

# The Daily News tonight

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NATAL'S ONLY DAILY ARTS AND LEISURE MAGAZINE

## Local musos go to war

By FAROOK KHAN

**W**ITH jobs on the line in the Durban music industry following a crackdown on clubs which has affected several popular night spots, a determined move is now being made to find solutions in a battle for survival.

A meeting of musicians, club owners, agents, managers, professional and amateur entertainers, DJ's, sound and lighting technicians is to be held at the Community Arts Workshop on Monday night at 8 pm.

Spearheading the move is musician and record producer David Marks and a group of other musicians. Some of them have already lost their jobs following the banning of live music in several clubs in the city after the crackdown by the Liquor Licencing Board.

Mr Marks said unless a major move was made now to address the issue, music at most clubs could be wiped out, leaving hundreds of people without jobs.

"We need everybody, regardless of race or colour to come to the meeting at which we hope to form an association and from there we will move to tackle the red tape which is killing our livelihood," said Mr Marks.

He said that it was clear that the liquor laws were outdated and needed to be changed otherwise the entertainment industry would suffer.

"We want an organisation which will look after the job interests of those in the entertainment field and to clear obstacles which are preventing us from getting work," said Mr Marks.

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## Committee to oppose sections of Liquor Act that hit musicians

Daily News Reporter

A 12-MEMBER committee was elected in Durban last night to oppose certain sections of the Liquor Act that effectively bar musicians from performing in licensed clubs.

A number of clubs have been hit by a police crackdown recently and about 200 musicians and members of allied fields met at the Community Arts Workshop to plot a campaign to get the laws changed where necessary.

They will also draw up a constitution that will lead to the formation of an all-race organisation to fight for their rights and to create job opportunities.

In the line-up is University of Natal music lecturer Darius Brubeck, Legal Resources lawyer Peter Rutsch, and musicians Steve Fataar and Dave Marks.

A Durban city councillor will be co-opted to the committee, which will take the plight of musicians to civic, provincial and Government levels.

Also on the committee are restaurant-owner Lou Gottini, Community Arts Workshop official Sean Greggs, musician Mark Townsend, lawyer Mark Harris and music personalities Mario Monteregge, Vic Schultz, Colin Muller and Peter Gardener.

The committee is to investigate those sections of the Liquor Act that virtually prohibit musicians from performing at licensed premises. It will produce a blueprint for action to break the bar and to report back at a general meeting of people from the music industry.

One of the prime figures behind the movement, Mr Dave Marks, said that 80 percent of all South African commercial music came from Natal.

He said three clubs had been affected by National Liquor Board laws: Speak Easy, Funky's and Yazoo's.