Oh baby! Territorians delivering on sex drive

By JILL POULSEN

TERRITORIANS are a frisky lot and there’s a massive baby boom to prove it.

The NT Government has allocated $2.5 million to maternity services to help cope with the growing number of mum’s giving birth at Royal Darwin Hospital, which has hiked more than 25 per cent in the past four years.

In 2013, ROH saw more than 2040 births. More than 1670 babies were born at the public hospital in the first half of this year. The cash will be spent on recruiting staff – including an outreach midwife, theatre nurses, midwives and an an-aesthetist.

Ms Lambley said it would mean that both caesarean and delivery suite activity could be “significantly enhanced”.

Two more obstetric specialists will also be employed.

“The anaesthetist, along with obstetrically trained theatre nurses, midwives and obstetricians will significantly impact on throughput and further support an outstanding team of clinicians,” Ms Lambley said.

“Our maternity services are among the best in the country and more women are choosing to birth at RDH than ever.”

The hospital has seven obstetric specialists and 76 midwives. The number of outreach midwives, who run clinics in communities across the Top End, will grow from seven to eight.

The Territory is in the middle of a massive baby boom which only proves what most of us already know ... Territorians are a frisky lot...

Punch lands attacker in jail

A DRUNK man who knocked out a teenager at a Territory pub has been reminded that “one punch can kill.”

Anthony James Brian Jald-er Crafter admitted the “unprovoked” attack on 19-year-old Cody Lynch at a licensed premise in Nhulunbuy when he faced court on remand.

Magistrate Elizabeth Mor-ris said Crafter thought Mr Lynch was part of a group who had made “disparaging” com-ments to him weeks before. “Your behaviour was inexplicable,” she said.

The court heard Crafter, who had been working in East Arnhem Land, was drunk at the pub on August 2. He took a pocket of cigarettes from the victim’s pocket and security footage showed the victim, who was “considerably smaller”, didn’t retaliate.

Crafter struck him with his elbow and he fell backward, hitting his head on the concrete and was knocked out. Ms Morris said “It was a nasty, brutal blow. “It had the potential to be disastrous.”

Crafter was sentenced to eight months in prison. He will be released after serving three months on a condition not to drink or take drugs for two years.

Celebrating abilities

DISABILITY week kicks off today with a range of activities and events to celebrate the ability and inclusion of Terri-torians with disability in all aspects of life and community.

This year’s theme is Choice Control Connect.

Disability Awareness Week aims to promote access to all community events for people with a disability: advocate for the rights of people with a dis-ability and support the artistic, cultural and sporting aspirations of people with a disability.

Seven community members will be ambassadors for the week: Carlie Preece, David Nicholls, Trevor Harrison, Greg Johnson, Lisa Tienan, Georgina Higgie and Angela Budgulga.

Events and activities for the week are planned by the DAW Co-ordinating Committee.

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