

NEWS and Views

Isolated Children's Parents' Association Queensland Inc.



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September 2018



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Front Cover Photo:

Rosie, Eliza and Matilda Parry Okeden
from Wandoan-Taroom Branch, story in
Covering the Claypans

NEWS and Views

CONTRIBUTIONS DEADLINES

**All contributions to be with
the editor before:**

**10 February • 10 May
10 August • 10 November**

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR...

Dear Readers,

Welcome to September 2018 News & Views, and my first as editor. I'm an avid reader and lover of the written word, so to be able to assist in producing this publication, one that is printed on a real piece of paper, and doesn't require power or wifi to be enjoyed, is something I am really looking forward to.

While we can all try to appreciate the work people do in various jobs, particularly volunteer jobs, it isn't until we step into their shoes that we truly understand what happens. As I've been learning the ropes of News & Views over the last few months I extend a huge thanks to Zabby Appleton for the wonderful editing job she has done over the last 3 years, and the assistance she has given me.

I would also like to thank all the previous editors who have kept this publication turning up in our mailboxes for the past 32 years! Did you know that News & Views was first published in 1986 with Di Palmer and Helen Collins as Editors. For a publication done completely by volunteers, it is a testament to the ICPA organisation that it is still going strong after all this time. I shall endeavour to continue with the same enthusiasm my predecessors have.

There are a few changes to the format of this edition with some new additions that will be regular features. Each edition will now have Member Recommendations, Our Rural Schools, Around the Ridges (date claimer), Branch Bites and Conversations With.

Don't forget that this is your magazine, we welcome contributions of any kind, no matter how small (or big). A reminder that deadlines for publications are 10 February, 10 May, 10 August, and 10 November.



Natalie Kenny

Please forward your stories, date claimers, branch updates or recommendations to me via email at qldnewsandviewseditor@icpa.com.au.

Grab a cuppa and enjoy the read,

Natalie Kenny

MEMBERS RECOMMENDATIONS



BOOK

"Boy Swallows Universe"

by Trent Dalton

Kristy Heelan
Belyando/Mt Coolon Branch

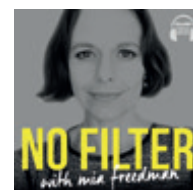


PODCAST

'No Filter - with Mia Freedman'

- conversations with interesting people who have fascinating stories to tell

Natalie Kenny
Belyando/Mt Coolon Branch



MAGAZINE

"Frankie"

- for any creatives, quarterly publication, full of art and design

Amelia Kenny,
Belyando/Mt Coolon Branch



OFFICE

'Agriwebb'

- a farm record keeping app (use on phone/tablet/computer), able to enter data while offline and sync to cloud later.

Anna Appleton, Alpha Branch



GARDENING

Join the Facebook Group "Western Queensland Gardens"

- where bush gardeners share hints, photos and discuss all things green.

Christy Moller, Clermont Branch



SCHOOL-ROOM

SCHOOLROOM

When the schoolroom floor starts feeling gritty and sticking to your feet, just put on a pair of socks, problem solved!

Bernie Paine, Springsure Branch

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

John Quincy Adams

I am so often inspired by the people I meet through our amazing organisation. One lesson I have learned through my ICPA journey is that rural people are so full of passion and we don't believe in sitting back and complaining, rather we tend to stand up together and make sure that our voices are heard. I am incredibly lucky to not only be part of a team of such strong and inspirational people, but I get to interact with many similar people in my role as President.

Since our last edition State Council has attended delegations in Brisbane where our policies were updated and conference motions, both new and ongoing, were presented to the Department of Education, QCAA, Telstra, nbn, P&Cs Qld, Translink and the Qld College of Teachers. We also took the opportunity to meet with the new Director-General of Education Queensland, Mr Tony Cook, who was vocal in his acknowledgement of ICPA Qld as a key stakeholder within the department.

Vice-President Louise Martin and myself were able to attend the farewell event for Mrs Patrea Walton, Deputy Director-General, who retired from the Department of Education last month after many years of service. Patrea was a staunch advocate for all disadvantaged children across Queensland and a loyal supporter of ICPA Qld. We wish her all the best in her retirement and thank her for her dedication to rural and remote education over the years.

ICPA has certainly increased its exposure in the media over recent weeks, with the drought and Greyhound bus announcement allowing opportunities to educate the public on the reality of living in rural and remote areas of Australia. State Council always appreciates hearing from our members as real life stories are the backbone of our lobby, so please continue to communicate your issues to us so that we remain up to date and can educate our city counterparts effectively.

One of my passions has always been attracting and retaining quality teachers in our rural and remote schools, and last month I was fortunate to once again be invited to address 4th year preservice teachers at the QUT Stepping Out Conference at Kelvin Grove. This year the panel's



Tammie Irons

theme was Leadership in our field, and I was so proud to speak to these young people about the opportunities and experiences which are available to them when teaching rural and remote. Whilst it is always disappointing to field questions which highlight the misconceptions of living in outback Queensland, it is also just as exciting to be approached by many students wanting to know more about how they can be a part of a rural community.

