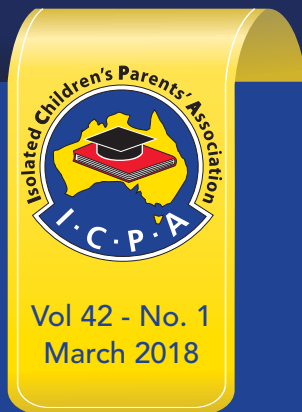


# NEWS and Views

Isolated Children's Parents' Association Queensland Inc.



Digging Deep for Education



# WINTON

ICPA QLD 2018

ARE YOU CONFERENCE READY?

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# EDITOR



## Zabby Appleton

**News and Views Editor**

P: (07) 4983 5287

E: [qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au](mailto:qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au)

## Inclusion for January Edition

- Winton Conference Reports
- Winton Conference Photos
- Articles of Interest to Members
- Branch Happenings

*Send through your contribution!*



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**Save the Date!**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018  
ICPA Federal Conference  
Hosted by NSW in Canberra



## NEWS and Views DEADLINES

Contributions to be in the hands of the editor:

**Zabby Appleton**

P: (07) 4983 5287

E: [qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au](mailto:qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au)

### NOT LATER THAN:

10 February 10 May

10 August 10 November

**Visit the ICPA  
Website:**  
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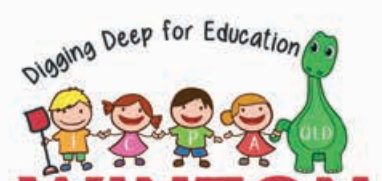


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You don't have to be a Facebook member to visit this page, though there is a 'Sign Up' button near the top of the ICPA page if you would like to join. Your branch can have a Facebook group to advertise meetings and increase communication within your area, please take a note of the guidelines.

**Date Claimer**  
ICPA Qld State Conference  
13th & 14th June 2018



**WINTON**  
ICPA QLD 2018

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## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT - Kim Hughes

As I sit at my laptop to write this report, I have to admit I'm finding it difficult to get 'my head back in the game'. The events of January, and the tragic passing of Dolly Everett, have caused me many hours of deep reflection. The selfless courage the Everett family have demonstrated by speaking out amidst such deep grief has resonated with the nation. Their actions served to shine a light on cyber bullying, social media footprints, youth suicide, and in general, the really scary stuff our children are facing because of the world they live in. The conversation has definitely started, however overdue it may be, and it will be the responsibility of everyone – politicians, parents, teachers, school leaders, young people – to keep it going. The healthy future of our young people depends on it.



Kim Hughes visiting the nbn Discovery Centre in Sydney.

*I would like to acknowledge the Everett family and beautiful Dolly, along with all families who have been touched by suicide.*

*Our thoughts, prayers and support are with you now and into the future. #doitfordolly*

### ICPA NEWS...

In the aftermath of the Queensland election, we have a new Education Minister Grace, who takes over the portfolio from Kate Jones. We have enjoyed a very healthy working relationship with Minister Jones over the last term of government, and on behalf of State Council, I sincerely thank the Minister for her interest in ICPA and her dedication to rural and remote education. We look forward to fostering an equally positive relationship with Minister Grace and will be seeking a meeting as soon as possible.

One of the issues on the agenda will be to seek clarity on the Labor election promises for rural and remote education which preceded Election Day, namely:

- The establishment of four Professional Wellbeing Centers for teachers and students across regional Qld which we understand will provide professional development for teachers, teacher and student wellbeing support and also relief teachers to fill in when teachers are absent for extended periods; and
- The provision of internet for teacher housing, which has been a long-standing lobby for ICPA Qld. The Department will fund and install internet in all teacher housing owned by the Education Department.

In October last year Minister Jones announced a \$1.5m allocation to a new initiative called 'Partners in Learning' designed to support Distance Education Home Tutors to improve student's reading. The funding will be delivered on a trial basis as a residential program across the 6 regional Qld Schools of Distance Education campuses for the next four years. Some home tutors have already participated in program modules and by all accounts the sessions have been very positively received. This initiative is a very welcome recognition of the role Home Tutors play in the schoolroom and the contribution they make to the delivery of the curriculum.

State Council will be focusing on lobbying members' motions in Term 1, addressing all issues which serve to hinder access to education in Queensland, including:

- Seeking permanency for the drought relief supplement to the Living Away from Home Allowance, which has provided an extra \$1250 p/student p/year for families in drought declared areas. This was a 3-year allocation and therefore runs out this year;



- Ensuring Schools of Distance Education campuses receive the necessary infrastructure and resources to adequately cater for geographically isolated students into the future, taking into account the increase in other enrolment categories for a number of SDEs in recent times; and
- The need to improve cross-departmental collaboration between education and health to gain better outcomes for students with a disability, learning difficulty or those needing mental health support.

The State Conference in Winton is fast approaching (13/14 June) and the convening committee has been very busy with the arrangements. Please consider sending delegates to Conference. It is so important that there is strong representation from branches to ensure that State

Council is fully informed and taking forward the issues that truly affect branch members, their community and most importantly, their children's education. The beauty of ICPA is that members set the policy. If they are your issues, they are the organisation's issues, and it is the only way that we can ensure that our lobby is always at the grassroots and based on current need.

Warmest Regards

Kim

## "PARTNERS IN LEARNING" Gets Underway at Capricornia SDE



*Partners in Learning - Capricornia School of Distance Education Tutors*

In late 2017, the Queensland Department of Education announced a massive investment into the education of home tutors teaching their children through distance education, and at the first mini school of the year, Capricornia SDE began to implement the 'Partners in Learning' initiative.

