

Fogarty dies at his home in Kulaluk

A prominent Aboriginal land rights activist has died at his Kulaluk home.

Mr Frederick Fogarty, 53, was found dead on the beach 30 m from Fish Camp on Sunday.

Darwin Police believe he died of natural causes.

Mr Fogarty, a Queensland-born Aborigine, became a public figure in the early 1970s during a battle to save Kulaluk from urban subdivision.

He was jailed for several months on charges arising from an altercation between local people and the contractors.

While in Fannie Bay jail he became the subject of a "Free Fred Fogarty" campaign by his supporters.

Mr Fogarty was a prominent campaigner on many land rights and mining issues.



Mr Fogarty

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NT News, 1st April, 1985, page 2.

FRED FOGARTY

In April this year, Fred Fogarty, 53, died suddenly in Darwin. Fred, though born in Dalby, Queensland, had been for some 20 years a leader in the partially successful fight for Aboriginal rights to the Kaluluk land on the north side of Darwin.

Fred used to write in that wonderful newsletter, "Bunji", which was the voice of the Gwalwa Daraniki association. It was one of the best newsletters I have ever read, if not the best. Edited by Bill Day, "Bunji" was unrelentingly militant but always in simple, straightforward, everyday language - and economically produced. Pity it closed last year.

Some readers will remember a campaign for Fred's release from jail in 1974 after he was sentenced to 6 months for trying to drive a developer off the Kaluluk land. He was released with other prisoners when Cyclone Tracy blew down the old Fanny Bay jail.

Mary and I and Michael enjoyed Fred and Violet's hospitality out at Kaluluk among the mangroves in 1978. Like most good rebels, Fred had a good sense of humour. Farewell to a noble Australian.

By Val Noone

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IN MEMORIAM

FRED Fogarty - Goodbye friend
Margaret Gillespie.
Vince Leveridge.
Des Waderton.
Dick Borton.

FRED Fogarty was one of the NT's great characters. The Aboriginal people have lost a true Land Rights fighter. Fred will be remembered when developers and miners are long forgotten. Bob Domm, Melbourne.

FRED Fogarty lives! Iron may bend and wood may break, but memories they cannot take. Always, Bill.

Right: NT News, 3 April, 1985, page 30; NT News, 10 April, 1985, page 37.