

The West Australian



ROUGH SEAS, EH
REPORT PAGE 4

EXCLUSIVE BARBER SHOPS NEW FRONT IN TOBACCO WARS

SMOKE AND MIRRORS

CALEB RUNCIMAN

Australian Border Force has revealed barber shops and car dealerships are being used as a front for the sale of illicit cigarettes and vapes on our streets.

The new methods of distribution used by organised criminals have been revealed by the ABF after a week of inspections in WA netted more than 1.46 million illicit cigarettes. Authorities also seized near-

ly 200kg of loose-leaf tobacco, 990 cigars, 3360 nicotine pouches and more than 7900 vaping devices and accessories. WA Health inspectors applied for the temporary closure of 15 businesses and 59

persons of interest were identified. The national disruption group searched 45 outlets including barber shops in Perth and Margaret River and a rural property in Marginiup

where illicit tobacco products were found in a sea container. The group targeted two car yards in the Northern Territory as part of the operation.

FULL REPORT PAGE 10-11

STOKES AT HELM OF MEDIA GIANT

ADRIAN LOWE

The Stokes family has tightened its grip on the nation's biggest media company, with Ryan Stokes taking over as chairman of Southern Cross Media — owner of

West Australian Newspapers group. It comes just weeks after his father Kerry Stokes' private investment arm lifted its stake in the company to 23.2 per cent.

FULL REPORT PAGE 17



FREO BOOKED AND BUSY P4-5

HYSTERICAL JIM IN A SUPER SNIT

STEPHEN JOHNSON

Pauline Hanson says embattled Treasurer Jim Chalmers is "acting hysterically" after he claimed One Nation's plan to allow renters and home borrowers to

access a quarter of their super would leave Australians poorer. The scheme aims to help battlers deal with Australia's devastating cost-of-living crisis.

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