

Great pic, but focus on your day job

The photo of the WA Premier with a young, first-day student (*News*, 3/2) was lovely, but the harsh reality is this photo says so much about the priorities of Roger Cook.

Re-read this newspaper, or watch the TV news, and Cook can be seen commenting on everything — a scooter crash, a just-born animal at the zoo, a new rugby ground, or another WA-made train.

Perhaps I am being cynical, but please, Mr Premier, just focus on core State issues including homelessness, children in poverty, our hospital crisis, the cost-of-living nightmare, and the other critical issues facing our wealthy State.

Please leave the photo ops to the abundance of senior public servants and your struggling ministers — despite them obviously having less spare time than you.

Ross Taylor, Claremont

He'll have egg on his face

Basil Zempilas is striving to be the voice of reason in the face of a fast-tracked — pardon the pun — racetrack project that no one wants.

This Roger Cook pet project has grown slick tyres and is racing ahead at full speed. Blink, and gears are engaged and in motion.

Cook's "speak to the hand" attitude smacks of dictator. Zempilas is straining to be heard above eager site machinery operators who can't wait to get a share of the golden egg. Cook should remember that a goose didn't lay this egg, taxpayers' money did. Is it too late to point out that he wouldn't want to be known as the goose that spent it?

Andrew Gardner, Albany

Make commute easier

The closure of Fremantle Traffic Bridge is posing some concerns about slower times to make the journey.

One suggestion is for motorists to move to using the train service to facilitate this



Roger Cook at a kindergarten.

time and motion concern, while at the same time removing the need to find a parking spot in the city.

This is a positive move, but it requires one extra problem to be ironed out before the scheme will work — parking at the suburban stations.

There is already evidence that the need for parking is not being met, and the increased demand will require immediate action for the growth in numbers to be met.

Perhaps some of the increased numbers of public servants could be used to help Rita Saffioti meet this need, even if it distracts her from her racetrack plans.

Ron Elliott, Palmyra

Inquest not needed

Two weeks in a row where I disagree with Basil Zempilas. This time it's his point number seven (*Opinion*, 6/2) regarding the tragedy that occurred with the double murder/suicide in Mosman Park.

I cannot see what a coronial inquest will achieve other than to reveal what is blatantly obvious — that the NDIS needs to totally lift its game.

Irene Sanderson, Kalamunda

Flexible power needed

Steve Thomas, the shadow minister for energy, highlights the dire state of WA's transition to renewable plan and makes a good case for the community's need for a backflip by Labor on their current plans and timelines (*Opinion*, 2/2).

The Government's priority

must be continuity of an affordable — cheaper than current — electricity supply 24/7 to all WA households and industries regardless of whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing.

That supply must be flexible and scalable to cope with what our politicians are only now understanding will be exponential electricity demand growth.

So are we to believe that of the 28,000 new bureaucrats Roger Cook has recruited in the past five years (*News*, 3/2) none of them was tasked with developing a sustainable affordable electricity supply for WA.

Apparently so, because, as Thomas points out, our Whole of System Plan now still won't be ready until late 2027. Too little, too late.

Andrew Wagstaff, Floreat

Renewables are vital

Steve Thomas fairly berates the Government for only delivering half of the renewable energy promise (*Opinion*, 2/2). He suggests to speed things up, more renewable energy could be bought from the private sector. Again, fair enough.

But then he spoils everything by suggesting the Government gives up on a green energy transition altogether and goes back to fossil fuels. Honestly, has he not seen the extreme heat, storms, and fires this country and the world is going through? Does he want it to get worse? Has he read even one scientific paper on the issue?

The weather used to be an add-on to the news to let people know if they need an umbrella. With global heating it has become a major story most nights — and not in a good way.

The more the Liberals refuse to see the importance of renewable power the less power they will have in the electorate.

The "drill, baby, drill" mantra equals "burn, baby, burn" and that is not a future any of us want.

Paddy Cullen, Gosnells