



Mapping out your life the smart way

Do you think you've mapped out your career until the day you retire? **Katherine Ngo** reveals the hands on approach needed for success in the workplace.

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" Many children have been sent into anxiety and worry with this question. However, before you belt out a confident "doctor" or "lawyer", think again. Do you know what an endocrinologist, civil engineer, haematologist is? What about an investment advisor or minerals process engineer?

So, you've been to a few careers fairs, university open days, gotten information on UAI cut-offs and think your got your future mapped out to the day that you retire... or not? No one knows what destination they will reach on path of their career and indeed, there are many twists and turns. If you have a faint outline of your interests, that's great! If you are open-minded, that's even better! Even better, involve yourself in lots of different activities for experience. Then you will be sure to end up on a better path than the person who replied "doctor", "lawyer" or "accountant" without any knowledge.

1. DO know thyself: self-assessment is fundamental in our lives, especially in career planning. It's commonsense to realise that you need to be aware of your talents, inclinations and skills so that you can make the best decision (e.g. if you don't want to compromise your dignity, don't become a politician). There's no point asking employers to understand you or even gauge your potential at an interview if you're not even sure about yourself. Write down/think about your interests (leisure, extra-curricular), long-term and short-term goals, the most important rewards for

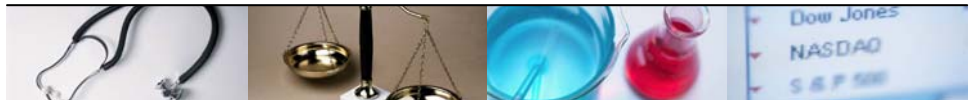
you in a career, skills, and personal attributes.

2. DO create a resume: You pretty much have this step covered so it isn't as formidable as it sounds. A resume is "a brief account of a person's education, qualifications, and previous occupations, typically sent with a job application". Even though you may not be applying for a job, it is good to set out what you have achieved, and gradually add to that list through your high school years.

3. DO get your hands on a Job Guide: This is "Australia's premier career information resource" designed for senior students. It tells you

realised that you won't get anywhere in life if you sit on your hands (metaphorically and literally). There is no excuse for anyone in Years 9-12, who has not visited Mr Canty (yes, that's the man with the glasses and smiley face outside Room 2), always willing to answer your questions. Though you may not like thinking about the future, it is always best to know where you are heading as opposed to going at it blindly.

5. DO the work experience: when you're in Year 10 and 11, get those work placements. Thinking of becoming a veterinarian, go to a vet. It is better to experiment at different



Even better, involve yourself in lots of different activities for experience.

what jobs are *really* all about – not what Hollywood finds exciting. So operating on people are one of the many things that doctors can do; they can also be pathologists, paediatricians, and ophthalmologists (see whether you can find out what these people do). And let's not get started on the myths of being a lawyer – it's not all "Objections", "Approach the witness", "So where were you on the night of the murder?" like in "The Practice" or "Legally Blonde" even for a barrister.

4. DO browse the careers room: as a Fortian, you should have already

workplaces in the younger years, because there is no time to go on work experience in Year 12. This experience is important for various reasons, after doing all the theoretical research and reading the Job Guide it is important to actually see for yourself what you have read; recognising that you may not like the job after the work placement; recognising that you absolutely positively love the job and come back to school with a passion; learning outside of the routine school environment and developing skills.

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INSIDE Justice at the Fort

Fort Street had the pleasure of having High Court Justice Michael Kirby visit and present a talk to the school. In this interview, Kirby discusses the role that Fort Street played in his life. **Page 3**

Tongues slip, faces blush

We all know that celebrities say many stupid things. Perhaps it's because their heads have swelled to such an extent that oxymorons pass the lips of celebrities so often. **Page 6**



EDITORIAL
KATHERINE NGO

The first ever issue of *NotaBene*... FORTIANS ALL, *NotaBene* is designed, written by and for the students. We aim to beat the clichés, defeat the stereotypes, challenge your beliefs and inform YOU about what is really happening. Our reporters span all the year levels at Fort Street High School and the full spectrum of creative intelligence.

