

Media Release **No. 414**

For immediate release 16 November 2011

PORUMA COMMUNITY CELEBRATES LAUNCH OF NEW CD/DVD

Members of the Poruma Island community and invited guests will celebrate the launch of a new CD and DVD package next Monday, 28 November on Poruma Island.

Coinciding with a Choir Quest and Cultural and Leadership Development workshop, the launch represents a significant event in the island's community calendar.

The recordings, titled '*Poruma Ngaulai*', showcase the unique traditional and contemporary music and dance of the island and are the eighth CD/DVD package to be produced by Pegasus Studios through the support of the Torres Strait Regional Authority's (TSRA) Music and Dance Audit.

This successful initiative, which began in 2007 with support from the TSRA and Arts Queensland, has to date produced recordings of music and dance from the majority of Torres Strait Island communities, including Iama, Mabuig, Warraber, Badu, Erub, Boigu, the Inner Western Islands of Thursday Island, Horn, Hammond and Prince of Wales Islands and now Poruma.

The Music and Dance Audit is an ongoing cultural maintenance project and is part of the TSRA's Culture Art and Heritage program. The Audit relies on the participation and guidance of Torres Strait Island community members in selecting and performing traditional and contemporary music and dance to feature on the CD/DVDs.

The recordings become valuable archival resources for communities, with each participating community receiving at least 100 copies of the produced CD/DVD. They are also available to the public for purchase, with all proceeds of the CD/DVD packages reinvested in the project, ensuring continuity.

'Poruma Ngaulai: Music and Dance from Poruma, Torres Strait' will be available for purchase through the Gab Titui Gallery Shop from December 2011.

ENDS

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