If our words and our actions as community members in rural and remote Queensland can inspire even one student teacher, first year teacher or even an experienced teacher to share their stories and encourage others to 'teach rural', then we have done our part as leaders within our communities – so when you have the opportunity to welcome a new teacher or prac student, remember that your words could make all the difference and inspire these young people to inspire our young people!

Cheers,
Tammie



A MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER - *Grace Grace*

Dear parents and carers,

I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a very warm welcome to ICPA Queensland's new President Tammie Irons. As both a parent and teacher, I'm sure Tammie will make a significant contribution to rural and remote education in her new role.

I'm looking forward to working closely with Tammie and the ICPA team as we continue to support students and families in rural and remote communities across the state.

Later this year, I'm planning to visit the Mount Isa Centre for Learning and Wellbeing – one of four new centres we're establishing as part of our \$31 million investment to support staff and students in rural and remote Queensland.

The Centre in Mount Isa, with a satellite centre in Normanton, will service selected schools in the North Queensland education region and will be led by Mr Tim Moes.

A second Centre for Learning and Wellbeing will also open this year in Roma, servicing schools in the Darling Downs South West education region. Mr Dale Manger has been appointed to lead this centre and it will include a satellite service in Kingaroy.

Two further centres and satellites will be established in Central Queensland and Far North Queensland in 2019.

In 2018, we are celebrating 90 years of the Ekka show camp, which has seen hundreds of rural and remote school children visit and stay at Brisbane's iconic Ekka, learning new skills and experiencing life in the city.

The camp, which first began in 1928, has involved a long-standing partnership between the Department of Education and the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland. Every year, around 20 Year 6 students come and stay at the Ekka to learn the finer techniques of showing and judging animals, as well as developing communication and journalism skills to produce up to 40 stories for the Ekka Courier Online.

Congratulations to Keith Enchelmaier, Principal of the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre, and all staff who have helped make this event so successful for so many years. I had an opportunity to briefly catch up with Keith and some of the show camp students at the Legendairy Milking Barn on Ekka Monday.

I was also treated to a milking demonstration by students from Nambour State College's agriculture studies program. Hats off to all the staff and students involved!

I'd also like to congratulate Dalby State High School (Bunya Campus) and Surat State School on being named as state finalists in The University of Southern Queensland Rural and Remote Education



Education Minister Grace Grace

category of the Department of Education's Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools.

This is the first time a specific Rural and Remote Education category has been included in these awards, and will recognise initiatives that demonstrate positive outcomes and measurable improvement for students in rural or remote schools by identifying and removing barriers to achievement, developing high quality teaching, using digital and virtual learning platforms, or by utilising community partnerships.

I wish all rural and remote parents, carers and students every success for the remainder of the school term and for the rest of the 2018 school year.

Grace Grace
Minister for Education

OUR RURAL SCHOOLS



Location:

Julia Creek, Qld

Number of Students:

45

Our Teachers:

P-2 Students:

Teacher, Maggie Stevens, and teacher aide, Barbara Humphreys

3-6 Students:

Teachers, Christine Gahan and Katrina Woodfield, and teacher aide, Sylvia Crawford

Admin: Maree O'Callaghan

Chaplain: Angelina Crawford

School's Officer: Natalie Wyld

Principal: Katelyn Priddle

Everyone agrees that there is something special about Julia Creek. It is the kind of community that easily finds its way into your heart and soul and before you know it 30 years have passed. Just ask our long term teacher aides, Sylvia Crawford and Barbara Humphreys, who are now in their 32nd and 13th year respectively.

We are located approximately 300km East of Mount Isa and 650km West of Townsville, it sounds quite isolated but honestly you wouldn't know it. Everything you need is here, with the salt of the earth sort of people and great coffee being at the top of the list! There is an incredibly strong sense of community here so working in partnership with the McKinlay Shire Council, our hard working P&C and the wider community, to provide the very best education and opportunities for our students, is very important to us. From the high quality teaching and learning that happens each and every day in our classrooms to the many extra-curricular activities we offer such as homework club, gardening club, Code Club, after school sport and library, our students are well catered for in every sense.

We believe that all children, regardless of their circumstance, should have the opportunity to benefit from a quality education and distance should be no barrier, so we work hard on a daily basis to continually improve, change and transform our school to rival our city counterparts. Visitors are often impressed with the high quality of work produced by our students and their excellent behaviour, attitude and manners are regularly complimented. To say we are proud of our bush kids is an understatement!

This year we had the opportunity to work with Josh Arnold from Small Town Culture to write a song and produce a music video. The song that our students co-wrote with Josh has managed to capture the essence of our community perfectly... Julia Creek, hand to hand with our community, the heart of the Outback, as real as the dirt and the dust beneath our feet... Julia Creek!

