

April 5th 2026

SUNDAY HOODIES

CAN THE LIBS REALLY
WIN IN NOVEMBER?



LIBERAL



AZZARO

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

EDITORIAL

Well it's been an interesting week right across the world especially when we look at the National address given by Albo during the week. It was far from we will fight them on the beaches but Albo did encourage people to go about their lives and only take what they needed when it came to petrol. Sadly Bunnings missed the memo from Albo and has sold out of Jerry cans.

One thing Albo has done that King Charles has not done is say Happy Easter! The King formerly known as the brother of Andrew Whatshisname has cancelled his annual Easter message but did find time recently to say Happy Ramadanalingdon to all the Muslims in the Empire of pompous contradictions formerly known as England. It's an interesting move by the King given whomever sits on the English throne is the symbolic head of the Church of England and who appoints the Archbishop of Canterbury. For the king to cancel his Easter message reeks of hypocrisy and contempt for those who are part of the Church of England, but hey, this the the Royal Family and they seem to sit outside the rules of decency and respect.

Caroline Wilson in the Age yesterday put former Carlton President in the gun and suggested Sayers should've quit as soon as it was obvious he was in for a scandal, but really it's probably time for all these blokes to grow up. Mental Health and all sorts of excuses are thrown out when they much up and really, enough is enough.

Carlton seem to like losing given Micheal Voss still has a job and in a cost of living crisis the Royal Children's Hospital appeal again broke the record for funds raised via the Good Friday Appeal. Imagine the good we could do if kids lives mattered everyday rather than on just one day a year!

So given the King has neglected his duty to say Happy Easter, we shall say to everyone, have a great Easter, enjoy the time with family and friends and have a very Happy Easter!

RECESSION BY SEPTEMBER?

Are bank economists the new epidemiologists? Remember when all those science people were let loose on the pandemic? It was lockdown for months on end and we should be wearing full burkas for a year to slow the spread! Some of what they came up with was fair but most of it was absolute rubbish! So when the bank economists have their moment in the sun as Trump continues to be an unhinged maniac be assured the end of the world is nigh.

It is true that if we see negative growth in September we will be in a recession but are we going to get there? Given petrol prices are through the roof and despite economists, podcasters and the media all saying the RBA will hike rates how can they? Can you imagine the RBA sticking rates up at their next meeting? Yes anyone on \$300,000 plus a year can but for us mere mortals it would be a catastrophe!

Down here on planet let's storm the barricades things are tough and not getting any easier. Not only is petrol at record levels we are unquestionably going to see grocery prices go up because hey who wants the supermarkets to miss out on their profits! There's absolutely no empathy from the big supermarkets is there? There's no hey we're all in this together, no, we've got you and we're freezing prices on a range of products, nope, instead it's let's sell out all the Jerry cans and then fuck the minions on pricing of groceries at our stores!

Albo and Chalmers cut the fuel excise to keep prices a bit lower, but how about bashing the supermarket next boys? Or maybe picking up the phone to that imbecile Trump!? We have said before and will say again, Mark Carney was right! We need to look elsewhere for our key suppliers and resources because Trump is not coming to save anyone!

It is unquestionably true now that the high petrol prices are yes a small hangover from before the invasion of Iran but primarily as a result of a maniac trying to take over the world! In these hard economic times Australia has been found wanting on a number of issues and because of them and Trump things will get worse before they get any better but what a great time to be an economist at a bank, time to shine boys and girls!

CAN THE LIBS WIN?

I know as you get older you become more cynical about the world, but not even the most optimistic person could confidently say that the Liberal Coalition will win the state election in November. Who would? Theo libs have a 15 year old with a law degree running the party, they have a 150 year old running the party room, they have a bloke who wanted to cut a number of female candidates out as President and they members of their own party making posts on social media saying good riddance when certain MP's lose their preselection bids.

But wait! There's more! Not only are there the aforementioned issues the party is divided on its direction, divided on certain people being preselected and then divided on court action over issues of how people within the party have been dealt with. Everywhere you look within the Liberal Party you see division, you see people who aren't on the same page and you see a party that can barely run its own affairs let alone a state with hundreds of billions dollars of debt! How did they get this bad!!?

