

= Charlie Buckton =

Charlotte " Charlie " Buckton is a fictional character from the Australian Channel Seven soap opera Home and Away , played by Esther Anderson . Anderson was added to the cast in a bid to add more " sex appeal " to the show . She said it was her dream job and relocated to Sydney immediately to accommodate filming . The character made her on @-@ screen debut during the episode airing on 6 June 2008 . Charlie was billed as having a " warm heart " and being " family oriented " ; however , her actions are often misunderstood and her persona has been perceived as " brash " . She is described as being " passionate about her work " and often neglects her daughter , Ruby 's (Rebecca Breeds) needs .

Charlie 's first notable storyline was a lesbian relationship with Joey Collins (Kate Bell) . The storyline was implemented by producers to boost ratings and Anderson said it helped portray Charlie 's vulnerable side . The storyline angered Christian and conservative oriented family groups . They complained that Home and Away had featured sexualised plotlines unsuitable for children , and Channel Seven was inundated with parental complaints stating that children should not be exposed to same @-@ sex relationships in a family show . Viewership declined after transmission of the storyline and producers cut scenes to attune to viewers ' wishes , which outraged the LGBT community . The storyline came to a natural end and Anderson and executive producer Cameron Welsh praised the plot because it portrayed a real @-@ life situation and denounced the conservative views as outdated . Anderson stated that the storyline was a great one to portray in terms of acting .

Charlie 's sexuality was sidelined and she began a relationship with Angelo Rosetta (Luke Jacobz) . Throughout their romance Charlie played out various family oriented plots and was described as having strong feelings for him . Their romance was portrayed to be wayward and unstable . In 2011 , their relationship ended after producers felt there were no more storylines to give to the pair . Charlie later develops feelings for Darryl Braxton (Steve Peacocke) . Another notable storyline for Charlie saw her reveal that her supposed sister , Ruby , was in fact her daughter . Anderson said the filming process was challenging as they felt the need to get the story right . Viewers sympathised with Charlie and saw a " beautiful element " in the portrayal . The revelation ruined the on @-@ screen relationship between Charlie and Ruby , and was never repaired .

Charlie has received critical analysis through her storylines and persona and opinion has been mixed . Ruth Deller of Lowculture said Charlie had endured " scandalous @-@ headline @-@ grabbing @-@ faux @-@ lesbianity " , whilst Holy Soap stated that she has a " questionable taste in men . " Charlie has been ill received by Jaci Stephen of the Daily Mail because of her on @-@ off relationship with Angelo and Stephen regularly expresses her general dislike of the character in her column . In contrast , the Daily Star liked Charlie 's image , which they branded " sexy " , and the Daily Record praised her for the drama she creates . Anderson 's portrayal of Charlie has seen her earn various award nominations , including the " Most Popular Personality on Australian Television " and " Most Popular Actress " Logie Awards . Charlie departed on 24 January 2012 , following Anderson 's decision to quit Home and Away . However , in November 2012 , it was announced that Anderson had reprised her role and Charlie returned on 17 June 2013 .

= = Casting = =

In May 2008 , former model Anderson was recruited by Home and Away in a bid to add " sex appeal " to the show . Anderson was a long @-@ time fan of Home and Away and she said she was " thrilled " when she won the role of Charlie after an audition . Four days after hearing that she had landed the part , Anderson had to move to Sydney from Melbourne for filming . Anderson has said that her job as a model should not reflect on her acting ability . She added " For me , modelling was just an avenue that got me into acting , I have always wanted to act " . She also stated that the role is her dream job .

