

Kath and Kim

Guide for USA Audiences



Background

- Kath and Kim is the dominant national tv show. Everyone is familiar with the program. The entire cast were stars even before they appeared on Kath and Kim.
- The catch-phrase of Kath, “look at moye” is a universally used and understood phrase. We heard it used in public a lot.
- I believe the phrase “hornbag” (meaning hottie) originated in Kath and Kim.
- I believe the jerky, erratic, home-movie production style seen in “The Office”, etc, originated with Kath and Kim.

Background

- The actress who plays Sharon, also played farmer Hoggett's wife in the film "Babe."
- Sharon always has some sort of injury or skin rash/malady.
- The actress who plays Kim sings the opening song "The Joker."
- The show originated on Australian Public TV, the ABC network. It now plays on a commercial network in Australia.
- NBC is planning a USA version of the show. See my Australia links page for a link to NBC's Kath and Kim page.

Language Notes

- Kath and Kim have lower-middle class accents.
- Prue and Trude, upper class Melbourne.



Language Notes

- Rooting is a moderately polite reference to sexual intercourse.
- Pissed means drunk.
- Get stuffed.
- Australians add “ie” to the ends of all their words, brekkie – breakfast, biker – bikie, etc. I’m going to have chrissy lunch with the rellies. (I’m going to have christmas dinner with the relatives.)

Sport Episode

- Notice the fenced yards in opening sequence. Australians always have fenced yards.
- Australians don't say "I like sports," they would say "I like sport."
- Netball is similar to basketball, but no dribbling, no backboard, players may only inhabit certain areas of the court, and defenders cannot get too close to the person shooting the ball.
- Sport in Australia is NOT affiliated with schools, it is run by sporting clubs, and you may play as long as you are able and capable. Totally on skill and merit, not by age.

Sport Episode

- Potato wedges are a common snack. They are typically served with sour cream and sweet chili sauce (spicy sweet sauce).
- Kel's butcher shop is very typical. Aussies love sausages, especially the strange variants he strives for in this episode. For the record, the sausages are quite good.
- There are a couple of scenes of escalators at the mall. One with Kath and Kel is a typical USA staircase version, but the other really long, no steps version (with Brett running) is more typical. Shopping malls tend to have grocery stores, and the grocery trolleys have grooves that cause the wheels to lock on the long escalators. That way you can travel up/down levels of the mall.

Sport Episode

- Australians have trash bins, and recycling bins. All items are placed in one container.
- TAFE means terminal and finishing education. Kind of like a tech school.
- The AIS is the Australian Institute of Sport, a nation sports training facility for premier athletes. Located in Canberra.

Shane Warne

- There is a reference to Shane Warne (Warnie) in the episode.
- He is regarded as the best cricket bowler of all time. All Australians would know him.
- After watching him bowl, it was so fantastic, I became a cricket fan.
- The episode refers to him as a classy guy. See next slide. The episode refers to signing one of his balls. Double entendre. See next slide.



Serial love rat Shane Warne texts lover - but sends it to his wife by mistake



- A text message sent to the wrong woman has put paid to a reconciliation between Shane Warne and his former wife.
- The Australian cricketing legend is said to have composed a message telling a lover that "the back door is open" - then accidentally sent it to Simone Warne.
- The couple divorced over a year ago but had been working hard to repair their relationship after Warne promised to end his repeated infidelity.
- Caught out by text: Simone Warne says husband Shane has 'broken my heart all over again'
- But according to Simone, mother of his three children Brooke, ten, Jackson, eight, and Summer, five, the chances are now zero.