Look it may be the case that the Libs crush Labor because people have had enough of Bendigo Barbie and her minions of bullshit, or it might be the case that the Libs team up with One Nation and do preference deal to chuck out Allan, plus with a local publican nominating for Allan's seat she could well be out regardless of the main result, but really?

A lot of things need to go right for the Libs to win come November and right now they seem utterly clueless in how to win people over to vote for them. What it will need is a preference deal with One nation, a massive swing away from Labor based on them being crap and people saying we want a change. To get that done Labor need to lose on a scale not often seen, but it's definitely possible, will it happen though? I'd like to say yes but right now voting for one or the other isn't that different instead what we need is change, change that brings back some optimism and hope to the state, but regardless I won't hold my breath.

TRUMP WANTS \$1.5 TRILLION

As Trump continues to destroy the global economy even if the right wingers suggest he's doing a great job he's asked Congress for a staggering \$1.5 trillion for military spending.

Just as an FYI that is \$1,500,000,000,000...

If we just ask ourselves what the world could do with \$1.5 trillion we could,

- Eradicate malaria
- Give the world access to clean water and sanitation
- Fund basic education
- Fund healthcare in poorer countries
- Build affordable housing

And yet, the US wants to spend all of it on their military forces. Not only do they want to drop that much money on the defence budget they're going to take money away from the US education system to fund it. The republicans plan is to leave education up to the states and for it to have less burden on the federal government, I mean who needs education when you've got the biggest guns?! Did someone say the need for a gun is as a result of lacking something somewhere else? I digress...

The point is that while the US seems to be fighting a war in Iran it hasn't yet won despite all its military strength why does it need more money than ever before to fight wars that do not need to be fought?

The US king of war, Pete Hegseth has in the last day or so sacked three high ranking US generals, one of who was leading the Iranian conflict, but now? Boom, relieved of his duties, why is that? War not moving fast enough? Things not going as well as they had thought they would? Who knows but as the world suffers because of these warmongers beating their chests and demanding more than a trillion dollars to move onto the next war, we are the ones that really suffer, oh and the people who get killed with the military firepower, they don't like it very much either...what a fucking farce! \$1.5 trillion! And what a waste of money.

TIME FOR SOME BLOKES TO GROW UP

I fully admit that I have made some terrible decisions in my life that have fucked a lot of things up. The three vices I had were, booze, smoking cigarettes and women. A combination of the three saw me throw my life away more than once. Yes as an adult I had to come to terms with the issues I'd had as a kid, including abuse, neglect and lack of care and yes it took the help of my second wife to get me through but through I came!

In everything I had to face I never once played the mental health card, I never once played the victim, I never once blamed anyone but myself for the things I fucked up. I have never played the hero, don't want and have never wanted any kind of pat on the back for overcoming what I did it's always been about head down get sorted and bounce back. But look over at the blokes currently in the headlines for all the wrong reasons and how many of them play the victim when they've smacked the wife in the mouth? Said it wasn't my bag of coke? Couldn't take the responsibility for something offensive? Couldn't just take the blame for an indiscretion and blamed mental health issues?

The world is full of mental health organisations nowadays, full of tough guy courses for men wanting to finding themselves, full of motivational speakers who say it's 4am ice baths and journaling that will bring you back. Blokes do what you've got to do, be part of whatever organisation you want but stop bull shitting yourselves and those around you.

Mental health is a serious issue, especially at the moment, people are indeed struggling but to make real change in your life you have to be honest with yourself and you have to be the one who wants to change. Any addict will tell you it wasn't til they wanted to change did anything happen. For me, it wasn't til I was capable of acknowledging the past could I heal and change.

Go to rehab, talk to your mates, go on he-man courses, do whatever you've got to do to ensure change but don't bullshit yourself because if you do you may as well just go get another baggie and head for the party because you are fucked. Get real, stop bullshitting yourself and grow up, it's not rocket science and it's not easy but if you can do all three things you're on the path to becoming a better human.

THE CULTURE

The Solti Ring

In 1958 the greatest opera recording of all time began. It was Wagner's Ring Cycle, to be conducted by legendary conductor Georg Solti with the orchestra of the Vienna Philharmonic and to include the greatest Wagnerian Singers ever assembled for such a recording. In the control booth was legendary producer John Culshaw and the whole thing recorded in Vienna's Sofiensaal.

