

Royal 'non-core' Abbott's poll cat struggle

By Bob Ellis

23 April 2014

[Yesterday's Morgan poll](#) (Labor 52-48 2PP) shows Abbott has lost some things that, even in the week of the visit of a future king to his beach and a game-changing deal with Japan, can't be got back.

It's the '[non-core promise](#)' factor, probably.

Gonski, NDIS, Medicare, the ABC and the Old Age Pension they [swore would be protected](#), are being trashed. The anxiety of the carers of the disabled, and everyone has a disabled relative, though gone for a while, is now sadistically restored. And the mistrust women, especially, feel for Abbott (he abandoned his pregnant bride-to-be and made her give up her newborn baby) will not now, ever, be allayed.

But there's also, I think, a 'cock-up' factor in play as well.

[Murder has occurred on Manus](#) and two killers are still on Immigration Minister [Scott Morrison](#)'s paid staff.

A sea-search for a crashed plane for six weeks has turned up nothing — not even a floating passport. [Money that has been spent](#) on this search could have saved Holden, and a quarter of a million livelihoods.

Amid [calls for 'shared sacrifice'](#), we learn that Assistant Treasurer Senator [Arthur Sinodinos](#) got a quarter of a million dollars for fifty hours work and was [promised twenty million more](#).

Amid boasts that 'the adults are now in charge' and 'leadership stability' was now the go, the Liberals changed premiers [in Victoria](#), [New South Wales](#) and Northern Territory and sacked the Treasurer — a former leader — in Western Australia.

Attorney-General [George Brandis](#) has [come out for bigotry](#) (88% of Australians think this is crazy) and

(Source: roymorgan.com)

The 55% of women that now vote Labor — or prefer it. The 51.5% of West Australians, the 53% of South Australians, the 53% of Queenslanders, the 55.5% of Victorians that now vote Labor — or prefer it.

This means, must mean, that the [Kevin07](#) votes are back and the relaxed and comfortable [Howardista](#) vote has been smashed, once again, by...?

called [climate science 'medieval'](#). [Cory Bernardi](#) has compared gay men with 'beasts' and Education Minister [Christopher Pyne](#) wants to write colonial brutality [out of our history](#).

And it's hard to overturn the perception of a sackful of struggling cats in a river.

[Bronwyn Bishop](#) is already [most lunatic Speaker](#) in our history.

Foreign Minister [Julie Bishop](#), after [former foreign minister Bob Carr's book](#), seems a cross-eyed, angry amateur.

[Treasurer Joe Hockey](#)'s quest for a surplus seems more and more a tilt at windmills, or the unleashing of a [loaded dog](#).

And so on.

It's not, though, easy to know what to do with all this.

Manus is tricky. The surplus has eluded better Treasurers. The 'direct action' absurdity has been [gazumped by Palmer](#)...

What could be done is a 'save ABC drama' [campaign](#) in a year when – although at its best and selling as never before overseas – it is marked, nonetheless, [for Hockey destruction](#). [Roxburgh](#) and [Blanchett](#) could address mass meetings, [Micallef](#), [Biggins](#), [Amanda Bishop](#) do a sketch on YouTube.

A '[save Medicare](#)' campaign, too, would have no enemies. [Bill Hayden](#), [Bob Hawke](#) and even [Gough](#) could be part of it.

On Anzac Day, it should be noted that [dead soldiers' children](#) are being duded of their money, and [traumatised veterans thieved](#) of their disability pensions, probably, if the droid [Erich Abetz](#) has his way.

There are things to do before the Budget sinks Hockey's credibility and Abbott's honesty once and for all. Not least of these is to assert that the

Opposition continues to be ahead, in all the polls, unchangingly.

And the Coalition is in 'leadership turmoil' and fighting – as always – like cats in a sack.

[Bob Ellis](#) *for a former Labor Party speechwriter.*

[form]3[/form]

[John Graham's art](#) is available for purchase by emailing [**editor@independentaustralia.net**](mailto:editor@independentaustralia.net). See a gallery of John's political art on his [Cartoons and Caricatures Facebook page](#).