A room full of home tutors, both mums and governesses, spent two full days learning how to teach their

children to read. It was a fascinating and engaging program that was delivered via four modules, with a particular emphasis on practical and specific ways to develop literacy.

At the end of the two days even those home tutors who had been teaching for many years admitted to learning some new things and were heading home with fresh ideas!

CSDE home tutors all agreed that it was a fantastic way to start the year, and we hope to see it continue for all future home tutors coming to our school.

CSDE Mums

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER - *Grace Grace*



Grace Grace, Qld's new Education Minister

The 'Partners in Learning Program' trial will assist Queensland's home tutors to develop their skills in helping children from rural and remote areas to learn to read.

*Dear parents and carers,*

As the new Minister for Education, I'm delighted to have the opportunity to work with you to ensure all Queensland students - especially those in rural and remote areas - receive a quality education.

The Palaszczuk Government has invested a record \$9.8 billion this financial year to support our aim of delivering a world-class education for all Queensland students.

During the recent state election, my government committed to:

- Recruiting an extra 3,700 teachers over four years
- Providing four innovative Centres for Professional Learning and Wellbeing, opening first in Mt Isa and Roma
- Delivering the 'Digital Technologies' curriculum, including coding and robotics, in all state schools
- Improving internet connectivity to teacher housing
- Rolling out a new approach for senior secondary and tertiary entrance.

We also committed to investing \$107 million over three years to develop our "Teach Queensland's Future" strategy to ensure we meet the demand for quality teachers in all areas of the state and extend support for graduate teachers through our "Mentoring Beginning Teachers" program.

I look forward to working with you to deliver these commitments and to see the difference they make to the educational outcomes of young Queenslanders.

I recently had the opportunity to work closely with the Isolated Children's Parents' Association at the Water Safety Roundtable in February. We will continue to work towards a community approach to ensure the water safety of our children.

In keeping with my government's major focus on enhancing literacy skills, we are making a significant investment in home tutors.

I know that the work of home tutors is critical to positive student outcomes, which is why we are investing almost \$1.5 million in

the 'Partners in Learning Program' trial, commencing this year. This program will provide specialist advice and strategies to help home tutors improve their existing skills to inspire, encourage and support children's reading development.

Queensland is unique, with more than half of our state schools located in regional, rural and remote locations. I know how important it is to recruit and retain state school teachers in these areas.

That's why we are delivering initiatives like the Teach Queensland Style campaign, along with financial incentives offered by the Queensland Government, to attract new and existing teachers.

Happily, many schools in regional, rural and remote communities have welcomed newly-qualified and experienced teachers to begin or advance their teaching careers this year. I wish them well in their new jobs and new communities.

I wish all parents, carers and students a productive and rewarding 2018 and I look forward to meeting and working with many of you over the coming year.

*Grace Grace*  
Minister for Education



# WINTON

## ICPA QLD 2018

The 47th Qld ICPA State Conference is being held in the heart of Queensland, Winton, on the 13th and 14th June 2018, and we'll be "Digging Deep for Education".

### A MESSAGE FROM WINTON CONVENING COMMITTEE

Things are well on track to welcome everyone to Winton on the 13th and 14th of June. The sub-committee had their first meeting of the year on the 7th February, where president Mrs Tina Elliott informed everyone that at that point there was officially 126 days to go until the big event. A fantastic group of women are working hard to put together the conference and everyone is looking forward to showcasing our wonderful branch, our spectacular town of Winton and sharing the motto of 'Digging Deep for Education' with those attending. Now that 2018 is well and truly in full swing, there will be plenty of updates to come so stay tuned for more details.

*Sophie Elliot*, Winton ICPA Publicity Officer



2018 Winton State Conference Convening Committee: Back Row (L-R) Kerry Turnbull, Philippa Whitehead, Sophie Elliott, Katrina Paine, Cathy White, Lisa Elliott, Emma Brodie. Front Row (L-R) Cyndi McQueen (Treasurer), Tina Elliott (President), Kate Bradshaw (Secretary). Absent: Jodi Axford

### GUEST SPEAKERS

State Council are very excited that this year our Guest Speakers will come in a different format... Three speakers, one topic ~ **"Being Rural and Remote doesn't hold you back – Don't hold back"**. Our panel of speakers are three influential women

1. A home grown ICPA talent who is taking the Qld media in the palm of her hand
2. A country town girl, boarding school graduate, influential Qld/ Australian journalist
3. A song writer, small school teacher and mother of 4 boys...

We will get to listen to their perspective of how growing up out of the mainstream urban locations has actually influenced and enhanced

their ability to forge ahead in their chosen career paths. As we all know paths do not always need to be straight.

This is one session at conference you certainly wouldn't want to miss whether you are a home tutor, teacher, new mum, older mum, departmental employee, boarding staff or educator. We are sure you will all learn and be entertained.