It took seven years to record the quartet of operas that if played or performed back to back makes up more than seventeen hours of music. Music that stirs the soul and takes the listener on a journey into the mystical world of the Rhinemaidens and Wagner himself.

Never before has such a cast of singers been brought together, Nielsen, Hotter, Wingassen, Frick, Sutherland, Fischer-Dieskau, King all brought to the Sofiensaal over the course of Eight years to record the epic masterpiece.

It was a recording that included the use of stereo for the first time and set the benchmark for all future recordings, it is still the benchmark today! The use of 18 anvils in the orchestra, the purpose made steer horns, the double tracking used by the Decca engineers and the time to produce a recording that was ahead of its time is staggering. Despite the obvious advancements in musical recording since the first of the ring cycle operas was done the Culshaw/Solti ring remains the best. Karajan, Bohm and countless others have also made recordings of the astonishing cycle but none have surpassed the standard of the Solti ring.

There is a 90 minute documentary on You Tube about the recording of the Solti ring and when you think about how long ago it was made and how it sounds it is testament to the vision and skill of everyone involved in making it a reality.

I always find it funny to think that as Brigit Nielsen and Georg Solti were busy recording one of the greatest opera cycles in the history of western music in 1965 and the Beatles were playing across the world. Obviously the Beatles never made it to Vienna's Sofiensaal to hear or be part of the recording but in a golden era of opera four lads from Liverpool were also redefining music and recording with another English in the booth, George Martin. Both Culshaw and Martin were perhaps unaware that they were designed studio crafted art. Art via Wagner and art via Lennon and McCartney.

If you get the chance watch the You Tube documentary it is staggering how long ago it was made and what the results are to this day. It was an era we will never see again but we are so lucky to have it with us now and into the future.



Jean Michel Basquiat at Sotheby's

Get ready, art lovers, because Sotheby's is about to shake the walls with the upcoming Jean-Michel Basquiat sale. Basquiat, the late Brooklyn-born wunderkind who fused street grit with high-art bravado, is back in the spotlight, reminding us why his canvas scribbles feel more alive than most museum walls ever will. His scrawled crowns, jagged figures, and cryptic words? Still as provocative, still as urgent, still devastatingly real and brutal.

The sale isn't just about numbers—though, let's be real, the numbers are stratospheric. Collectors are expected to throw down tens of millions for these pieces. But there's a thrill here that money can't fully capture: owning a fragment of that lightning-strike genius, a piece that screams 1980s downtown New York while somehow feeling timeless. Sotheby's has curated a selection that spans the feverish energy of his early work through to the more meditative later canvases, showing the evolution of a painter who was never content to sit still.

And here's the kicker—Basquiat's market isn't just hot; it's volcanic. Every new sale reinforces his status not only as a cultural icon but as an artist whose work refuses to be commodified quietly. It's a spectacle, a bidding war, a reminder that the street and the gallery can collide explosively.

So strap in. Whether you're a collector, a casual fan, or just someone who likes to say, "I saw it before it blew up," this Sotheby's sale is shaping up to be another legendary chapter in the Basquiat story. It must be said that it's highly likely Samo as he was known via the street art scene would shake his head at the money his paintings sell at. The issue I have with a painting like this selling for as much as it does, JMB wanted it for the people and not some soulless asshole who'll buy it and stick it away in a private collection. I think JMB would be embarrassed, but no matter his attitude we are sadly missing the man who brought street art and honesty to Sotheby's.

NEWS FROM A KID

States Horse Riding

Hi, welcome to the kids news at Hoodies. I'm a kid and this is the kids section where us kids get to write about things we have coming up and what we think about what's happening in the world. Today we're talking about States Horse riding, enjoy!

