



# Parents deserve applause

Once again the ATAR results for Year 12 students have brought mixed reactions from those who sat their exams with apprehension as to their chances of gaining admission into university to pursue a course they aspire to do.

Congratulations to all those 18 top achievers ("Perfect? Meet 18 of our very best", TST, Dec 21, below). Not taking any credit from them, which they certainly deserve. Most times the untold story behind each and every success is that of their parents, who seldom get any recognition, except perhaps from close relatives and friends.

If a gardener is praised for growing a tree which bears an abundance of fruit or lovely flowers, why aren't we hearing of parents of ATAR top achievers being praised likewise?

I'd love to know what sacrifices, advice and support

their proud parents from different cultural backgrounds have given to their high-achieving proteges!

**SAM TAN**  
Canning Vale

## A worthy addition

Zach Margolius ("Star-studded summer for music fans", TST, Dec 21) was correct when stating that Perth is getting some top acts visiting our shores.

However, he missed an iconic venue which attracts some of the best international acts, namely Red Hill Amphitheatre, which recently hosted popular Canadian bluegrass quartet The Dead South. Five thousand-plus patrons had a fantastic night under the stars.

**ANDREW POWER**  
Kingsley

## Cook reality check

We know the Cook



Silence as lifesavers stand in solidarity

PHOEBE GRIFFITHS

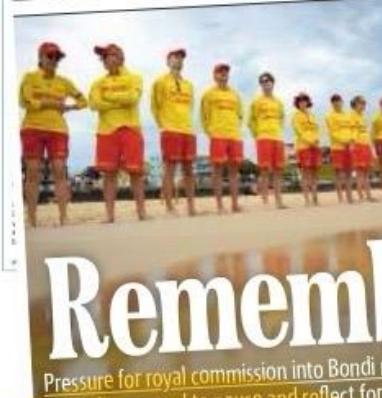
The waves off Australia's east coast beaches have reflected the events of the past week — a silence that speaks as the nation has come to grips with last Sunday's horrific bushfires.

It's been a mix of shock, a sea of sadness, a sea of soaring anger and an overwhelming sense of community as Aussies of all stripes and backgrounds pulled out together to mourn the loss of so many homes and grieved along as that blanket of Sunday...

On Sunday morning it was on the sand of Bondi that the



**The Sunday Tis**



## Remember

Pressure for royal commission into Bondi  
Australians urged to pause and reflect for

Government doesn't listen to the people — ignoring calls to cancel the racetrack, ferries and rugby teams.

It was beyond belief to see Premier Roger Cook believes the criticism of the Prime Minister is "primarily from the Liberal Party but he does have his critics from the Jewish community as well" ("Premier vows to go hard on hate", TST, Dec 21). There has been an overwhelming condemnation of the Prime Minister's lack of action over anti-Semitism during the past two years.

Given that the Liberal Party has few members, Mr Cook, where else could it be coming from? Take the blindfold off and look at reality. You can't fix something you don't understand.

**DIANNE OPIE**  
Dalyellup

## Respect hit home

What a brilliant display of respect and remembrance by 1000 surf lifesavers lining the