The title *NotaBene* is a Latin term known internationally and simply means, "Note well". At the end of instructions, in a mathematics exam or on the side of a diagram "NB" catches your eye and reminds you about important information. These two letters capture the spirit at Fort Street – a commitment to realise one's potential to create our "destiny". Our production team envisages *NotaBene* to be the backbone of student culture, a newspaper every student will pick up and write for. Write an article, a review, send us artwork, or just write us a letter about an issue that interests you. *NotaBene* provides a unique opportunity to get your message across to an audience that is wide, wise and willing. These two A3 sheets of paper before you are akin to none other – they entertain, stimulate ideas, discuss and provide a forum for student views. I would personally like to thank the office ladies, Ms Colombo, the English staff and all those who registered so enthusiastically for their support and motivation that has made this first issue of *NotaBene* possible as well as the many that are to come.

So read it, tell us what you think, get your pencils, bios, keyboards or sketchpads into a kinetic frenzy and contribute to make *NotaBene* the best student newspaper ever!

OPINION

Welcome to the World Rioting Organisation

Enoch Lau

As many of you would have noticed by now, Sydney recently played host to the World Trade Organisation meeting. Just like the Olympics, this was a chance for us to show how civilised Australians have become.

Sometimes, I wish that were the case. As with all other WTO meetings all over this tiny blue planet, rioters have literally followed the trade ministers to the hotel doorstep.

Protesters, whinging about the alleged detrimental effects of globalisation and free trade on the poorer, less-developed countries, have done all things humanly (or should that be inhumanly?) possible to disrupt these meetings. One watches with detached disbelief as the hooligans shake the unshakable, and police react with what they termed "excessive force".

The only thing excessive is the hype blurted out by the organisers. Indeed, what infuriates me in

particular is that some demonstrators, especially the young uni freshers, appeared to have absolutely no idea what they were doing. I'm in no way siding with the injustices of the WTO, but action and change can only occur if people have the facts straight. Attempting to bring down the barricades and running over police did more harm than good in terms of achieving what they set out to do.

Would anything have happened with AIDS drugs to developing countries if it had not been for the negative publicity surrounding the event? Probably not, but if a difference is to be made to the WTO, it would have made more sense to try and win over the hearts and minds of people, especially politicians and the owners of big business, not to antagonise them.

Even so, the protesters are wrong in one respect. Globalisation has in fact aided developing countries. Instead of hindering them, it has fos-

tered cooperation in the developed world; if every country sticks its head in the sand and ignores every other country, it would be inconceivable to raise the amount of bilateral aid that there is today. (Also, maybe those protesters should go home and take a look at where most of their goods have come from – overseas.)

In this country, which supposedly promotes peace and diplomatic resolution of conflicts (that is, if you believe the Federal Government), such feral behaviour is unacceptable and without a doubt 'un-Australian'. Maybe those protesters should examine closely the peaceful and successful demonstrations against involvement in any war against Iraq held by community leaders and celebrities.

It is sometimes difficult to decide which side to believe and place trust on, but if anything good is to come out of this, it's that free speech is alive and well.

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Justice at the Fort

Recently, Fort Street had the pleasure of Justice Michael Kirby visiting and speaking to the school. **Katherine Ngo** takes time out to meet the high court judge in person.

NotaBene: What would a day be like in the life of a high court judge?

Michael Kirby: It's hard work. It starts at about five o'clock in the morning, and you go into your office very early. You read the papers for the case for the day, and you go to court, and you ask a lot of questions during the day. And after your day, you have a meeting with the other justices to decide how you're thinking about the case, and then subsequently you have meetings with your staff. You talk about the matter. After that, you'll probably have to go to a function at a university, or some other body, and about ten o'clock or ten-thirty at night, you collapse into bed. But at least it means you don't have to watch television. It's a very hard life, and it's seven days a week. It never lets up. That's what they meant at Fort Street by striving and achieving and trying to do your best.

NB: What would you do if you weren't a judge? Did you have an alternative dream career?

MK: Well, I wasn't holy enough to be a bishop, I wasn't good enough at mathematics to be a scientist, I wasn't patient enough to be a teacher, so by process of elimination, I ended up in the law. But at Fort Street, I came first

in the state of New South Wales in the leaving certificate in Modern History. And I think if I had my life over again, I might be a professor of history, because I love history, and in my spare time, I never read law; I read history books.