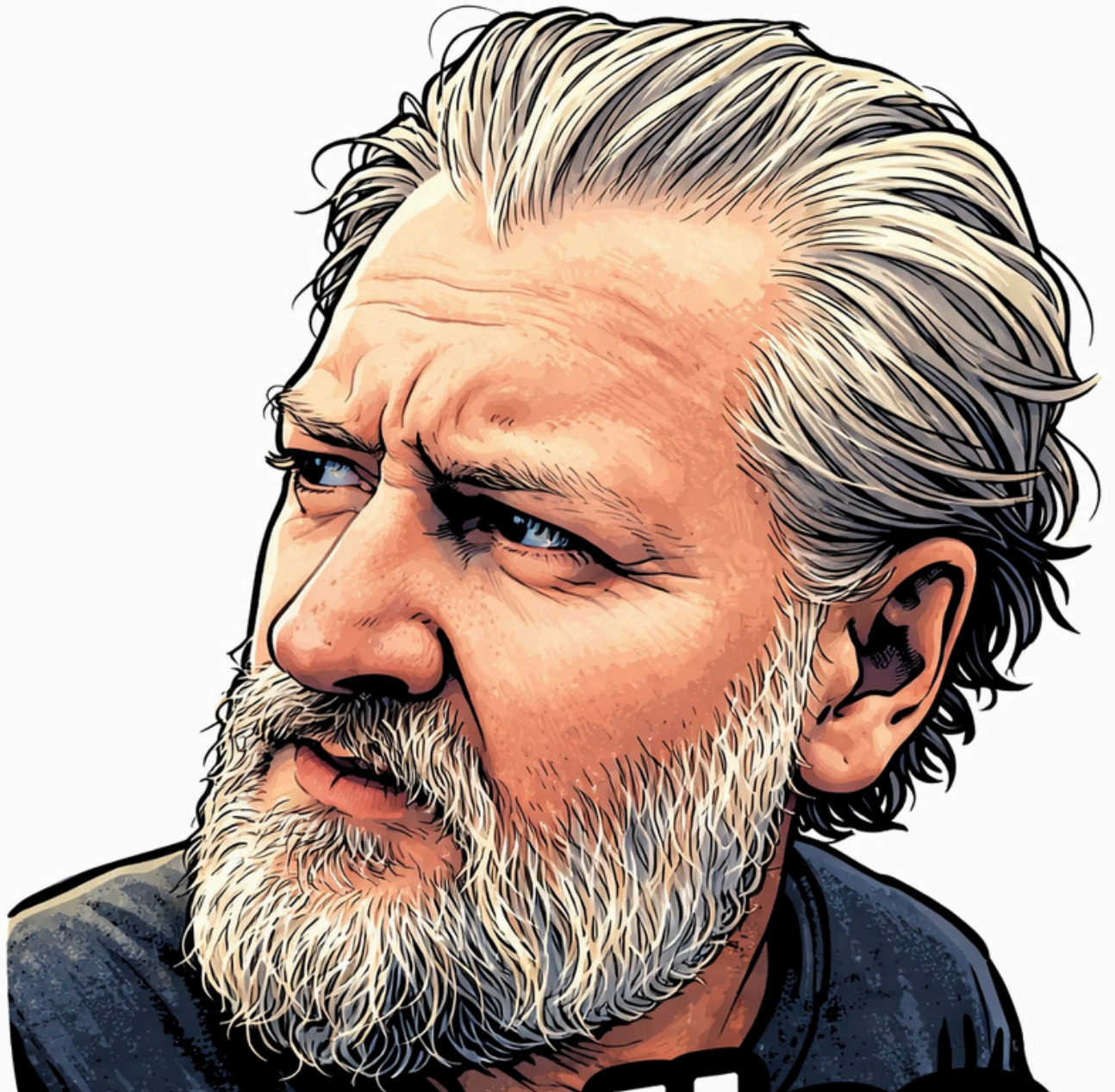
States Horse Riding is a really fun event even though this is my first time competing. It is kinda like a big championship in victoria for horse riding. This is how you qualify for states you do a smaller comp and if you get last or first you still qualify no matter waht you came.

At states all riders compete in diffrent events but lets say you do only show jumping that means your school dosen't get points so to get points you have to do to diffrent events like show jumping and dressarge that means your school gets points and the most school with the points wins the whole event.

Show Jumping is where your horse has to jump a course and you hope to get a clear round without knocking a pole. Dressarge is where you do a test not a school test it is a pattern around the arena and you get marked the highest score wins the round. Showing is were the horse and the rider presents how the ride and the horse.

States is not about winning ribbons (for me and maybe some other people or not) it is about having fun, making new freinds and learning more about horses. Us as riders take good care of our horses to make sure their clean, healthy and happy. Being apart of states is a big thing and it makes us proud of the horses and ourselves. States are this week, from Wednesday to Sunday so wish us all luck!





hoodies
media

WWW.HOODIESMEDIA.ORG