

If only Ned Kelly had enrolled

Actors playing a shackled Ned Kelly, colonial police and the bushranger's mother marched down to the Old Magistrates' Court from the gaol, in a lively display of street theatre last month.

An expert panel of the nation's best wits explored the premise that Ned Kelly would have been "better read than dead".

The hypothetical debate organized by RMIT University was beamed into Melbourne's Federation Square.


The panel unanimously declared that education changes lives and provides choices.

Skill shortages were a key theme in Kelly's time and ours, they added.

Union leader Steve Dargavel said opportunities for modern apprentices needed improvement.

Author Waleed Aly said there were parallels between today's marginalised groups and the Irish-Australian community of Kelly's day.

Vice-Chancellor Margaret Gardner said Kelly would have been a lively student.

"He may well have been a journalist or a creative writer or great advocate in other fields," she said. 



Even the dead pay

Library staff can get pretty tough here at times, but they are downright kind compared to Westchester County library in New York. Even the dead apparently have to pay the fines on their overdue books as Elizabeth Schaper found out when she was charged a 50-cent late fee while turning in a book that her late mother had borrowed. Schaper's mother, died at the age of 87 last month after suffering a massive stroke. A few days later, Schaper found the book, *The Price of Silence* and returned it to the library. "I told him that maybe he didn't hear me right, that my mother had just died, otherwise I'm sure she would have returned it on time," Schaper said. "His only reply was that, 'That will be 50 cents.'"

Horoscopes with Stephanie McCormick



ARIES Creative Arians will embrace their inner thespian in a student production, which will receive rave reviews despite no one being able to understand it.



TAURUS Taureans, your stubborn streak will make you unwilling to spend large amounts of money on a car, rent or clothes. You will reconsider after a week of living on the bus without shoes.



GEMINI Sporty Geminis, you will be reunited with the hot hockey player you met at Uni Games later this month. Un-sporty Geminis...well I guess you wish you were sporty now, huh?



CANCER Under lusty Venus, Cancers will find love on the internet, and then be sorely disappointed to discover that hot Steve from South Yarra is actually hairy Olaf from Poland.



LEO Wild Leos will find fame through a reality TV show, and suffer severe depression after their subsequent album/late night game show/stint on Neighbours fails.



VIRGO Indulgent Mars encourages Virgos to spend their hard earned cash and spoil themselves. Be prepared for re-possession of Lamborghinis/Manolo Blahniks/ monkey butlers.



LIBRA Romantic Librans will enjoy a Grease-esque fling in summer school. Sporadic breakouts of song and dance will ensue.



SCORPIO A caffeine addiction pre-exams will lead to the start of a beautiful friendship with the hot barista at the uni café, and progressively a sleep disorder.



SAGITTARIUS Sagittarians, you will get caught this month. Don't act like you don't know what I'm talking about.



CAPRICORN Party animal Capricorns will have a massive get-together at their house when their parents/roommates are away, which, like the best parties, will result in immense property damage.



AQUARIUS Under rebellious Saturn, Aquarians will disregard the law this month, and will be forced to flirt with police to avoid spending the night in jail with a little-too-friendly biker named Bruce.



PISCES A bout of illness will see Pisceans get behind at uni, as will the consequent addiction to daytime television.

Human Rights and the Environment

The Annual Conference of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law

Friday 30 November 2007
9 am – 5 pm, The CUB Malthouse,
Southbank, Melbourne

Keynote speaker: Mr Martin Wagner, Managing Attorney, Earthjustice, will speak on 'Litigating environmental harm'.

Inquiries: castan.centre@law.monash.edu.au or tel 03 9905 3327. For further information: www.law.monash.edu.au/castancentre



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