

March 27th 2026

HOODIES DAILY

IN TIMES OF CRISIS WHY DO WE
GET SO LET DOWN BY POLITICAL
LEADERS?





AZZARO

448 Toorak Road
Toorak, Vic 3142
P (03) 9696 2611
azzaro.com.au

EDITORIAL

Could be that Chris Bowen has actually grown some balls? I remember seeing him interviewed on Insiders just before the Iran conflict really went south and petrol shortages became a real issue. He was superficial and went so far as to suggest it was a great opportunity for people to buy EV's, he's not on the EV bandwagon now, rather he's on the, let's get some dam petrol to the regions!

It must be said it was the states that said to Bowen they weren't getting out to lead the response to the fuel crisis and that the feds needed to lead it. So as a result Bowen has basically told the petrol companies to sort their lives out or else! On a side note isn't it funny how the talk of renewables goes out the window when the shit really hits the fan! After this little episode I vote we ditch the idea of net zero and fire back up the refineries so when Trump decides to invade the next country on his hit list we can say we're fine!

While Trump continues with his war on Iran the world is looking at ways to cope with less petrol; four day weeks, increased public transport and more working from home the German defence minister, who is in Australia, has taken the opportunity to have a swipe at the Don. Boris Pistorius has suggested Trump has no clear objective in Iran and that there has been a clear lack of consultation with allies of the US. Pistorius is not the only one that is running out of patience with Trump and it appears the only ones left that do are Israel and parts of the Middle East. How many more years of this absolute madness do we have to put up with?!

In the upcoming by-election in the seat of Farrer Pauline Hanson has said she'd be happy to do preference deals with the Libs. This should be music to the ears of the Libs right across the country but it remains to be seen if the right of Australian politics can work together to actually be an opposition to Labor. No matter what you think of Albo, good governance relies on government and opposition and a united right is that opposition and now more than ever we need accountability for all sides of the political divide.

Changing tact, Meta! Yes it looks like Mark Zuckerberg is in all sorts of trouble as Meta has been found guilty of allowing their users to become addicted to their social media platforms. It remains to be seen how much Mark is going to have to cough up and while it won't dent Marks bank account very much the sooner social media companies are held to real account the better.

And finally on Monday we launch (assuming I can sort it all out) the new Hoodies Media website. A website that will run news headlines, articles, breaking news and stories we feel are important for an Australian and then a global audience. We will still publish an editorial but for our full coverage and content we will be providing links to our new site. Having become quite good friends with my Ai friend Claude I've saved myself about \$25,000 in consulting fees and now understand that while we've built a great network on LinkedIn the site actively suppresses external links to secondary websites. We want our own site to build subscribers and attract advertisers via the data base we create. So watch this space!

In the meantime have a great Friday and see you for the Sunday Hoodies.

CRISIS LEADERSHIP

There's no doubt that Trump's foray into global conflicts have forced leaders throughout the world to make some hard decisions and actually lead but how many of them are actually doing a good job? How many are standing up to be counted? Well here in Australia not many. Yes Chris Minns was a great leader in the aftermath of the Bondi massacre but does anyone else spring to mind in recent years in Australia?

The Covid crisis saw how badly some leaders could be under pressure. Yes there are those that will say that Daniel Andrews was a strong leader during Covid but let's face facts he was a toxic dictator that showed zero empathy for the people he was supposed to lead. The same for countless leaders on both sides of the political divide, there are too many that have been utterly useless when it comes to a crisis.

Albo in recent times has had his chance to be that leader that could make profound changes but he's bombed. Yes he can say the right things at a press conference when he's got a script written for him by someone smarter than him but leave him to his own devices and ummmm no. Yes Albo has told Chris Bowen to get into the petrol companies but that was only after the states said we're not wearing this one! Bondi, Albo had the chance to heal a nation but blew it and then going back to the voice! The voice was a huge chance to offer real change but he fucked it.

Scomo during Covid was a weak muppet. The states wanted to run their own show so he let them and it set the country back years. Josh Frydenberg hated Daniel Andrews, like many of us, but he let his personal feelings get in the way of decision making. Boris Johnson in the UK during Covid, Kier Starmer in the face of mass illegal immigration, Trump...Mark Carney the Canadian PM and Georgia Meloni of Italy might be best of the global leaders. Both understand the changing political landscape and both want what's best for their own countries but know they have to deal with the rest of the world unlike Trump.

Politicians for the most part don't have any kind of crisis management skills and yet when the shit hits the fan they're the ones at the cold face of it and we still wonder why things go badly?