## BRANCH MOTIONS

What are the education issues in your area? Are there things that you want help with? Are there things working really well that you want to share? Now is the time to get together and discuss motions to bring to conference. It is so important to try and get your motions to State Council by the 2nd May 2018 - this means we can collate them and then have plenty of time to research and share.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2nd May 2018** - Agenda Motions Close  
(send to [qldsecretary@icpa.com.au](mailto:qldsecretary@icpa.com.au))
- 23rd May 2018** - Early Bird Registrations Close  
(email to [mcqueenm@bigpond.com](mailto:mcqueenm@bigpond.com))
- 30th May 2018** - Supplementary Motions Close  
(send to [qldsecretary@icpa.com.au](mailto:qldsecretary@icpa.com.au))
- 30th May 2018** - Registrations Close  
(email to [mcqueenm@bigpond.com](mailto:mcqueenm@bigpond.com))

Updates for state conference will be emailed to branches and the ICPA Qld Facebook page will also have all information as it comes to hand.

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

ICPA Qld Inc. sincerely thank all sponsors who have already pledged their support for the 2018 Conference. If you would like to come on board as a sponsor please contact Philippa at [johnflip@activ8.net.au](mailto:johnflip@activ8.net.au).



*A proud sponsor of the 2018 QLD ICPA State Conference (Winton)*

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# Dealing with Homesickness

**PART ONE - April 22, 2013 By Boarding Expo**

Homesickness affects people in different ways and often at different times. Sometimes it's fleeting, other times it can hang around for a while. Everyone experiences it at one point or another and it is completely normal. But it can lead you to be tearful, upset, grumpy, moody and off your food. You can feel like running away, or that you have a permanent stomach ache, feel exhausted and miserable, lonely and depressed. And I'm just describing how parents can feel when their kids are away at boarding school.

Homesickness strikes at odd times and can tear you down the middle. For me, I didn't get homesick until third term of year 7. I had been having so much fun meeting new people, playing different sports, starting drama lessons, exploring Sydney on the weekends: it just hadn't hit me yet. As my parents waved me off on the bus it finally hit me that I was living 600kms away from home and effectively, I was never going to live at home with my parents again. And my reaction wasn't pretty, bordering on hysterical with teary phone calls and upset emails. I was hardly able to say goodbye to my family on the weekends

when they came to visit. It sounds terrible and it was, not just for me but for my parents as well. But it only lasted for about two weeks. And luckily for me all of my fellow boarders had already been through this in term one and knew the best ways to help me get through it. That's one of the most important things to remember with homesickness; it's temporary, it's normal and there are many ways to overcome it.

In all of the boarder success stories we have featured on our blog, everyone lists the great friendships you gain and the independence you learn. Throughout the whole time, parents must remain strong and supportive while no doubt suffering homesickness themselves at times. A very real and emotive account from the parents' perspective can be found in a recent article published in The Weekend Australian Magazine titled Goodbye My Child by Trent Dalton. The article describes the experience of Steve and Lucy Upton from Charleville, Qld as their daughter started boarding at The Glennie School in Toowoomba.

This article emotionally details what many country mums and dads all over Australia (34 000 to be exact) go through when their children leave home to go to boarding school. After reading this article and consulting with other boarding parents, we have put together bit of a survival guide to homesickness for parents and children. We hope this guide helps both you and your child through this challenging yet rewarding educational experience.

The second part to this article can be found here: [www.boardingexpo.com.au/dealing-with-homesickness-part-two/](http://www.boardingexpo.com.au/dealing-with-homesickness-part-two/)



**Boarding  
Schools  
Expo**

<b>2018 Expos</b>	
Dubbo	18-19 May
Griffith Pop-up	14 June
Wagga Wagga	15-16 June
Narrabri	27-28 July

**Free Admission**



## HOW TO: Survive Sending Your Children Away to Boarding School

### Tips From Parents

A resounding answer from many of the parents was: **Keep Busy!**

Audrey, a mother of three boys from the Central West whose boys went to The Kings School in Sydney has the following advice:

*"No phone contact for the first two weeks (this is a Kings policy and works really well). Seems harsh but as one housemaster said to us, for 95% it isn't a problem but for the 5% who are wobbly, a phone call home can trigger feelings of sadness etc in both kids and parents. Once two weeks is up they are usually over all the little dramas, are starting to enjoy themselves and can't wait to tell you all about it! In the meantime faxes, emails and (shock! horror!) letters work really well, so they don't feel completely cut off."*

Sascha, an Englishwoman with two children at boarding school in London says:

*"Don't dwell on it. If you can't change anything you have to just embrace the situation you are in. Try and change the negative into positive. It is a good thing. Anyway, our kids are not there to make us feel happy and good about ourselves. I bet that it is usually when one feels particularly low, bored etc that the missing is at its greatest and when busy and happy probably don't think about it quite as much!"*

Sally, a mother from central west NSW, has survived all four of her daughters going through boarding school in Sydney.

*"Do not sob in front of the children but save it for the garden or washing up but always remember the main reason your children are away." Sally also recommends, "Send them little parcels in the mail: \$10 with a card, or some chocolates, a photo from home so they know that you are thinking of them and don't feel like they are missing out."*

Tracey, whose only daughter went to Kinross Wolaroi School in Orange says, "Getting a pet to keep you company is a good idea."

Tracey also recommends, "Set structured phone call times as ringing as soon as the homesick feeling hits does not teach you to deal with overcoming the feelings. And most importantly, keep busy."

### From a Dad's Perspective:

George, father of four girls who went away to Kambala Girls School, Sydney recommends, "Talk to other parents who have been through or are going through the same as you are, so you can support each other and remind each other of the great opportunities you are giving your children."

