

NEWS

Petition opportunity knocks

by Anna Yeo

A MOVE by group Community Action for Windsor Bridge (CAWB) to use the International Sand Sculpting Competition as a way to boost signatures for a petition against the new Windsor Bridge proposal, has frustrated some local residents.

Members of CAWB have been attending the sand sculpting, encouraging visitors to sign their petition against the RTA's bridge proposal which crosses the Hawkesbury River from Wilberforce Road and connects with Bridge Street.

The group's website www.cawb.weebly.com also encourages people to attend the competition to sign their petition.

The group believes the construction of the bridge would destroy the fabric of Thompson Square and have a negative impact on local business.

Former Hawkesbury councillor Ted Books said he approached a member of CAWB about the petition on Saturday, and said he was angered to see members of the group taking signatures from "out of towners".

"It is a community issue and they should be looking for signatures from local residents," Mr Books said.

"If they canvassed local people I think they would find more people are for the proposal than against it."

Mr Books was instrumental in having the Windsor Road end of the project raised from 3.5m to 4.5m to allow for roads and access to the river underneath.

He believes the current proposal is the only option, and believes Thompson Square will benefit from the construction, as too would local business.

"Thompson Square wo-

uld be restored to what it should be, a square," Mr Books said.

"It would also help the viability of Windsor Town Centre, which is struggling at the moment."

Heart of the Hawkesbury member and event organiser Michael Milman said they weren't aware of CAWB's plans to use the sand sculpting competition to gain signatures, but allowed democracy to rule.

"It's not that Heart of the Hawkesbury supports what this group is trying to achieve, more that we support their right for a democracy," Mr Milman said.

Windsor Business Group member, Max Jarman said the Windsor Bridge proposal was the only way to go.

He feared that without it Windsor would die.



Option 1 and stage two preliminary design from the TRA.