BEYOND THE RANGE GRANT



Emily Ostwald, recipient of Beyond the Range Grant

The Beyond the Range Grant is a grant from the QLD Government that supports and financially assists preservice teachers who are looking to undertake their professional experiences in rural and remote Queensland State Schools. This grant provides the financial means for preservice teachers to be able to teach in Queensland State Schools with a transfer rating of 3-7. The grant also assists preservice teachers with travel, accommodation and other related expenses whilst undertaking their professional experiences in these Queensland state schools.

This grant is extremely beneficial to preservice teachers and Queensland State Schools, as this grant provides many preservice teachers with the opportunity and financial means to teach in these areas. The grant opens the doors for many young preservice teachers to gain a taste for teaching in schools with a transfer rating of 3-7 before they graduate.

Having received the grant myself, I can safely say how beneficial it has been in assisting with travel, accommodation and other related expenses. If I had not received the grant I would not have had the opportunity to complete my professional experience at Inglewood State School and soon at Roma State College. The grant allowed me more financial flexibility whilst on my professional experience as I was not worried about how I was going to fund everything by undertaking a professional experience more than 90 minutes away from my residential address.

Emily Ostwald, QUT final year Education

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF SUPPORT OUR FARMERS

The Rural, Remote and International branch of the Department of Education recently held a fundraiser for Buy a Bale. Hosting a morning tea and a 'guess that school' competition, the team raised \$610 for the charity. That equates to 30 bales of hay!! ICPA works closely with this branch of the Education Department, who provide strategic oversight of a range of initiatives aimed at advancing education for students in our rural and remote state schools.

A big thanks to all the team at the Rural, Remote and International branch for getting behind rural Queenslanders.



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INDEPENDENT | CATHOLIC | COEDUCATIONAL | DAY & BOARDING | YEARS 4-12



Year 12 can be a tough time for students and in many cases even tougher for their parents!! For the student, it is a rollercoaster ride of deadlines, possibilities, Inter-Subject Scaling (whatever that even means?), QTAC apps, learning to self-manage, anxiety and excitement about what the future might hold. As parents, we often say that we experience all the highs and lows with our Senior Student, but one of the biggest challenges facing parents of future university freshers is letting go, as they head off to pursue the next chapter, many hours from home. Will they like the course? Will they eat well? Will they make friends? Will they be able to find a part-time job? But most importantly, where will they live?

The transition from high school to university is massive. It is wonderful, scary, exciting, difficult and a great adventure. It should be one of the best times of your life however it can sometimes be overwhelming. There are academic, social and geographic challenges to overcome:

Academic Challenges

In high school the learning is very structured, class sizes are small and there is a lot of scaffolding in place to ensure you succeed. At university you are in charge of yourself and it is up to you whether you attend or not (although it is highly recommended)! Time management is a huge challenge for a lot of students who have largely been steered through their education until that point. Most residential colleges at UQ have tutorial programs which are free to their residents and can help with study programs and even skills like time management. Colleges will locate your room close to others studying the same

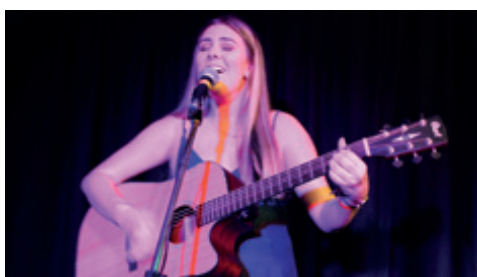
program and students in the years above are on hand to offer help and advice. It's the benefit of having older siblings without all the arguments!

Social Challenges

Making new friends is great – as long as it happens. What if it is more difficult than you remember? Joining a residential college can help because from day 1 you are in the same boat as another 99 people. Everyone is looking to find 'their tribe' and there is no better feeling than walking into a lecture of 500+ people with a small group of your new friends. It's easy to sail through university as an anonymous number however it won't help you get the most out of it.

Geographic Challenges

How do you even start thinking about where to live when your home town is far away? How do you find people to share a house with or even work out which type of accommodation is right





for you? We recommend going on a visit to the university and take in some of the housing options while you are there. Colleges will be delighted to show you around at any time and every August there is a UQ Open Day. These types of events are invaluable to be able to see all around the college and learn which one is right for you. And if you come to a residential college you will have no trouble finding your way around Brisbane – all your new ‘brothers and sisters’ will help with that.

Choosing the Right College

So you know you are coming to Brisbane? So how do you choose the right college? Here are our top tips to make the choice easier:

1. Talk to people you know – has anyone lived at a College in Brisbane? Has anyone lived at any of the Colleges you are interested in? They will be able to tell you about the college – warts and all. Everyone has warts however you need to work out if you can live with them.
2. Book a weekend in BrisVegas – you know what they say? What goes on in (Bris)Vegas, stays in (Bris)Vegas. Come for the weekend, visit the city, the river, the university and the Colleges. It will be thoroughly exhausting and exhilarating but it will fill you with a sense of excitement. And it will quickly become obvious to you which College is the right one to choose.
3. Look online – every College has a website and social media accounts. Get in there and have a look. That

is where you will see photos the students have posted and you will see if they do some of the things you enjoy. As you know, everyone looks happy online however it will give you a little insight into what life at that college might be like.

