

The club held a presentation night last week for the "measure and release" competition to support the future of fishing. More photos and report, Page 17 >>

# Q&A to broadcast from Garmma

By ANDREW HARRISON

THE Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Q&A panel discussion show may broadcast live from this year's Garmma Festival, the festival organisers confirmed.

The Garmma Festival, which is organised by the Darwin-based Yothu Yindi Foundation, is held on a site about 40km south-east of Nhulunbuy, and scheduled to run from August 1 to 4.

The program's broadcast would be a big boost for the area and spotlight Indigenous affairs on a national scale.

The Garmma Festival is a colourful and vibrant

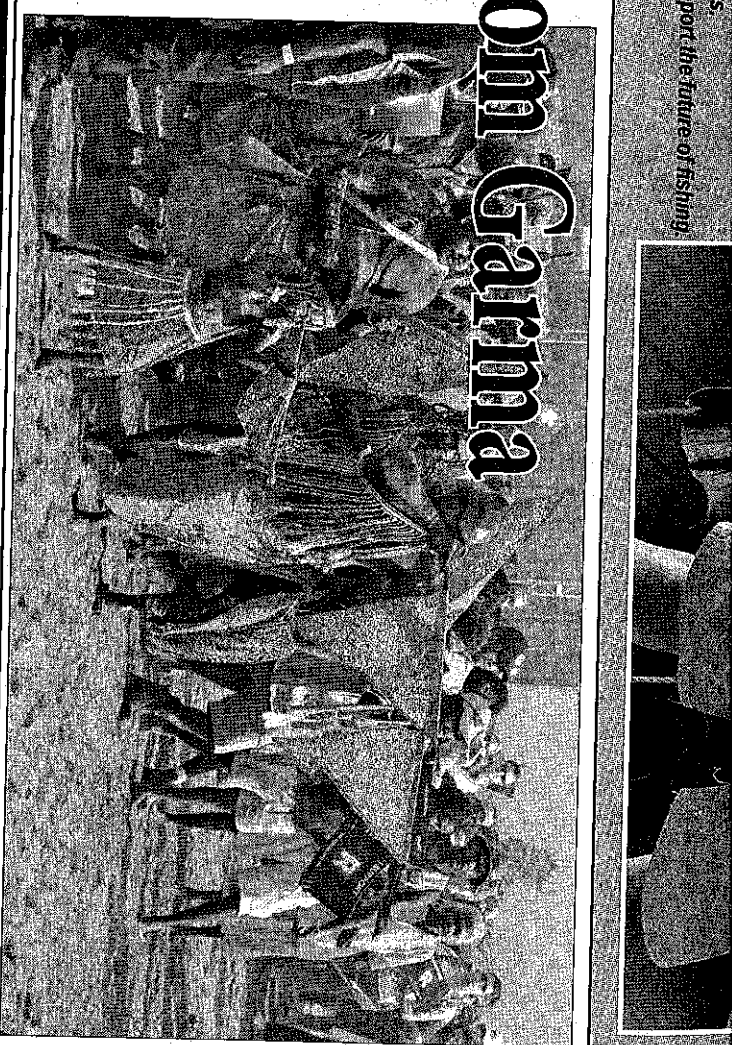
event held on a ceremonial site in a stringybark forest, which flowers in August, on the Dhuupuna escarpment where the Yolgnu have danced "from the beginning of time".

Yothu Yindi Foundation general manager Denise Bowden confirmed the group was in tentative talks with the ABC and no final terms or partnership agreement had been made.

She declined further comment as not to skew the talks.

Q&A's producers were approached several times for comment, but did not return phone calls left at their Sydney office.

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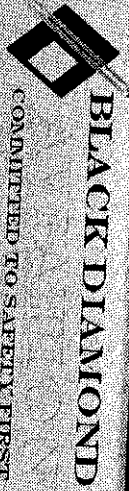
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the  
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# Q&A to broadcast from Garmna

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It would be a logistical challenge to the public broadcaster, which has beamed the program previously from Indonesia and China, and will involve about 50 staff, a person familiar with the project said.

Its producers would call on the ABC's Darwin bureau to would help supply vehicles and filming equipment, while the panel and the presenter, usually Tony Jones or Virginia Trolli, who has filled in for Jones while he was on break, would be flown in to Nhulunbuy for the August program.

Indigenous affairs and other current events.  
Garmna is a model for Indigenous self-determination, reconciliation, knowledge sharing and exchange.  
Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians experience and are directly involved in displays of cultural practice and cross-cultural learning.  
It incorporates visual art, story telling, dance and music, as well as other important forums and education and training programs relevant to cultural tourism, craft, governance and youth leadership.  
Previous festival have had astronomy sessions, fireside chats, workshops, and song and dance.

Q&A, which premiered in May 2008, is broadcast on ABC1 and follows a similar format to *Question Time* on BBC and *Questions and Answers* on Irish public television.  
It generally features a panel of five public figures, usually including politicians from each of the major federal parties (the ALP and Coalition) as well as minor party politicians, media personalities and celebrities.  
The panel answers questions provided by viewers and the studio audience.  
Anyone wishing to be in the audience can fill in a form on the program's website, which as well as asking for contact details,

asks some questions relating to the applicant's political views to help "select a diverse and well-balanced audience".  
The program has been criticised by some elements of the media for views expressed by its guest panelists, the nature of the questions asked by audience members and the failure to disclose identity and political affiliations that some audience members asking questions of the panelists may hold.  
Criticism has been made in particular that the program presents "a distorted view of Australia" and that the show courts the type of panelists who state falsehoods and the show's host fails to intervene to correct such statements.



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## Beware: Crocs caught near town

RESIDENTS are warned that crocodiles are still on the move.

Two crocs were caught in the past two weeks by rangers working with the Parks and Wildlife service, said Dhimurru sea country facilitator Vanessa Drysdale.

She said the crocs, which were less two metres long, were caught at Galarru (East Woody Beach) and Ganyangara (Ski Beach). In Darwin they actively trap crocs too close to resident areas and in the harbour.

In Nhulunbuy Dhimurru, which is responsible for the management of wildlife in the region, does not have the resources to undertake a full-time croc trapping program, Ms Drysdale said.

Ms Drysdale reassured residents there were more injuries cause by buffalo attack in the Nhulunbuy region than crocs and Dhimurru also was involved in a buffalo culling management program.

People across the Top End are reminded to remain vigilant about all waterways as there are estimated to be 100,000 crocodiles in the NT.

Ms Drysdale said Dhimurru relied on the public to inform it of marauding crocs.  
"There is no room for complacency when it comes to crocodiles in our waterways," she said.  
"Crocodiles can move about and you must always assume that any waterway is a potential croc habitat."