= = Development = =

== Characterisation ==

When Charlie first arrived in the Bay , Channel Seven described her as having a " bone to pick and the prowess to do it " in reference to her father , Ross ' (David Downer) relationship with Morag Bellingham (Cornelia Frances) , which Charlie disapproved of because her mother had only recently died . They also described her as having a " warm heart " and being " family oriented " . Charlie can be " misunderstood " at times , which makes her appear brash . On her character , Anderson said , " Charlie is strong @-@ willed with lots of guts and she is never afraid to show who she is , which makes her genuine and likeable " . Whilst interviewed by the Llanelli Star , Anderson described Charlie 's responsibilities stating : " Charlie is very passionate about her work . She cares about Ruby more than life itself and is responsible for her , so these are priorities over a finding a man . I don 't think it 's a matter of need for her but she definitely would like someone to share her life with and that romantic element is a good balance in Charlie 's somewhat serious life . "

== Relationship with Roman Harris ==

Charlie 's first relationship is with Roman Harris (Conrad Coleby) , which was confirmed by Coleby via an interview in TV Week . Roman initially rejects Charlie 's advances ; until she goes on a date with Angelo Rosetta (Luke Jacobz) . Anderson told The Sun that Angelo " surprises " Charlie by organising a starlit picnic for her . When Roman finds out he " confesses that he adores her and they share a passionate kiss " . Coleby told TV Week that Charlie and Roman 's first kiss is a " strange moment " . The pair get off to a bad start because of a misunderstanding . Coleby said that Charlie is " feisty " and Roman finds that attractive . He added that Roman was not on the rebound after splitting up with Martha MacKenzie (Jodi Gordon) because Roman ended it . Coleby said that his daughter , Nicole Franklin (Tessa James) creates problems with Charlie because Roman " has his hands full " with her . Charlie 's has headstrong expectations of herself and also expects the same from those around her . This trait often causes problems for her romance with Roman .

Roman soon tires of Charlie 's outlook on life and decides to end their relationship . Coleby told TV Week that " whenever things go wrong in life , Charlie sees them as black and white , whereas Roman can see that there are two sides to a story . " Coleby opined that Roman has " residual feelings " for Martha that he is not aware of. Natalie Franklin (Adrienne Pickering) also makes Roman realise that Charlie is " kind of irritating " . Natalie 's actions make Roman realise that " they 're just not suited to each other " . However , Coleby said that he hoped there was a future for the characters , but felt it was better that they " move apart for a while " .

After their break up Charlie gets drunk and goes into work as normal the next day . While on duty Annie Campbell (Charlotte Best) becomes stuck down a storm drain . Charlie attempts to save her but a storm forces the water levels to rise . As Charlie is hungover , Anderson told Inside Soap that " Charlie 's a bit dazed and confused when all this happens " . However , she is a " professional and goes straight into work mode " . When Charlie frees Annie , a wave of water floods the drain and Charlie is swept away . Roman then arrives on the scene and fights to save Charlie . Anderson explained that it is up to Roman to save Charlie 's life and said " of all people it has to be the guy who 's just broken her heart " . Off @-@ screen the scenes in the storm drain posed a series of logistical challenges for the production team . The series had a specially built set for the scenes and they placed jets under the water to create rough waves . Anderson said that she could swim and was not afraid to film in the water . The only problem was the temperature of the water . Anderson said " It was absolutely freezing . Filming was tough work , but I think the finished result is worth it . "

== Relationship with Joey Collins ==

In 2009 , Home and Away producers introduced a storyline that saw Charlie begin a relationship

with another woman . Producers hoped the plot would boost the shows ratings . Over five weeks , the storyline would see Charlie realise that her friendship with Joey Collins (played by Kate Bell) is beginning to develop into something else . As they fall for each other , Charlie and Joey share intimate kissing and dance scenes . Anderson explained that the producers came to her about the storyline and asked if she was okay with it , as it was to be emotional and it required commitment . Anderson told them that she was okay with it and she said she was pleased to be given the storyline as it showed more of Charlie 's vulnerable side . This was Anderson 's first big storyline in the show and she was required to work more hours . Anderson explained that she and Bell formed a trust early on , which helped them to portray the story in the right light . Anderson spoke with gay friends , so she could form an accurate portrayal of her character 's feelings . The storyline " throws [Charlie 's] world upside down " and changes her whole identity ; it surprises her .