Where do we fit in?

Duchesne College is one of 10 residential Colleges at UQ – home to around 2500 students in total who attend UQ, QUT, Griffith and ACU. Some are co-ed while some, like Duchesne, are single sex. All colleges are located within easy walking distance to all UQ classes plus public transport for those other unis. We can take the uncertainty out of this difficult transition to smooth the way and make it a breeze.

The Duchesne Difference

Only 210 women live at Duchesne each year which means it really is a tight-knit community. New residents are placed with a ‘big-sister’ – typically someone who is doing the same course as them, in a higher year. Academic excellence is fostered through peer support and a year-long tutorial program. All of which comes within the fee structure.

All meals are provided at Duchesne – so studying can be prioritised. And there is a healthy amount of sporting, cultural and social activities on offer. We have staff who live on site to ensure a safe space for young women and support is available whenever it is needed.

In later years leadership opportunities are available as well as part-time work.

Scholarships are on offer to offset the cost of fees. For this plus any more information have a look at the Duchesne website – www.duchesne.uq.edu.au or for info about any of the UQ Colleges www.liveuq.edu.au



PRIMARY PRODUCTION IN THE CURRICULUM

At conference this year there was some discussion around the implementation of Primary Production units in the school curriculum. Below is some information sourced from the Qld Curriculum and Assessment Authority around the implementation of primary production units and links to the QCAA Flexible Curriculum Delivery and Learning Areas Overview.

The Australian Curriculum: Technologies describes two distinct but related subjects:

- Design and Technologies - students use design thinking and technologies to generate and produce designed solutions for authentic needs and opportunities.
- Digital Technologies - students use computational thinking and information systems to define, design and implement digital solutions.

The Design and Technologies subject is comprised of two related strands:

- Design and Technologies knowledge and understanding – the use, development and impact of technologies and design ideas across a range of technologies contexts.
- Design and Technologies processes and production skills – the skills needed to create designed solutions.

Students develop knowledge and understanding across a range of technologies contexts. The contexts provide a progression of learning across P-10 and are optional in Years 9 and 10. The four contexts are:

- Engineering principles and systems
- Food and fibre production
- Food specialisations
- Materials and technologies specialisations.

The Food and fibre production context focuses on the human-produced or harvested resources used to directly sustain human life and are produced in managed environments such as farms and plantations or harvested from wild stocks. Challenges for world food and fibre production include an increasing world population, an uncertain climate and competition for resources such as land and water. Students need to engage in these challenges by understanding the processes of food and fibre production and by investigating innovative and sustainable ways of supplying agriculturally

produced raw materials. Students will progressively develop knowledge and understanding about the managed systems that produce food and fibre through creating designed solutions. (Food and fibre production includes food specialisations from Foundation to Year 6.)

The Technologies curriculum is a banded curriculum and content descriptions are written for Prep-Year 2, Years 3-4, Years 5-6, Years 7-8, Years 9-10.

Examples of the content descriptions are provided below:

- In Prep-Year 2, students explore how plants and animals are grown for food, clothing and shelter and how food is selected and prepared for healthy eating.
- In Years 3-4, students investigate food and fibre production and food technologies used in modern and traditional societies.
- In Years 5-6 students, investigate how and why food and fibre are produced in managed environments and prepared to enable people to grow and be healthy.

The Materials and technologies specialisations may also be linked to primary production contexts for learning via the units of work a schools devises.

To view the curriculum: www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/technologies/

Flexible Curriculum Delivery report:

www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/report_flexibility_snr_schooling.pdf

Learning Area Overviews for P – 10 Australian Curriculum: www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/p-10/aciq

For any members who wish to discuss Curriculum issues, please contact state councillor Kelly Ostwald, Email: councillor14@bigpond.com

A growing number of Queensland schools are partnering with the Department of Education's IMPACT Centre.

Inspiring online programs improve the students' skills and confidence in literacy, numeracy, critical thinking and STEM, with students from 49 remote and 75 rural schools taking part this year.

"The students can't wait to participate in their sessions each week", said Liz Crocos, Principal of Cameron Downs State School in the state's central north. "They come back to class full of excitement and interesting information to share with everyone. It is such a great opportunity for remote students to have the chance to interact with their peers, as often they are the only one in their year level at their own school.

"One of our students is participating in the Code Breaker sessions. They are having a wonderful time learning about different programming languages. He is keen to continue next term with the Web Coder sessions. A future programmer in training I think!"

Maddie Sealy, a teacher-aide at the school said, "The students always look forward to their IMPACT sessions. I do a lot of the behind the scenes work to support the program. It's all worth it because the students are always excited to get straight into it and always take so much away from each lesson. You can't beat the opportunities that the IMPACT Centre provides!"

