SOFTWARE & TECH

Kath And Kim Series 5

PUBLISHED
November 25, 2026

REFERENCE
#1795583891990229

The Unforgettable Return: Everything You Need to Know About Kath and Kim Series 5

For Australian television comedy, few shows have left as indelible a mark as **Kath and Kim**. The story of the horrendously fashionable Kath Day-Knight and her self-absorbed, aspirational daughter Kim Craig (née Day) captured the hearts of millions with its unique brand of cringe comedy, iconic catchphrases, and painfully relatable suburban satire. After years of speculation, whispers, and fervent fan campaigns, the announcement of **Kath and Kim Series 5**sent waves of excitement across the globe. But what can fans truly expect from the return of Fountain Lakes' most dysfunctional mother-daughter duo? This comprehensive guide dives deep into everything we know, what we hope to see, and why this new season is more than just a nostalgia trip.

The Long-Awaited Revival: How Series 5 Came to Be

The original run of *Kath and Kim* spanned four glorious series (seasons) from 2002 to 2007, along with a feature film and a British adaptation. For over a decade, the show remained a beloved relic of early 2000s Australian television. However, in 2022, a special reunion episode titled "Kath & Kim: Our Effluent Life" aired as part of the Australian Open festivities, reigniting the spark. The special was a ratings juggernaut, proving that the public's appetite for Kath and Kim was far from satiated. This paved the way for the official greenlight of **Kath and Kim Series 5**, officially announced in 2023 by Netflix and the ABC. Creators and stars Jane Turner and Gina Riley confirmed that they had been secretly working on scripts for years, ensuring that the new episodes would capture the original spirit while acknowledging the passage of time.

What's New in Fountain Lakes? The Plot Premise of Series 5

While plot details for **Kath and Kim Series 5**have been kept deliberately under wraps to preserve the comedy, Turner and Riley have dropped several tantalising hints. The series is set approximately 18 years after the events of the final episode. So, what has changed?

- The Passage of Time: The world has moved into the digital age. Smartphones, social media, and online dating are all likely to be skewered with the show's trademark satire. Expect Kim to embrace, and spectacularly misunderstand, Instagram and TikTok.
- Family Dynamics: Brett Craig, Kim's long-suffering husband (played by Peter Rowsthorn), may have finally achieved some of his dreams, or perhaps he is even more trapped than ever. Their son, Owen Smalley-Craig (known simply as "Owen" or "The Fella"), is now a teenager or young adult, providing a fresh new dynamic.
- Sharon's Continued Presence: The one and only Sharon Strzelecki (Magda Szubanski) is back, and she is likely still living in the bungalow out the back. Her unrequited love for Brett and her bizarre inventions (perhaps now involving drones or AI?) will be a central comedic pillar.
- Kath and Kel's Relationship: Kath Day-Knight and Kel Knight (Glenn Robbins) are presumably still married and running his "Meals on Wheels" or other burgeoning business ventures. With the housing market as it is, the iconic fountain in the front yard might now be a luxury that few can afford.

Meet the Characters: A Blast from the Past

Kath Day-Knight: Still Horrendously Fashionable

Jane Turner's Kath remains the emotional anchor of the show. Her unique vernacular—words like "effluent," "chizopanic," and "mistar" (mister)—is legendary. In **Kath and Kim Series 5**, Kath is likely dealing with the challenges of being a modern grandmother. Is she babysitting Owen? Is she embracing retirement living? One thing is certain: her passion for "sandals with a chunky heel," "broad-brimmed hats," and "a nice cup of tea" will be as strong as ever. Her relationship with Kim will remain the core of the show—a delicate dance of love, passive-aggression, and mutual embarrassment.

Kim Craig: Still Full of Dream and Ambiance

Gina Riley's Kim is the eternal aspirant. She wants to be "upwardly mobile," even if that means dragging Brett and everyone else along for the ride. In the new series, Kim may have reinvented herself. Is she an influencer? A wellness guru? A "boss babe" running a multi-level marketing scheme from the dining room table? The possibilities are endless. Her catchphrases—"It's noice, it's different, it's unusual," and "Look at mo-i"—are guaranteed to reappear, but with a modern twist. She is still "not a piece of meat," and she is still, undeniably, Kim.

Brett Craig: The Socks, the Sandals, the Suffering

Peter Rowsthorn's Brett is one of comedy's great everymen. He is a fella who just wants peace, a cold beer, and perhaps a moment of solitude in his "man shed." After nearly two decades, he might have finally gone grey, or maybe he's rebelled and grown a goat. His dynamic with Kim—where he is constantly belittled, yet deeply loved—remains the show's secret heart. The new season will likely explore whether Brett has finally found his backbone, or if he has simply become more efficient at tuning out Kim's dramas.