Upon the announcement of the storyline , church and conservative family groups attacked the plot . Pro @-@ Family Perspectives director Angela Conway said " They (Home and Away) continue to market to kids and they continue to develop quite sexualised plot lines " . Two weeks after the storyline began airing , viewing figures for the show fell by over 100 @,@ 000 and Channel Seven was inundated with complaints from parents asking for their children not to be exposed to same @-@ sex relationships in a family show . Following pressure from the conservative groups , it was announced that Channel Seven had decided to censor a kissing scene between Charlie and Joey . Producers were to cut " intimate images " from a scene in which the characters share a passionate kiss .

Gay and lesbian groups staged protests against the show , despite an announcement from Channel Seven saying that the episode would be shown in its entirety . The broadcaster said the kiss would air as planned , but they had decided against showing a " more lusty follow up " scene . Seven 's head of creative drama and development , Bevan Lee , said Home and Away bosses cut the " more lusty follow up because it fitted better with the storyline " . Lee added that he was " saddened " that the storyline had been reduced to a " facile argument about six missing seconds of screen time and that the bulk of commentators , both conservative and liberal , are making pronouncements on story material they know nothing of " . British broadcaster , Five , said that they would show the kiss during their airing of the episode . The channel said " Five , the UK broadcaster for Home and Away , will screen a lesbian kiss in a forthcoming episode . It forms part of a six @-@ week @-@ long story , about the attraction between two female characters , Joey and Charlie . There will be several episodes where the characters kiss " . They added that the producers at Channel Seven " edit all episodes for artistic and editorial reasons only " and the storyline would remain uncompromised in its Australian airing .

A Channel Seven spokeswoman revealed that the network received fewer than 30 telephone calls nationally after screening the " lesbian kiss " episode of the show . The calls were evenly split between those supporting the broadcast of the kiss , and those raising concerns . The show 's series producer Cameron Welsh and Anderson both spoke out in defence of the storyline . Welsh said , " The idea of this show has always been that we hold a mirror to society ? and when society changes , we change with it . What 's ahead in Home and Away is right not only for the series , but also for the times we are living in " . Anderson said that she felt it was the right time to tell this story and added , " It 's really important for us to reflect society , and this storyline is what is going on for many people in real life " . She also said that she did not think the plot would be so shocking , but was glad the show was exploring a gay relationship .

The end of the storyline was criticised by gay advocates after Charlie was seen having sex with Hugo Austin (Bernard Curry) and Joey left Summer Bay alone . Anderson also suggested that Hugo may have been enough to " sway " Charlie towards men . Some sceptics had suggested that Home and Away would not allow Charlie and Joey to remain in a same @-@ sex relationship . Anderson later acknowledged she had feared that the story would see her typecast as " the lesbian cop . " Anderson reflected on the storyline during an interview with The Daily Telegraph , saying " The Charlie / Joey (lesbian) storyline was the first time you got to see Charlie 's vulnerable side . (The controversy) blew my mind ? I wasn 't expecting it at all . I think it was a fantastic storyline because for the first time I got to show the producers and audience what I could do . "

== Relationship with Angelo Rosetta ==

Charlie 's relationship with Angelo has been a focal point in her storylines . They originally date , but break up after Angelo kills Jack Holden (Paul O 'Brien) . Charlie becomes jealous when Angelo begins dating May Stone (Alin Sumarwata) and Anderson told Inside Soap that " Charlie 's feelings for Angelo are complex . " Charlie cannot fight her attraction to Angelo and the actress claimed that the couple would not have broken up if it had not been for Jack 's death . Anderson also stated that the storyline sees a new side to Charlie , jealousy . She decides to get in the way of his new relationship . Anderson went on to explain : " She admits part of her wanted to cause trouble , but Angelo is still attracted to Charlie and they sleep together . " The actress also defends Charlie 's actions claiming she did not intentionally set out to hurt May . Charlie and Angelo 's relationship dynamic becomes strained after Charlie refuses to give Angelo an " easy life . " Although they have a " great connection between them " , Anderson felt Angelo would not put up with Charlie for long because she can be " quite bossy . " She also said " Charlie 's got the good end of the stick and poor Angelo is in for a pretty rough ride ! "