Teachers and school leaders can also directly benefit. They connect to colleagues and experts to transform their practice through

the IMPACT Centre's initiatives. For example, three key teachers and leaders from Texas P-10 State School have recently joined the *Aspiring Thinkers Network*.

The Texas team travelled to University of Queensland for a foundational workshop on teaching for thinking. They will collaborate online with their fellow network members from over 60 schools across Queensland.

"Our specialist teachers and professional network leaders simply login and become part of the school's team," said Glen Watt, Director of the IMPACT Centre.

"Our initiatives are available to primary and secondary schools across the state. We offer a wide range of options now, but are keen to consult with schools to design even more opportunities for students, teacher-aides and the wider school community."

More information can be found at impact.edu.au.



Jack from Cameron Downs State School with Maddie Sealy

DELEGATION WRAP UP



State Council (missing Kim Hughes, Anna Appleton and Kylie Camp)

WHAT STATE COUNCILLORS HAVE BEEN UP TO?

Just as your state councillors were recovering from the rush and excitement of state conference, it was time to pack the bags again and head to Brisbane for Delegations. State Council welcomed new councillors, Michelle Freshwater and Kate Bradshaw along, with me, your new Publicity Officer. Delegations, I must say, ran like clockwork. Meetings were set, timetables drawn up and councillors heading in every direction possible across the city to meet with the ears that listen, on the issues our members have put forward.

As a first-time delegations' attendee and first-time meeting participant I must record how proud I am of the ICPA team in relation to the respect this group has with government and non-government bodies in our capital. What I saw was real conversations and points that you, the members, put forward being vigorously discussed with people who are listening and want to work on getting outcomes from the issues that the portfolio leaders bring to the table.

Councillors met with staff from eKindy, IMPACT centre, LAFHAS, key people at the Reading Hub, Translink, the new Director General,



"Lady Cilento Children's Hospital visit - behind those doors councillors checked out iPads at work in the classroom"



Wendy H, Louise M and Tammie met with the new Deputy Director General, Tony Cook



Suzi and Louise working on delegations reports

2019 STATE CONFERENCE



IMPACT Centre - Susi and Michelle point out how far apart we all are.

Department of Education, The IT branch (Ed Qld), Rural and Remote State Schools- Performance, State Schools Infrastructure, Agforce and NBN to name a few. Your ICPA crew were kept extremely busy over the 3-day trip because even after the meetings are done they have the reports to file, which filter back to the branches where motions originate from.

Another mentionable moment was the visit to Lady Cilento hospital school where State Council were privileged to tour the school and see the iPads in use that were purchased from the \$20000.00 donated funds via the efforts of the RNA High-tea.

As a new State Council representative my eyes have been opened to just how hard our State Councillors work to put forward the issues that mean the most to members and to strive to keep you all updated on what is happening with your motions. This group puts in a lot of hours to make education equal for our rural and remote students and are smiling all the way.

The last mention goes as a quick reminder to all members that we, your State Council representative, are always looking for your #iamICPA videos, we want to showcase you! So please grab your camera, make a recording and email it to me at qldpublicityofficer@icpa.com.au.

Melissa Iland

Publicity Officer ICPA Qld



QCT meeting with Tony Pelusi



VISIT CHARTERS TOWERS IN JUNE 2019

Nine years on from the last conference held in Charters Towers and the branch has volunteered to host the 2019 State Conference here again. With a committee of 13 we are well on the way with our planning.

The dates are set for **Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th of June 2019**. We are very excited to once again be hosting this conference and look forward to making it a success.

If anyone has any queries feel free to contact convenor:

Rebecca Burge at
burge64@bournet.com.au or
phone (07) 40971483.

Also check the website for details: www.icpa.com.au

BEHAVIOUR IS A REFLECTION OF LEARNING

Contributed by Heidi Begg, Speech Pathologist, SPOT Rural

Hindsight is a brilliant thing.

Years ago, as my passion for learning disabilities ignited, I began to reflect on my own learning style. As a wide-eyed and green Speech Pathologist tackling learning disabilities, I quickly realised that the journey is as rewarding and fulfilling as it is tumultuous and emotional. You are embedded into these kids' lives. Providing fundamental, consistent opportunities to propel them forward in their learning, their confidence, and essentially, the happiness of not only them, but their families as well.

Developing a deep understanding of what learning difficulties look like and how they manifest in a child's behaviour made me realise that I had learning difficulties of my own during school and university. I was a high-functioning A grade student whose marks spiralled down to B's and C's in year 11 and 12. All these years later I can clearly see that my inattentive nature, paired with my teachers stepping back and encouraging self-motivation, was enough to see me almost fail a chemistry exam. Whilst my parents, my teachers and even myself, thought that my grades plummeting was a result of me being "lazy", I was devastated, and started to think that I mustn't be very smart after all.

I began to resent my chemistry teacher and withdraw from doing any homework. She eventually called my parents after I became so frustrated with her for not being able to explain something to me. This frustration – my outburst, was a behaviour. A behaviour associated with my learning. Why did I behave like this? Simply because I didn't understand.