NB: What can't you say no to?

MK: I can't say no to work. I can't say no to requests to come to the school or to go to interesting functions. I launched a wonderful book recently by Nance Irvine, and it was very crowded at the Glebe bookshop. There were hundreds of people, and it was a great occasion, so I have lots of friends in this country and overseas, and I am going tomorrow to Montreal in Canada for a meeting of

dom for those who want to go to law school?

MK: The most important thing in life is to live a full, rich and happy life, to find a companion, or companions in life who love you and who you love and to make the most of the very precious gift which life is. But one aspect which improves the lives of clever intelligent people is if they are fulfilled in the work they do. Therefore, it is important to strive and try to make the most of your gifts.

NB: What would you do if you had only ten dollars, like your last ten dollars? What would you do with it?

MK: I would give it to the poor. I go to India quite often, and in India there are many beggars, and I once

Help others. That's what I learnt at Fort Street.

the International Bioethics Committee, which is going to be looking at the issue of the human genome. So my life is full of very interesting activities, but it's a lot of work, and in life, you don't get anywhere by sitting on your bottom. You've got to get up and get on with it, and strive to achieve and make the world a better place. This isn't triumphalism. This isn't the triumphalism that existed when I was at school. This is service to other people, trying to make the world better, especially for minorities, especially for the disadvantaged. That's our duty as educated, civilised people.

NB: Do you have any words of wis-

wrote to my mother, I will never give money to the beggars because if you give money to the beggars, you will only encourage them. My mother wrote me a very wise letter and said that it's a stupid thing to say, because it doesn't hurt to give something to other people. I think she was right and I was wrong, and if I were in India, I will try to help others. That's what I learnt at Fort Street. Help others.

The full transcript of the interviews with Justice Michael Kirby and Mr George Rezcallah will be available at <http://intrepix.tripod.com/> from December 22. Please note that this site is operated independently of the school.

Seventh Straight Win

Varun Sahni
Cricket Report

On November 6, the Knockout cricket team won their seventh successive match of the Tiger's Cup in three years with a demoralising victory over Dulwich Hill.

Losing the toss, Fort Street was put into bat and lost opener Kingly Drew (Year 10) for two, and Alex Speirs who had continued where he left off in the match against Homebush,

hitting a quick 20, by the ninth over on a total of 35 runs.

Nishad Kulkarni and Cal McGuirk went about hitting Dulwich Hill's bowlers all around the park with many glorious shots. Their partnership yielded 107 runs in 16 overs. Fort Street lost some wickets towards the end in search for quick runs but finished with 7/164 in 28 overs.

The Dulwich hill innings started with a horrible start, losing two wickets in the first over off opener Speirs

(4/22). The pressure was maintained at the other end by Varun Sahni as the opposition stumbled to 5 for 6 after five overs, four off those runs coming of an edge through slips.

Fort Street went about bowling all their lesser bowlers, who got a bit of a hiding from Aslam (48) and Ryan (30). When Matt Jarman and Cal McGuirk were finally brought on, they ripped through the tail and bowled out Dulwich hill for 106. Fort Street had a very convincing win.

HSC SUBJECT FOCUS

The past comes alive with Ancient History

Meet eccentric characters from the past in the enjoyable Ancient History course, writes **Jane Fan**.

From the insane to the inane, Ancient History is full of these characters, and that, is exactly what attracted me to the subject in the first place. In my opinion, Ancient History is a thoroughly enjoyable course. To do the preliminary Ancient History course you need not have completed the Ancient History elective in years 9 or 10. However, I would definitely recommend it because you gain quite a bit of useful history skills during those years. The Preliminary Ancient History course involves the study of two areas, Egypt, Near East, Greece or Rome. This year, we studied two ancient societies: Greece (mainly Athens) and Pompeii (Rome). I found Athens and Pompeii to be very interesting, especially the societal aspects. The ancients have more things in common with us than I first expected! We also studied Alexander the Great this year. I don't particularly like the guy (I'm sorry all you Alexander fans out there...and well, at least I didn't say Augustus right?), but for the military-minded, he is an exceptional case study. Akhenaten (the Egyptian Pharaoh) was another personality we studied. Egyptian history is actually quite fascinating because it is so different and very visual.

