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# SING FOR YOUR SUBURB



Newtown Neighbourhood Centre staff get the band back together.

Picture: JOHN APPELYARD

**KIM SHAW**

NEWTOWN Neighbourhood Centre is calling on musicians, filmmakers and songwriters with only three chords but good intentions to enter the Sydneyvision Song Contest. The contest, now in its second year, pits suburb against suburb to find the winning Song of Sydney.

Last year's Sydneyvision uncovered an astounding depth of talented people who raided their wardrobes to comply with the compulsory signature sequins. This year, participants will also have to discard an item of clothing during the performance.

Organiser Ken Saunders said the idea was to maintain the high cultural standard set by Eurovision.

"It should add greater artistic depth to the performances," Saunders said. "A study of Eurovision entries from 2004-2008 revealed a 63 per cent clothing discard rate by performers - mostly vests, shirts or

## LAST YEAR'S WINNER

**DYAN Tai** won the inaugural Sydneyvision Song Contest with his original song; *Why Sydney*. Dyan Tai, of Newtown, plays keytar and is forging ahead with a career as a pop singer. Watch Dyan Tai's *Why Sydney* on YouTube



cloaks. No one removed a sock while singing.

"Organisers feel Sydney is ready to take on the Europeans in that crucial 'flung clothing' category." To enter, contestants submit a video of an original song featuring the name of a

Sydney suburb in the lyrics. This year, can Denistone East rise to the challenge? Will someone sing the Song of Stanmore? The Ballad of Belmore?

Fourteen finalists will screen at the Sydneyvision Grand Final at Dendy

Newtown on September 14 where the winning song will be chosen.

"For too long, Eurovision has had the field to itself," Saunders said. "For half a century, the world has watched French balladeers, Romanian heart throbs and unicycle-riding

## STYLE CRITERIA

THE song must have at least one performer do one of the following:

- Wear sequins
- Wink shamelessly at the camera
- Throw off one article of clothing

## OUTSTANDING

SEE last year's Sydneyvision Song Contest entry by The Tsars, called Newtown on YouTube. The Tsars are an electric duo fusing Russian folk rock with German post retro trance. Newtown is the backdrop for this carnal serenade dedicated to the many women chased in The Tsars' personal history.

flute players from Lithuania in open jawed amazement.

"Now Sydney is answering back."

To enter visit [newtowncentre.org](http://newtowncentre.org) Entries close August 22.