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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOWLER'S LIVE to Live Longer!**

Adelaide's original live music venue, Fowler's Live, has announced a lease extension that will see the venue continue to operate in its current location until June 2018.

Arts South Australia had previously advised Fowler's Live to close in 2017, but has since agreed to the additional period following lengthy negotiations prompted by the Premier, Jay Weatherill.

Since October 2014, Fowlers Live have been given a series of short term extensions as other developments had not progressed as planned. Due to the impression that it would imminently close, Fowlers Live suffered damage to its operations for the last two years. Whilst Darwin welcomed the extension, it has been a fruitless 24 months trying to locate an alternative site.

"We are committed to try to find another location, but are disheartened by the fact the government, whilst promoting its credentials as a leader in fostering live music, has chosen to reallocate Fowler's Live to other uses when it's so uniquely suited to live original music and the all ages audience," says Peter Darwin operator of Fowler's Live.

Darwin added that it was not a debate around 'his' business, but was centred on the likely closure of one of only a few venues across the country that almost exclusively ran licensed all ages events of live music, and played an integral part in audience development.

"It is not an argument about my or any individual's business activities, it is about catering to an extremely important audience to teach them about live music and all that goes with it, which very few venues cater to," Darwin continued.

Darwin has been involved in the industry since 1979 and has operated Fowler's Live since 2003 with his partner Michelle Haynes. They have both played important roles in establishing SAMIA now Music SA, The National Campus Band Competition, The Fowlers Live Music Awards, Bands on Track at Clipsal 500 and operated sites for numerous events such as AC/DC, Rolling Stones and Handpicked Festival.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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