*Try and distract your wife by taking her out to the movies or nice dinners, playing golf or tennis and encouraging her to focus her energies on something else that makes her happy."*

## HOW TO: Survive Homesickness from the Kids' Perspective.

### Tips From Kids Who Used to be Boarders:

1. Keep busy.
2. Book a flight/train/bus home mid-term if you can so you have something to look forward to.
3. Bring photos/pictures or things from home and hang them in your room/dorm.
4. Go and get involved in an activity for the term: yoga, hip-hop dancing, play in a band, join another sports team. Do this in the mornings and afternoons so you don't have time to think about home and feel sad.
5. Start writing letters to your parents and siblings at home. They will love hearing your news and you can look forward to getting mail at the boarding house.
6. Give yourself a treat to eat – some sushi from sushi-train, some lovely fresh fruit, a hot chocolate.
7. Go for a walk outside, get some fresh air and think about all the fun things you can do at boarding school.
8. Listen to your favourite music that you know will cheer you up.
9. Don't be afraid to ask for help, cry or seek comfort from your friends or people in the boarding house. They understand what you're going through and can suggest some things to take your mind off it.
10. Keep a diary and write down all the fun things you have been doing and new things you are learning to focus your mind towards the positive.

### EVERYONE

If you need immediate assistance, call Lifeline on 13 11 14.

**Lifeline** provides telephone (24/7) and online (7pm - midnight AEST) counselling for anyone experiencing depression and anxiety, domestic and family violence, family and relationship problems, financial problems, loneliness and isolation, grief or loss, panic attacks, problem gambling, recovering from a natural disaster, self-harm, stress, substance abuse and addiction, and suicide bereavement. Call 13 11 14 or visit [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

The **Suicide Call Back Service** provides telephone (24/7) and online (24/7) counselling for people 15 years and over who are suicidal, caring for someone who is suicidal, bereaved by suicide, and health professionals supporting people affected by suicide. Call 1300 659 467 or visit [www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au](http://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au)

**beyondblue** provides telephone (24/7) and online (3pm - 12am AEST) counselling for those experiencing depression, anxiety, grief or loss, self-harm and self-injury, and mental health conditions associated with pregnancy and early parenthood. Call 1300 224 636 or visit [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

**SANE Australia** provides information about mental illness, treatments, and where to go for help. The website also hosts a support forum for those with lived experience of mental illness, and their carers. Call 1800 187 263, or visit [www.sane.org](http://www.sane.org) for online helpline chat (10am-10pm AEST weekdays).

**Healthdirect Australia** provides telephone (24/7) health advice by registered nurses, an after-hours GP helpline, and a 'Find a Health Service' tool on its website. Call 1800 022 222 or visit [www.healthdirect.gov.au](http://www.healthdirect.gov.au)

**HeadtoHealth** website hosts mental health resources and content from the leading health focused organisations in Australia, including online programs, fact sheets, audio and video, and online communities. Visit [headtohealth.gov.au](http://headtohealth.gov.au)

Mental Health First Aid Training teaches people how to identify and help others with mental health problems. Training is available through **Mental Health First Aid International** [www.mhfa.com.au](http://www.mhfa.com.au)

### KIDS, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

**headspace** provides in-person counselling and advice for people 12-25 years old on health, education, employment and other services, and alcohol and other drug services. Many of its 60 centres are located in rural and remote areas. Call 03 9027 0100 or visit [www.headspace.org.au](http://www.headspace.org.au) to find a centre near you.

**ehespace** provides telephone (9am-1pm AEST daily) and online (9am to 1am AEST) counselling by qualified youth mental health professionals for people 12-25 years old on a broad range of issues such as bullying, drug and alcohol issues, depression and anxiety, relationships, concerns about friends, fitting in and isolation, or anything at all. Call 1800 650 890 or visit [www.eheadspace.org.au](http://www.eheadspace.org.au)

**Kids Helpline** provides telephone and online (24/7) counselling for young people aged between 5 and 25. You can talk about friends, boyfriends or girlfriends, problems with parents or siblings, school (bullying, homework, teachers), sex, or anything at all. Call 1800 55 1800 or visit [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

**ReachOut.com** provides practical tools, forums and information for people under 25 years old on a range of mental health topics. Visit [au.reachout.com](http://au.reachout.com)

**MindMatters** provides resources to support Australian secondary schools in promoting and protecting the mental health of members of the school community. Visit [www.mindmatters.edu.au](http://www.mindmatters.edu.au)

### MEN

**MensLine** Australia provides telephone (24/7) and online counselling and referral specifically for men. Support is also available for health professionals supporting men at risk of suicide, working with men who use violence or abuse in their relationships, and working with men experiencing abuse in their relationship. Call 1300 78 99 78 or visit [www.mensline.org.au](http://www.mensline.org.au)

**Men's Sheds** are friendly environments that cater for men of all interests, ages and cultures and serve as important meeting places for men to socialise, share life experiences and skills, make things, fix things and support each other and their communities. There are almost 1,000 Men's Sheds across Australia - many in rural and remote areas. To find one, visit [www.mensshed.org](http://www.mensshed.org) or call 1300 550 009.