Anderson later revealed that Charlie and Angelo would face tough times in 2011 , stating : " They 've had their fair share of hurdles ? and there are more to come . " Charlie and Angelo split up and Anderson admitted she was happy that there is always drama in Charlie 's love life and she added " I think it 's going to be full @-@ on for Ms Buckton this year . But , you know , romances in Summer Bay never last . " Of breaking Charlie and Angelo up , Welsh said , " The thinking behind that was to challenge the characters and do something a bit different . " He went on to explain that with characters who have been together a long time , there is a temptation to repeat storylines and the team wanted to change the dynamic between Charlie and Angelo .

== Illegitimate daughter ==

Another story arc saw Charlie reveal that her sister Ruby Buckton (Rebecca Breeds) is in fact her daughter . Charlie gave birth to Ruby after she was raped by Grant Bledcoe (Clayton Watson) , when she was younger . Both Anderson and Breeds found the storyline challenging and felt they had to get it right . Breeds said it made her nervous but was pleased with the end result . She said she had to let it affect her own emotions to effect the viewing public . " The revelation ruins their relationship , and Anderson said that Charlie was " trying desperately to bridge this gap " . Breeds added " Ruby just wants to get some security back , everything she thought her life was is totally up in the air " . Ruby becomes confused and starts to ask herself questions such as " Where do I stand now ? " and " How do I reconcile this ? " Breeds said it was a " big exploration " and a journey for Ruby , with Anderson agreeing . Anderson felt there was a beautiful element to the storyline and opined : " Although it is tragic , you feel sorry for Charlie and you can sort of understand where it has all come from . " She added that everyone feels sorry for Ruby , meaning neither are wrong . Furthermore , she said , " You are just rooting for them , you just want them to get back to how they were and it is a bit of a journey . " Comparing the storyline to the lesbian plot she said , " Perhaps this storyline was a little bit harder , you 've seen the start of this storyline and there is a lot more to come and it wasn 't easy . "

Charlie later struggles to deal with Ruby 's relationship with Casey Braxton (Lincoln Younes) . Discussing Charlie 's motives , Anderson stated : " Ruby 's at that age where she is quite impressionable , and Charlie doesn 't want to see her getting hurt . She 's only very recently been in a relationship with Romeo Smith (Luke Mitchell) , and Charlie is concerned about her moving from one guy to the next too quickly . " Anderson opined it is Darryl Braxton (Steve Peacocke) who gives Charlie her first piece of good parenting advice . She concluded that Charlie 's approach only causes conflict with Ruby because she is so strong @-@ willed .

== Darryl Braxton ==

In February 2011 , Darryl Braxton was introduced to the show and The Daily Telegraph reported that he was set to get to know Charlie in a future storyline . Charlie meets Darryl after she comes to ask him to keep his surf gang under control . During an interview with Digital Spy , Peacocke was asked if Darryl likes Charlie romantically and he said , " For a bloke like Brax , Charlie is pretty ideal ? she 's smart , sexy and is strong enough to take him on . He 's all about testing himself and he knows he 'll be running a gauntlet if he pursues her . She 's got that X @-@ factor he can 't ignore . " When a fight breaks out at the Surf Club , Charlie arrives to investigate and she asks Darryl to step outside , so they can talk . Darryl misinterprets the situation and believes Charlie just wants to be alone with him , he then kisses her . Charlie is " horrified " and she arrests Darryl for assaulting a police officer . Peacocke revealed that after the arrest , " things will develop dangerously " between Charlie and Darryl and that it will be " tense to watch ! " Charlie is put under pressure from the community to find a more serious crime with which to charge Darryl and his gang . She believes that he is selling stolen alcohol to Angelo , but everything checks out and Darryl come to the belief that the kiss has " sparked something in Charlie . "