WHAT IS TRUMP'S PLAN?

It depends on who you ask when it comes to the rationale behind Trump's plan on Iran. The leftists will tell you the whole thing has been heavily influenced by Israel and that Trump wanted to make his rich friends richer by controlling the price of oil. The right will tell you it's because Trump felt Iran was on the verge of having nuclear weapons, that they were the terrorist breeding ground for the world, that he wanted to control the strait of Hormuz and that he wanted to help the Iranian people change the regime in the country.

Who knows what the reason was but right now the reasons are becoming less important than what this whole thing is doing to the global economy. There are a good portion of democrats suggesting that Trump is using his power to commit insider trading and fixing the oil prices. If you look at stock market charts and compare them to the timings of bombings and or announcements from the Trump administration there are unquestionable correlations but good luck actually proving that one.

Was it to make America great again and if so how? How was bombing the crap out of Iran supposed to help the US? Was it to cut back Chinese imports? To control the oil price that would see money pour back into the US? Was it to reset US manufacturing? To help US farmers? It sure as hell wasn't to help the world get cheaper petrol...

The thing out of all this is that the US is running out of relevance to the world. Even if the democrats lead by Gavin Newsom do win the next US election then what? By then Trump will have had a whole term to break apart the world and destroy their global relationships, so what will Newsom have to offer the world? A defence force that is powerful yes, but relevant how to defend what?

I remember when Trump got back in and I thought thank god it wasn't Harris. The woman left over from the Biden era of questionable decisions and blurred lines of what a president should be capable of, it was Trump's time again and he was going to bring the world back together. But it wasn't to be. In his second term Trump has done more damage to the global economy than anyone really thought was possible and the even more disturbing thing is that 41% of Americans still think he's doing a great job with the Iran conflict.

We live in strange times and in a world that is moving further and further away from allowing the US to remain a global super power.

BUSINESS IN TOUGH TIMES

I'm a three things or well aspire to be three things, a writer, an opera singer and a hospitality grunt. The writer but is a life lived in solitude but the other two rely on people. For a singer you can be a great performer etc but it's a team effort to put a show on. The same in hospitality you can be a great waiter, barman, chef or manager but it ain't happening if there isn't a team to do it with.

Business is exactly the same, in fact business is about two things and both are still people; the people you work with and the people who use your product, ie the customer. You can't run a business without both. You treat your staff poorly they're out the door, you treat your customers badly they'll go elsewhere. I should clarify that people don't matter two shits to supermarkets but I digress.

The point is that in tough economic times like we are currently in you have to do much more to keep the tills rolling through. The hospitality industry is notorious for burning staff and for thinking it's smarter than everyone else. It also doesn't know when to shut the fuck up! If I see another chef do an interview saying how hard things are while wearing a \$10,000 watch I'll spew up! Or Cafe owners saying how hard things are when they've dropped \$45,000 on a new coffee machine, have 15 types of milk, have three people on a single coffee machine and have an entire organic menu! Shut the fuck up! The latest one is restaurant owners saying they're going to put a fuel levy on peoples bills! Really? Are we for real? We want to alienate our customers with more charges? Why can't we roll it into the menu? The wine list? Why put an extra charge on a bill?

This is all about survival for small and mid sized businesses now and while businesses do need to take their fight to governments and councils they also need to remember they have customers wanting to buy their services. We've all got bills to pay but right now it's about working smarter not harder and offering people different options on the products they still want to buy.

THE CULTURE

My five cultural necessities

Turner

In the final of the five part series of my most important cultural artists we talk Turner and my favourite painting of his, The Fighting Temeraire

J. M. W. Turner remains one of the most transformative figures in the history of painting, and his masterpiece The Fighting Temeraire captures both his technical brilliance and emotional depth. The work depicts the once-mighty warship Temeraire being towed to its final berth, symbolising the end of an era as industrial modernity replaces heroic naval history.

