

FIFTY MEMBERS FOR 50 YEARS

An energetic and engaging Dawson Valley ICPA branch meeting the day before St Patrick's Day focused on early childhood, rural school bus runs, teacher and student support in small schools. Members discussed pertinent local issues and began formulating motions for the upcoming Qld State conference in Blackall in June.

Dawson Valley Meeting 2022



The 2022 "cuppa, cake and convo" in airconditioned comfort at Theodore Home and Garden Café seems a far cry from our district's first ICPA meeting in 1979 of the then Cracow-Eidsvold branch who met in the paddock by the side of the main (dirt) road 100km to the south. And yet, how different are we really? Those families in the late 70s harboured our same concerns about their own children not being able to access the accepted standard of education available to their urban counterparts and hoped to forge positive change through banding together and raising their voices.

When the Cracow school was closed down in the 90s and the Theodore (Acacia) bus run extended to Cracow, families utilising the Cracow bus run service eventually

ICPA meeting of the Cracow-Eidsvold Branch 1979



ICPA Catering at the Gyranda sale in the 1980's

transitioned to sit under the Dawson Valley banner (est. in 1987). The Cracow-Eidsvold branch also saw a change in their representative region and advocating for families around Eidsvold and the Burnett Valley, are now known as North Burnett branch.

Over the years, both branches were heavily involved with catering for the annual Santa Gertrudis bull sale at Gyranda alongside the Theodore Rotary club. While the facilities have changed a bit, it's still a fun and successful day out on the banks of the Dawson River.

Dawson Valley ICPA is running a "fifty members for 50 years" campaign and is continues to reach out to all families who also share the dream of equity of access to education for our regions' children.

Nikki Mahony

Dawson Valley Branch ICPA

Dawson Valley ICPA catering at the Gyranda sale BBQ 2020

