

## Radio play examines health

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A 12-part radio play, particularly for our NPA and Torres Strait youths, has been recorded and will be broadcasting on radio next year.

The radio play, broken into five-minute episodes, will go on-air for 12 weeks and it's about informing our youths on issues such as relationships and sexual health, but, in a fun way



*READY FOR THE AIR WAVES: The team at the TI Bowls Club during rehearsals were: (back row) Danny Bani, Jimmy Bani, Rhiann Phineasa, Charles Passi, Aaron Fa'aoso, Simon Luckhurst, (front row) Heather Robertson and Mary Mills.*

Auditions and rehearsals were quickly conducted within four days, in late October, before recording took place, for just over two days, at the performing arts room of Tagai State College Thursday Island Primary Campus.

Queensland Health, which funded this initiative, organised a workshop in June this year to work on ideas for a radio drama that would tackle issues relating to our young people aged between 16 and 25.

Sexual Health Promotions Coordinator, Heather Robertson, said: "The storyline is about what young people face in relationships; talk about risks and consequences of choices made in relationships.

"The group, YARN, was guiding us throughout the whole process."

Auditions were held at NPA with two people, Rhiann Phineasa and Talei Elu, chosen for paid roles in the cast of eight.

The rest of the cast members are from Horn and Thursday Islands, they are: Charles Passi, Jimmy Bani, Mary Mills, Danny Bani and Maudesta Bowie, including Aaron Fa'aoso who is based in Cairns.

Director, Simon Luckhurst, was impressed with the talent shown by those who turned up to try-out for a part with about 30 people auditioning collectively.

"Some people with no drama experience did their readings well."

The quality of the radio play would be at its best with sound recordist, Nigel Pegrum, in control and the 12-part series to be aired, sometime next year, on Radio Station 4MW and the Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Service on Outer Islands.