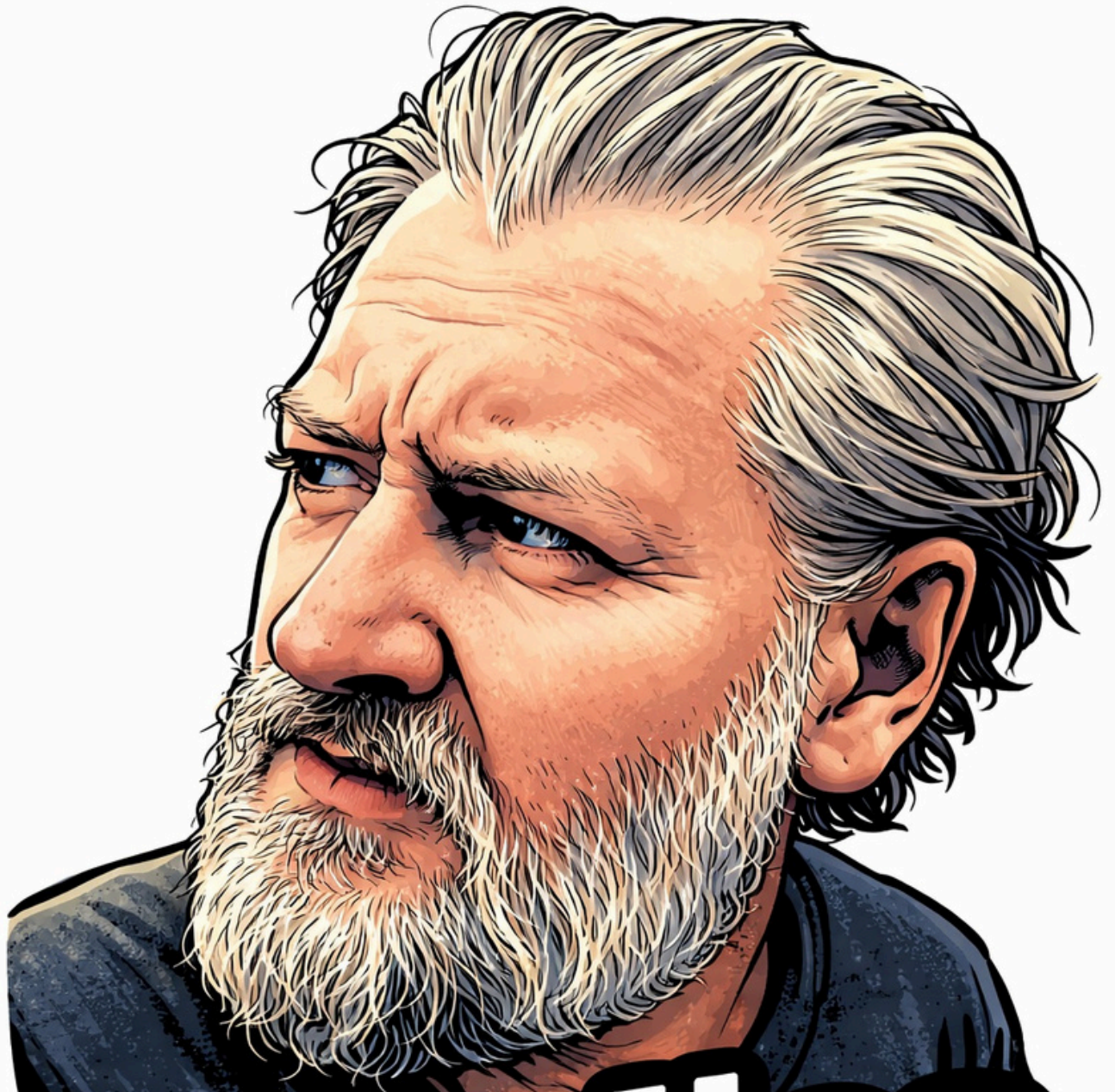
Turner's relevance to global art lies in his radical approach to light and atmosphere. Rather than simply recording a scene, he dissolved form into luminous colour, anticipating movements such as Impressionism and even aspects of modern abstraction. In The Fighting Temeraire, the ship itself is ghostly and pale, almost fading into memory, while the tugboat is dark and solid, cutting across the glowing water. This contrast is intensified by Turner's extraordinary use of light.

The sunset dominates the composition, blazing with oranges, golds, and soft purples. Light is not just illumination; it becomes the emotional core of the painting. It evokes nostalgia, loss, and the passage of time, transforming a historical moment into a universal meditation on change. Turner's light often feels alive, as if it is consuming or reshaping the world before it.

Globally, Turner's influence extends far beyond Britain. Artists across Europe and later in America drew from his atmospheric techniques and expressive colour. His work helped shift painting away from strict realism toward emotional and sensory experience, securing his place as a pivotal figure in the evolution of modern art.

James Hunt and Barry Sheene
In the days before men could
get pregnant 🍺🚬?





hoodies
media

WWW.HOODIESMEDIA.ORG