Sharon Strzelecki: The Princess of the Bungalow

Magda Szubanski's Sharon is a fan favourite. Her unflinching loyalty to Kim, her awkwardness, and her bizarre hobbies (remember the "sheep on the roof"?) make her a scene-stealer. In **Kath and Kim Series 5**, Sharon might have a new passion: perhaps competitive eating, extreme couponing, or even a surprising romantic interest. Her devotion to Brett will undoubtedly have evolved (or not) into something even more uncomfortable and hilarious.

The Cultural Impact: Why Series 5 Matters

Kath and Kim is more than just a comedy show; it is a cultural artefact that defined Australian humour for a generation. The show is frequently quoted, referenced, and memed. The announcement of **Kath and Kim Series 5**was a global event, trending on social media in countries where the show had a cult following, especially in the UK and the US (thanks to Netflix streaming).

The series explores themes of class aspiration, family dysfunction, and the gap between how we see ourselves and how others see us. Kim's delusions of grandeur and Kath's sweet-natured naivety are timeless. In 2024, as the cost of living crisis bites and social media fuels comparison culture, the humour of Kath and Kim feels more relevant than ever. The new season has the opportunity to comment on gentrification, the gig economy, and the absurdity of modern parenting, all through the lens of Fountain Lakes.

What We Expect: A Wishlist for the New Episodes

Every fan has a list of things they hope to see in **Kath and Kim Series 5**. Here are a few safe bets and wild predictions:

Classic Tropes That Must Return

- The "Over the Top" Credits: The opening credits featuring the duo driving in a convertible, with Kath's hats blowing in the wind, are iconic. A modernised version that pokes fun at their ageing would be perfect.
- Phraseology: New catchphrases as well as old favourites. The writers have a knack for coining terms that enter the lexicon.
- The Bungalow: Sharon's living space must be revisited. Perhaps it is now a tiny house, perfectly reflecting current housing trends.
- Gastro Pub Dinners: A family outing to the local "gastro pub" for a parma (chicken parmigiana) and a pot is a non-negotiable scene.

New Elements We Might See

- Zoom Meetings: Imagine Kim trying to look professional on a work video call while Brett walks past in his jocks. The potential for comedy is gold.
- Online Dating: Could Kath and Kel try a dating app for married couples? Or perhaps Sharon uses AI to generate love letters to Brett.
- Owen's Rebellion: The child character, Owen, is now a teenager. He might be a gamer, a skateboarder, or a young activist, providing a direct conflict with Kim's shallow materialism.

Guest Stars

Rumours are swirling about potential guest stars. The original series famously featured cameos from the likes of Hugh Jackman (as himself in the film) and Eric Bana. Speculation for **Kath and Kim Series 5**includes Australian celebrities like Kylie Minogue or even international stars who have expressed their love for the show, such as Kate Winslet.

Production Quality and Where to Watch

The new series is a co-production between Netflix and the ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation). This means it will have a higher production budget than the original, allowing for better cinematography, but the creators have promised that the charm of the low-budget, homegrown feel will be preserved. The first two episodes of **Kath and Kim Series 5**are expected to air on the ABC in Australia, with the entire season dropping on Netflix internationally on the same day. This global release is a testament to the show's enduring worldwide appeal.

The show remains one of the most successful Australian comedies ever exported. For North American audiences, the show has often been compared to *Fawlty Towers* or *Absolutely Fabulous*, but with a distinctly suburban Australian flavour. The new season will reintroduce the magic to a new generation while rewarding long-time fans.

The Legacy of the Original Series

It is essential to understand why **Kath and Kim Series 5**is such a monumental event. The original four series won multiple Logie Awards and AFI Awards. They produced countless quotable moments: "You can't get yeast from a toe," "Tracy Flickinger? I think not," and the unforgettable "Fo' shizzle, Sharon." The show's ability to find poetry in the mundane—like the sacred ritual of buying a bottle of "Chateau de Champs" (cheap cask wine)—is what made it a classic. The new season must honour this legacy while feeling fresh. Based on interviews with Turner and Riley, they are acutely aware of the responsibility. They are not simply cashing in on nostalgia; they believe there are more stories to tell about these characters.

Conclusion: The Wait is Almost Over

Kath and Kim Series 5represents a rare moment in television: a reunion of a beloved cast and crew who are still at the top of their game. The comedy of Kath and Kim is not dated; it is timeless. The themes of family, aspiration, and the lengths we go to for a bit of "me time" are universal. As we prepare to return to Fountain

Lakes, we can expect to laugh, cringe, and maybe even shed a tear of joy. The series is set to be a celebration of everything that made the original great, updated for a new decade. Whether you are a devoted fan who has watched the DVDs a hundred times or a newcomer curious about the hype, get ready. The chips are low, the wine is cask, and Kath and Kim are back. It's noice, it's different, it's unusual—and we wouldn't have it any other way.

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