



MEDIA RELEASE

Greenlight for new kids series *Spongo, Fuzz & Jalapeña*

Wednesday 15 November 2017: ABC KIDS and the Disney Channel Australia on Foxtel have jointly commissioned new animated series *Spongo, Fuzz & Jalapeña* from Cheeky Little Media, creators of internationally successful series *Kazoops* and *Bottersnikes & Gumbles*. The show has secured production funding support from Screen Australia in association with Create NSW's Regional Film Fund.

The series is the brainchild of [David Webster](#) and was developed in-house at Cheeky Little Media with co-founder [Patrick Egerton](#). Patrick Egerton and Isla Curtis will produce, Egerton and David Webster will executive produce, and Webster will also direct.

Aimed at 8-12 year olds, the 26 x 11 minute series follows the adventures of three best buds - Spongo, Fuzz and Jalapeña - and their life in Champignon, a town full of weird crazy contests. Theirs is a friendship that breaks all the rules as they attempt to achieve a world record at *something... anything!*

Cheeky Little Media's [David Webster](#) said the show was, "Something we have been developing for a long time, and we're extremely excited it's now in production. We think the idea of a town dedicated to hosting an array of bizarre world championships is pretty funny and one that will appeal to kids. Our three heroes are all determined to win a trophy, any trophy, but really they're just having a whole lot of fun along the way!"

Kazoops (2016) and *Bottersnikes & Gumbles* (2016) have screened on ABC KIDS, ABC ME and Channel Seven in Australia, as well as on CBBC in the UK and Netflix worldwide. *Bottersnikes & Gumbles* was nominated for Best Children's Television Series at the 2016 AACTA Awards and was turned into a book series with UK publishing company Hodder Children's Books; whilst *Kazoops* won Silver in the 'TV Series: Children' category at the 2017 Animation Effects Awards Festival and has released a line of toys with master toy partner TOMY.

"Animated children's content represents a significant commercial opportunity for Australian production companies, as is evidenced by the numerous international partnerships forged by Cheeky Little Media," says [Sally Caplan](#), Head of Production at Screen Australia. "This creative team have proven their talent for crafting delightfully unique story-worlds and we wish the team every success with this series."

Spongo, Fuzz & Jalapeña will premiere on ABC KIDS in 2019, followed by a secondary broadcast on Disney Channel Australia on Foxtel.

Production credits: A Cheeky Little Media production for ABC TV and Disney Channel Australia, with funding support from Screen Australia and Create NSW's Regional Film Fund. Developed with the support of Disney EMEA, A Stark Production and the Australian Children's Television Foundation.