The Assessments for the preliminary course include a Major Research Project on a personality, society or event of your own choosing. This



means you can conduct research on something you are *really* interested in. There is also a small group project, as well as three more exams. Before you shrink back in horror at the prospect of all these assessments (and I admit it is quite a lot!), they are actually not so bad and the classes are definitely interesting and worthwhile. The ancient history department boasts of extremely high-skilled and competent teachers, whose entertaining talks have more than once kept me from falling asleep.

If your strengths lay in essay writing and critical analysis, and you enjoy learning about eccentric and larger than life characters, then I would definitely say that this subject is the one for you.

sists of studies in: civil structures, personal and public transport, lifting devices, aeronautical engineering and telecommunications engineering. The material studied is varied and appealing, and provides a useful foundation of knowledge.

Some topics are studied through a major assignment, which gives you more flexible study hours and, to an extent, allows you the freedom of independent learning. The material is

LANGUAGES

Kevin Ha

Japanese Continuers 日本語

If you're a Year 11 or 12 student worrying about scaling for the HSC, do Japanese Continuers (if you're at least above average in the junior school). This subject was challenging, yet sometimes interesting and fun. By learning Japanese, it becomes a useful lifelong skill for any future career path. The course comprises of reading, listening, speaking and writing components. The textbook currently in use throughout Years 11 and 12 is *Wakatta*. One extra piece of advice I can give you is if you choose to do Japanese, buy the Excel book for Japanese. It is extremely useful and you will be fully prepared for your exams. Good luck!

Japanese Extension

Japanese Extension is an excellent subject to do, as it involves all the skilled learnt in the Continuers course and you can use Japanese to demonstrate key contemporary issues in society, such as the impact of technology. On top of that, it also includes the reading of extracts from interesting Japanese short stories, where you can build up a larger vocabulary and a better understanding of grammatical structures. A difference from Extension to the 2 Unit course is that Extension does not include listening. The speaking is much more difficult than the 2 Unit course, but luckily, you are allowed to make notes in the speaking exam ☺. Although there are a rare number of textbooks for Extension, I'm sure the teachers will have you fully prepared for the exam.

not exceedingly hard to learn, and overall the subject is worthwhile if you are seriously considering a career in the field of Engineering.

Pros

- Useful basis for Uni study
- Assessments divided into assignments and class work

Cons

- Not essential if you want to become an engineer
- Not viewed by universities as favourably as Chemistry and Physics

TAS

Martin Hartley

Engineering Studies

Engineering Studies is useful, but is not a prerequisite for those who want to go on to study it at uni. I took it up in Year 11 more out of interest in the subject than anything else.

In the Engineering course in Year 11, you will learn about household appliances, landscaping products, brakes and braking systems and bioengineering. The HSC course con-

Yella! Yella! An Interview with Rezzie

The news that Mr Rezcallah has departed for North Sydney Boys after teaching at Fort Street had been around for some time. However, the reality still hasn't sunk in because imagining a life without Mr Rezcallah's failure-guaranteed tests, his famous smirk and his unbelievable talent at making Maths understandable, is just too weird. Mr Rezcallah's talent at teaching mathematics, contribution to Fort Street education programs, and dedication to his students has been of the highest standard, and the school community simply did not want to acknowledge his departure. However, before he shot off to his new position, **Angela Diec** and **Enoch Lau** caught up with him to see if he had secrets to share... maths ones, of course.

NotaBene: How do you say, "I love green cheese in Lebanese"?

George Rezcallah: (something in Lebanese)

NB: OK, what were your first impressions of Fort Street when you first came here in 1998?

GR: It was a very, very different school. The minute I walked in, I was surprised to hear the music. That was very unfamiliar from where I come from, from the school I came from. It was a very different environment, very different types of students; it took me a while to settle in, but I enjoyed every minute of it, and I am sure that I will never ever meet a school like this.

NB: What's the most annoying thing about Fort Street?

GR: The most annoying thing about Fort Street is the hard work that teachers seem to get stuck into. I mean, sometimes, at times, I will even lose time with my family, because I have to do this for the students. However, the rewards after are really good. The other thing that sometimes might be a little annoying is that some students are very, very confident in terms of what they do and sometimes it might come across as a bit annoying to the teachers...