### WOMEN

**Country Women's Association of Australia** is the largest women's organisation in Australia with a membership of over 20,000 in over 1,200 branches around the country. They provide community service, support networks, welfare in times of need, education opportunities, friendship, fun and more. Visit [www.cwaa.org.au](http://www.cwaa.org.au)



## CARERS

Carers Australia's [National Carer Counselling Program](#) provides short-term counselling services (telephone, email and Skype) for carers. Their staff can help you find ways to cope with change, manage stress, balance work and caring, cope with loss and grief, deal with relationship change, and access services, supports and information. Call 1800 242 636 or visit [www.carersaustralia.com.au/how-we-work/national-programs](http://www.carersaustralia.com.au/how-we-work/national-programs)

## AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

[Mates4Mates](#) supports current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members (and their families) who are wounded, injured or ill as a result of their service. They can provide individual and group therapy services, delivered by qualified professionals. For more information visit <http://mates4mates.org/>

## VETERANS

The [At Ease website](#) provides mental health information for the veteran and defence communities: online tools to help maintain your mental health and wellbeing, resources for GPs and health professionals treating veterans with common mental health conditions, and advice on how to help those at risk of suicide. Visit [at-ease.dva.gov.au](http://at-ease.dva.gov.au)

The [Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service](#) is a confidential, telephone counselling service (24/7) for veterans and their families for war and service-related mental health conditions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, depression, sleep disturbance and anger. Call 1800 011 046 or visit [www.vvcs.gov.au](http://www.vvcs.gov.au)

## FARMERS

[Rural Financial Counselling Service](#) provides free rural financial counselling to primary producers, fishers and small rural businesses. Some also provide referral to mental health services. Call 1800 686 175 or visit <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/assistance/rural-financial-counselling-service> for further information.

## ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

[Aboriginal Medical Services \(AMSs\)](#) provide culturally appropriate health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Visit <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/health-infrastructure/health-workers/aboriginal-and-islander-medical-health-services> to locate your nearest AMS.

## PEOPLE OF DIVERSE SEX, GENDERS AND SEXUALITIES

[Qlife](#) provides telephone and online counselling for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) people of all ages (every day from 3.00pm - midnight in all Australian time zones). You can talk about mental health, relationships, isolation, coming out, and a host of other concerns. Call 1800 184 527 or visit [www.qlife.org.au](http://www qlife.org.au)

## PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR DRINKING AND/OR DRUG USE

[Counselling Online](#) provides a telephone (24/7) and online counselling for people using alcohol and other drugs, their family members and friends. Visit [www.counsellingonline.org.au](http://www.counsellingonline.org.au)

## PEOPLE EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

The [1800RESPECT National Sexual Assault, Domestic Family Violence Counselling Service](#) provides telephone (24/7) and online counselling (24/7) and information and resources about sexual assault and family or domestic violence. Call 1800RESPECT (1800 737 732) or visit [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)

## RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS

[CRANApus'](#) Bush Support Line provides telephone counselling (24/7) for rural and remote health service providers and their families. It is staffed by registered psychologists who have experience working in rural and remote areas. Call 1800 805 391.

# COVERING THE CLAYPANS



*Doug with the kids*

## ALPHA BRANCH

Every year our branch holds our major fundraiser for the year, a Seven A Side Cricket Day. This year was a huge success with 28 teams travelling to Alpha from all over Queensland. We had three dedicated politicians travel to play cricket for the Day – Lachlan Miller – State Member for Gregory, Scott Buchholz – Federal Member for Wright and David Littleproud – Federal Member for Maranoa and Federal Agriculture Minister. We are grateful for the support of these men each year and the locals enjoy the chance to catch up with their elected members.

Cricket was played from 7am until around 8.30pm. Four teams played in the semi-finals with the Sugar Daddies from Innisfail and the Tomahawk Creek team from Clermont playing in the final. The Sugar Daddies won this year, so was worth the long trip for them. A speed bowling competition was also held on the day and Joe Duncombe, a member of Rabobank's Siphon Suckers team won. Doug Walters travelled to Alpha for the day and did a coaching session for the children and after the coaching the children enjoyed a wet jumping castle which I think we all wanted to have a go on. Once dark fell, the children enjoyed a movie under the stars.

Even though the day was ridiculously hot there seemed to be a record number



*The winners - Sugar Daddies*

of spectators who partied late into the night and didn't want the bar to close at midnight. We don't yet have a figure on our profits however, we are thinking it will be a record as all the food and drinks sold out on the day. These profits will go towards sending members to State and Federal conferences throughout the year.

We are grateful for everyone who helps to make the day possible. It is always such a busy weekend and a huge amount of work for our branch members, whom are all exhausted by Sunday.



*Doug showing the kids tricks*



*Speed bowler winner*



*The coin toss*



*The runner ups - The Tomahawks*

## CLONCURRY BRANCH

In the midst of the C150 celebrations held in September last year, Cloncurry ICPA branch hosted a wine and cheese table during the Cloncurry Race Clubs spring race meet. With over 1500 people passing through the gate, it was a great opportunity to promote ICPA within the local and wider communities.





## JULIA CREEK

*Thank you!*

In October, Marcus and Shelley Curr (Yelvertoft Stn, Mount Isa) held a campdrafting school in Julia Creek. The participants at the school were not the only ones to benefit from Marcus and Shelley's knowledge and skills. Long-term ICPA supporters Shelly and Marcus donated \$1000 to Julia Creek ICPA and another \$1000 to Julia Creek Kindergarten. On behalf of Julia Creek branch of ICPA we would like to say thank you for this generous donation and that it is greatly appreciated.

*Written by Kylie Cook*

*Julia Creek Secretary Kylie Cook*



*Julia Creek Kindergarten Representative, Marcus Curr, Julia Creek branch President Tricia Curr.*

## RICHMOND BRANCH

Richmond Branch had a very successful fundraising event in October when the ladies and gents came together in their red branch shirts to run the bar for the highly anticipated Spouse Hunters Ball. The annual event attracts revellers from near and far who arrive decked out in their finest and very thirsty! The evening was a fun-filled time behind the bar for the small group of enthusiastic branch members. It was great to have some husbands on hand to help out.

