

DOWN THE TRACK

Newsletter



DELEGATIONS & MEETINGS 2020

How our hard working ICPA NT Executive are advocating and making sure our voices are heard

GRANTS, & AWARDS

Rewarding the hard work and passion of our isolated students and families

SAVE THE DATE CONFERENCE 2021

ICPA NT Branches are all hands on deck in preparation for the 2021 State Conference to be held in Alice Springs on 2 March



Isolated Children's Parents' Association

NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL Inc

2020 - 2021 Positions

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A WORD FROM THE STATE PRESIDENT

Have you noticed many people talk about school holidays as being restrictive? *"I've got to take time off work, the kids are on school holidays"* and *"does anyone know when school holidays are over, the kids are driving me mad"*. Not so though for many of us, who actually gain flexibility during school holidays.

For families who enable the delivery of education, like you, your priorities are very different to the main stream. The challenge is, finding easy ways to explain that difference to people who've never experienced it.

National Geographically Isolated Distance Education day on 1st December was a great initiative, led by ICPA Australia. Having a national day gives all involved, the incentive to find creative ways to express our differences, in ways that people can connect with.

The timing of GI DE Day could not have been better, because in November

AGILE (Australian Geographically Isolated Learner Education) released a national survey exploring the 'Role of the Remote Education Tutor in Distance Education Schooling.'

Anyone who has taught in the home school room should do this survey. Data to 'show cause' for a DETA (Distance Education Teaching Allowance) is desperately short, and AGILE, as an independent body, have set about collecting it. You can support the reasons for a DETA by doing the survey, the link is on the AGILE Facebook page.

I hope Christmas was pleasant and as you look out the window now, it's raining and you are getting some time to relax. It would be magic if there was a good turn-out of members at the 39th ICPA NT State Conference, in **Alice Springs on 2 March**.



State Council have certainly invited all the key stakeholders, including the Minister for Education. Please show your support for equity in education in the Northern Territory, and come. It's worth it.

Sarah

Sarah Cook
NT State President



Photo: Sarah Cook on Alice Springs School of the Air with sisters and govie, 1986

A quick note from the editor...

And that's a wrap on the year that was 2020!

As the end of the year has drawn closer and closer and I've found myself busier than I've been in years, I've had to remind myself that, whilst it is tiring and hard at times, it is also a privilege to be busy with employment, school commitments, family events, catch ups with friends and generally moving around from here to there and everywhere in preparation for Christmas.

There are so many who are still very much in the grips of Covid-19 and all the heartache and restrictions. And I need to remember, reflect, send joy and compassion out in the world and always, always be grateful for where I live and the opportunities this wild Territory offers us all.

To each and every one of you, I wish you a safe, happy, healthy Christmas and may 2021 be a year of healing and moving forward.



Anni

Annika Bell
DTT Editor

ICPA NT MEETINGS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Delegations

On 11 and 12 November, four state councillors descended on Darwin keen to bring your motions to the ears of our politicians, departmental executives, and other stakeholders.

This was our first delegation for the year, after COVID-19 prevented one earlier. State President Sarah Cook, Vice President Suzanne (Sue) Wilson, Assistant Secretary Katie Payne and Early Childhood portfolio leader Rebecca Mohr-Bell were able to attend in person for the entire 2 days. Katherine Branch President Kerrie Scott and Distance Education portfolio leader Amanda Murphy joined our meeting with the Department of Education via video link.

Nine meetings over two days kept us very busy. We met with:

- Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO – patron of ICPA NT
- Minister for Education, Lauren Moss
- Leader of the Opposition, Lia Finocchio
- Shadow Minister for Education, Jo Hersey
- Department of Education (our longest meeting at nearly 2 hours):
 - Karen Weston, Chief Executive
 - General Manager – Engagement & Partnerships
 - General Manager – Early Childhood, Education and Care
 - Acting Director – Finance Shared Services
- Coalition of Government Schools (COGSO) who kindly provided lunch on day 1:
 - Beverley Ratahi, Vice President/ Acting President
 - Michelle Parker, Executive Officer
- Noelene Armstrong, NT Lived Experience Network
- Anna Day, Education Officer, NT Farmers
- Luke Bowen, General Manager – Northern Australia Engagement, Trade and Investment

At each meeting we discussed specific motions (see a screenshot of page 1 of our agenda with the Department of Education – there were 5 pages in all), plus our Top 5 Priorities, drawn from the motions carried at State Conference.

At Parliament House we sat in the public gallery for a short while, during sittings. The Speaker of the House, through the Education



ICPA NT Members Sarah Cook, Suzanne Wilson, Katie Payne and Rebecca Mohr-Bell at Parliament House Darwin, advocating for the ICPA NT Motions of 2020


Minister, gave ICPA NT a special mention and applauded the work ICPA does, which was met with a humbling and resounding 'here, here' from the members in Parliament.

Meetings

Since our delegation, a further four meetings have taken place:

- Sarah Cook and Rebecca Mohr-Bell met in Alice Springs with Assistant Director Strategic Initiatives Early Childhood Education and Care and the Early Childhood Integration Leader, to discuss mobile playgroups in the Central Australia district.
- Suzanne Wilson met by telephone with Adjunct Professor and Chief Allied Health Advisor, Department of Health, who agreed to facilitate contact between the Dept of Health and ICPA, and to discuss motions related to health, such as special needs and early diagnosis.
- Sarah Cook, Kerrie Scott, and Rebecca Mohr-Bell (via Teams) and Suzanne Wilson and Sarah

Measey (in person) met with Senior Executive Director, Regional Network group, and Regional Development team – Department of the Chief Minister to discuss mobile playgroup funding, a national approach to boarding school children and geographically isolated

<div><div>ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL INCORPORATED</div><div>ABN: 19 744 652 697 PO Box 6246 Alice Springs 0871</div><div>Email: nt@icpaonline.com.au</div></div>	
MEETING:	Department of Education, Senior Departmental Officers, and Northern Territory Isolated Children's Parents' Association.
START TIME:	9.30am
DATE:	11/11/2020
LOCATION:	
ATTENDEES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tony Conscience, General Manager, Engagement and Partnerships• Keshia Boudart, Finance Shared Services - TBC• Agnes Magroth, Early Years Strategic Policy - TBC• Katrina Sedowski, Early Years Strategic Policy - TBC
ICPA NT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sarah Cook, Boarding & Allowances portfolio, State President• Suzanne Wilson, Special Needs & Tertiary portfolio, State Vice-President• Rebecca Mohr-Bell, Early Childhood portfolio• Katie Payne, Training portfolio, Assist Secretary
AGENDA:	
Introductions	
STARS and nbn ICPA NT advocates for an internet service the same as, or better than, STARS. We understand the successful nbn trials, using a multicast port, delivers this outcome. ICPA NT advocates that internet for education should be ZERO cost to families, as it states in the NT Education Act.	
MOTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That ICPA NT advocates to the NT Department of Education for maintaining the standard of essential internet requirements needed for Distance Education students on the NBN™ Sky Muster™ network, including reliability, quality, bandwidth, affordability and access to interim education ports.• That ICPA NT monitor the NT Department of Education distance education internet handover from the Stars Network to nbn™ to ensure it remains consistent with the requirements of the NT Education Act in regard to cost and access to internet for families engaged in regular distance education lessons.• That ICPA NT lobby relevant NT Government Departments and Ministers to ensure the interim Education Port costs are refunded.	

students quarantining at home, as well as a bush to boarding airfare scheme; and

- Sarah Cook had a teleconference with the Senior Director, Border Control Unit, Dept of Health to discuss ICPA NT's appeal for boarding students to quarantine at home during the SA border closure.

Additional Meetings

- Suzanne Wilson represented ICPA NT at the COGSO AGM, a key event for COGSO as the peak parent body for NT public education. The event was also attended by the highest levels in education, including the Minister for Education, the Dept of Education Chief Executive and Jamie Chalker – NT Police Commissioner.
- Sarah Cook attended a roundtable meeting with Telstra Executives, including the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Telstra, to discuss what the current focuses and challenges are in rural and regional Northern Territory.
- Sarah Cook, Moira Lanzarin and Bec Mohr-Bell (on behalf of ICPA NT) met with the ASSOA and KSA School Council Chairs and Committee in a joint meeting to discuss the STARS & nbn™. Our agreed position was internet should be at zero cost to families/that internet for public education should be free.
- Suzanne Wilson attended a Digital Health for the Bush (DH4B) Forum as a panel participant. The forum focussed on the use of Telehealth via video conferencing and sought to ascertain how its use can be increased in the bush.

