS each week from TVN Chile, DTV Hungary, PBS Malta, Polsat Poland and MIST Ukraine. The programs – totalling more than 50 hours each week – are shown in the language of origin, unedited.

In June 2002, SBS's digital service, the World News Channel, began broadcasts. Based on the **WorldWatch** service, the World News Channel repeats some bulletins at different times of the day and offers new, updated bulletins from several countries. The World News Channel is on air 19 hours each day with 29 news bulletins, delivering 130 hours of news per week.

Comprehensive analysis of major international news stories is provided each week by SBS's current affairs program, **Dateline**. The multiple award-winning

program, which began in 1984, is Australia's longest-running international current affairs program. It has a well-earned reputation for exclusive behind-the-scenes reportage and analysis of international events and their possible impact on Australia.

SBS's other current affairs program, **Insight**, concentrates on investigating matters of national interest – political, economic, social and business. It too is a multi award-winning program with a particular interest in issues concerning multicultural Australia.

Both **Dateline** and **Insight** are exponents of video journalism, the practice of one television journalist researching, reporting, filming with a small digital camera, and sometimes even editing a single story. This is counter to the usual practice of a reporter assisted in the field by a camera person, audio operator and, sometimes, a field producer.

Video journalism brings to each story an intimacy not possible with multiple person crews because a video journalist, operating alone, can more easily and unobtrusively access locations and often stands a better chance of gaining the interviewee's confidence.

First pioneered by **Dateline**, and subsequently adopted by **Insight**, video journalism has garnered increased audiences for both programs and many of the stories have won major national and international awards.