

# A SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT ON RAELENE HALL



RAELENE HALL AND HER FAMILY

**Raelene Hall was the editor of Pedals Magazine for 17 years. This equates to 68 issues. 68 issues worth of calling for submissions, compiling articles, deliberating over cover photos, and proofreading articles, again and again, to ensure they're just right. All 68 of these issues were produced at her home – Neds Creek Station, some 210kms North-East of Meekatharra in Western Australia's East Gascoyne region.**

Raelene first heard about ICPA when she was a governess. Once married and settled at Neds Creek, with a gentle push from her friend and neighbour Di Forsyth, she joined the organisation in 1983. She is proudly a member of the Meekatharra Air Branch – the first ICPA branch in Western Australia. While Raelene's life has evolved, she has always found enjoyment in being part of ICPA. From the fun at conferences to the overwhelming support she received from the organisation when she lost two siblings in a matter of weeks, Raelene is humbled in being part of an organisation that not only fights so fiercely for equitable education for regional, rural and remote children but is like 'one big family'.

While she can't recall exactly what motivated her to put her hand up to be the editor of Pedals, she thinks that she probably felt her skills as a writer would be useful in that space. She says that her 17-year career as editor would not have been possible without the support of state and federal councils, contributors and most notably, the love and encouragement from her family.

As Raelene met for the final time with Federal Council on the eve of Federal conference, she shared with the table some anecdotes of her time as editor. She laughed as she explained that in her first edition as the publisher, she had her 12-year-old daughter proofread the edition while on a long car drive. Midway through their travels, her daughter exclaimed 'Mum, I think you've put the dog's name as the girl and the girl's name as the dog!'. She was positive that she'd proofread the edition a number of times but was thankful for her daughters eye and the kindness of the printing company who were willing to edit the caption prior to print. As the meeting drew to a close, the room voiced their thanks for her dedication to ICPA and Pedals, to which she replied, 'You see... it's not what I've done as editor, it's what I've gained.'

2023 will see Raelene move to her house in the city and she is looking forward to accessing some of the many things distance sometimes precludes you from, the most exciting of which – regular haircuts. She looks forward to future editions of Pedals landing in her letterbox and getting to sit on her patio and leisurely read the magazine, without having a single clue of what's inside, or having proofread it many times prior to print.

Raelene, I hope you find as much enjoyment from within the pages of future editions, as we members have done from your editions of Pedals, for years and years.

# THANK YOU!

