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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**The Great Australian Beer Festival Celebrates Stellar Line-up of Comedy Talent**Friday 20th January 4pm-10m | Saturday 21st January 12pm – 7pm

The Great Australian Beer Festival is excited to announce a stellar line up of Australia's best and brightest comedians to perform on the Brick Lane comedy stage on Friday 20th January. Hosted by Stewart Bell, Geelong will be treated to a belly full of laughs from Tom Ballard, Nick Cody, Alex Ward, Kirsty Webeck.

**Tom Ballard** - Tom Ballard is an award-winning stand up comedian/actor/writer/broadcaster/person who always tries his best. He’s one of Australia’s hottest comic talents, he’s performed and won acclaim all around the world and he’s very pleased to meet you. Nominee and winner of multiple local and international awards you have most probably seen or heard Tom across the multiple platforms he excels at!

**Stewart Bell** (host)- Daryl Braithwaite's biggest fan, shit at growing facial hair, wanker "“ Stewart Bell has been described as all these things. All are true. He's also the host of Fresh Comedy and BeerFest Australia comedy gigs across the country, a regular on the Tasmanian comedy scene, and has supported some of the biggest names in Australian comedy. He has two full-length solo shows (2014 & 2016) under his belt, performed to sold out crowds. In his spare time he enjoys playing with his pet Komodo Dragon, Neil Diamond and making up entirely fabricated facts to end his bio with.

**Nick Cody** - Nick Cody’s style of easy going comedy sees him consistently selling out shows and over-achieving his way around the globe, all the while becoming a regular fixture on TV and radio at home in Australia. Whether you see him perform live, catch his big head on TV or tune in to one the many radio shows or podcasts he is a part of, a night with Cody is a night with a mate – get on board

**Alex Ward** - As a QLD’er living in Melbourne, Alex is always cold, which makes the warmth she brings to the stage all the more impressive. With personal, engaging and punch-line heavy comedy, Alex is one of Australia’s fastest rising up-and-comers. Alex has appeared on Have You Been Paying Attention?, Melbourne International Comedy Festival Gala, Upfront, ABC Comedy’s Up-late, Audible’s 2019 live stand-up series, Tonightly with Tom Ballard, Triple J’s Good Az Friday, and performed at Splendour In The Grass.

**Kirsty Webeck** - Kirsty wins fans and hearts everywhere she goes with her upbeat and relatable brand of comedy that is often described as playful, light-hearted and fun. A gifted storyteller, she has a natural ability for turning the mundane into the hilarious and has quickly become one of the most popular Australian comedians in the industry. Her 2022 television appearances have included SBS' Celebrity Letters and Numbers, The ABC's Question Everything, Just For Laughs on Channel 10 and The Project. She also hosted Women's Agenda's annual Women in Leadership Awards.

**Festival Highlights for Friday 20th January: 4pm – 10pm**

The *Gage Roads live music* stage will host iconic Aria nominated artist Jolyon Petch and a ‘Secret artist’ announcement coming 12th December

The *Brick Lane Comedy stage* featuring Tom Ballard, Nick Cody, Alex Ward, Kirsty Webeck and hosted by Stewart Bell

**Festival Highlights for Saturday 21st January: 12pm-7pm**

The *Gage Roads live music stage* will host Telenova and Ash Grunwald along with local emerging talent.

Live cooking demonstrations at the *Brick Lane Culinary Stage* showcasing local ingredients featuring our favourite culinary names.

*The Barrett Burston Masterclass****,*** Trivia, Cocktail mixing, brewer forums, beer/food matching, free tastings and more delivered by local industry stalwart Tiff Waldron.

**FESTIVAL DETAILS**

GABF Geelong
Friday 20th January 4pm-10m & Saturday 21st January 12pm – 7pm
Johnstone Park, Geelong CBD

Very limited tickets available online only <https://www.gabfgeelong.com.au>
Companion Cards accepted | This site is accessible – please contact us with questions.
Both sessions Include access to the event and all entertainment.
Socials: Instagram - @geelonggabf/ facebook.com/GABFGeelong

**WHO’S THERE**

***Brews*** - Archive wine bar (wine and spirits), Austin's Wines, Balter Brewing, Bells Beach Brewing, Bentspoke Brewing Co, Better Beer, Blackmans Brewery & Coast Seltzer, Brewicolo Brewing Co, Brick Lane, Bridge Road, Bright Brewery, Burnley Brewing, Clifton Hill Brewing, Cloud Cuckoo Cocktails, Coast Seltzer, Cockies/Great Ocean Road Brewing, CBCo, Coopers, Deeds Brewing, FarmDog Brewers and Distillers, Flowstate Brewers & Distillers, Forrest Brewery, Fox Friday, Franks Cider, Fury and Son, Gage Roads, Hawkers Beer, Hop Nation, Jetty Road brewery, Kaiju! Beer, Little Creatures, Local Brewing Co, Mt Pleasant Road brewers, Prancing Pony, Stomping Ground and White Rabbit.

***Food*** – Archive Wine bar (cheeses), Bavarian Bangers , Burn City Smokers, Chubby Bao, Digging for Fire BBQ, Gypsys Lunchbox, Lil Dumpling Van, Pizza Forno and Sidewalk Cantina.

For GABF Geelong media requests please contact: Kieran Blood at 0401 187 245 info@beerambassadors.com.au