A few weeks later, the small branch came together again for the AGM. The executive were returned for another term: Susan Bellingham remains as president, Tricia Batt as secretary and Linda levers as treasurer. These ladies do a cracking job for the branch - thank you!



## Students Acknowledgement of Achievements

## ST GEORGE BRANCH

ICPA St George Branch started off their year with their annual AGM where the new executives were appointed. Tracey Armstrong as President, Cindy Doonan as Vice President, Brie Boyle as Secretary and Gabby Underwood as Treasurer.



*Cindy Doonan, Tracey Armstrong and Brie Boyle*



*Eli Schultz receiving his award from now president Tracey*

The Year 6 bursary winner for 2017 was awarded to Eli Schultz. He was presented with the bursary at the annual Breaker Camp from the 4th to the 7th of December at Leslie Dam. Thanks to Lisa Southern for conducting and writing the exam.

Other awards that were represented in 2017 were the St George ICPA Small Schools Awards.

## Students Acknowledgement of Achievements Continued...

St Patrick's Primary School awarded Year 6 students Mitch Twidale and Jack Coltzau for maintaining a high standard in their school work throughout 2017. These awards were presented by Belinda Eley.



Jack Coltzau & Mitch Twidale

The St George State School award, which goes to a prep to year 2 student, went to Claire Stenhouse for perseverance and persistence in all areas of school life. The award was presented by Ruth Beeson.



Belinda, Digby & Kaylene

Begonia State School award went to Digby Lyons for perseverance and persistence in music. The award was presented by Belinda Gordon and Kaylean Killen.

St George high school awarded Chelsea Gorry our St George ICPA Branch award for the most outstanding Year 7, 8 or 9 student whom demonstrated a high level of consistency over all aspects of school life throughout 2017.

Picture: Chelsea receiving her award from Mr Tuppock, SSHS Acting



*Congratulations to all our award and bursary winners for 2017!*

## WANDOAN/TAROOM BRANCH

During my time as publicity officer for the Taroom/Wandoan ICPA branch, on more than one occasion I was tempted to write an article acknowledging a child that had received recognition from their school for their efforts. But I have always stopped short in case I failed to mention someone or acknowledge someone I had simply missed.

Many students from our area have been awarded leadership roles from their particular schools in the form of Captain, House captain, Prefect or School Leader. This year however I can report a terrific story for one local family. In 2013 Eliza Parry Okeden received the honour of representing The Glennie School as Hale House Captain. In 2015 Rosie Parry Okeden also stood by her sister in gaining this position. And it's very exciting to say that in 2018 Matilda Parry Okeden will again continue with the Parry Okeden tradition in representing Glennie as Hale House Captain. One very special trifecta.

During other years other girls and boys from the Taroom Wandoan district

have held similar positions but what an accomplishment from one family. Well done girls.



PARRY OKEDEN GIRLS TAKE THE TRIFECTA!



Angus Burge (Charters Towers) and Sophie Hopkins (Wandoan)

Angus Burge and Sophie Hopkins attended the Toowoomba Grammar Formal. Angus is hoping to become an apprentice Chef, in Townsville, next year. Whilst Sophie will move up near Camooweal, to become a Governess for a year.



## Students Acknowledgement of Achievements Continued...



School Captains Maverick Dennis and Laura Kenny with House Captains Grace Paine and Alyssa McKeering



Rockhampton and Emerald CSDE School Council for 2018



The Appleton Family and their lovely governess Nicole

Proud achievements all round from the Appleton kiddies. Charlize received an academic award after her first year away boarding at The Cathedral School of St Annes & St James in Townsville. Izabelle received the Norma Harding Bursary for a Primary School Student at CTSDE and also received School Captain for 2018 (following in her sisters footsteps but sure to change the print). Lochie received the Academic Award for Year 3 at CTSDE.



Charlize with her parents Loid & Zabby



All the Wilkinson & Gordon cousins in the one school at the one time – A very Special Milestone for the families

The Wilkinson and Gordon Families this year find their entire brood of children (Cousins in Arms) together for one year at All Souls & St Gabriels – Ben Wilkinson will complete Year 12 and Sophie Gordon the youngest of the cousins will be in Year ?????.

A lovely milestone to share within a family.



Connor Rose (Aramac), Toby Rankine (Praire), Tim Ievers (Richmond), Breanne Peace (Charters Towers), Faith Whelan (Charters Towers) and Headmaster, Mr Darren Fleming

Boarding students at All Souls St Gabriels show great leadership, out of the 16 positions for leadership in 2018, 11 of those are boarding students. All these students were inducted at the start of 2018 after being selected in 2017, with all 16 leaders signing the Prefects Register, which dates back to 1921. The school Community is very proud of its history and traditions.



School Captain Tim Ievers signing the Prefects Register



## SHOWCASING OUR RURAL AND REMOTE SCHOOLS

### Dirranbandi P-10 State School

**Location:** Dirranbandi is located in the Shire of Balonne, in South West Qld and sits on the Castlereagh Highway and the Balonne River.

**Enrolments:** Dirranbandi P-10 State School currently has 55 students from Prep to Year 10 with 16 in the high school.

**About our School:** Along with mandatory subjects such as english, maths and science, primary school students also have the option of engaging in subjects such as chinese (through Distance Education), indigenous language, a kitchen/garden program and ag science.

