CHIEF MINISTER TO ATTEND BARUNGA FESTIVAL

8 June 2013

Chief Minister Adam Giles will today travel to Barunga to officially open this year’s festival.

“Barunga Festival is the Territory’s top Aboriginal community cultural, music and sporting event and I am proud to be part of it,” Mr Giles said.

“Now in its 28th year, the Barunga Festival brings together different communities and attracts visitors from all walks of life to enjoy the dancing ceremonies, great music and sport.

“Barunga has been re-energised by new festival directors and Territory music promoters Skinnyfish Music.

“By bringing to the Top End quality headline acts like Gurrumul and John Butler, it is proof that the largest remote community festival in Australia continues to grow in stature.

“The festival provides a great platform for showcasing modern and traditional music to celebrate individual stories and passions for this land.

“Barunga also brings together different communities sharing many skills and local knowledge.

Barunga holds a special place in Aboriginal culture in that it was at this festival in 1988 that former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke vowed that his government would enter into a treaty with Indigenous Australians by 1990.

Because the treaty was not realised, it prompted iconic Territory band Yothu Yindi to compose the worldwide hit “Treaty”.

Media contact:

Lauren Crawley 0417 145 050

www.nt.gov.au
GPO Box 3146, Darwin NT 0801