NB: Especially in computing?

GR: Especially in computing. But, however, it's the strategies that the teachers take in order to utilise that confidence in a good way. So if you're honest from the beginning, you would say to the students, "Alright, this is how much I know. I might need your help in other things." I think usually students in this school react well to that, it's much better than going into the classroom and saying, "Right, I am the teacher. I know everything, and you're going to listen to me." It doesn't work - ok, especially in technology, especially in maths, and all subjects I think, because they are very, very mature and intelligent students that I think they sometimes know much more than the teacher.

NB: Describe Fort Street life.

GR: Challenging, Interesting, creative, and enjoyable. You know, sometimes even I think Maths is hard to enjoy and can be a pain to teach, but I have really enjoyed teaching it here at Fort St.

NB: Ok, now for some personal questions... What would you do with your last \$10?

GR: I would take my family out and spend it in whatever way they wanted.

NB: Yes, I'm sure you would be able to use it wisely seeing how you're a Maths teacher and all. What colour would you dye your hair?

GR: Well...that is IF I had any hair. Dark Brown I suppose.

NB: Why dark brown though? Why not something daring like red?

GR: Because...I think dark brown suits me more, I like it.

NB: What can't you say no to?

GR: Having a good time.

NB: What would you be if you weren't a teacher?

GR: I would be involved in a family business, I do not know doing what but that's probably what I would be doing instead.

NB: What is your favourite word or saying?

GR: YELLA! ("Come on/Hurry up" in Arabic)

NB: What is your favourite Maths

equation?

GR: Hmm...that's a tough question, there are so many. Write down this one, oh wait, maybe not, this one is easier, I can derive almost any equation from this one... $\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta = 1$

NB: Any pearls of wisdom you would like to give to the students?

GR: Yes, Never Settle For Less Than Your Best.

NB: Do you have any parting words to say to the school community? Any final words?

GR: OK, Fort Street, I have enjoyed every single minute of my four years in this school. I have learnt a lot from you; I have matured professionally, through the students, through the parents and through the staff. It has been very enjoyable; I will not regret ever coming here, no matter how hard I work sometimes, and no matter how difficult it became in some situations, but I am very happy with all the achievements that the students have gotten so far. I'm really thrilled at the support, I'm really, really, very happy, and I cannot adequately describe in words of what it means for students to appreciate a teacher. It makes the whole difference. It gives me the drive, and the motivation to move further in my career, and all I have to do when I'm angry is to think of the good times I have here, and the appreciation the students have for me and for the school. Thank you for all your support and I'll hope I'll see you soon in the near future.

NB: Thank you Mr Rezcallah. We're certain that all the students that have had the privilege of having you as their Maths teacher will really miss you. Although you are not here anymore to guide us, we're sure that the knowledge we have acquired over the time that we have had you will be of great assistance to us in the HSC and the future. As representatives of *NotaBene* and Fort Street, we wish you the best of luck in the future, and thank you for everything.

Christmas, a time of giving

Rosie Flory

It is now time for Christmas, a time of giving, a time of remembering time past, a time of sharing. A time in which... blah, blah, enough Christmas chatter. On with the ceremony. What's that Mac? Our religion's illegal now? Now what are our poor dear readers meant to do for the next five minutes? Aha! A merry Christmas jig!

Greetings. "Who is this crazy person?" you shriek wildly. "Aha!" you exclaim, as you realise that I am merely a fat man who wears a red suit and distributes toys. What's that Mac? That's being used? How terrifying. "No, you must be... the identical twin of... KYLIE! Oh, wait, no... Yes! I have it! You are without a doubt, MARILYN MONROE!" Well, my friend, sorry to let you down

but... no. I am Rosie.

As I sit wearing a Santa hat near the purple lamppost of my dreams, chewing on a talking sausage that I don't agree with, I think of the time I had a mobile phone, and when I could have ordered a koala foot salad. I then realise what I said, and scurry off to buy another CD rack.

As I nearly faint after having my popcorn chemical exam, I look towards to my marriage, in fifteen years, which will be on the Brisbane coast, surrounded by ducks. Yes, the ducks are extremely necessary, and they can hold my dress, which I designed to have green and yellow stripes with purple and hot pink polka dots. Everyone knows I'll be a famous fashion designer someday.