Every high school student has elected to study Ag Science this year, resulting in a cohesive Ag Department that is well supported by the Dirranbandi community as a whole. Students have constructed a functioning cotton channel in the Ag Plot and have the opportunity of visiting a variety of local farms for hands on learning experiences as well. Year ten students also have access to certificate studies which cater for careers in local industries.

In June, the Dirranbandi Show Society has organised a concert featuring Paul Kelly. Proceeds from this fundraising event will be allocated to local students with a continuing interest in Ag Science, in the either the form of a tertiary scholarship, and as part of a longer term 'Sustainable Ag Program' Fund.

*Contributed by Jessie Persse*



We would love to showcase our wonderful rural and remote schools each edition so please send us a 'Snapshot' of your school to [qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au](mailto:qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au)

## EKINDY UPDATE



eKindy has had a great start to the year with over 190 children registering for the program. Teachers are working with 14 schools across the state to deliver an eKindy Pod on their grounds and as the word filters out there, more schools are enquiring as to how they can give a flying start to young children in their community.

Early in Term 1, the entire eKindy Queensland team got together for their professional development days where the focus was teacher training in the Abecedarian Approach or 3a for short. 3a is a set of evidence-based teaching and learning strategies for early childhood educators and parents to use with children from birth to five. Research has shown that 3a delivers enhanced educational outcomes by enriching and enhancing educator practice – both before and after a child starts school. eKindy teachers will be sharing these strategies with parents and eKindy Pod facilitators.



If you have a kindergarten aged child at home or know of one in your community, eKindy is still accepting registrations for the year. For more information head

to the eKindy tab on the Brisbane School of Distance Education website: [brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx](http://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx)





# GYRANDA SALE-O AND SMOKOS BOOK LAUNCH

Sale-O, Sale-O... the auctioneers gavel knocks the bench as his call echoes across the yards. Buyers scramble to take their final notes, grab a hot cup of billy tea or corned meat sandwich from the ICPA catering shed and jostle amongst all the other wide brimmed hats to find a seat on the grandstand. There is some nervous anticipation... Hoping for a good sale for the vendor and yet quietly wishful that not too many other people with deep pockets have their eye on the same bull as you.

Whatever images are conjured up by the call, you are likely to find them filling up the pages of Louise Joyce's latest coffee table book to be launched at Beef Australia 2018.

After 50 years of 'on-property' stud sales, 60 years of selling bulls and 65 years of breeding Santa Gertrudis cattle, on the banks of the Dawson River in Central Queensland, Burnett and Louise Joyce are taking a step back from the front line.

As one of the longest running Santa Gertrudis studs (being Stud Number 3 on the Australian Register), and the oldest stud still under the same family ownership, this auspicious occasion required appropriate recognition.

The 240 page hard covered, glossy album, containing hundreds of colour photographs, articles, anecdotes, interesting stories and even poetry is a historical masterpiece.

Louise states

*"We feel this captures the essence of our life, the Queensland cattle industry and living in the outback over the last half century and before. It depicts the history and the way of life we have experienced and more importantly the people who have touched our lives... done with a touch of humour, all supported by a photographic record we are proud of. This should be a good read and interesting historic record."*

*ICPA has been a big part of our lives for well over 35 years and the star caterers at the annual Gyranda sale. I served a stint as president at Charleville School-of-the-Air and associated ICPA while teaching our four children, over a period of twelve years, before they each set off for boarding school*



Burnett & Louise Joyce with their children and grandchildren

*in year seven. Many familiar faces from PCS, SOTA, PCAP, sports days, mini schools, "on-air" lessons, boarding school days and sale days can be spotted throughout the book... A little game of "Where's Wally" according to the kids... whatever that is!*

*My daughter, Nikki is now all grown up (!) and on the ICPA Dawson Valley branch executive. Incredible changes! With a sealed road and a bus run, her four children have all attended the local state school, before their own journey onto boarding school like their mother before them (maybe not so much has changed after all).*

*Beef Australia is celebrating its 30th anniversary in May 2018. Through our long association over the decades, we decided this was a fitting venue to launch this book, and the Santa Gertrudis Breeders Association Australia site (C208), the preferred venue.*

*Well known Journalist and Landline Presenter, Pip Courtney has kindly agreed to officiate for us. Over the years we have had some amusing incidents following the showing of footage shot on Gyranda as well as some sensitive issues that Pip has prepared and handled professionally. We have great admiration for her. "*

We invite you all to attend this book launch on Monday 7th May 2018 at 4.30pm, at the Santa Gertrudis Marquee (C208) light refreshments will be available. The book will be available for purchase after the launch for the duration of Beef 2018, at the Santa Gertrudis site (C208). For those not able to attend but are wishing to purchase "Sale-O and Smokos", please contact us. Cost will be \$50 plus postage.

"Gyranda", Theodore, Qld 4719. **Phone:** 07 4993 7144  
**Email:** nikki@gyranda.com.au / aljgyranda@bigpond.com





## MUNCHKIN MUSINGS

If anyone has children that would like to share a poem, short story or something similar in News & Views please email to [qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au](mailto:qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au) with a photo of child that wrote the article and another photo relevant to the article would be great!

*Thank you and happy writing little ones!*



*Hugh and Summer Spackman, boarders from Ilfracombe*



Bring your family to the Downslands

## OPEN DAY

10am-2pm | Sunday 20 May

Experience our beautiful 38 ha campus, with its onsite Rural Centre, indoor sports centre and dance, drama and film studios.  
Call Marilyn today on 07 4690 9500.



