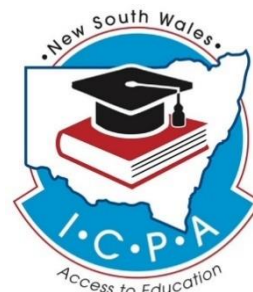


MEDIA RELEASE

3rd December 2024



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of New South Wales

Working together for equity of access to education for all students who live in rural and remote Australia

“Gussy’s Big Ride”

One would be forgiven for thinking we may have stepped back in time talking about riding your pushbike from boarding school, at the end of the school term, in Bathurst to your family farm near Rankins Springs - however, that is exactly what Yr 11 Scots All Saints Student Gus Argent-Smith is doing in a few days' time.

The 365 km journey on 7 December will take approximately 12 hours, commencing with an early start when Gus leaves Bathurst at 3am and heads for home this Saturday morning.

Gus is making the ride to raise awareness and funds for the Isolated Children's Parents' Association of NSW (ICPA-NSW) and his local Rankins Springs branch as a way of giving back. ICPA-NSW thanks Gus for his amazing initiative to support ICPA in such a way. A huge undertaking even by a dedicated athlete such as Gus.

You may ask yourself who is ICPA-NSW and what do they do? ICPA-NSW are a voluntary advocacy organisation, focused on equitable access to education for all rural and remote students.

With branches across Australia and 23 branches in NSW, The Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) is a voluntary parent organisation that has its roots firmly embedded in rural and remote Australia. It was founded in 1971 in Bourke NSW, following closure of the Bourke Hostel that had provided much needed accommodation for children living on remote properties so they could access education.

The NSW State Council of the Isolated Children's Parents' Association advocates for rural and remote children who:

- Need to access Preschool, Rural Schools, Secondary and Tertiary Education, including students enrolled in Distance Education
- Better Communications to improve education outcomes - such as internet and mobile connectivity to improve educational outcomes
- Better Transport services to enable safe access to education – such as road conditions, bus routes, seat belts on buses, drive subsidies
- Better Health outcomes to ensure early intervention for children before they enter the education system.

Please visit our website to learn more: www.icpa.com.au/nsw

We wish Gus well on his ride and we will be cheering him along the way from afar from all over regional, rural and remote NSW.

Go Gus.....

For further information please contact:
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