

APIA ON THE BRINK

by KATE WOODS

SYDNEY'S oldest Italian club has launched a last-minute bid to avoid being shut down next month.

Administrators appointed to the financially-embattled APIA Club at Leichhardt will put a resolution to wind up the club to a meeting of creditors on March 8.

However, a meeting of more than 700 people on

Community bid to save Italian club

Sunday pledged to work to save the club, which is \$6-\$8 million in debt.

State Labor MLC Franca Arena said the club's bank and the Marconi Club in Fairfield had been asked to come to APIA's rescue.

Italian-Australian Associations have also promised financial support.

There are fears that if the club is forced to close, its waterfront site, beside Iron Cove, will be sold and developed for housing.

Spokesman for administrators William Buck Chartered Accountants, David Young, said there had been a long, drawn-out battle to save the club.

Clash looming at airport rally

A SHOWDOWN is looming between lobby groups fighting for and against the development of Badgerys Creek airport at Sunday's Sydney Airport cavalcade.

Anti-Badgerys Creek protesters are considering galloping the Coalition of Councils' rally. Local residents have been urged to turn out in force at the cavalcade, to leave the Tempe Reserve at 10am led by banner-waving marchers and council vehicles.

Fairfield Residents Against Airport Noise spokesman Peter Cork said FRAAN and a coalition of western Sydney groups were considering a "stoush" at the event.

The campaigners have criticised Marrickville mayor Barry Cotter as "shockingly greedy and selfish" for calling for the new airport to be built immediately.

A flyer from Mr Cotter - also the Coalition of Councils chairman - urges residents to join the rally to send a clear message to "Build Badgerys Creek".

"Badgerys Creek Airport can be built by 2001 and become Sydney's major airport," it says.

He says it will be a real and long-term solution to the noise problems at Sydney Airport.



Glody Thybingoomba, from Cape York, at Glebe Public School

A journey from the Cape to Glebe

Photo: PHIL BLATCH

GLEBE Public School students got an insight into a unique region thousands of miles from their schoolyard when the Cape York Roadshow came to town this week. The group was spreading its support for an agreement signed last week between pastoralists, Aborigines and environmentalists.

The Cape York Land Use Agreement aims to see most of the area declared a world heritage zone - owned and managed by Aborigines while giving security to the pastoral industry.

Prime Minister Paul Keating also announced on Sunday the Federal Government would spend \$40 million over four years to help Aboriginal communities buy back land in the region. The Opposition has matched the pledge.

Traditional land owners from the Hopevale, Aurukun and Bamaga areas visited. Elder Gordon Pablo, of the Wuthathi people, said it was important to preserve the Cape.