As I lie there, under a fallen bookshelf that didn't change when I

pushed the button, I wonder if I should have turned down 007's request for secret hot dogs, and whether he is insane. That would explain a lot of his insane giggling and muttering. So is it decided then? I am working for a lunatic. Now that that's sorted, I think I will order some secret hot dogs.

Fare thee well, my friend, and may you stumble across a broken chimney, with fallen presents on the side, for you to distribute to your friends, while chewing on various mint products in the shape of stage props.

Happy Holidays!



Tongues Slip, Faces Blush and the Whole World Laughs

Angela Diec

We all know that celebrities say many stupid things. Is it just their nerves playing up, or do they accidentally say things they don't mean? Perhaps it's because their heads have swelled to such an extent that the term contradiction is above them. Oxymorons pass the lips of celebrities so often, that even if we never understood the meaning of this English term, we would not have any problems after sitting in one of their classes.

Don't believe me? Take a look at these...

"I think that the film *Clueless* was very deep. I think it was deep in the way that it was very light. I think lightness has to come from a very deep place if it's true lightness." *Alicia Silverstone*

"I get to go to lots of overseas places, like Canada." *Britney Spears*

"I'm an excellent housekeeper. Every time I get a divorce, I keep the house" *Zsa Zsa Gabor*

"I don't diet. I just don't eat as much as I'd like to." Supermodel *Linda*

Evangelista

Let's not forget our inspirational leaders...

"China is a big country, inhabited by many Chinese." *Charles De Gaulle, former French President*

"I haven't committed a crime. What I did was fail to comply with the law." *David Dinkins, New York City Mayor, answering accusations that he failed to pay his taxes.*

Not only do they make mistakes, but also many of those we look up to also make them, like our sports coaches.

"You guys line up alphabetically by height." *Bill Peterson, Florida State football coach*

"Men, I want you just thinking of one word all season. One word and one word only: Super Bowl." *Bill Peterson, football coach*

And even the ordinary among us cannot get out of this nasty habit...

"Can you get a ticket for running a stop sign that is not there?" *Driver school applicant*

News reporters can't seem to resist the temptation either...

"Most lies about blondes are false." *Cincinnati Times-Star, headline*

But then again, every blue moon sees the creation of a leader who never fails to inspire us, coming up with a string of words that always makes us think...

"Try not to become a man of success, but rather, try to become a man of value." *Albert Einstein*

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend" *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

"An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind" *Gandhi*

It's obvious that there are many things in life that are never perfect and do not need to be. Even the most important of people make mistakes, including our favourite idols, our country's leaders, coaches... anyone. It is important to know, however, that all that matters is that we believe in ourselves. Of course, thinking before you speak is also advised. But if all else fails, just remember back to what some celebrities have said in this article and take refuge at the fact that your words aren't printed in magazines, newspapers and the Internet for the whole world to witness your humiliation.



Entertainment

The Ring fails to enchant

**M. C.
Movie Review**

The Ring, a remake of the 1998 Japanese epic, Ringu, is a teenage horror flick about a videotape that kills people seven days after they watch it. While the movie is based on Koji Suzuki's book Ring, Gore Verbinski's version has two advantages: it's in English and it stars Australian actor Naomi Watts in the lead role as a newspaper reporter, Rachael Keller.

Rachael, a single mother of one, is an ambitious Seattle reporter who tracks down the tape in question after the mysterious death of her niece. At

