

Letters to the Editor

# It's how you vote that counts

IT'S a sure sign that a political campaign is in trouble when they threaten and attack their opponent's supporters.

But what Dr Jacobs and his fellow Liberals have not managed to explain is how their candidate Rick Wilson will vote to support WA over, for example, the GST rip-off, which will soon mean that less than 10 cents in every dollar of GST paid in WA will actually make it back here.

A year or two back this was so important that the WA Parliament voted unanimously for a 75 per cent floor in the GST to ensure that no state gets less than

75 per cent of its per capita GST share. Yet when the WA Nationals' Tony Crook put this to the Federal Parliament, not one of the WA Liberal or Labor MPs supported it.

A more palpable political image would be hard to imagine.

Even the architect of the GST, former prime minister John Howard supported Tony Crook on this, but not one WA Liberal could find the courage to stand up to their eastern states dominated party room and back Western Australia.

Nor did they stand up to their party room in the

interests of WA farmers over the deregulation of the wheat market.

It's all very well talking big at home, but it's how they vote when they get to Canberra that really matters.

That's why it makes it so important to return a WA National to represent us in Canberra. If they don't win for us, at least they'll get a blood nose trying.

**Paul Browning,  
Boulder**

## Rescuer earns thanks

I WOULD like to thank Barry Maitland, who rescued me from the rocks at Salmon Beach.

Not only did he contact St Johns through 000, but he also kept me calm and supported my fractured leg, helped the ambulance team and assisted them to stretcher me off and get me to Esperance Hospital.

Without Barry's timely arrival and vigilance I might have been on that rock a lot longer. Cheers from a grateful Ian Carlos.

**Ian Carlos,  
Esperance**

## Jetty is way too important to lose

IT would be an absolute tragedy to lose Esperance's iconic Tanker Jetty.

I spent my youth visiting Esperance as a child and have returned to town in the past few years.

While I don't have the same connection many locals would with their icon, the jetty still holds a special place in my heart as I remember fishing off the jetty at sunset with my grandfather.

I even learned to swim off the jetty.

Back then it was sink or swim. You had to jump from jetty into the waves below, a far cry from the swimming pools of the city I grew up in.

Esperance should be proud to have an icon that people Australia-wide are aware of and respect.

Busselton's jetty was restored and maintenance covered by visitors and locals who pay a small fee.

Why can't Esperance do the same?

I would love to return to Esperance in the next six months but feel it won't be the same if the jetty is removed.

Wake up Esperance, let's fight for what's right and keep Esperance's favourite icon alive.

**Rosie King,  
Edgewater**

## Candidate takes a pick of hometown

IN an *Esperance Express* article on August 7 candidate Chub Witham states: "I lived and worked in Esperance for years" and then on his Facebook it states: "Esperance boy selected to represent the Nationals."

I have lived in Esperance since January 19, 1973 and I can't claim to be an Esperance boy as I was born in Geraldton.

Then he goes on to claim he is a Katanning boy as he was born there and lived in Broomhill until he was 13.

Now I suppose he will claim to be a Kalgoorlie boy as he has lived there also.

On his Facebook page he expounds the wonderful work Tony Crook did for the seat of O'Connor.

Does this mean sitting on the crossbenches, as the former independent member did, and voting with the Labor Party he now states is trying to destroy rural Western Australia by giving its preferences to Rick Wilson and the candidate for Durack?

Under his photo in the *Esperance Express* it states: "Unique: Nationals candidate Chub Witham represents a unique WA party."

Unique alright, the only seat in WA that sits as an independent doesn't support the conservative

side of politics. If elected, will he sit on the crossbenches and achieve nothing for another three years as in the past three years?

Who can you trust to represent you?

Not the so-called Independent Nationals when both Witham and Wirrpanda are on record of saying they will vote as they see fit if elected.

If the election is close, we the people of O'Connor need representatives who will support the conservative side of politics, not independent as we have had for the past three years in Crook and the so-called WA Nationals we stand alone.

The old catch cry – Royalties for Regions – we will have it in the Federal Parliament as well, where are they going to get the support?

From the Greens, Labor or who else?

Royalties for Regions is a WA state government project as the Nationals well and truly know. Colin de Grussa, you alone cannot give Royalties for Regions, so grow up.

It's a coalition government which decides what happens with Royalties for Regions.

**Brian Pearce,  
Esperance**

## Roundabout real rules

ON Friday, August 23, an article was published within the police report regarding the use of roundabouts.

The article stated "motorists do not need to indicate if they are going straight ahead". This was incorrect.

The correct rule is quoted below from the Department of Transport 'Drive Safe' booklet.

If going straight ahead motorists do not indicate entering the roundabout but "indicate/signal left if practicable, as you are passing the exit before the one you wish to use".

The *Esperance Express* apologises for the error.



## Discipline gives way to anarchy

A TODDLER crawling on the floor starts playing around with power points, and bugger it, just let it go.

We're not allowed to discipline the child anyway. Five years later and dad's working on the roof and the child climbs a ladder and grabs a wire because the child has not been taught right from wrong. Too late, the child dies by electrocution.

A seven-year-old steals money from mum's purse, we'll just

have a giggle about it and carry on, the child will get over it.

The child gets to 18 and is out with his mates stealing stuff out of cars and robbing old people, maybe even stealing cars.

Mum and dad having beers and cones in front of kids, letting the kids pack cones and have a few sips of beer, after awhile it becomes repetitive and children being children want to experiment, and it leads to heavier stuff.

Likewise with attitudes to women and sex.

If children aren't taught the right way to socialise, they are going to have trouble adjusting later on. Discipline is being taken out of schools and you can see the difference already.

It is and has been on our streets for a few years now.

**Des Parkyn,  
Esperance**

## Efforts of so many so appreciated

THIS is a thank you letter. Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who came along to the Loose Goose Charity Quizzes on August 11 and 18.

They were a huge success, raising more than \$2400 for the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research

Also, thank you Ross Beckett for donating time and effort to be the master of ceremonies at the quizzes. We could not have done it without you.

Sarah, Hannah and Ashlyne Beckett – the brains behind it all I'm sure – many thanks to you all.

To all the local businesses which donated prizes and vouchers, thank you for doing so. To everyone who has been putting their loose change in the

tins around town supporting our cause, thank you.

I would also like to thank the Apex Club of Esperance, the Rotary Club of Esperance Bay, the Rotary Club of Esperance and The Lions Club for their sponsorships.

Many thanks to you all for supporting Duncan Bell and myself in our Ride To Conquer Cancer.

We have raised the minimum funds needed to get us to the starting line of our big ride and we couldn't have done it without the support of our beautiful town and people.

We are truly grateful.

**Wendy McMullen,  
Esperance**

**I WANT FAR REACHING. I WANT CLOSE TO HOME.**

**WAtoday.com.au For today's WA.**