

Letters to the Age

Irony enshrined

IT WAS with interest that I learned that Justin Madden had vetoed the building of an 117-metre tower near the Shrine of Remembrance ("Move to protect Shrine integrity", *The Age*, 24/6). The reason he decided against the planned building was cultural.

There is some irony in the difference between that decision and his one in favour of the East Gippsland Shire Council's proposal to build an intrusive boat ramp and car park at Bastion Point, Mallacoota. The expert panel, which Madden's Government put in place, advised against this boat ramp for cultural, economic and environmental reasons.

It seems that there are more votes in Melbourne than in far East Gippsland. Or am I being cynical?

To a majority of Mallacoota residents, Bastion Point is a shrine too. A shrine to what is left untouched and beautiful in a world gone mad for short-term economic gain. It is one of the reasons tourists flock to our town every Christmas and Easter.

Libby Greig, Mallacoota