Darryl is initially unsuccessful in his attempts to win Charlie over , but Anderson hinted that her character would fall for him . She said , " I think the way Steve [Peacocke] has played Brax , there is definitely enough there for Charlie to see that he has a heart and to see the good side in him as well . " Discussing the plot in which Charlie tried to keep Ruby away from Casey , Anderson said , " I think she 's also telling herself to stay away from Brax , but Charlie can 't get him out of her head . " Colin Vickery of The Daily Telegraph said Darryl had turned Charlie 's " safe police world " upside down , and Anderson told him , " What is wonderful about this relationship is that it is forbidden love . There is this element of danger that brings excitement along with it . " She described the relationship as " fun and flirty " and said it shows another layer to Charlie , as it has brought out her fun side . The arrival of Darryl 's ex @-@ girlfriend Tegan Callahan (Saskia Burmeister) causes Charlie and Darryl to split . However , Vickery said it was obvious that Charlie cannot stay away from Darryl for long .

= = = Departure = = =

In November 2011 , Jonathon Moran and Elle Halliwell of The Daily Telegraph announced Anderson had quit Home and Away to further her acting career in Hollywood . The following month , Inside Soap writer Sarah Ellis reported Anderson had confirmed her departure from the show . Moran and Halliwell said it was unknown whether Charlie would be killed off or move to The City . On 22 January 2012 , The Daily Telegraph 's Debbie Schipp reported Anderson had filmed her final scenes with the show in August and they would air later that week . Anderson said she was happy with her decision to leave Home and Away and " throw my life in the air and see what happens . " On screen , Charlie decided to move to the city with Brax , Ruby and Casey . However , at the end of the show 's 23rd season , Charlie was shot twice by Jake Pirovic (Fletcher Humphrys) , in revenge for her shooting dead his brother . Charlie was critically injured and rushed to the hospital , where she underwent surgery . Sid Walker (Robert Mammone) later told Ruby that Charlie was being kept alive by a ventilator and that she would not breathe on her own again . Ruby was then left with the decision as to whether she should turn Charlie 's life support off or not .

Both Ruby and Brax decide Charlie 's ventilator should be turned off as there is nothing more the doctors can do for her and Charlie dies . Speaking about her character 's exit storyline , Anderson said " When I read the final script for Charlie 's exit , I made sure I was in the privacy of my own home . It was written really well ? it was a tragic love story and I hope the fans like it . " The actress explained that the storyline was great and the writers had done a brilliant job with Charlie and Brax . She also said some fans would be disappointed that the couple did not end up together . Anderson revealed that the series producer had told her that after investing so much in getting Charlie together with Brax , she would not have left the Bay for another reason and killing her off was the best way . Of her reaction to the storyline , Anderson said " I started sobbing ! But that was the initial shock . You play this character for three and a half years and you really empathise with them . You have to love a part of them ? it 's a little extension of you . So it 's just so final , the death . But once I

had time to let it sink in , now I 'm really , really happy with the ending . It 's very dramatic and it 's definitely going out with a bang , so to speak ! " Anderson departed on screen on 24 January 2012 .

= = = Return = = =

On 25 November 2012 , Debbie Schipp from the Herald Sun reported that Anderson would return to Home and Away in December to shoot " a handful of episodes " to be broadcast during the following year . Schipp revealed that there was " intense speculation " about how the writers would get around the fact that Charlie died on @-@ screen in January . Of her return , Anderson explained " I told my mum and dad that I was coming back , and they almost fell off their chairs . They said : ' Hang on , didn 't Charlie die ? ' It 's hilarious , because this time twelve months ago I was keeping it the biggest secret from everyone as to whether Charlie would live or die , and now I 'm in the same boat again as far as not giving anything away . " The actress added that the return storyline was outlined a couple of months ago and she just knew that she wanted to do it . Charlie returned on 17 June 2013 .