While State Council meets with many external stakeholders, we also have many internal meetings within ICPA such as Portfolio meetings with Federal Council and other State Councils. This enables us to raise awareness of and collaborate on issues raised in motions and as they arise as with the border closures affecting boarding school students.

The meetings were all very gratifying. We were well received and took every opportunity to convey the real challenges our member families face every day in the education of their children.

Sue

Suzanne Wilson
NT Vice President



Photos: Row 1 - L: ICPA NT Members with Tony Considine. R: ICPA NT Members at Parliament House, Darwin.
Row 2 - L: ICPA NT Members with Beverley Ratahi. R: ICPA NT Members with Karen Weston.
Row 3 - L: ICPA NT Members with Anna Day. R: ICPA NT Members with Noelene Armstrong.
Row 4 - L: ICPA NT Members with Lia Finocchiaro and Jo Hersey. R: ICPA NT Members with Hon Lauren Moss.
ABOVE: L-R Suzanne Wilson, Rebecca Mohr-Bell, Her Honour Vicki O'Halloran AO, Sarah Cook, Katie Payne.

COUNCILLOR PROFILE

ICPA NT TREASURER

Moira Lanzarin of Coodardie Station, Mataranka NT

ICPA has been an ominous and reassuring presence throughout my life. As a child growing up on the family cattle station in North Queensland and Distance Education and School of the Air, ICPA was always there. The familiar logo on folders and meeting bags, Mum (Clair O'Brien) juggling radio time to participate in meetings and her regularly having to travel for conferences and meetings in her roles at Branch, State and Federal levels. We knew Mum was off doing really important stuff talking with Government to make things better for ourselves and other bush children's education and opportunities.

With this background, I knew that at some stage I too, would take my turn at advocating for equity for the children of the outback. So when early this year, I saw Sarah's plea for people to consider joining State Council and take an active role, I answered the call. Like all of you, I am a parent juggling running a business, educating our children and the plethora of other calls on our time. Many days, I feel as if I am not doing justice to any of my roles, but one must continue – continue to do the best one can and be

comfortable that depending on the day, that "one's best" can vary considerably.

As children we were taught that we had no right to complain, if we were not prepared to also do something about it. At boarding school, it was reinforced to me, that we all had within us, the power to make a positive difference.

As I was finishing high school, my family sold our North Queensland property and moved 3000 head of our Brahman stud herd and 3 generations of the O'Brien family to the NT, on the floodplains next to Kakadu. Since then, we have immersed ourselves in all that the NT has to offer. We have given back through Landcare, Bushfires, Cattlemen's, Brahman Breeders, Show Societies, School Council and community groups. As we commence our 3rd decade in the NT and nearly twenty years in the Mataranka region we are still 3 generations, living and working together.



Now, it is my children who are the young ones – 2 boys, 11 and 12 years old. As their primary education is coming to an end, we decided to take them out of the wonderful small school of Mataranka and teach them ourselves via Katherine School of the Air. In our household, it has been husband / father in the primary home tutor role. It has been a challenging and interesting year to say the least. No one has missed the drives 4 times a day in and out of Mataranka, or having to make packed lunches. As to the next steps of their educational journey we are still uncertain as to what, where and how that may look. The biggest thing I ask, is that we are in a position to have options, so that we can do what will be best for them.

For me, that is how I see ICPA - creating opportunities for our children to create their own unique and best outcomes.

Thank you ICPA for all that you have helped me to be and become.

Thank you ICPA for being there for our kids.

Moira

Moira Lanzarin
ICPA NT Treasurer



Three generations of the O'Brien Family, dedicating nearly 20 years to the Mataranka Region of the Northern Territory

ICPA NT REMOTE CONCRETE ACCESS GRANT - AWARDED

Hayes Cook of Aileron Station, Alice Springs NT

My name is Hayes Cook. I am 17 years old and live on a remote cattle station located 130km north of Alice Springs in the central desert region of the Northern Territory. I attend boarding school at Scots PGC College in Warwick QLD.

I am applying for this Remote Concrete Access Grant so I can attend a three-day Nutrition edge workshop course in Katherine, NT in 2021.

I have lived on outback cattle stations nearly all my life and plan to make a career out of it after I finish school. I am currently completing grade 11 at school four days a week, as well as one day a week of my boiler making apprenticeship. This apprenticeship will give me extra skills to live and work out bush when I am older.

I love every part of the cattle station life and have spent a lot of my school holidays working in the stock camp as a station hand. This grant will help me to extend my knowledge of the things you cannot learn by just working in the stock camp. Land management is not a simple topic to learn

without the guidance of workshops like this.

This three-day course will cost \$1750 which is way out of my budget. But with the help of this grant I will be able to attend. Some things included in this three-day course are, the importance of nutrition in livestock, learning how to benefit your bottom line, pasture intake quality and diet quality, mineral nutrition and defining production targets as well as many other things based on livestock quality of life and land management practises.

Land management and livestock health is a big topic around any bush BBQ or pub as it is the two most important things in being able to run a cattle station successfully. Being able to manage your land well means being able to look after the environment but also being able to run livestock on it. It is important to make sure

that the livestock grazing the land are healthy and happy living a stress free life.

Thank you for considering my application.

Hayes Cook



Rope Wortley of Lakefield Station, Katherine NT

This grant would help pay for my driver's license which would help me get around town while at boarding school especially since I have started working part time while I finish up the school year.

It would also be a big help to have my license when going around the school, working with the maintenance team as part of my Vocational training course.

I can also use the license to drive around town and get me off the school grounds for a while and just relax and do some shopping.

Having a driver's license would also be helpful when I go off into the big wide world as it could help me get to my job in the future or go for job interviews. I

might even need it to become a delivery boy or my dream job of an auto electrician.

The cost of taking a driving test to get to your P plates is \$135 and the lessons to hone and perfect that fine art of driving is about \$150.

Driving lessons are especially important as being a bush kid I do not have very much experience driving in the towns or cities.

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for this Grant which will help me so much now and, in the future.

Rope Wortley



ICPA NT – STATE CONFERENCE

Tuesday 2 March 2021

'No Barriers in the Bush'



Held in ALICE SPRINGS

Monday 1 March

Registrations open: 3pm, Spinifex Room

Welcome Drinks: DoubleTree by Hilton

Tuesday 2 March

Registrations open: 7:30am, Spinifex Room

39th Annual NT ICPA State Conference, Spinifex Room

State Conference Dinner - TBA

Sponsorship - Available

**Venue - DoubleTree by Hilton
'Spinifex Room'**

Accommodation Packages Available at:
DoubleTree by Hilton (quote ICPA)

Guest Dinner Tickets - Available

Registration information online:

<https://nt.icpa.com.au>

Hosted by the Alice Springs Branch on behalf of the NT State Council.

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"ANOTHER GLIMPS AT HISTORY"

Reflecting on a Territory of the past by Pat Elliott

Many families will have organised for their middle and senior years to go away to boarding school in 2021. We choose schools for our children for many and varied reasons, each one valid and valuable.

The following snippet of history is significant in the lives of many Territory kids whose parents choose to keep their offspring here.

Katherine lacked any facilities for geographically isolated students necessitating those, who did not choose a secondary distance learning model, to send their children out of the region – sometimes with negative results. The advent of Katherine house/ Callistemon House, provided respite for many of these families.

Mid 1970's - a number of children from the remote areas of the Territory were struggling studying their secondary years via the correspondence system. Work came from Adelaide. There was no direct contact between staff and student. Telephony was a technology of the future. Parents felt inadequate in coping with the volume and standard of work required. Weekly, fortnightly aerial mail services provided the only contact that could extend to a month's turnaround. Teachers were wonderful, courses comprehensive, but the isolation experiences fit firmly into "the tyranny of distance".

