

Watching the English – Kate Fox

My top 10 takeaways are...

1. Talking about the weather is always acceptable.
2. Moaning about Mondays is something that's conducted nationally.
3. Often difficult subjects are tackled with humour
4. There are a few words which will indicate someone is not upper class. These are: Pardon (instead of sorry), Toilet (instead of lavatory), Serviette (instead of napkin), Dinner (when referring to a midday meal), Settee (instead of sofa), Lounge (instead of sitting room or drawing room), Sweet (instead of pudding).
5. The importance of not being earnest - generally, one should not be too enthusiastic about anything.
6. 'Brag wall' or as an Aussie would say.... 'the pool room' are generally not seen in upper class homes
7. Money is not to be talked about
8. Gardens are apparently a big class indicators. A gnome would indicate lower class unless everything else is indicating upper class and when questioned about it, the person says 'yeah, it's a gnome' (as in nothing to see here)
9. The more weathered something is, the more likely its owner is upper class. A brand new Mercedes or BMW is likely owned by the middle class.
10. Queuing is a big deal. And if anyone jumps the queue, this is a massive deal. But often nothing will be done about it. Or if something is done about it, that person will be congratulating themselves for the next 3 hours.