



BLACK INK PRESS

MEDIA RELEASE

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The latest book from Black Ink Press has arrived, bringing a taste of the Torres Strait to the mainland.

Our Pet Pelican is story by Carol Mooka, vividly illustrated by her sister Laura Mooka. Set on Prince of Wales Island where they grew up, it is a true-life adventure.

Plans are to launch this beautiful new book on the afternoon of Saturday November 3 starting at noon. Supporters are invited to help Black Ink Press and the artists' talented families launch the book at the Riverway Amphitheatre.

Thanks to the support of Thuringowa City Library and Pinnacles Gallery there will be plenty to enjoy for individuals and families: free lunch and a variety of dance and song performances by Western Blue, and swimming too.

Copies of the book are for sale and the writer and illustrator will both be there to sign books. Laura will make a rare visit from her Island home for the occasion.

AQIS, part of the Federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, supported the cost of publishing the book. Information about bird diseases is included, and all Torres Strait schools will get a copy.

Andrew Moss of AQIS Northern Australia Quarantine Service said "there is definitely a strong public quarantine message in this story about an area at the front line of Australian Quarantine."

Black Ink Press coordinator Jeanie Adams described the collaboration of this publication as a publisher's delight.

"These two very talented artists have used their skills to create a wonderful book for old and young. It has suspense, character, and a recognisable setting. The distinctive lifestyle is conveyed in local Creole dialogue," said Ms Adams.

Writer Carol Mooka said, "I feel I owe my education to a love of reading, so improving opportunities for Indigenous literacy is one of my goals in life."

Black Ink Press is a small Indigenous publishing venture, a part of the Congress Community Development and Education Unit Ltd (CCDEU) in Townsville. It specializes in illustrated books for Indigenous youth.

Books can be purchased from good book stores everywhere.

Media requiring further information or images of the book and its authors can contact Jeanie Adams at info@blackinkpress.com.au 07 47735077.

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