

Bogans are much more genuine

I'm pleased that Roger Cook has fessed up and declared himself not to be a bogan. While sometimes described in a pejorative manner, they are generally a likeable egalitarian group.

They are typically working-class and do not enjoy the benefits of a high six-figure salary, a government car and a driver. They are probably more comfortable on a Harley or in a souped-up Subaru.

When they wear high-vis clothing, a hard hat and safety glasses it's because it's part of their real job.

When they ride on trains, it's because it is often the only way of getting to work. When they enjoy a beer at a pub they pay for it.

They are usually very loyal to their friends all the time — keeping in touch, offering support, dropping around for a chat, lending their mates a few bucks to help pay for their rent and electricity — not just appearing every three years to shake hands.

Mind you they will probably be very happy to support the Bears rugby team as they typically love a significant underdog.

Being an authentic bogan is a serious full-time business and not one for the transient interloper!

It's a shame that Dean Alston is on leave. I'm sure he would have a field day on this one.

John Nelson, Claremont

In need of a subculture

If Labor is going after the bogan vote, (*News*, 9/7) I wonder which group the Liberals should aim for?

Patrick Whalen, Yokine

Non-core commitment

So Roger Cook and the Government are going to go ahead with the Burswood racetrack because it was an election commitment.

The West Australian



Roger Cook on Thursday's page one.

I would like to remind Roger Cook and his party that a \$400 power credit was also an election commitment.

Peter de Kluiver, Donnybrook

Highways to hell

All this hype about a racetrack for Burswood, when you only have to take a drive along any of the Wheatbelt roads to experience all the adrenaline rushes you might need in a day.

With all the safety precautions built into the proposed Burswood circuit, I reckon it would be a bit tame compared with a regular shopping trip to one of the regional centres where you compete with a continuous stream of fully loaded grain trucks domineering the narrow roads which need constant edge repair due to the huge axle weight they're subjected to.

Maybe the millions of dollars earmarked for the Burswood racetrack could be better spent on fixing the rail network to once again transport our valuable grains safely to market?

Then again, where would I get my weekly adrenaline rush?

Sandy Donaldson, Dowerin

Hollow words

Premier Roger Cook states, "We do things that we believe are popular and in the interests of the State" (*News*, 10/7). It is

blatantly clear that the proposed motorsport complex is deeply unpopular and Lindsay Taylor (*Letters*, 10/7) makes it very clear how much destruction of the beautiful Burswood Park area will take place to create it. Be true to your word, Mr Cook, and stop the progress of this development.

Lesley Smithers, South Perth

Odd entertainment

It would seem that our myriad government advisers have been busy with butcher paper and crayons, but their fevered sessions of inanity have produced little of any consequence.

Consider: two Neanderthals battering each other to bloody submission does not rate highly on my entertainment calendar, and I suppose speedway thrills can be accidentally stumbled on near some of our more notorious intersections.

Rugby league? Well, it has always been bogan ballet...

S.J.H. Wray, Midland

Speed of plan suspicious

We now understand the political motivation for the Burswood racetrack, thanks to former premier Brian Burke.

What now concerns me is the apparent lack of due process in proceeding with this project, which has gone from initial announcement to the appointment of the design and construction alliance in a mere six months with completion due in 2027.

If this project had been a private enterprise project it would still be waiting for approval in this timeframe. What environmental assessment will there be, or has it already been signed off?

Where is the business case?

Because of its sensitivity this project needs to be open to the highest level of scrutiny.

Doug Whiting, Lesmurdie