

# PM must put self-interest aside and call royal commission

**1** For a man whose political instincts are often lauded, Anthony Albanese is doing a very bad job of reading the mood. Or perhaps it's because of those political instincts he's so reluctant to call a royal commission into the Bondi tragedy — he knows the findings will be a terrible look for him and his government. Bad luck. After the worst terror attack on Australian soil the Prime Minister owes it to the victims, their families, the Jewish community and Australians everywhere to do everything within his power to ensure it never happens again.

**2** There's only one acceptable course of action. The PM should call a royal

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commission and he should do it today.

**3** After nine years of doing nothing, the State Government has brought the sledgehammer out to manage WA's demersal fish supply. Their heavy-handed ban is not fair to the many West Aussies who earn their living or derive great pleasure from catching fish — and it's not a decision which is backed up by the data. Ultimately, we'll all pay the price. The fish we buy at

supermarkets or enjoy at restaurants and fish and chip shops will be more expensive. It's madness.

**4** What can the State Government manage properly? Not its

conversion of Rottnest Island to greener energy. That project is three years behind schedule with some asking if it will happen at all. This Government is big on announcements, low on delivery.

**5** To be fair, Roger Cook has perfected rewriting history. In his year-ending online video proclaiming "10 big things we did this year" at number five was Perth Park. His exact words were "a new home for music, events and sport, all in one place". What? It was less than a

year ago he sat in the driver's seat of a V8 Supercar announcing a racetrack for that site. Now it's Perth Park with no mention of a racetrack? Nobody is being fooled, Premier.

**6** By the way, didn't the Premier and co-driver Rita Saffioti claim all of last year they had a mandate for this project? How can you have a mandate for something which you never announced? Show me where Perth Park was mentioned by anyone prior to the March 2025 election.

**7** I was immensely proud to see the continued growth of the City of Perth's New Year's Eve fireworks and family celebrations in and around Elizabeth Quay this week. Just

as our council team had imagined a few years back, the waterfront is now the beloved home of Perth's new year's festivities.

**8** Am I the only one who doesn't mind the two-day Test matches? Same drama, still 20 wickets required to win. What's wrong with that?

**9** Thoughts and prayers are with Damien Martyn. Put your head down Marto and fight. We're all thinking of you, mate.

**10** 2026 — the year of the horse. Well actually, the fire horse. Giddy up everyone. Happy new year.

**Basil Zempilas is the Opposition Leader**