The ICPA did not exist in Katherine at this stage. Several attempts to introduce the Association through Katherine School of The Air had been in vain, so it became the focus of one or two individuals to make a move. During this period negotiations to create a secondary correspondence centre in Darwin were under way. For some of us, this was an exciting prospect, however there was no commitment by the government.

Appeals to the government were not falling on deaf ears, but the bureaucratic wheels are ever in need of oiling and the appeals for action on behalf of a small group of secondary students did not constitute urgency (nor a voting benefit!).

The upshot was a decision to make the next move. Pauline and Ernie Rayner, on their property Ballongilly, forty kilometres out of Katherine, built The Bunk House. Initially we sent our secondary aged children into town to kick off the process. In no time the Bunk House housed thirteen students attending Katherine high school

Assistance to Isolated Students provided the only funding for most families, barely covering food costs. In spite of hurdles, the Bunk House became a secure, loving environment for our children, taking a great deal of pressure off those families.

Two years into Ballongilly Bunk House, we had evidence to back our appeals to government to look at the regional need. Convincing the powers that be was not difficult but ensuring the commitment of funds was not so easy. Two women scorned (Pauline and myself), proved successful and in 1978 the government of the day under Paul Everingham, purchased the Baptist hostel in Katherine. It was in an ideal location within walking distance of the school, town and sporting facilities. There was no vehicle to transport numbers, so location was important. The hostel was built to house itinerant people on a short-term basis. It had a manager's residence - later converted to a student lounge - large commercial kitchen, dining room, twin room accommodation for twenty-two students, three bathrooms and staff quarters.

The laundry consisted of one trough, one Simpson agitator washing machine, an iron and ironing board. The students washing was done daily. It was not until the mid 80's that an industrial washing machine was purchased.

The running of Katherine House was under government public service regulations. A manager was appointed, a cook and a domestic. Dedicated parenting, guiding, consoling, empathising, discipline and celebration were the focus of the pastoral care under loco parentis. Managers living on site were on call twenty four hours a day, seven days a week – for minimal remuneration, but it was a labour of

love. In the late 80's two house parents were appointed, and the family grew. Problems were resolved quickly in the atmosphere of family firmness and fairness. Parents were an integral part of major discussions and decisions.

In 1994 the Department of Education conducted a survey of the needs of remote area secondary students. They employed an outside consultant to run a demographic survey of the region. The result was a decision by a group of bureaucrats, politicians and "other" interested persons, that Katherine House would become too small for the projected number of future students.

Katherine high school relocated and the possibility of keeping students in the Territory became an attractive option. Proposals for the expansion of the existing facility were explored, including doubling the current capacity, at minimal cost. However, preference was given to building a new facility to house forty students.

The usual process was initiated; committees and sub-committees were appointed and in 1997 Callistemon House opened its doors to students.

Callistemon house is a beautiful facility that has, over the years expanded recreational facilities and has kept abreast of technological needs of students.

It is the result of parents whose priority was to give quality and equity of educational opportunity to their children. The beginnings were humble, motivated by direction, determination and passion. Its present purpose is to maintain those principles together with the integrity of its humble beginnings.

Pat



ALICE SPRINGS ICPA

**Our Branch would like to acknowledge and
THANK all the businesses and families that
have financially supported us during the year**

Territory Rural McPherson - David Eagleson
Murrarji Water Drilling - Remote Concrete
CT Tax & Advisory - 3Wayz Helicopters
Trek West Hiking - Direct Diesel Injection
Milner Meats - Central Fruit & Vegetable
Paraway Pastoral - Krebs & Zadow Family
"Allambi Station" - "Delmore Downs"
"Phillip Creek Station" - "Elkedra Station"
"Jervois Station" - "Ammaroo Station"
"Lucy Creek Station" - "Indiana Station"

**Thank you to our dedicated members, for your time,
support and donations with fundraisers during the year!**

**Thank you for your ongoing support and mentoring:
NT ICPA State Council - ICPA Federal Council**

“WHAT A YEAR THIS HAS BEEN”

Looking back at some of the challenges with Tanya Heaslip

What a year this has been! In the midst of it all, I've had the privilege of publishing my second book about growing up on a cattle station north of Alice – 'An Alice Girl' (A&U May 2020) - and the chance to write for 'Down The Track' twice. This is my third opportunity! Thank you, DTT!

As we close the year, I think it's worth noting that C19 has brought to the surface the ongoing and varied difficulties that people in the bush face when it comes to educating their children. This is particularly so during the secondary years. Children sent to boarding school during 2020 have

faced more than the usual challenges of being far apart from the land, animals and family they love. Some have not been able to easily return home for holidays because of mandatory quarantine restrictions, or they've had difficulties returning to school. Some have been forced to take refuge with other families in other places or to have remained stuck at school or trapped between borders.

Across Australia, ICPA has done its usual sterling job of bringing to the notice of politicians the inequity of imposing these restrictions upon bush children, as well as pointing out that the safest possible place children could quarantine is in the isolation of their properties.

But we've seen firsthand how tough it is to break through the thinking of politicians, especially when it's so easy for the politicians to impose blanket mandatory quarantine and locked border obligations for an 'easy sell'.

While of course their priorities are first and foremost the safety of the constituents, discretion and flexibility around the imposition of these requirements is the key to surviving C19 long-term. This is a challenging argument for ICPA, given I suspect politicians have tended to look for that 'easy sell' with C19. In every way, it has been a tough year for bush families and kids at boarding school.

As ever, I applaud the ICPA for its courage and determination in pushing their arguments forward. There are huge mental health reasons around the consequences of not letting children move freely between their homes and school (particularly when there is no legitimate reason), not to mention the costs and unnecessary disruption to families.

Frankly, after a long term at boarding school, bush kids need to come home! And there is no safer place to quarantine – and keep safe – than in the bush. Keep up the amazing work, ICPA.

Tanya

Tanya Heaslip
Lawyer/Author



ICPA NT KATHERINE BRANCH - ICT GRANT 'MY FUTURE' WINNERS

Wyatt McDonald, Katherine NT

The difference my iPad has made to me is; I can stay in contact with my friends and family. Also, I have everything at my fingertips everywhere I go.

My iPad also has a keyboard attachment so I can do Power Points and Word Documents and also, I can do assessments on it. It also has a lot of storage so I can listen to music while I work.

I am forever grateful for the ICPA ICT Grant which helped me buy this iPad. A big thank you to the ICPA committee and sponsors which makes all these dreams a reality.



WELCOME TO THE NEW ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Looking towards 2021 with confidence



President	<i>Lisa Kimlin</i>
Vice President	<i>Danyelle Haigh</i>
Secretary	<i>Candice Krebs</i>
Treasurer	<i>Kelli McLaughlin</i>
Publicity Officer	<i>Katy Hayes</i>
Public Officer	<i>Ley Kunoth</i>
Grants Secretary	<i>Benjamin Quilliam</i>

Committee	<i>Kiya Gill</i>
	<i>Rebecca Zadow</i>
	<i>Mary Bayly</i>

Coming together is a beginning
Staying together is progress
Working together is success.

- Henry Ford



ICPA NT Alice Springs Branch members, executive and guests at the 2020 Alice Springs Branch AGM



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PHILOSOPHER'S CORNER

Pat Elliott shares some thoughts at the end of the year that was 2020

Farewell to one of the most eventful years in recent history!

Having lived through a world war; Korea; Vietnam; The Middle East; Africa; Spanish flu; Polio; Tuberculosis epidemic; etc, etc, Covid presents yet another challenge to the short time given to us on this planet.

We live with sacrifice to sovereignty and science; waste and war; ignorance and innovation; selfishness and selflessness; banality and brilliance; sound and silence and too often fail to capitalize on the lessons learnt.

Observing nature heal the wounds inflicted upon it is a simple lesson of healthy survival. Do we give more than just sentimental homage to it?

Can we return to the days of "need" as opposed to the days of "want"? Having experienced a lifestyle to which we have become accustomed, are we prepared to re-evaluate our existence and act upon a social conscience?

I tend to think not; it may be the cynic in me!

Life does not go backwards, and we continually throw the baby out with the bathwater and lose so much wisdom and experience.

In this day and age of technical velocity, the value of history is relegated to musty bookshelves, however, "the milk of human kindness" is the only sustenance that will be the salvation of humanity.