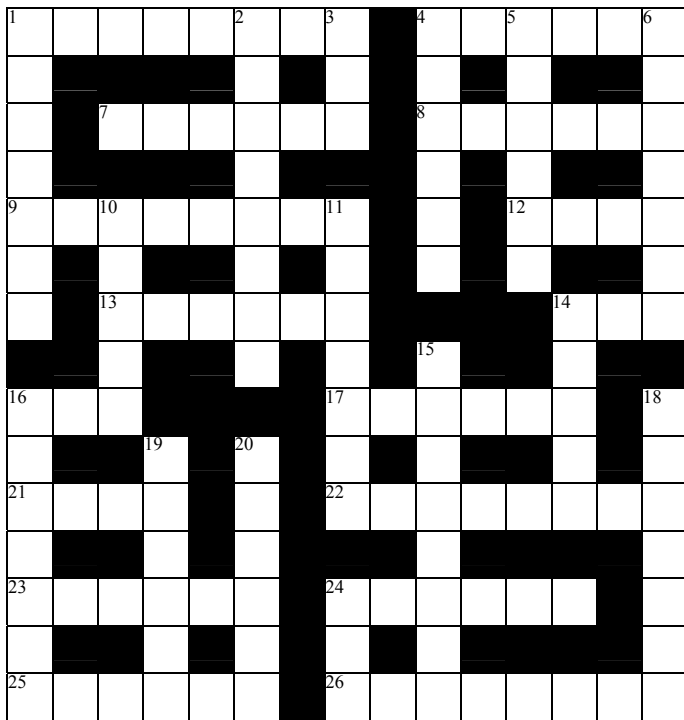


first, she dismisses its powers as the objects of an urban legend. However, after watching the nightmarish image-filled video herself, her scepticism is deeply shaken, especially when the phone rings immediately afterwards and a disembodied voice tells her she'll die in just seven days. Her quest is made more urgent by

the fact that her son is also in danger because she left the tape where he can find it and watch it. Her ex-husband Noah (Martin Henderson) also watched it and so the story is portrayed as a race against time. While the Ring has stunning camera effects that attempts to plug a classical genre into the potential of new technology, it is not as enjoyable as the original Japanese version Ringu.

Director Gore Verbinski
Starring Naomi Watts, Martin Henderson, David Dorfman and Brian Cox
Rating ★ ★ ★

CROSSWORD No. 1



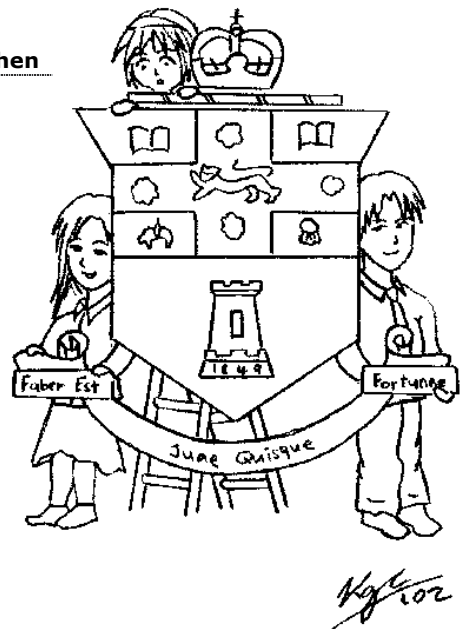
Across

- 1. Body of teachings (8)
- 4. Moral quality (6)
- 7. Focal point (6)
- 8. Beethoven's first name (6)
- 9. Plant with scarlet, pink or white flowers (8)
- 12. Mark on the floor behind which a dart player must stand (4)
- 13. Come back (6)
- 14. Cheerless (3)
- 16. Deceive (3)
- 17. Rotational force (6)
- 21. European currency (4)
- 22. Hot air (8)
- 23. Closest to the centre (6)
- 24. Northern-most US state (6)
- 25. Hot springs (6)
- 26. Share out (8)

Down

- 1. Current of cold air (7)
- 2. Captivate (8)
- 3. Calm area of tornado (3)
- 4. Cascade, torrent (6)
- 5. Displays of cowboy abilities (6)
- 6. Intellectual (7)
- 10. To show again on television (5)
- 11. Scrutinise (7)
- 14. Promise solemnly (5)
- 15. State in which gravity is the only force acting (4,4)
- 16. Grinding food (7)
- 18. Lie back (7)
- 19. Stupid people (6)
- 20. Famous boy wizard (6)
- 24. Also known as (3)

Artwork by Gary Chen



WORDWISE

Try to work out what the following clues symbolise.



QUIZ CORNER

The amount of tea consumed in Australia in one year would fill a) 2000 kitchen sinks b) 2000 Olympic swimming pools c) 2000 Sydney Harbours.

STUMPED? Find the solutions at <http://intrepix.tripod.com/> from December 22. This site will be hosting the online supplement to *NotaBene*.

