

Quirky village lies at heart of Kings Cross

Kings Cross licensees complaining about the new alcohol legislation should realise that they brought it on themselves after years of pushing for more bars, more clubs, more patrons and longer hours, inevitably exposing locals and visitors to all-night anti-social behaviour and alcohol-related violence in this tiny postage-stamp suburb of Potts Point, home to tens of thousands of residents ("Local traders fear losses on 'biggest night of the year'," March 1-2).

If Sydney really needs a 24-hour entertainment precinct (I can't see what's entertaining about a young girl sitting in the gutter, spewing over herself, at 3am) we have two: Darling Harbour and the Entertainment Quarter at Moore Park, both with masses of space, viable transport options and, most importantly, fewer residents to impact.

Hopefully, Barry O'Farrell's legislation is the first step in restoring some order and normality to Kings Cross, which might again become a quirky and liveable village with a big heart, without its current status of "Village of the Damned".

Patrick McGrath Potts Point

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