* *Knowledge is power*

* *Power is control*

* *Control is destruction.*

But...

The faith of a mustard seed can move mountains.

A childlike belief can make grown men cry;

True knowledge is love,

Love for all mankind unconditionally.

The power of love can change the men who control.

The control of love can destroy the most evil of hearts;

Yet set apart from all that is desired; love, true love, seems always to be placed to one side by those who need it most –

And that, my friend, is destruction in the truest sense of the word.

A poem written by my oldest daughter when she was away from home attending Melbourne University as an undergraduate in 1982.

Its Christmas time

You're on my mind

And I can't forget your face

You're in my thoughts

And in my heart

For reasons I can't trace.

Its Christmas time,

A time to love

Though you're far away,

A time to give

A time to care

I send my love today.

I wish for you a day of love

Full of happy memories,

And may my image linger

For a moment in your dreams.

- Jacqui



2020 ICPA NT KATHERINE BRANCH

AGM President's Report - Kerrie Scott

Welcome to the last meeting of 2020.

I think all of us are glad to see the back of a very challenging year. That being said, a lot of positive things have come out of 2020; one of those being a new appreciation of distance education and the struggles that come with trying to educate our children from home.

The general public have never before had to experience this, and it opened quite a few eyes, and a few ears on many levels for ICPA. Earlier this year I was asked for an interview on ABC Bendigo radio to discuss what a typical day is like for distance education families, and provide some hints on dealing with the challenges and rewards that come with teaching your own children.

Katherine School of the Air kids got national coverage being featured on Channel 7's Sunrise virtual tour of Australia, representing the Katherine region, where they explained to viewers how they access an education. These, and many other interviews, articles, and appearances through the ICPA network highlighted our endeavours to access an education across vast distances and provided a focus to mainstream society that our organisation has never had before. For that we must be thankful - the sad part is that it took a pandemic.

Unfortunately, with the cancellation of the Katherine Show, we had no Auction this year; but Nutrien Ag Solutions have assured us that their support is unwavering and we look forward to working with them in 2021 on their annual auction.

We have had sponsorship from Santos,

Roper Gulf Regional Council, Hospitality NT, Plasson, and many other businesses that continue to support our events, despite such a tough year for many.

We've also just had a pledge of \$3000 from Causeway Produce Townsville which is very much appreciated and will be put toward events for 2021.

I'd like to thank our Members and Guests that attended our Special Luncheon in July. Our guest speaker, Justin Dyer, President of the Katherine Branch of the NT Cattleman's Association, kept the audience captivated with his childhood memories and explained the impact of ICPA on his access to education and what it means to his young family now. Both organisations share a common membership, and it was very powerful to have that synergy brought to the forefront. We appreciate Justin's time and commitment to working with ICPA toward better outcomes for isolated Territory families which are the backbone of the northern cattle industry.

Sarah Cook, our ICPA NT President, did an amazing job of explaining her role, and the bigger picture of where we sit, what we've achieved so far, and where we need to go, in order to get what we need, to get a fair go. The lucky door prizes were a lot of fun, and we thank the businesses, particularly Leisure & Lace Katherine and ThinkWater, for their support. I would like to continue with events like this, as I think it is not only a good opportunity to fly our banner, bringing our local parliamentary members and stakeholders into our world, but it provides a great opportunity to catch up and connect.

Sports Camp went ahead in October as a stand alone event in Mataranka – Covid safe of course. It was well attended with around 90 children registered. I think the fact that it is so well supported by the Mataranka community, and with some families travelling 700km or more just to attend, assures us that we must be doing something right, and we are so excited about our next event in April.

Thanks so much to all of the Parents, Home Tutors, Teachers, and Sports People that make sure these kids get a really great few days; the effort is worth it. Again, thanks to everyone in the catering shed and Mrs Murphy for coordinating all the food for the event.

Congratulations go to the Deadly Dingoes taking out the honours for the Team Chant Competition – all teams did a great job and really got into the spirit of it.

Congratulations to our Branch Sponsored ICPA 'NT Dance Superstars' who performed live via Zoom in front of hundreds of spectators at the Sunshine Coast 3D Dance Studio end of year concert. The girls have been practising each week with instruction from their dance teacher Heidi O'Hehir. It was the first time a distance ed class had been included in the Dance Studio program and the girls were able to participate with full dance costumes and make up. The dance troupe have also been invited to perform at the KSA Christmas Concert.

Well done, and a big thank you to Mrs Richter for coordinating this.

Well done to ICPA Australia for initiating our very first 'Geographically Isolated Distance Education Day!'. Even with

short notice, it was a huge success, with a blitz on social media around the country. Distance Education students across the Territory were interviewed by NT Country Hour, allowing them to explain what school means to them, and there was a focus on the need for a Distance Education Home Tutor Allowance in recognition of the important role the schoolroom supervisor plays in delivery of education in the bush. Hopefully, this day will gain even more momentum next year, and give us the publicity we need to advocate our issues, as well as providing a special day for our isolated kids.

All of our Grants have been offered to members as per usual this year, and we look forward to hearing of the winners of the Nutrien Grants this week. We had 8 successful candidates for the ICT Grants and the virtual Roylene Hill Art Awards went ahead also.

Personally, I'd like to thank the members that have helped out with all the events and with the day to day running of the Branch. I encourage anyone thinking of getting involved to jump in with both feet. It is a great feeling to know you've helped your community, and as they say "Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life." And that applies to us too, it really does not feel like work when you love what you do, and helping our kids gain access to opportunities and a bright future is what our job is.

Kerrie

Kerrie Scott
Katherine Branch President
ICPA NT



CONNELLAN AIRWAYS TRUST

THE E.J. CONNELLAN AWARD

**Up to \$20,000 to encourage innovation,
passionate endeavors, education & research.**

The aim of the E.J. Connellan Award is to give opportunity to people living in Outback Australia to undertake further studies or research of a kind not otherwise readily available to them.

Do you live in a remote part of Australia?

Are you 16 years of age or over?

Are you an Australian resident?

Do you need financial help to achieve your goals?

APPLY NOW

Applications close January 31, 2021

Apply via the Trust website at
www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au



Contact the Executive Officer
Freecall 1800 733 810
info@connellanairwaystrust.org.au
Po Box 979 Alice Springs NT 0871
Supporting people in the Outback since 1981

General Grants Apply Now

on the Connellan Airways Trust
website
www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au



COMING TOGETHER AGAIN - FRIENDSHIPS FROM A DISTANCE

Heath Haigh (from Murrnaji Water Drilling), Waylon Ford (From Tennant Creek Station) and Max McGlynn (from Rocklands Station) all attend Alice Springs School of the Air.

The first pic is from March 2020 In-School Week and the last pic is from December 2020 In-School Week. The kids haven't been all together all year due to COVID-19 and have only seen each other online.

After their sports week being cancelled, COVID-19 restrictions, as well as travel restrictions, it's been a lonely year for our boys. However they have made up for it this week; thoroughly enjoying being able to play and spend time together.



Danyelle

Danyelle Haigh

Alice Springs Branch Vice President

There is magic in long distance friendships.

They let you relate to other human beings in a way that goes beyond physically being together and is often more profound.

- Diana Cortes



ICPA NT KATHERINE BRANCH - ICT GRANT 'MY FUTURE' WINNERS

Maggie Murphy of Carpentaria Downs, Katherine NT

My Future!

Well everyone's future is different and people have always had different interests to one another.

My future is always going to be with my family whatever it is. I started off wanting to go to Uni and be a Vet, I only really wanted to do that so I could save my aunty lots of money.

Then I got roped into this thing where my Cousin (Betty Bethel) and my sister (Georgie Murphy) were going to come with me to Townsville for Uni and be hairdressers. They are telling me I now have to be a foot doctor so I can have my shop next to theirs. I found it hard to believe that

they want to be hairdressers because most of the time they don't brush their hair.

Now all I want to do is work for my Aunty but she says that I have to do something useful.

So now I got not a clue! My family is always going to be involved even if I do end up washing dogs instead.

My passion is animals and I can see myself involved in something to do with that.