= = Storylines = =

Charlie arrives in Summer Bay to tell Morag Bellingham to leave her father , Ross , alone . However , Ross tells her that he loves Morag . Charlie is partnered with Jack Holden when she starts her job as a Senior Constable at the Yabbie Creek Police Station and her sister , Ruby , arrives in the Bay . Charlie begins a relationship with Roman Harris and she eventually accepts Ross and Morag being together . Ross and Morag marry , but after they come back from their honeymoon , Charlie realises something is wrong with her father . Ross is diagnosed with Alzheimer 's , devastating Charlie . He later moves into a home . Roman breaks up with Charlie and she begins drinking and refusing help . She rescues Annie Campbell from a storm drain and nearly dies . She is rescued by Roman , which makes her bitter . Charlie gets a promotion at work and she goes on a date with Angelo Rosetta . Charlie becomes a respected member of the community and she builds up strong friendships with Leah Patterson @-@ Baker (Ada Nicodemou) and Miles Copeland (Josh Quong Tart) .

Charlie gets involved in Joey Collins ' rape investigation . When Joey 's brother , Brett (Toby Levins) , kicks her out of their home , Charlie invites her to stay at Leah 's . Charlie and Joey grow closer and after Charlie saves Joey from drowning , they kiss . Charlie rejects Joey , but she eventually admits that she likes her and they begin a relationship . One night , Charlie gets drunk and sleeps with Hugo Austin . Joey finds out and leaves town . Charlie admits to Angelo that she has feelings for him and they begin dating . Charlie is deliberately run over by Brett during a date with Angelo . She is taken to the hospital and a doctor notices a cesarean scar . Morag confronts Charlie and she claims that she had a baby boy who died . Charlie later tells Angelo and Ruby that she was raped by her boyfriend , Grant , when she was fourteen and that Ruby is actually her daughter . Ruby runs away , but she returns and moves in with Irene Roberts (Lynne McGranger) . Grant arrives in the Bay , horrifying Charlie . She angrily confronts Grant and later kidnaps him and tries to force him into confessing that he raped her . Grant later dies and Charlie becomes the prime suspect . She is arrested , but Ross later confesses to killing Grant .

Angelo is promoted to Sergeant and Charlie is promoted to Leading Senior Constable , becoming his second @-@ in @-@ command , which causes tension between the pair ; not only does Charlie have to take orders from an officer who was until recently her subordinate , but also has to get used to sharing what had once been her own office . Angelo is forced to leave the police force and Charlie feels guilty when she is made Sergeant . She encourages Angelo when he decides to set up a restaurant . They later decide to end their relationship and agree to remain friends . Ross dies and Charlie and Ruby attend his funeral . The River Boys , a surf gang from Mangrove River , arrive in town and Darryl " Brax " Braxton begins flirting with Charlie . He later kisses her and Charlie arrests him for assault . Charlie becomes concerned when Ruby tells her that she had sex with Romeo Smith and later suffers a hypoglycemic attack . Charlie discovers Ruby with Casey Braxton and she tells Brax to keep Casey away from Ruby . Charlie is called out to a party at a mansion and arrests

Casey . She realises that Ruby was also involved and threatens to stop her from seeing Casey . Brax visits Charlie and they argue . Brax kisses her again and they have sex . Charlie tells him it was a mistake , but she kisses him again and asks him to keep their relationship quiet .