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It's off to the butchers for the next beauty contest

Is it all about looks these days? Is it worth investing hard-earned dollars into your... attributes? In this **Battle of the Sexes**, we hammer the age-old topic of cosmetics and cosmetic surgery.

Revlon, the international cosmetics giant, has shown staggering profits from its new range of lipsticks, mascaras and foundations, meaning that whole generations of bubbly schoolgirls buy enough makeup each year to start their own clown college.

The average breast implant sizes up to be around US\$10,000. On the money side of things, it doesn't look too inviting, working out to be about 1000 hours on the average wage. Despite this fact, surveys show a 12% increase in the number of women opting to "go large". You would think that ugly rumours about implants bursting at 35,000 feet and gangrene forming on excess skin from liposuction would deter even the most persistent Michael Jackson wannabes, but they don't stop and they certainly don't have enough.

The magical effects of makeup also do wonders. The curl of the mascara brush and the precise painting of those pouty lips add completely new dimensions to an ugly duckling. Yes, I know it's fake! But God be damned if it doesn't look good!

In this modern world where image is everything, who wouldn't want to be all that they can be? If your torso is shaped like a teardrop a little liposuction here and there won't hurt anyone. Whatever the reason, the sad fact remains that guys and girls alike will always be looking for something better, and until science has a way of moulding our bodies to our hearts content, the scalpels will be sharp and the nail polish will be drying.

Bob

Can you imagine lopping off bits here and there, or reshaping whole chunks of your face? That is what cosmetic surgery is all about. Girls feel increasingly pressured to conform to a certain look that the

marketing companies tell us is *the* desired look. Don't get me wrong – I'm not saying that making yourself look nice is wrong, but when this obsession reaches to the point where you feel the need to go under the knife then it becomes somewhat of a grey area. Sure every one wants to be the "It" girl/guy, but you would expect that in this day and age girls and guys wouldn't need to be validated solely on the basis of something so shallow. Yet in the 21st century, plastic surgery has become ever more prevalent, and men and women are flocking to the butcher knife for nips and tucks. People increasingly search for quick fix solutions to all of their social ills through cosmetic surgery.

Don't clutch onto the few painful (not to mention expensive) straws offered by cosmetic surgery, worrying about the chance that your scalpel-moulded nose and double D-cup breasts might just deflate in a freak accident. Despite Bob's assertion that "*a little liposuction here and there won't hurt anyone*"...well...being stuck full of tubes big enough to draw fat would be quite painful.

Jane

In this day and age, image is EVERYTHING! As a wise person once said: "Perception is everything", and how true that statement is, considering our media-driven world is based on the united notion that perfection is a possibility that must be achieved. It is the difference in perception that drives people to produce a successful, popular front so as to be widely accepted and admired. "If one wants to be successful, one must project an image of success".

Incidentally, one facet of a perfect image is the perfect body, and no matter how much you are willing to convince yourself that looks doesn't matter, deep down, you know that it does.

Overall, boys will not stop to gain those extra inches, and girls will not stop to size up to the Z-cup. Until we have an answer to the problems of

perception and image, cosmetic surgery will continue to garner millions, and people will keep coming back for more. Whoever said, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" is a fool.

Joven

Makeup and plastic surgery are two entirely different things. Makeup is lots of fun, just think of all the colours and think of all the brands and ranges. Ah, bliss. But, I guess you can argue that some people are far too seriously addicted to it, and in my opinion those are the people most willing to undergo cosmetic surgery. But cosmetic surgery, now that's serious business. Ouch. Needles? Slicing, chopping, sucking, injecting?

However, to argue over whether it's 'right' or 'wrong', we have to consider one's intent. If you want plastic surgery to feel better about yourself, and still want to after considering the side effects, then do what you want. But remember, fashions change! Pouty lips, they only became hot in recent years. You may get something done today and end up the outcast of society five years later. But, if you are just doing it to make yourself more attractive to guys, think again. You're never going to please everyone.

As for Joven's "*Whoever said 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder' is a fool.*" Nice try. Just to finish off, a survey has shown that half the guys would rather miss the NRL grand final than to go with a chick with pouty lips

Jessica

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