Maggie Murphy



Tia Ford of Fossil Downs Station, Katherine NT

My Future

First off, thank you so much for giving me a chance at this grant. It will help me greatly if I do receive it, and either way thank you!

My future to me is really undecided. I've had bursts of motivation in several subjects; writing, designing, astronomical studies, history, and many more. But if you were to narrow it down I would either choose design and astronomical studies. I also enjoy

presenting and showing others what I know, so I've considered doing astronomical tours. But I've got plenty of time on my hands, so I'm going to take it a bit slow and have a go at everything.

I've also been inspired by others, like my home tutor Inaya Stone, who just graduated from university after getting a degree of Agriculture. I've also thought about doing something similar to Greg Quicke, an astronomer in Broome doing Astro Tours for

people of all ages. I've been recently with some of my family and enjoyed it thoroughly.

I want to go to university too, I think, but first after I've graduated school I want to do a one or two years on a station as a ringer. I've always wanted to be in that sort of community and prove that I'm good outside too, not just in the schoolroom.

As I've said, I have been inspired and interested into many subjects by people around me, but with this money from the grant I hope I can use it to discover my future. I think this will be put forward into upgrading my current telescope, a Dobsonian 5-inch into the larger and better version.

Thank you again for this grant,

Kind regards,

Tia Ford



OUTBACK MAIL

Connellan Airways Trust

As 2020 draws to a close there are many people looking forward to the fresh feeling of the new year, sans COVID19. Though of course, this is unlikely to change as the clock strikes midnight. What has struck me from the better part of this year is the continued evidence of the outback spirit. It is that quiet persistence when things outside our control affect the bush. Connellan Airways Trust was founded by people whose outback spirit was simply an innate part of living in a harsher, disconnected outback of the day. Now, while living in the outback is still some of these things; it is more often better connected across the vast distances. There is an overwhelming sense of community, of perseverance and determination that sometimes isn't seen anywhere else. I have heard many stories from our recipients in 2020 about adapting quickly and the demonstrated determination, passion, and commitment is something to be commended.

With a fresh new year on the horizon, the Trust recently underwent an update of our vision and purpose to better align with the changing needs of the outback and the role we play in supporting people in the Outback. The Board of Directors continues to look to the future while keeping true to the intent and purpose of the Trust when it was established in 1981. With this in mind, here is our revised vision and purpose:

Our vision is for a thriving Outback Australia.

Our purpose is enabling the advancement of people in Outback Australia

Visit our website to see the extended objectives.

We continue to focus on education, health, communications, and travel through our grants. Though each program has its own focus areas and objectives, the overarching purpose is to support projects (individuals and organisations) that target positive education and health outcomes as this largely contributes to an advancing and thriving Outback.

On that note, the December round saw a large volume of general grant applications submitted for

consideration by the Board. 14 grants were granted: 6 organisations and 8 individuals. Thank you to all those who took the time to apply, and congratulations to the successful recipients; the last for 2020.

A reminder that our E.J Connellan Award is now open for applications. You can learn more about it by clicking the link below. For those scholars of CQ University have a look at Connellan Airways Trust scholarships currently open.

A big thank you to everyone for an amazing year, we look forward to 2021 and the immense opportunities that are in the near future for people in isolated, rural and remote places across Australia.



Jessica Hackett
Executive Officer



GENERAL GRANTS
Application Closing Dates 2021
15th of February, May, August, November



CALLING ALL MEMBERS

How has ICPA helped you?

PLEASE SUBMIT A PHOTO TO
OUR FACES OF ICPA CAMPAIGN
AND TELL US HOW ICPA HAS
HELPED YOUR FAMILY

email to: FedPublicityOfficer@icpa.com.au



CELEBRATING HARD WORK AND DEDICATION

Alice Springs School of the Air 'Parents and Governesses Nights'

'Parents Night' was held on Wednesday evening of the 9th of December and the following evening the 'Governess' Night' was held. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed relaxing and letting their hair down and catching up with old friends!



'Appreciation is a wonderful thing; It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well'

- Francois-Marie Arouet de Voltaire

2020 ICPA NT ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH

AGM President's Report - Amber Driver

For the past 12 years I have been an active member of the Alice Springs ICPA Branch.

In 2012 I completed a year on the Committee before I stepped up to the Branch Vice President; a role I had for 3 years.

For the last 4 years I have filled the President's role for the Branch and have been humbled by the support and guidance I have received along the way and committed to the learning curve (even when it was rather steep).

So, as this will be my last Branch President's AGM Report, I thought I'd go for a trip down memory lane!

Between 2017 - 2020 I have written many reports for various reasons as part of my role as the Alice Springs Branch President. Here is a snippet and close approximation just to give you an idea:

23,406 words across 38 pages of Presidents Reports for Branch General Meetings and AGM's.

16,965 words across 31 pages; Federal and State Conference Reports. (I am sure you have read all these reports word for word!)

I have written and prepared many motions for the Federal and State ICPA Conferences, laminated certificates to our valued sponsors and supporters, sent 'thank you' cards of appreciation, made Facebook posts for our branch, created logos and flyers to promote the activities our branch are involved in and countless emails and phone calls; both made and received. Talked to parents and others and presented information at the ASSOA 'In-school' week in Term 1 about the work ICPA does within their community.

During the last 4 years as your Branch President I've flipped burgers and served the crowd at the Harts Range canteen, cleaned pots and pans, 'filled the roster', served at the Tennant Creek rodeo bar, written motions, prepared agendas and minutes, escorted the students during the AHA social development weekend. I've been interviewed on several issues within ICPA on National Radio, NT Country Hour, and spoken to several newspapers including The Advocate, The

Land and QLD Country life. I've driven countless km's and flown hundreds of NM in my plane to attend ICPA meetings, conferences and fundraising events, I've helped order, deliver, pick up, sell & store the 2017 work shirts (we still have some available) and Branch items and archives.

I've been a delegate at State and Federal Conferences, stood with the right of reply to get our motions across the line, asked for help and guidance, contributed reports, reviews and information pieces to both of the ICPA publications Pedals and Down the Track and have been on an exceptional personal growth journey throughout.

I have been on the 'Convenors Team' for ICPA at: Harts Range, Bronco Branding, Tennant Creek Rodeo Bar and was the 2017 Federal Conference 'Convenor Treasurer' where we raised \$62,831.29 profit for Federal ICPA (a percentage of this profit was shared with NT State and our Branch).

I've been part of establishing the 'Cattle Sale Fundraiser' (est 2020) as one of our major fundraising events and this year it raised \$4,300 for our Branch. Follow this link to hear me talk with Jack Price about this fundraiser. (interview starts at about 38.30min)
<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/nt-country-hour/nt-country-hour/12285348>

In the last 4 years we have seen the inclusion of 'online membership renewal' for ICPA, the development of the 'new look' ICPA webpage, unveiling of the new streamline ICPA Federal Logo and adapted it to form the Alice Springs Branch logo. We've navigated through the myriad of challenges Covid-19 has produced for our branch; especially when trying to organise face to face fundraisers and more seriously getting our children to and from boarding school. One can only imagine what 2021 has in store for us...

We have had a very dedicated team working on the Bursary review for our branch (to be finalised at this face to face meeting) and have had many members contribute to Branch conversations, motions, future

fundraisers, roles and responsibilities and spread the word about our 'Meet & Greet' events that are held after face to face meetings where we welcome everyone (not just branch members) to come and share dinner, have a yarn and watch the kids play. The Big 4 Caravan Park has been a great venue for these ICPA 'Meet and Greet' events.

Our Branch has also entered its second year of designing and selling their own sponsored ICPA 'fishing shirts'. They are a huge success and I should really thank the branch for supporting this fundraising idea and Vikki M for her organisation in this area. This year the fishing shirts received \$4,500 in sponsorship and over \$7,700 in pre sales.

