

## Media Release No. 621

For release 10 March 2015

### Participants return from Torres Strait Young Leaders Programme

Four Torres Strait Islanders ranging in ages from 21 to 27 will be returning home on 17 March 2015 from the two-week Torres Strait Young Leaders Programme (TSYLP).

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) sponsored George Gabey from Thursday Island, Aleesha Savage from Erub, and Regina Pearson and Dorothy Asai from Poruma to participate in the program.

The TSRA Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, said the TSYLP is a strategic partnership between the TSRA and Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF).

“The programme allows our young leaders to gain new perspectives and experiences with politics, history and culture, and gain confidence in their leadership abilities,” Mr Elu said.

A key component of the programme is the one week Outwards Bound course. This challenging course is designed to develop skills to manage difficult physical and mental conditions. Participants will learn a lot about themselves and the colleagues during the Outward Bound week.

“The Canberra component of the programme includes visits to Parliament House, the Australian War Memorial and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Studies.”

Mr Elu said the TSRA has sponsored over 40 people from the Torres Strait on various leadership and development programmes in partnership with the ARLF.

“Other programmes run in conjunction with the ARLF include the Australian Rural Leadership Programme, Training Rural Australians In Leadership and the TSRA Women’s Leadership Programme.

“Applications for the Torres Strait Women’s Leadership Programme will open in April 2015 and application forms can be downloaded from the Leadership Capacity Building section on the TSRA website.”

For more information on TSRA’s Leadership programs, please visit [www.tsra.gov.au](http://www.tsra.gov.au) or contact Ms Shakira Whap at the TSRA on 4069 0700 or by email [info@tsra.gov.au](mailto:info@tsra.gov.au).

**ENDS**

**TSRA Media Contact – Bruce Nelson 0423 403 449**



(l-r) George Gabey, Aleesha Savage, Regina Pearson and Dorothy Asai with Ngunnawal elder aunty Agnes Shea and her daughter (both front-left)