TERRITORY icons don't get much more terrifying than a 240 million-year-old pre-historic menace. The mighty croc prevails as MARIA BILLIAS takes a look at the past year which saw one death, several attacks and rangers hauling more than 220 salties from Darwin Harbour.

JANUARY
THE family of the 12-year-old boy taken by a saltwater crocodile in Port Bradshaw in December 2011 have spared the 4m killer. The croc, which took the child as he swam with a group of people only weeks earlier, had been spotted on the beach near Nhulunbuy, 100km south of Nhulunbuy. It was tied to a rock, but the crocodile dragged the youngster out to deeper water. The offer of $50,000 to take the croc was called off when the croc could not be found. The crocodile was found later stuck with the spear in its body, and was shot and killed by police and Kakadu National Park rangers.

A MONSTER crocodile with a taste for horse meat is still at large in a remote Territory town. Rangers believed the 4.5m saltie — that was missing the tip of its tail — was the same reptile that attacked the preliminary school at Maningrida about two weeks ago.

A CROCODILE that menaced school children in a remote Territory community has been shot dead. Residents used abackhoe to load the 4m beast onto a ute after it was trapped and killed in a billabong at Palumpa, about 235km southwest of Darwin.

A SALTIE had been beached before rangers could retrieve the body after it was found dead on the Adelaide River bank. The 4m croc had been shot at close range and reportedly left to rot.

FEBRUARY
A MONSTER 4.3m croc was pulled from Darwin Harbour. It was taken out of a trap following a weekly patrol at West Arm. The beast was taken to the breeding pond at Noonamah Crocodile Farm.

A DOG has been eaten by a giant crocodile near Melville Island. The 3m saltie is believed to have killed seven dogs over the past few months.

THE NT Government is looking for someone to sell off the Territory’s crocodile farm. The salties and saltwater crocodiles with a tender open.

March
A RANGER went above and beyond the call of duty by driving out a crocodile-infested river to rescue a family of the 12-year-old boy who was taken by a saltwater crocodile in Port Bradshaw in December 2011. The croc was relocated to Noonamah Crocodile Farm.

ANOTHER large saltwater crocodile has been pulled out of Darwin Harbour. Parks and Wildlife removed the 3.8m beast from the trap in Myrmidon Creek, near Blair Athol.

ANOTHER large saltwater crocodile has been pulled out of Darwin Harbour. Parks and Wildlife removed the 3.8m beast from the trap in Myrmidon Creek, near Blair Athol.

A MONSTER crocodile with a taste for horse meat is still at large in a remote Territory town. Rangers believed the 4.5m saltie — that was missing the tip of its tail — was the same reptile that attacked the preliminary school at Maningrida about two weeks ago.

A CROCODILE that menaced school children in a remote Territory community has been shot dead. Residents used a backhoe to load the 4m beast onto a ute after it was trapped and killed in a billabong at Palumpa, about 235km southwest of Darwin.

A SALTIE had been beached before rangers could retrieve the body after it was found dead on the Adelaide River bank. The 4m croc had been shot at close range and reportedly left to rot.

FEBRUARY
A MONSTER 4.3m croc was pulled from Darwin Harbour. It was taken out of a trap following a weekly patrol at West Arm. The beast was taken to the breeding pond at Noonamah Crocodile Farm.

A DOG has been eaten by a giant crocodile near Melville Island. The 3m saltie is believed to have killed seven dogs over the past few months.

THE NT Government is looking for someone to sell off the Territory’s crocodile farm. The salties and saltwater crocodiles with a tender open.

March
A RANGER went above and beyond the call of duty by driving out a crocodile-infested river to rescue a family of the 12-year-old boy who was taken by a saltwater crocodile in Port Bradshaw in December 2011. The croc was relocated to Noonamah Crocodile Farm.

ANOTHER large saltwater crocodile has been pulled out of a Top End nature reserve. This time a 4.2m saltie was removed from a permanent trap at Foggy Dam Reserve.

A DARWIN man was bitten by a croc as he took in a sun-bath, punching the reptile until he was able to get free. He was treated at Gove Hospital but later released.

A CROCODILE stalked a teenage boy before attacking his uncle’s dog instead, having a family barbecue in screaming chaos at a popular Darwin swimming spot. Molden teenager Dylan Moroney, 15, narrowly escaped death after standing in knee-deep water trying to untangle a line in Millner Creek near Robertson Barracks.

MAY
THE grandmother of a Top End girl taken by a crocodile is learning how to wrangle the reptiles in the hope of teaching other people about the dangers of the salties. Lyn Bennett, 57, is one of six students being profiled in a new TV series called Croc College teaching students how to wrestle a crocodile by legendary Queensland wrangler John Lever at his farm Koorana outside of Rockhampton. Mrs Bennett’s 11-year-old granddaughter was taken by a crocodile at Lambells Lagoon in 2009.

JUNE
THREE fishermen were arrested by NT water police yesterday after they were allegedly caught with a 2m saltwater crocodile. The trio were caught on Adelaide River, about 100km south of Darwin, when police were performing a routine patrol in the area. The croc was spotted tied up in the fisho’s boat. The Territory’s biggest saltwater crocodile — the 5.5m beast and international star Brutus — has been captured devouring a wild pig on the Adelaide River much to the delight of tourists on a cruise boat.

RELATIVES of a tourist missing at Croker Island since Tuesday fear a crocodile may have taken her. A co-ordinated search for Jodie Clarke is being carried out in Croker Island after the 36-year-old West Australian woman disappeared. Mrs Clarke’s body was found later in non-suspicious circumstances.

A CROCODILE launched itself two metres in the air and bit a fish on the back while he was fishing on a remote Top End fisherman. Fisherman Denby Baker, of Darwin, said it felt like he had been punched in the back when the 3m croc leaped from the water.

Emergency services join the search along the Mary River for 26-year-old Darwin man Sean Cole, who was taken by a croc.