

# Negotiations give birth to Bandjin reefs north-east of Cardwell



**Reg Ward**

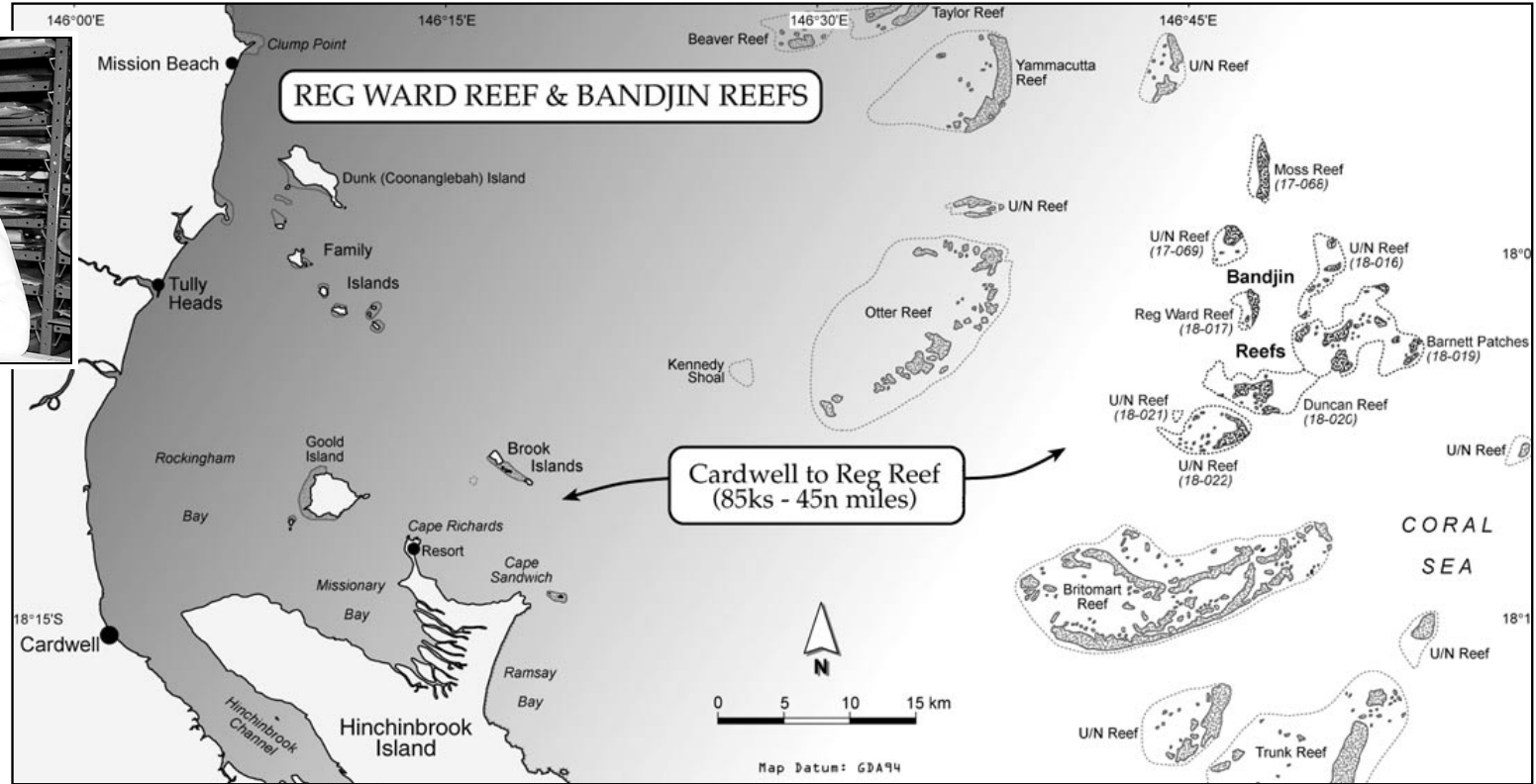
By JOHN ANDERSEN

THE Bandjin Reefs were born yesterday.

The previously unnamed group of reefs, 85km north-east of Cardwell, was given the collective name, Bandjin, yesterday. The naming followed lengthy negotiations between Cardwell's indigenous community and State and Federal Government departments.

Also named was the Reg Ward Reef, one of eight reefs in the Bandjin group.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority executive director, Gregor Manson, said the late Reg Ward had been a navigator and proprietor of The Navigation



Centre in South Townsville's Palmer Street. He said Mr Ward had always been highly respected by merchant seamen and was honoured posthumously last week with a Merchant Navy Com-

mendation for his services to the industry.

A spokeswoman from the Girringun Elders and Reference Group at Cardwell said Bandjin was the name of the tribe that

once lived on Hinchinbrook Island. She said the tribe also had an extended range that included other islands such as Gould and Garden in the Hinchinbrook area.

Mr Manson said the Bandjin Reefs comprised the Reg Ward Reef and the previously individually named Barnett Patches, Duncan Reef, Moss Reef, and four other still unnamed reefs.