If that was my experience, just imagine what our kids with more severe learning difficulties must endure.

Children are often labelled as having "behavioural problems". Now, I am not suggesting that kids don't have behavioural problems, but it is concerning that professionals (teachers, doctors and therapists like myself) aren't always searching for the

REASON behind these behaviours. We are instead often targeting the symptoms (behaviour management), rather than the cause (learning difficulties), and the vicious cycle continues.

Whilst behaviour management, parent training and providing strategies for the classroom are important facets of the journey, they are not a long-term solution.

The truth is, kids don't hate learning. They LOVE learning. They only hate learning when they are made to feel inadequate or stupid, when they can't succeed or, when they don't understand. When you don't understand something, your natural reaction is to reject it (just like my chemistry homework). Kids who don't understand things... whether it be maths, reading, games or even a conversation in the playground, then REACT to those situations. Their reaction is a behaviour. Their behaviour might be to withdraw, or it may manifest into aggressive, hyperactive or impulsive actions. The latter are generally seen as a higher priority for parents and institutions.

Therefore, one of the first questions that I ask a parent or teacher is, "What is your child's behaviour like at school and in the classroom?" We Speech Pathologists can tell more about a child's learning difficulties from their behaviour, than from their school marks.

I can hear you thinking, WHAT?

Behaviour is a reflection of learning. This is evidenced by the fact that 50% of male teenage offenders have a language impairment. These boys are therefore unable to understand or express themselves as we can. Their frustrations and learning difficulties have contributed to aggressive and antisocial behaviours that land them in prison. And how do we respond to these boys? We treat the behaviour using detention centres, we rarely support or treat the learning difficulty that has contributed to or caused the behaviour.

It's madness.

Rather than lumping kids with certain behaviours into a box and leaving them there for their entire schooling career, let's start to think about why they could be behaving in that way.

THEN, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

Whilst there are no black-and-white, cause-and-effect stats linking behaviours and learning difficulties, we can draw on our knowledge of language, professional skills and common sense to work it out.

If your child has difficulty maintaining friendships or annoys other children all the time, they are likely having difficulty with their social communication skills.

If your child acts out in the classroom, forgets to take turns or impulsively speaks or acts without thinking, they are likely having difficulty; attending to task, learning in the classroom, or learning important social rules. They could possibly have attention or working memory difficulties and are unable to self-monitor their actions and thoughts as we do.

If your child withdraws from tasks and games or refuses to interact with people outside of their comfort zone, they probably don't understand the rules of the game, or don't understand conversations very well.

The list of behaviours could go on forever.

It is only reasonable to see that the impulsive child who cannot remember social cues in the playground, transitions into the impulsive



SPOT
RURAL SERVICES

Is your child reaching their potential at school?

- ONLINE SPEECH THERAPY
- LITERACY THERAPY
- LANGUAGE THERAPY
- SOCIAL SKILLS
- FUSSY EATING HABITS
- THUMB SUCKING
- LEARNING DIFFICULTIES
- TONGUE TIE & TONGUE THRUST

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student who cannot follow instructions, remember concepts or learn in the classroom. Social skills are complex language skills, and difficulties in this area are usually indicative of difficulties spread across every aspect of the child's life and learning.

If all these behaviours stem from learning difficulties, the solution is to treat the learning difficulty. This could be their literacy, social communication, vocabulary or language! There is nothing in the world more rewarding than working with a child and watching as their negative behaviours improve, then slowly disappear.

If you empower a child with the tools they need to be confident, their behaviour will improve. This is where Speech Pathologists come in, as every child needs literacy and language tools in their toolbox. We don't need our kids to be rocket scientists. We need them to be happy and confident in their learning, and their behaviour will reflect that.

UPDATE FROM AHVISE AUSSIE HELPERS

Thank you for your wonderful support in reaching out in helping get word out there about AHVISE.

It has been a roller coaster ride in setting up a new system but having the wonderful support from people who are committed in helping rural and remote children's educational needs has been unbelievable.

I am pleased to advise we have had many placement's already taking place and people are slowly understanding our new system.

If you are looking for help in the school room we still have tutors available please go to www.ahvise.org.au and register, making sure you fill out everything required and read what is provided as some families as well volunteers are not bothering, instead taking short cuts, which creates a bigger work load for our volunteers in management.

We are excited to announce that we have finally launched our new Virtual Classrooms for families and volunteers. The classrooms serve as a communication tool to discuss everything school-related in one place. The classrooms are free and not compulsory to use. For the virtual classroom to be of use, both volunteer and family need to use it.

We have now set up virtual classrooms for confirmed/booked placements. If you have a confirmed placement with a volunteer coming up, or in the past, a email will be sent to you with your log in details and some supplement training information on how to log in and use the classrooms moving forward.

Feel free to reach out to and ask any questions, as a committed team are ready to help in managing the classroom set up and training. New Online Agreements are now active.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can help in anyway or you have a suggestion that may help us all.

