

# Poms shameful, but don't gloat yet

I am an England supporter, but not a fan. If I had done my job like this team I would have been rightly fired and struck off.

However, before Aussie fans get too carried away, they need to remember a few things.

First, what would Steve Smith's Mastermind subject be? Second, what kind of leader abandons a junior under him to the wolves when things get tough?

And third, what goes around comes around.

**Nick Smith, Nedlands**

**Plenty of time to tee off**  
The English cricket team must be delighted to get the second Test out of the way in four days. That gives them an extra day to play golf or go to the beach.

**John Brooke, Woodlands**

**It's all getting a bit silly**  
Signs are everywhere that the silly season has arrived. England's Kiwi cricket coach Brendon McCullum has declared that his team was "overprepared" for the recent Ashes Test (*Sport*, 8/12).

Australians would hate to have seen them if they were underprepared.

After being thrashed twice, the England team has gone off on an extended break to Noosa to relax. Bless them.

Elsewhere, Communications Minister Anika Wells thinks it's just fine to blow \$120,000 of our money on visiting New York for a couple of days to talk to nobody of note, about not much at all (*News*, 8/12).

What parallel universe do these people inhabit?

**Dave Ford, South Perth**

**Don't forget the greed**  
Is there no end to politicians and public servants dipping their snouts into the Treasury trough?

And no surprises in the breathtakingly arrogant dismissal by both Anika Wells and Anthony Albanese of criticism raised.



**Steve Smith & Jake Weatherald.**

Electors should cut out the newspaper articles on this disgusting abuse of office and stick them on their refrigerator doors so they'll remember this sordid state of affairs at the next election.

**Roy Stall, Mt Claremont**

## Minister making hay

Anika Wells has obviously discovered the well of plenty and is drawing from it everything she can.

**Kingsley Sullivan, Mt Hawthorn**

## Coming for inheritance

A short article on page 10 of yesterday's West should send shivers down people's spines.

In order to deal with massive national debt levels, the Federal Labor Government could consider an inheritance tax.

I guess they've run out of other people's money, as the saying goes for left-wing socialist governments.

For many Australians, an inheritance is their only way to ever get ahead when an elderly family member dies, whether it be a property and/or money.

So basically, when Albo and Chalmers' schemes crumble, as they are, then they'll come for your money. It's only a matter of time.

**A. Morovich, Winthrop**

## Act a natural disaster

The Labor Government's new State Development Act is being received by environmental, law and public integrity groups like a lump of coal in the stocking.

The aggressive move takes

the power from the people by bulldozing what is left of our very flimsy environmental, heritage and planning laws to give us more of the same concrete-bitumen deserts and climate-causing, nature-annihilating and soul-destroying projects we have come to expect from government.

The Liberals, who deserve kudos for backing communities from beautiful Burswood to the magnificent Matilda Bay, should not support this anti-democratic Bill, which will concentrate nearly all the power into the Premier's hands and cut the only chance communities have to hold on to their precious places.

**Paddy Cullen, Gosnells**

## Fix hours, fix gridlock

Been shopping? How was the parking experience? Diabolical perhaps? Welcome to Perth, home to daily traffic chaos along with frustrated and bad-tempered drivers.

Sure, it's always extremely busy just before Christmas, but as most families would know, this congestion at most shopping centres is now the norm.

Perth has grown by almost 400,000 people since COVID, so of course this will bring major problems with infrastructure.

But Premier Roger Cook could help enormously by simply extending Sunday shopping hours permanently to allow for a greater spread of hours when families can shop, thus reducing this current madness, including that of watching the huge queues forming at 10.45am on Sundays — Perth's busiest shopping day — as the magical hour of 11am arrives.

But until the large union that controls Roger Cook's power-base agrees, nothing will happen because self-preservation in politics will always prevail above the common good.

**Ross Taylor, Claremont**