Over the past 4 years our Branch has awarded approx \$15,000 worth of (bursaries) Grants to our Member's children. Raising funds to support these Grants is at the heart of our fundraising efforts. The Alice Springs ICPA Branch offer the following Grants:

- ASSOA Grant - Yr 6,7,8 or 9 leaving ASSOA, Valued at \$1,500.00
- St. Phillips Grant - Student Boarding in Yr 7-12, Valued at \$2,000.00
- Secondary Grant - Student Boarding in Yr 7-12, Valued at \$2,000.00
- Jnr. Development Grant - Children aged between 8-15, Valued at \$1,000.00
- Snr. Development Grant - Children aged between 16-25 Valued at \$1,000.00

We continue to support ASSOA with annual donations to their Christmas Concert Assembly of \$500 per annum. This amounts to \$2,000 over the past 4 years. I look forward to our continued support of ASSOA.





I have confirmed the high value I place on volunteering and supporting rural and remote communities through organisations such as ICPA.

There have been many personal growth experiences and networking opportunities presented to me through my involvement with ICPA and my connection with ICPA will be life long.

You have supported me. Many amazing women and men who have invested their time into providing guidance, reassurance, support, feedback and constructive advice to me along the way, with the collective and countless volunteer hours ensuring ICPA will continue to help rural and remote families improve their access to education into the future. You have invited me into your homes and asked what ICPA can do to support you.

You have invested in me. I have attended Federal ICPA Conferences in Alice Springs, Canberra, Adelaide and via Webinar to put our motions forward to the Delegates.

Speaking at Conference remains one of the highlights of my ICPA responsibilities. The challenge of public speaking and following the strict rules of debate while 'fighting' for a motion is one that I look forward to, the ever growing learning curve of conference!

Over the past 4 years as Branch President I have spent about 60 days away from home and my responsibilities on the Station and to my young family; attending and travelling to State and Federal Conferences, as well as Branch

fundraising events. Without the support of my husband, family and staff (who are left at Elkedra to cover my workload) I would not have been able to dedicate this amount of time to ICPA - so a BIG shout out to all the families who hold the fort while we are off on our ICPA missions. Without you, many of us would not be so readily available.

I have learned to step up, stand back, suck it up and speak up as well as hold my tongue. Being the Branch President of ICPA has given me Leadership experience that is quite different to running our own family cattle business. I have enjoyed learning about the processes of ICPA that are governed by Branch, State and Federal constitutions and I continue to improve my understanding of constitutions, following protocols and ensuring the succession of executives and committee members into ICPA.

Together as a Branch, we have navigated our way through the decline in volunteers to support Branch fundraisers such as the ICPA Canteen at Harts Range and as a result 2020 was the first year, (in all that I can remember) where our Branch did not 'run the canteen'. A combination of Covid and members feeling the strain of the ongoing drought has not helped our efforts for face to face fundraisers this year. However, we have shown that we can adapt and be creative with our fundraisers and are always open for suggestions on how to diversify.

My 2020 executive are nothing short of inspirational; Lisa K, Georgie H and Katherine W, thank you for your time, effort and support. We each bring

different perspectives and skills to the table.

To the Alice Springs ICPA Executive, Committee, Branch Members and Supporters; through our connection with ICPA, we have navigated all of this together and supported each other along the way. There certainly is no 'I' in 'Team', but rest assured we need plenty of 'I's to step up for the challenge! Be the Change.

I know there will be other highlights I have forgotten to mention, but I have no doubt my ICPA highlight reel will continue to grow in the years to come, so they may get a mention next time!

Please engage with us on the Alice Springs Branch Facebook page or go to the ICPA webpage and check out what other Branches are up to all across Australia.

I look forward to supporting the 2021 Executive and Committee of the Alice Springs ICPA and seeing what the future holds for our Branch.

Amber

Amber Driver
Alice Springs Branch
President
ICPA NT



THANK YOU



For supporting the ICPA NT Alice Springs Branch Cattle Sale Fundraiser - est 2020



The Sponsors

In 2020 The Alice Springs ICPA Branch established the 'Cattle Sale' fundraiser.

We would like to thank the businesses and families who supported the Alice Springs Branch in this exciting new fundraiser:

- Todd River Pastoral - "Allambi Station"
- Napier Pastoral - "Delmore Downs"
- Barkly Grazing - "Phillip Creek Station"
- Elkedra Pastoral Company - "Elkedra Station"
- S & K Broad - "Jervois Station"
- A & D Haigh - Murranji Water Drilling
- Sandover Pastoral Company - "Ammaroo Station"
- Jane Hayes – "The Garden Station"

The Supporters:

We would also like to thank and acknowledge the Stock Agents who supported our 'Cattle Sale' Fundraiser.

Many pastoral families rely on these businesses to help sell their cattle, access markets inter and intra state (buying or selling cattle), secure trucks to cart their cattle to market, buy goods such as water tanks, troughs, fencing supplies. Hay, pellets or lick blocks for their stock, attend agricultural field days and be kept up to date with the latest weather forecasts, market prices and

help source many other items that are needed to keep the wheels turning for many rural and remote families in the NT.

We also thank them for sharing our fundraiser with their extensive networks:

- GDL (Grant Daniel & Long)
- David Eagleson, Territory Rural McPherson, Alice Springs.
- Scott Riggs, T&R Livestock
- Elders Alice Springs

The ABC Rural Report 1 June 2020:

"The Alice Springs branch of the Isolated Children's' Parents Association has launched its new fundraising effort, asking members to donate a cow to the organisation"





The Alice Springs ICPA Branch will be doing the 'Cattle Sale Fundraiser' again in 2021 and would love you to get on board and support our ICPA NT Branch.

Please contact the Branch Secretary or President for more information:

Secretaryasicpa@gmail.com
president.as.icpa@gmail.com

Amber

Amber Driver

Alice Springs Branch President

Follow this link to hear the Alice Springs Branch President, Amber Driver talk with Jack Price about the exciting new fundraising idea (interview at about 38.30min)

<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/nt-country-hour/nt-country-hour/12285348>

The Alice Springs ICPA Branch:

The money raised during the 'Cattle Sale Fundraiser' assisted the Alice Springs ICPA Branch advocate for 'Equity of Access to Education for Rural and Remote Children' and provided rural and remote children with grants of up to \$2000.

Junior and Senior personal development and boarding grants are some of the grants open for applications each year. (Guidelines to apply – visit icpa.com.au and visit the Alice Springs Branch page for more details.)

A message from one of the Families:

"Our children are able to get hands on with this fundraiser. They have to help care for and raise any poddy calves that have 'lost their mum'. They need to be fed special powdered milk morning and night, hay and calf pellets.

The kids are able to help look after these calves and watch them grow into strong healthy weaners.

All of our 'poddies' get names; the kids love choosing the names and often they become great mates, (just like having a puppy, only much bigger), then the kids are able to learn about selling the animals (be that into a sale yard, meatworks or feedlot) and get involved in the monetary transaction for their animal.

Now, with the establishment of this 'Cattle Sale Fundraiser', our children are able to learn about supporting volunteer organisations such as ICPA by donating the proceeds of the sale of their calf to ICPA. I wonder if the kids will ever suggest that they should donate some of the proceeds to buying more calf milk for the next lot of poddies?..."

Photo credits can be found on page 25



ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS ASSOCIATION Northern Territory State Council Incorporated



SIBA SHIPS - WELLARD RURAL EXPORTS 'BRIDGING THE GAP' GRANTS PROGRAM

A donation from Siba Ships and the Wellard Rural Export group has allowed ICPA NT to offer the 'Bridging the Gap' Grants program.

WHAT ARE THEY?

These grants shall be awarded in February and August each year to assist in the costs associated for a child to attend an educationally based activity, purchase materials, which are relevant to their current studies or chosen career path or undertake personal development activities.

They are intended to cover course costs, books, equipment, travel and study aids. This is also extended to include activities that relate to student's study course or personal development: leadership skills, information gathering, networking with peers, and course extension activities.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1. The applicant's family must be geographically isolated and have been a Branch or Lone Member within the NT for at least two years.
2. The applicant must be aged between 15 to 22 years at the 1st January in the year of application.
3. Applicants do not have to be enrolled in fulltime study.

CONDITIONS OF APPLICATIONS

As part of the claim the applicant must provide a 500 word (approx) application which would include:

- How are you or your family isolated
- Details of family membership with the ICPA NT
- Details of costs and how the activity or materials that you are applying for will benefit you and what is its relevance to the course you are studying; or your career pathway; or personal development.