Lyn French
Team Manager



ANNABELLE BRAYLEY APPOINTED TO ACRRM BOARD AS COMMUNITY DIRECTOR



Annabelle Brayley, now director with the ACCRM board

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) has appointed south-west Queensland author Annabelle Brayley as a non-GP, Rural Community Director to the College Board. ACRRM is committed to community engagement in the quest to improve health outcomes in rural and remote communities.

Ms Brayley brings a wealth of knowledge and experience of rural communities to the position.

"I bring a good network of community contacts to the role and hope to apply that to making connections in rural and remote areas that will help ACRRM from a non-clinical point of view," said Ms Brayley.

"Apart from boarding school and initial nursing training, I've lived rural for most of my whole life, working both on the land, in small business, and in a rural and remote health context, as well as in recent years as a storyteller. My family is now five-generations rural-based, with my children and grandchildren currently located in Wodonga in Victoria, and Charleville in Queensland.

"My husband and I now live in Morven, nearly 700 kilometres west of Brisbane. We have fewer than 200 people in the town, with a local health clinic that's staffed 24/7 by a nurse practitioner and once a week by a visiting GP. We have hospital services in Charleville, which is about an hour away by car.

"Sometimes that means waiting for services, but like most people in the inland, it also means we've built a level of resilience that helps us in hard times.

"Rebuilding strong communities, with general practitioners and other health professionals who are committed to the ideal of long-term investment with sustainable professional and social leadership in those communities, is integral to the future of the inland and indeed the nation."

ACRRM President Associate Professor Ruth Stewart said: "As a rural resident and consumer of rural health services, Annabelle will introduce a unique point of view to Board deliberations.

"ACRRM trains rural generalist doctors who work to the full scope of practice and have the depth and breadth of skills to enable them to provide a wide range of rural and remote health care.

"We need to ensure that our curricula and professional development programs are relevant and responsive to the changing needs and contexts of rural and remote practice.

"It will be invaluable to have rural community input to assist us in this area, and to bring a non-clinical community perspective to the work of the College.

"We warmly welcome Annabelle to the ACRRM family".

BUSH CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION

Bush Christmas, a celebration of outback creative talent, will showcase a magnificent collection of handmade and gourmet delights for the 22nd time this year. Opening in Toowoomba for 10 days from Wednesday 28 November to Friday 7 December, the Bush Christmas exhibition is a destination event for Christmas gift and gourmet shoppers, unlike anything else in Australia. This ties in beautifully with many boarding school breakups, providing parents with a unique opportunity to proudly support the work of their country friends and families from all over Australia.

Supporting the Isolated Children's Parents' Association has been a signature of Bush Christmas for many years. Artisans generously donate a handmade item for the 10 raffles that are drawn daily. This gives patrons an opportunity to not only support this great rural organisation, but to be in with a chance to win something lovingly handmade and of considerable worth. Raising the profile of the ICPA is a constant conversation at the raffle table where volunteers speak passionately of their outback experiences educating children in the bush.

In the lead up to Bush Christmas, many artisans are now beaver away in outback sheds and makeshift studios crafting all sorts of creations from wood, steel, fabric, paper, leather, silver, polymer, resin, cooking ingredients... the list is endless. These works always have a story -

skills and recipes handed down to be kept alive, hardships and celebrations, personal challenges or endeavours, materials lovingly restored, making the work all the more meaningful. Imagine old rusty fencing wire being twisted and turned into fabulous garden art, seasoned wood becoming admired homewares, lavender, jojoba, olives and fruits becoming skin care essentials and gourmet preserves, hides becoming fashionable handbags and accessories, fabric cut and sewn into clothing, toys and kitchen accessories as well as silver and gold becoming treasured jewellery.

Visit Bush Christmas to see what our talented artisans have in store for us this year while supporting another great fund raising opportunity for the Isolated Children's Parents' Association. www.bushchristmas.com

Quality handmade artisan gifts & gourmet



Wednesday 28th November to
Friday 7th December

9am to 6pm daily - 58 Neil St, Toowoomba Qld
(next door to the Empire Theatre)

TAROOM WANDOAN BRANCH

Parry Okeden Girls take the trifecta!

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.

Over the years other girls and boys from the Taroom Wandoan district have held similar positions but what an accomplishment from one family. Well done girls.

The Parry-Okeden girls are gracing this editions front cover.

Melissa Hopkins



Rosie, Eliza and Matilda Parry Okeden

CHARLEVILLE BRANCH

ICPA Charleville serves up Country Hospitality for OZ Outback Odyssey



Morven dinner ICPA catering group. Marie Williams, Trish Cameron, Lyn Thornton, Robyn Donohoe, Louise Winten, Kylee Tindale-Smith, Sam Maclean

This year's OZ Outback Odyssey enjoyed some country hospitality as they travelled through Charleville and Morven on the 19th of July. The rally group of eighty-six, touring in pre 1985 vehicles, stopped for lunch in Charleville and made their way to Morven for a delicious dinner and a fun night of entertainment. Gidgee Smith kindly donated three locally made bags which were auctioned, raising \$1500 for ICPA. The Morven Playgroup provided breakfast for the travellers before they hit the road in the morning.

