

CAWB

Community Action for Windsor Bridge

MEDIA RELEASE

3 March 2012



THOMPSON SQUARE CONCERT A TRIUMPH

The weather was no deterrent to the at least 700 people who, despite the rain, thronged Thompson Square, Windsor throughout the day on Sunday to add their voices to the swelling chorus of anger directed at the NSW Government over plans to permanently damage the heritage values of the oldest town square in Australia.

A brilliant line-up of musicians came together to support the cause and entertain the crowd and despite the seriousness of the issues, the entire event was a wonderful testament to community spirit and the talented musicians who so generously donated their time.

Jim Moginie (Ex Midnight Oil) and his Irish band wowed the crowd with a lively mix of trad Irish music. Ex-Crow member Peter Fenton chose the concert to launch a previously unseen line up of musicians who he dubbed "Peter Fenton and the Thompson Square Rebellion", while local musical acts A Girls a Gun, Woodford, Caitlin Harnett, Imogen Clark and Wild Honey bore testament to a strong history of musical talent in the Hawkesbury. Woodford's first live rendition of Two Lane Bridge was greeted with great excitement and all joined in when Nick Woodford encouraged them to sing the chorus.

Anne-Maree Whitaker, President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, spoke of the significance of the Square and to the delight and endorsement of the audience, read an oath of allegiance to this historic place.

CAWB Speaker, Kate Mackaness reflected on her employment as the Ministerial Heritage advisor to the former government.

"The decision to put a halt to Option One was a reflection of the very clear advice the Heritage Council of NSW were providing to the Minister. The RTA were asked to provide more reasonable alternatives and more reliable costing estimates," she says.

Ms Mackaness says she initially assumed the incoming government, once they had access to all the information, had also decided Option One was untenable adding, "I was truly shocked when in 2012 I realised the project was being pursued by the O'Farrell Government."

It was a newsletter put out by the Member for Hawkesbury that alerted her to the resuscitation of a project she considered "justifiably dead and buried".

CAWB Chairman Dail Miller thanked the musicians as well as the crowd for their support and made particular mention of the CAWBies who have continuously occupied a corner of Thompson Square 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The four hour, round the clock shifts are a powerful symbol of resistance and a rallying point for the mounting community anger towards the State Government over this matter.

For more information:

Media Contact: Anna Hope
(0414-495742)

or check out our Facebook page:

[CAWB - Save Windsor from the
RTA](#)