Payment will be made in the form of a cheque payable to the successful recipient or guardian, once the application has been deemed successful or alternatively, when a receipt or invoice has been presented to the ICPA NT Treasurer, pertaining to the activity or materials from the educational body.

Retrospective applications can be made for an activity or cost associated that has occurred within the previous semester.

The successful applicants will be required to provide a brief written report outlining the content and achievements obtained, for inclusion in the following ICPA NT 'Down the Track' Newsletter, including photographs encouraged.

A successful applicant may not apply for consecutive bursaries.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications will be strictly confidential. The names of the applicants will only be known to the current State Council Assistant Secretary, who will not be eligible to sit on the selection panel.

If in the opinion of the selection panel no suitable application is received, grants will not be awarded and the budgeted amount rolled over into the next semester. Amounts awarded each semester will be decided by the panel, ensuring that any single payment is not under \$750 and with the annual amount available to the grants being reviewed and allocated after each AGM.

The decision of the selection panel will be final. Parents of applicants shall not be eligible to sit on the panel.

CLOSING DATES

January 31st July 31st each year.

The application must be received by the Returning Officer by C.O.B. on the closing dates. Please forward the application along with your current address, email and contact phone number to:

ICPA NT Grants Officer:
Helen Harding
Gorrie Station
RSD MS 1953
Katherine NT 0852
T: 8975 9965
E: ntfso@icpa.com.au

Note: As this mailing address is in a remote location, please allow plenty of time for delivery - email is preferred.

*It is advisable that you ring to ensure that the application has been received.
If sending by email, please ensure you have a 'read receipt' on your outgoing message and that your email is confirmed as received.*



AHVISE Aussie Helpers

AHVISE (Aussie Helpers Volunteers for Isolated Students Education) is an educational support program consisting of volunteer tutors (usual retired) who want to make a difference by helping Australian families in isolated locations with their educational needs.

The volunteers can provide the tutoring online (eg Skype), however most tutors do travel, and they receive a travel cost reimbursement. The volunteers tend to make the 'staycation' part of a larger adventure and it is a 'win win' for everyone involved.

Many of the families that the tutor assist have their own schoolroom on cattle stations, communities, national parks, properties, farms, fishing villages or even the odd remote island.

Where there's help needed AHVISE will be sure to assist if there is a volunteer available. If you feel you can help our kids by volunteering, or if you are a parent requiring help please get more information and register by going to:

www.ahvise.org.au

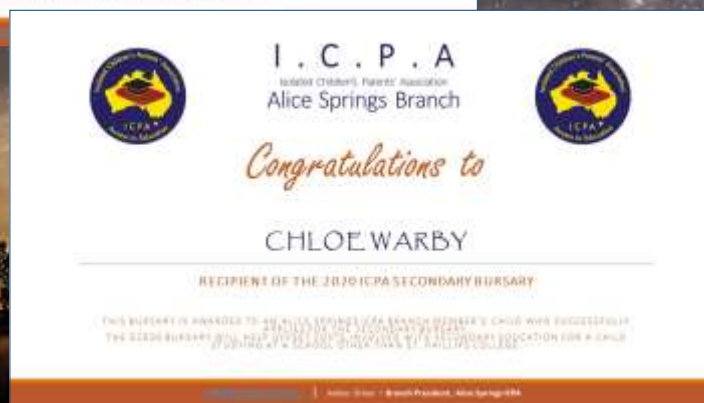
CONGRATULATIONS

We pass on our congratulations to the worthy recipients of the Alice Springs School of the Air ICPA Secondary Bursary; Tilly and Chloe Warby.

We wish you both all the very best with your future endeavours!

The roots of true achievement lie in the will to become the best that you can become.

- Harold Taylor



ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH

Presidents Report - December 2020

Dear Members, Thank you for attending our last face to face General Meeting and AGM for 2020. The past 4 years I have held the position of Branch President. Volunteering time for such an important organisation has confirmed how important the voice of ICPA is for our Geographically Isolated Families - we work hard to bring 'equity of access to education' to children in the bush. Your voice, your families and your support have been a vital motivation for me during my term as Branch President and I have been privileged to work with so many kind, resilient and motivated members during this time. We all share a common goal within ICPA - bringing different skill sets to the table. I encourage everyone to continue to adopt a positive and collaborative mindset for the longevity of our amazing Branch. Continue to talk about ICPA to your children and share the information about the 5 Branch Grants that are available to them each year - we fundraise so we are able to set aside \$7500 per year to offer these Grants. Please continue to support the future of our Branch by stepping into one of the Executive or Committee Positions. Thank you to my amazing 2020 executive - They say there is 'no 'i' in team' however, there is a Lisa, Katherine and Georgie! And, THANK YOU; our members and committee. Enjoy the holidays with your loved ones, I'll see you at the 2021 ICPA State Conference. Over and out, Amber Driver.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



BAG TAG ORDER FORM



ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL INCORPORATED

ABN: 19 744 602 697

TREASURER: Moira Lanzarin
POBox 4101, Mataranka NT 0852
nttreasurer@icpa.com.au
M: 0428 474 262

NAME: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____
Ph: _____

TAX INVOICE
Date: _____

DESCRIPTION

AMOUNT

ICPA (NT) luggage bags (\$10 ea)

☐ Green ☐ Orange ☐ White ☐ Blue

PICKUP at ICPA event ☐ Yes ☐ No

Or Postage (\$5 for up to 5)

Total (No GST)

Direct Deposit Details (preferred):

Isolated Children's Parents' Assoc, NT State Council Inc.

BSB: 015 884 (ANZ Bank)

Acc: 4809 60835

Please use "Bagtag_Surname" as reference and email remittance to nttreasurer@icpa.com.au

Thank you for supporting ICPA - Equity in Education

Tried, True and Tested

- Recipes that stand the test of time

When asked to share a recipe or two for this edition of Down the Track, Kelli McLaughlin of Tennant Creek Station reached straight for her Grandma Lucy's the much sought after 'famous Rum Ball Recipe'.

What she didn't realise however, was the very recipe book she was delving in to was in fact an old ICPA "County Hospitality" Cookbook put out by the Claremont Branch of the Isolated Children's Parents' Association back in the 1970's.

With a forward by the then Executive Officer of the Queensland Council ICPA Mr E.C. (Bunny) Powne. As per Mr Powne's words below, it just goes to show that the 'ingredients' required to run a successful branch of the ICPA has stayed true throughout the years;

"Quality cooking needs to have good ingredients, but good ingredients alone will not make the end result satisfying, or fill the need. The ingredients need to be blended and stirred in such a manner that the mixture when cooked or baked with the correct amount of heat, will achieve the desired result."

Similarly, any community group or organisation must blend together with the correct measure of knowledge, ambition and dedication; followed up with the correct amount of stirring, and applying of heat of sufficient quantity and in the right places to render a service that will help fill a need."

Grandma Lucy McLaughlin of Springsure, purchased this gem of ICPA history - to then pass it on to Kelli, and in turn we all get to share in the 'famous Rum Balls' recipe - as well as a glimpse in to ICPA history.

Bring on the baking!

Thank you for
sharing Kelli!



COCONUT CHOCOLATES (to serve with after dinner coffee)

3/4 cup coconut	4 oz. butter
1 1/4 cups icing sugar	6 oz. cooking chocolate
3/4 cup rolled oats	glace cherries
1 dessertspoon instant coffee	

Cream butter and sugar well. Add coconut, rolled oats, coffee and mix well. Roll into small balls. Place in refrigerator overnight or for a few hours. Melt chopped chocolate in the top of a double saucepan over hot water. Coat balls with chocolate and top with a cherry piece.

Ladies from the Bollon Branch.

SUGAR-COATED PEANUTS

1/2 lb. raw peanuts	1/2 cup water
1/2 lb. sugar	1 teaspoon rose colouring

Place ingredients in saucepan on medium heat. Stir occasionally with wooden spoon. When water takes up (approximately 20 minutes depending heat), tip quickly onto greased tray and separate with wooden spoon. Allow to cool. Store in screw top jar. Inexpensive Christmas or party nuts.

Mary Mendezona, "Cassiopeia", Clermont.

