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## Forecast is bright for *Beauty and the Geek*'s new host

### Sunrise weather presenter James Tobin to anchor hit reality show

Channel Seven today announced James Tobin will front its ratings-winning reality show *Beauty and the Geek* when series five of the popular small screen social experiment returns in 2013.

The Sunrise weather presenter and entertainment reporter is a long-time fan of the hit show which pairs socially awkward, but academically gifted male 'geeks' with a stunning 'beauty'.

Teams live together and compete in a series of hilarious and heart-warming challenges which test contestants' brain power and social bravado. The winners share in more than \$100,000 in prizes.

A former runner-up in Cleo's 2010 Most Eligible Bachelor Competition, James laughed-off suggestions he could be a role model for this year's 'charismatically challenged' male contestants.

"I probably have more in common with some of the 'beauties'," James joked. "I have a tendency to just make up words. I think it's because I have a German Mum and she does that.

"But the 'geek' bit I'm all over too. I had a stamp collection. I had model trains. I collected cicada shells. I studied economics ... when should I stop?" he said.

A successful international format screened in more than 20 countries around the world, *Beauty and the Geek* is the brainchild of Hollywood actor, producer and writer Ashton Kutcher.

Production on the local version starts later this month. *Beauty and the Geek* Australia is executive produced by Paul Melville for Seven and Marty Benson for Shine Australia.

Director of Network Production Brad Lyons believes series five of *Beauty and the Geek* which averaged more than one million viewers in 2012 (peaking at 1.4 million) will have a radical new look which fans will love.

"*Beauty and the Geek* is terrific feel-good entertainment with a large and loyal fan base, and James is a great young talent and a deserving choice to take over the helm of this series".

James has been a reporter and presenter for various Seven programs since joining the Network in 2004. He takes the reins from former *Home and Away* and now LA based actor, Bernard Curry.

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