Angelo tells Charlie about a marijuana plantation . When Charlie and the other officers get to it , they find and arrest Heath Braxton (Daniel Ewing) . Angelo goes missing and Charlie worries that Brax is involved . Angelo is eventually found , but he tells Charlie that he does not remember what happened . Morag and Angelo discover Charlie 's relationship with Brax and she decides to end it . The couple eventually get back together . Brax 's ex @-@ girlfriend , Tegan , arrives in the Bay and works out Charlie is seeing Brax . Charlie arrests Heath and Jake Pirovic following a drugs raid and Ruby learns of Charlie and Brax 's relationship . Brax and Charlie split up again . Charlie is devastated when she learns Brax had sex with Tegan . Charlie arrests Heath again and he is sent to jail . Brax is stabbed and Charlie finds him and gets him to the hospital . She realises she loves him , but Tegan arrives and announces Brax is the father of her daughter . Charlie later learns Tegan was lying .

Heath gets out of jail and walks in on Charlie and Brax together . Charlie tells the Inspector about her relationship with Brax , but he allows her stay with the case . During The Great Storm , Tegan is in a car accident and Charlie attends to her , they talk about loving Brax . Tegan dies and Charlie learns Jake 's brother , Hammer (Benedict Samuel) , has threatened her life . While she is out jogging , Charlie is shot at . Brax pushes her out of the way , but she sustains an injury to her arm . Hammer kidnaps Charlie and holds her and Brax hostage . When Hammer goes to kill Brax , Charlie shoots him dead . She is briefly suspended from her job . Charlie begins investigating an arson attack at Jake 's place and she arrests Casey . During his hearing , Casey 's lawyer , Hayley O 'Connor (Alyssa McClelland) , exposes Charlie and Brax 's relationship and the Coastal News publishes a front page article about it . Charlie tells Brax they should be together , but she changes her mind when she learns Brax had sex with Hayley .

Charlie investigates a robbery at a petrol station and she goes on a date with Simon Peet (Rory Williamson) . Forensics link Brax to the robbery and he tells Charlie he is being set up . Charlie is later removed from the case and she gives Brax an opportunity to steal evidence . Charlie goes to a cabin in the countryside with Bianca Scott (Lisa Gormley) and Brax and Heath show up . Brax and Charlie talk and they get back together . On their way home , Charlie and Brax crash into Liam Murphy (Axle Whitehead) . Bianca and Heath cover for them and Charlie 's friendship with Bianca breaks down . Charlie decides to quit her job and she asks Brax to leave the River Boys , which he does . Charlie and Brax then make plans to move to the city with Casey and Ruby . On her last day in uniform , Charlie is shot by Jake . She is found by Casey , Ruby and Brax and taken to the hospital , when she undergoes surgery . Charlie is placed on life support and Ruby is told she will not breathe on her own again . Ruby and Brax decide Charlie 's ventilator should be turned off and Charlie dies .

In June 2013 , when Brax is shot by Adam Sharpe (Martin Lynes) , he falls unconscious and Charlie appears to him on a clifftop . She warns Brax that he is in danger and that night he is poisoned by Adam in the hospital , causing him to go into a coma . Charlie appears to Brax again and he explains that he is tired of fighting . He wishes to remain with her , saying that his brothers no longer need him . Charlie tries to encourage Brax to go back and asks him about Ricky Sharpe (Bonnie Sveen) . She realises that Brax loves Ricky and tells him to let go , so he can return to her .

= = Reception = =

For her portrayal of Charlie , Anderson has garnered various award nominations . At the 2008 Inside Soap Awards , Anderson received a nomination for " Sexiest Female " . In 2010 , she was nominated for " Best Daytime Star " . That same year saw Anderson earn nominations for the " Most Popular Personality on Australian Television " and " Most Popular Actress " Logie Awards . 2011 saw Anderson nominated once again for " Best Daytime Star " at the Inside Soap Awards . Anderson received nominations for Most Popular TV personality and Most Popular Actress at the 2012 Logie Awards . The episode featuring Charlie 's death was nominated for an Australian Writers

' Guild award .

