

CFMEU BAN ON DEMOLITION OF "THE SETTLEMENT"

CFMEU CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY

The Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) was recently approached by local residents and people traditionally associated with the Settlement Neighbourhood Centre, located in Edward Street, Chippendale, to place a ban on the demolition of the centre.

The Settlement was established in the 1920s. Its objectives were humanitarian – essentially to provide support and assistance to low income and disadvantaged people. The Settlement owned six houses, six units and a Hall, providing low income housing and the Community Centre. The Hall has become a social and cultural hub for the area's aboriginal community.

The Management Committee of the Settlement were intent on selling all of the properties and relocating to Cope Street, Redfern. With the Settlement having provided community services over an 80 year period, many people were opposed to its relocation.

It was alleged that the reasons for relocation had more to do with increasing real estate values than improving community access. There were solutions to the problems confronting the Settlement other than selling, but these were disregarded by the Management Committee of the Settlement.

On Tuesday 14th June 2004, in the face of angry supporters of the Settlement, the Management Committee resigned or were voted out of office. The CFMEU has offered its assistance to the new Management Committee in the renovation and repair of the Settlement buildings.

The CFMEU often faces prosecutions and fines for standing up for workers and the community. The Howard Government is not just seeking to lower the minimum wage and take away award protections that have existed for decades for millions of workers, but also to smash strong unions like the CFMEU.

Show your support for the Australian workers and unions like the CFMEU who are under attack from the Howard Government, and support our green bans by attending the Unions NSW Community Concert on August 7 at Sydney Olympic Park from 11.00am to 2.00pm.

Also support the CFMEU red and green ban on the demolition of Redfern Oval. Send a protest email to Clover Moore – go to:

www.cfmeu-construction-nsw.com/takeactionsupportredfernoval.htm