



## Memorial to honour Chooky Dancers creator

A memorial service will be held tomorrow for the man considered the father of music in north-east Arnhem Land, who died late last month aged in his late 50s.

Frank Garrawirtja was the man behind the Chooky Dancers' "Zorba the Greek" performance, which became a YouTube hit watched by more than 1.3 million internet viewers.

The service will be held at Galiwinku on Elcho Island in the Northern Territory.

Mr Garrawirtja will be remembered as a founding member of the Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association.

Dr Joe Gumbula, a relative of Mr Garrawirtja's, says he was well-known as part of music group The Soft Sands, which wrote songs about land rights in the 1980s, paving the way for acts like Yothu Yindi.

Dr Gumbula says his friend will also be remembered for his work in improving the health of Aboriginal people.

"He was an icon for Indigenous north-east Arnhem Land," he said.

"He knew about what the outside mainstream was all about.

"So he was really keen on things like music and radio especially became a main target for him to understand the music from the outside world."

Mr Garrawirtja filmed the Chooky Dancers' "Zorba the Greek" performance and posted it on YouTube.

His son is the lead dancer in the group.

## Saturday 19 September is National Babies' Day

Most Australians have been touched in some way by the miscarriage, still-birth or premature of a child – whether through supporting a friend or family member, or through their own personal experience.

One in every four pregnancies ends in a loss. One in every 20 babies is born prematurely. National Babies' Day on Saturday 19 September is the annual national fundraising event for the Bonnie Babes Foundation ([www.bonniebabes.org.au](http://www.bonniebabes.org.au)) a charity that helps 17,000 families every year through support materials and a 24/7 grief counselling service, as well as raising millions of dollars to fund vital research and purchase medical equipment. Just like Mother's Day or Father's Day, National Babies' Day celebrates the lives of healthy happy children and also remembers those that have left us too soon.

National Babies' Day raises much needed funds to help reduce the loss of almost 70,000 babies in Australia every year, and to provide better care and quality of life for babies born prematurely, struggling for survival in intensive care. Events are being conducted across Australia during September to raise funds for the Bonnie Babes Foundation and the event is proudly supported by Target. For more information or to get involved, visit [www.bonniebabes.org.au](http://www.bonniebabes.org.au) or e-mail [enquiry@bonniebabes.org.au](mailto:enquiry@bonniebabes.org.au)



## Our Jessica's secret Darwin boy revealed

*THE mystery behind Jessica Mauboy's new man is a secret no more.*

*The Northern Territory News can reveal the Territory R'n'B sensation's new blue-eyed beau is Darwin soccer player Themeli "Magoo" Magripilis.*

The 20-year-old Greek boy, who plays for northern soccer league's Hellenic - the same club that Mauboy's younger sister Sophie plays for - was coy about the relationship when contacted yesterday.

"I could be," he said when asked if he was the lucky man to capture Mauboy's heart.

When the Northern Territory News asked: "Does that mean you are not denying it?" he laughed



*EYES HAVE IT: The NT's own Jessica Mauboy with her new beau Themeli Magripilis, who didn't even know who she was when they first met*

before politely saying he had to go because he was at work.

His mother said her son was dating but would not confirm it was Our Jess.

"I know he's got a

friend," she said.

Mauboy told the Sunday Territorian, sister paper to the Northern Territory News, earlier this month that she wanted to keep her "Darwin boy" a secret.

But she did reveal the

young man to take her fancy didn't even know who she was when they met and that she loved his piercing blue eyes.

"With everybody wanting to know who he is, he is a bit scared," Mauboy said.

"He is the mysterious boy - there are some things that you just have to keep a secret.

"He is a good friend and a great boyfriend. I think as an artist, you need someone like that - especially in this industry."

But it is important not to get Mauboy's new love confused with his older cousin, who not only shares the same name but also lives - and plays soccer - in Darwin.

Her beau's cousin, a star goal keeper for Olympic, is serving a 15-game suspension at the moment for his involvement in last year's grand final brawl.

The Australian Idol alumni recently returned to Darwin to kick back with her family and friends.

The singer's quick rise to fame continued on the weekend, when it was announced she will support pop star Beyonce when she tours the country later this year.

Mauboy's signing on to the Bootylicious babe's September shows follows news she will also play with rapper Flo Rida when he too visits Australia around the same time.

*Article from Northern Territory News*

## 13 sold out shows, 5700 entertained audience members, 12 dedicated actors, 1 writer

When Bulldog Theatre was founded almost three and a half years ago the success that it is now was completely unexpected. Starting in a 40 seat venue with their first play, *The Negotiating Table*, Bulldog Theatre has recently brought the curtain down on their latest production, *Alex and Eve - The Wedding*, with what seemed to be a nonstop run at a 400 seat venue, *The Factory Theatre*.

Originally scheduled for a run of only 8 shows, the cast were stunned when all shows sold out before they even

had a chance to set foot on stage for opening night prompting a series of extensions to the run, ending up with a total of 13 sold out shows.

"The most important thing for us is the audience," said Alex Lykos. "We were amazed when the shows started selling out like they did and it prompted each of us to work harder to be worthy of that. We're in a climate where people are watching every penny so for them to put down their money to come and see our show meant a great deal and we take

some comfort that we seem to have kept our promise and created a show that is entertaining people to the point where they're coming back 2, even 3 times and bringing their friends."

So have you missed your chance to see the multicultural comedy that everyone is talking about? Not yet, Bulldog Theatre recently announced that they are going out with a bang, 2 shows at the Enmore Theater on Saturday the 1st (8.00pm) and Saturday the 2nd (5.00pm) of August.