Holy Soap described the character 's most memorable moment as " Locking lips with gal pal Joey " . In her book *Free to a Good Home* , author Catherine Deveny criticised the reaction to Charlie and Joey 's same sex relationship . She called the first kiss between the couple the " TV disappointment of the year " and she nicknamed the soap *Homo Go Away* because the scene in which the kiss featured were diluted to suit certain viewers . Of the decline in ratings during the storyline , Deveny said " Since the lesbian plotline began two weeks ago , 100 @, @ 000 people have turned off . Wow ! Turned off . That must be the first time the words ' lesbian ' and ' turn off ' have occurred in the same sentence . And all we 'd seen until Tuesday was lingering touches and intense stares . " Deveny then explained that she would rather let her children watch lesbians on television than Christians . She highlighted that only mothers complained to the network about their children being exposed to a same @-@ sex relationship during a family show , not fathers .

In September 2010 , the Holy Soap website ran a poll to find viewers ' favourite Home and Away couple , which Charlie and Angelo won with 45 % of the vote . The website branded them as the " The Bay 's criminally hot couple " and said they had been keeping viewers glued to their screens with their on / off @-@ relationship . They later said Charlie had a " questionable taste in men " . Peter Dyke , writing for British tabloid the *Daily Star* , branded Charlie as " Sexy " and states : " Most fellas would not mind feeling the strong arm of the law if this beauty was their local police officer . " The *Daily Record* opined that Charlie 's determination to prove Grant as a rapist was " dangerously close to an obsession . " They also said that ever since Charlie and her family arrived in Summer Bay they have " created drama . "

The character was negatively received by Ruth Deller of television website Lowculture and Jaci Stephen of the *Daily Mail* . In May 2009 , Deller placed Charlie at number five on her list of worst soap opera characters segment . Deller said , " The Summer Bay cop may have lots of storylines , but the LC community don 't really approve ? mainly due to Esther Anderson 's apparent lack of acting chops . It 's like our hatred for Michelle Connor (*Coronation Street*) all over again , only this time with added scandalous @-@ headline @-@ grabbing @-@ faux @-@ lesbianity ! " In July 2009 , Deller said , " It would be easy to spend every month slagging off Charlie , because there 's so much to dislike " . Deller also added that Charlie 's daughter is " everything Charlie isn 't " . Stephen wondered if Charlie is going through an early menopause as she always appears " to be in a sweat onscreen . " During a storyline , which saw Charlie decide she needs a counsellor to find her self @-@ identity , Stephen complained that it was all she seemed to mention since her " foray into lesbianism . " Stephen did , however , agree that Charlie needed a counsellor . She also stated she could help by telling her ; " Charlie : you 're a mess . " Stephen was critical of Charlie 's relationship with Angelo , which she described as a " rocky road " . She wanted to know how much the show could " wring out of their on / off romance " and asked if somebody could send them out to sea in a sinking boat . Following Charlie and Angelo 's 2011 break up , Stephen stated that the show needs to " change the record ! "

Upon seeing the beginning of Charlie 's storyline with Darryl Braxton , Stephen said , " Oh , please not another Angelo ? I can 't go through all that again . " When Charlie arrests Darryl for kissing her , Stephen quipped : " That woman will do anything to get a guy in handcuffs . " All About Soap said Charlie and Darryl 's chemistry was " clear for everyone to see " and wondered when she would stop hiding behind her " law @-@ abiding facade " . When Charlie and Darryl share their " steamy moment " , Erin Miller of *TV Week* said " It was the moment we 've all been waiting for . " In 2012 , Stephen questioned whether there was another police officer who has had " such a difficult life as Charlie " . She said she transformed from " lesbian to gangster 's moll " and opined that her life continued to " spiral out of control " .

Kerry Barrett and Carena Crawford of All About Soap said Charlie was both a " sexy sergeant " and the soap opera 's " cutest crime fighter " . They opined that getting involved with Brax was never going to end well for Charlie but did not suspect she would die . The pair concluded that while it was sad for them , they were unsure how the residents of Summer Bay would manage without Charlie .