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## ROCCO NUZZO



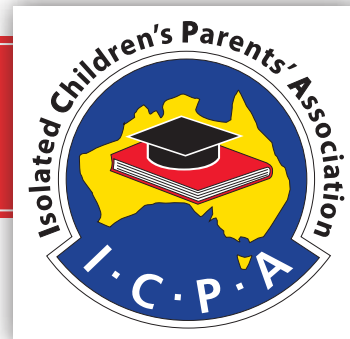
Left to Right: Lalla MacKenzie - nbn, Helen Ponder - NSW Secretary, Wendy, Kate Treweeke - NSW President, Rocco Nuzzo - GM Satellite nbn, Suzanne Wilson - Federal Secretary, Tiarni Cook - NT President, Kerrie Williams - SA President and Emily Gardner - T





# ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION QLD INC

## ICPA – QLD INC. COUNCIL 2017 - 2018



### President

**Mrs Kim Hughes (Brian)**  
"Harrogate"  
Richmond Qld 4822  
M: 0427 377 985  
E: qldpresident@icpa.com.au

### Vice President

**Mrs Tammie Irons (Rob)**  
"Balcondo"  
Condamine Qld 4416  
P: (07) 4628 1208  
M: 0427 931 629  
E: councillor7@bigpond.com

### Secretary

**Mrs Gillian Semple (Brett)**  
"Dundee"  
Richmond Qld 4822  
P: (07) 47418506  
E: qldsecretary@icpa.com.au

### Assistant Secretary

**Mrs Kim Donaldson (Bevan)**  
"Camel Creek" M/S 702  
Ingham Qld 4850  
P: (07) 4788 5959  
E: qldassistsecretary@icpa.com.au

### Committee

**Mrs Kylie Camp (Ernie)**  
"Floraville Downs"  
Burketown Qld 4830  
P: (07) 4748 5585  
E: councillor6@bigpond.com

**Mrs Jessie Persse (Charlie)**  
"Pine Park"  
Thallon Qld 4497  
P: (07) 4625 9031  
E: councillor14@bigpond.com

**Mrs Louise Winten (David)**  
"Angellala Downs"  
Morven Qld 4468  
P: (07) 4654 9544  
M: 0428 549 562  
E: councillor10@bigpond.com

**Mrs Kelly Ostwald (Dan)**  
"Eldorado"  
Texas Qld 4385  
P: (07) 4653 6145  
M: 0438 232 671  
E: councillor4@bigpond.com

### News & Views Editor

**Mrs Zabby Appleton (Loid)**  
"Balliwallah" MS 984,  
Charters Towers Qld 4820  
P: (07) 4983 5287  
E: qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au

### Webmaster

**Mrs Lynelle Urquhart (Warren)**  
"Warrowa" 13919 Moonie Highway  
Moonie Qld 4406  
P: (07) 4662 9125  
E: qldwebmaster@icpa.com.au

### USO Advisor

**Mr Andrew Pegler (Mary)**  
"Navarra"  
Isisford Qld 4731  
P: (07) 4657 5563  
E: acpegler@bigpond.com

### Lone Members Officer

**Mrs Kelly Ostwald (Dan)**  
"Eldorado"  
Texas Qld 4385  
P: (07) 4653 6145  
M: 0438 232 671  
E: qldlonesofficer@icpa.com.au

### Vice President

**Mrs Louise Martin (Andrew)**  
"Macfarlane"  
Tambo Qld 4478  
P: (07) 4654 9317  
M: 0427 151 234  
E: councillor9@bigpond.com

### Treasurer

**Mrs Anna Appleton (Fred)**  
"Islay Plains", Private Bag 9007  
Alpha Qld 4724  
M: 0408 719 760  
E: qldtreasurer@icpa.com.au

### Publicity Officer

**Mrs Natalie Kenny (John)**  
"Llanarth"  
Charters Towers Qld 4820  
P: (07) 4983 5294  
M: 0484 835 250  
E: qldpublicityofficer@icpa.com.au

**Mrs Kate Twist (Dan)**  
"Juandah Downs"  
Mungallala Qld 4467  
P: (07) 4623 2632  
E: councillor2@bigpond.com

**Mrs Wendy Henning (Andrew)**  
"Merchison Park"  
Glenmorgan Qld 4423  
P: (07) 4669 5181  
M: 0427 708 943  
E: councillor13@bigpond.com

**Mrs Susan Bellingham (John)**  
"Clarebrough"  
Richmond Qld 4822  
P: (07) 4741 8718  
E: councillor12@bigpond.com

### Fund Raising Officer

**Mrs Suzi McQueen (Graham)**  
"Balmacarra" 720 Balmacarra Road,  
Charleville Qld 4470  
P: (07) 4654 9155  
E: fundraisingofficer@bigpond.com

### ICT Advisor

**Mr Jeffery Little (Marilyn)**  
13 Davis Crescent  
Gatton Qld 4343  
P: (07) 5462 3228  
E: jlittle@bigpond.com

### Hospital Schools

**Mrs Margie Greenway**  
35 Panorama Crescent,  
Prince Henry Heights Qld 4350  
M: 0467 549 130  
E: mgr4311@bigpond.net.au



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ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC  
Anna Appleton  
"Islay Plains" Private Bag 9007,  
Alpha Qld 4724  
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