RUM BALLS

12 oz. Nice biscuits	2 tablespoons crushed nuts
2 tablespoons rum	2 tablespoons chopped dates
1 tin condensed milk	1 1/2 tablespoons cocoa

Crush Nice biscuits, then mix all ingredients together. Form into balls and roll in coconut.

Joy Manning, Clermont.

FRUIT BALLS

2 cups bubble-type breakfast cereal (slightly crushed)	1/2 cup chopped apricots
2 cups coconut	1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts
1/2 cup chopped raisins	1 tin condensed milk

Blend all ingredients well together, form into small balls and toss in coconut or in icing sugar, then chill.

Joy Manning, Clermont.

CHOCOLATE PEPPERMINT CREAMS

2 oz. packet cream cheese	few drops peppermint essence
1/2 lb. icing sugar	4 oz. dark chocolate

Beat cream cheese until light and fluffy, gradually add sifted icing sugar; add a little extra icing sugar, if necessary, to make into stiff dough. Add peppermint essence to taste; knead well. Dust board well with sifted icing sugar, roll mixture out to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into shapes using 1 inch round cutter. Put on aluminium foil-covered tray, cover and leave 24 hours to dry. Melt chopped chocolate in top of double saucepan, over simmering water; remove from heat. Using two forks, dip peppermints into chocolate, put on aluminium foil-covered tray to set. Makes 3 1/2-4 dozen.

Sue Jago, "Moramana", Clermont.

STRENGTH AND RESILIANCE WITH THE KATHERINE BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A dedicated team representing Katherine in to 2021



President	<i>Kerrie Scott</i>
Vice President	<i>Julie Richter</i>
Secretary	<i>Katie Payne</i>
Treasurer / Public Officer	<i>Fiona McDonald</i>
Publicity Officer/ Social Media Officer	<i>Amanda Murphy</i>
Grants Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer	<i>Helen Harding</i>
Committee	<i>Lisa Dyer Sally Dyer Emma Brown Bianca Brown Lauren Hoar</i>

Most of us serve our
ideals by fits and starts.
The person who makes a
success of living
is the one who sees his
goal steadily
and aims for it
unswervingly.
That is dedication.

- Cecil B. DeMille



Recognising dedication, commitment and passion for the ICPA NT cause - Helen Harding and Sally Sullivan receiving their Branch Life Memberships.



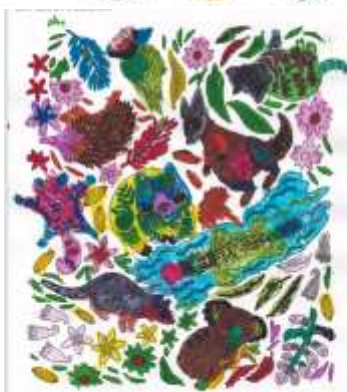
Find us on
Facebook

facebook.com/ICPANT

www.nt.icpa.com.au

LOOKING BACK AT THE 'COLOURS' OF DTT 2020

Thank you to everyone who entered the Colouring Competitions



Can you find yours?

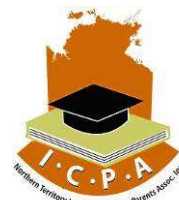
PHOTO CREDITS: Pg 7 - 'Driving' Annika Bell. Pg 13 - Electra/Shutterstock.com "unusual wind swiped white clouds with windmill on the side of photo." Pg 14 - Petrolith/Shutterstock.com "Katherine Gorge - NT Australia". Pg 21 - Maythee Moran/Shutterstock.com "Australia Landscape: Road to Red Rock of Alice Springs. Pg 22 and 23 - James Christian/Shutterstock.com "Early morning panorama of a panel yard full of beef cattle on an outback australian cattle station." | LyndonOK/Shutterstock.com "The sun sets over the dry, red hills of the West Macdonnell Ranges near Alice Springs, Northern Territory." | Earth and More/Shutterstock.com "Closeup of a bull's head in the yards at sunrise." Pg 25 - coloursinmylife/Shutterstock.com "unusual wind swiped white clouds with windmill on the side of photo."



Isolated Children's Parents' Association

NORTHERN TERRITORY MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2021

DUE JANUARY 1ST EACH YEAR.



MEMBERSHIP TO YOUR LOCAL BRANCH IS ONLY \$50/FAMILY/YEAR

- A voice in your children's education.
- Membership voting rights at Branch, State and Federal level (financial assistance to attend State and Federal conferences available).
- Qualification for ICPA grants.
- Free subscription to - ICPA NT 'Down the Track' and ICPA Australia 'Pedals' magazines.

If you're not receiving these publications regularly, check with your treasurer- you may not be a financial member for 2021.
If you still want to keep in touch, but not be associated with a particular branch, then **Lone Members** is for you!

Please fill in this form and forward to one of the below treasurers.

If paying by Direct Deposit, please use your first initial and surname with the word 'Membership' as the reference to help the treasurer. (e.g. 'J Bloggs Membership'), and post or email this form using the details below.

These are important to use for grant qualifications and for ICPA advocacy purposes.

ALICE SPRINGS

Treasurer: Kelli McLaughlin

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ANZ
BSB: 015 884
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LONE MEMBERS

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PO Box 4101
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Ph: 0428 474 262
E: nttreasurer@icpa.com.au

ANZ
BSB: 015 884
Acct#: 264 118 512

BRANCH:		
TITLE:	FIRST NAME :	SURNAME:
ADDRESS:		
PH:	EMAIL:	

Please advise your Branch Secretary and Treasurer of your change of postal or email address

Your children's details

(this information is retained by the Branch and State Council Treasurers and Secretaries and used for Grant qualifications and advocacy purposes)

Names (of Children)	Age (turning in 2021)	Year Level (in 2021)	School/University/College Attending

I give ICPA permission to use photographs of my children for use in ICPA Publications and Newsletters, including the ICPA NT Facebook Page ☐ Please ✓

ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH

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Mary Bayly
Rebecca Zadow

ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

Denise Broad
Bev Seidel
Liz Bird

LONE MEMBERS

LONE MEMBER OFFICER

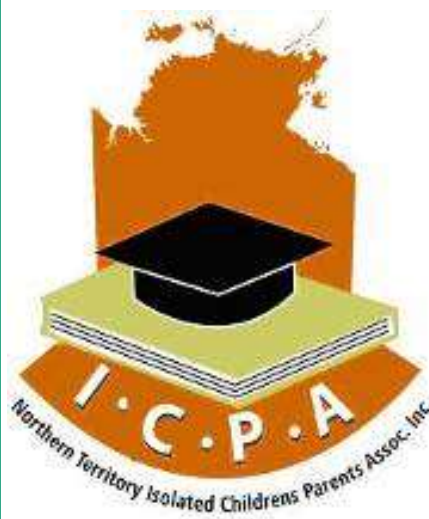
Moira Lanzarin
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0428 474 262
NTTreasurer@icpa.com.au

ICPA NT LONE MEMBERS

This is a group who wish to be informed
of ICPA issues, but do not wish to
belong to a 'branch' as such.
Anyone who lives anywhere can be an NT Lone
Member.

The Lone members do not hold meetings,
but they do hold two votes at conferences
(State & Federal).

If you would like to receive regular
publications from state council
'Down the Track' and Federal Council
'Pedals' then Lone Members is for you!



BARKLY BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

Wendy Ohlsen
Carmel Wagstaff
Robyn Peatling

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Heidi Millership

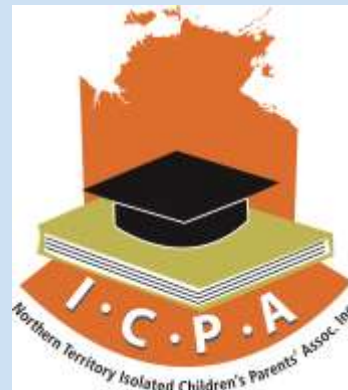
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lisa Dyer
Lauren Hoar
Emma Brown
Bianca Brown
Sally Dyer

KATHERINE BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

Helen Harding
Sally Sullivan
Ros Andrews
Jackie Harvey
Merrial Lawrie
Martha Swart
Patricia Elliot
Royelene Hill
Janelle and Blue Pugh

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NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL INC

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Alice Springs NT 0871

DOWN THE TRACK Newsletter

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