

Fast track to a bogan nightmare

In "Fit and fired up" (TST, Aug 17), Premier Roger Cook said: "I think what people want to know is that you are true to your word, that you are a genuine person and doing your level best. And I think that's what people see in me."

He obviously believes in his own patter but we don't believe in him. He continues to not tell the truth. The cost of unwanted attractions he and his Government keep telling us we need — a rugby team that will cost us \$55 million and a racetrack that the majority of people do not want at Burswood at \$217m — will blow out, like the majority of major projects that have been done of late. Don't get me started on our hospitals that he keeps telling us are world class. It was good to know that finally they are prepared to spend \$50m on health infrastructure, but too little too late. The majority of West Australians don't want these "bogan" sporting events.

Listen to the people and stop grandstanding on things that aren't important to the general public.

B. SHEL BOURNE
Yokine

Wise up, Roger

Just reading about Roger Cook turning 60 and being healthy ("Fit and fired up")

I wish him well, because if

he was unwell, he would be turning 61 before he could get into ED. He said he wasn't sure about being a wise old man. Very true, otherwise we would have money being spent on hospital beds, new hospital in Peel and no racetrack or NRL team.

JOHN BAILEY
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The glory game

I read Ben Harvey's "Scrooge's legacy" (Opinion, Aug 17) with barely batted eyelids.

Every government in office has made up its mind about where money should be cut to fund a substantial project that will put their names on a forever brass plaque.

Unfortunately, the shiny plaques will never say at what cost a new project came to be, unless you were around to remember. At the time, health may have benefited but the Barnett government slashed education spending (ie. education assistants from schools) in order to fund Elizabeth Quay. I recall prominent advocates begging him not to do so at the risk of damaging support for teachers and students. The McGowan government, in turn, slashed health to fund the new WAAPA, ECU and Metronet.

And we all know what the Cook Government wants to do. As they all say: "The