Robert Goode, Chief Official, said 'This year's Odyssey ended up being the most



Gidgee Smith Bags donated 3 bags which were auctioned at the dinner in Morven and raised \$1500 for ICPA!



Charleville rally lunch treats served by Jacquie Tickell

successful ever and ICPA who did lunch at Charleville and the dinner at Morven played a big part. We all had a great night and were happy that we helped out your ICPA group.'

The OZ Outback Odyssey is an annual charity event, travelling for a week through remote parts of Australia, to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Car enthusiasts and adventurers had a unique outback experience as they drove from Adelaide to Cotton Tree and raised a record amount of \$153,500 for the RFDS.

Amy Peart

SOUTHERN DOWNS BRANCH

Recently the Southern Downs branch held a meeting in Inglewood, with members attending from Texas, Inglewood, Bonshaw. Discussions centred around fundraising and updates from members who had attended Federal conference in Canberra and State conference in Winton.



ST GEORGE BRANCH

On Saturday 16th June the St George Branch catered for the Maranoa Performing Arts 10 year celebration concerts. Thank you to all our members who cooked for the event & helped on the day. A special thank you to Cindy Doonan & Rebecca Southern for taking on the role of organising the catering for this local event.



Performers at the Maranoa Performing Arts Concert

WINTON BRANCH

The Winton Branch would like to congratulate their Secretary, Mrs Kate Bradshaw, on becoming a Qld State Councillor. Kate and her husband Mark live on a property in the Corfield area, 80km from Winton, and have three girls who completed their primary schooling through the Longreach School of Distance Education and are now at boarding school in Townsville. Kate has been a member of the Winton Branch for 12 years and has previously been publicity officer prior to her branch secretary role. Since being elected to Qld State Council in June, Kate has already been extremely busy travelling to Brisbane for Delegations and to Canberra for Federal Conference. During these trips, Kate's red and white spot suitcase, fondly known as Spotty Dotty, has accidentally become famous on the ICPA Winton Branch Facebook page. The photographs of Spotty Dotty's travels have provided light hearted enjoyment for our followers, but also highlighted the distance that our devoted ICPA members will go in the interest of equal access to education for all children. If you would like to keep updated on the travels of Spotty Dotty, and also to see what the Winton Branch are doing in their area to support rural education then please 'LIKE' our Facebook page ICPA WINTON BRANCH.

Sophie Elliott



YARAKA/ ISISFORD BRANCH

It's been another busy time for our branch with our members running the bar at the Isisford Sheep and Wool Show in May and running a fundraiser raffle during the Show. This is one of the major annual fundraisers for our Branch and we would like to thank everyone who was able to help out during the weekend.

This year the \$2,000 CBA Tertiary Scholarship has been awarded to Felicity Weier who is studying a Bachelor of Medical Imaging.

Felicity grew up in the rural area of Theodore, then completed her secondary schooling at Rockhampton Girls Grammar as a boarder. During this time she also completed a Certificate II in Rural Operations and a Microsoft Academy course. Felicity was a participant in ANZAC services, Relay for Life, Cancer awareness and fund raisers as well as volunteer waitress at catering functions and a regular blood donor. She was awarded a School leadership as Science and environment Prefect, a position she used to encourage and engage young girls in science.

She was involved in many sporting pursuits, netball, touch football, futsal, rowing and equestrian events. Born and raised in a rural area, Felicity stated she

Covering the CLAYPANS



2018 Commonwealth Bank ICPA Tertiary Scholarship recipient, Felicity Weier and Commonwealth Bank Biloela Customer Service Specialist Donna Morrall

found the CBA scholarship particularly appealing in that it encourages graduates to return to a rural area.

She also realises the importance of having access to trained health professionals in these regions and on obtaining her degree will be seeking employment outside the major cities.

Many thanks to Fiona Owens for all the time and effort she devotes to the organisation of this annual scholarship and to the Commonwealth Bank for the provision of the Scholarship.

Our fabulous Branch Member Leslie Single, who is now the President of the Queensland Association of State School Principals Inc (QASSP Inc), is currently on her way to Killarney Ireland for three days of meetings. Leslie is attending as one of the three Australians representing Australian Government Primary Principals. The three days of meetings she is attending are part of the International Confederation of Principals. They have an international Conference every two years and on the off year they have this Congress meeting. Next year the Conference will be in Shanghai. Well done Leslie!

Ingrid Miller

ABC BRANCH

45th Anniversary Celebrations

The Auburn-Burrandowan-Cadarga (ABC) celebrated 45 years as a branch with a mid-winter lunch at the Burrandowan Racetrack. 50 members, current and past, enjoyed a grazing-style meal in the surrounds of the decorated hall.



Celebrations underway at the Burrandowan Hall



Joan Northcott and Jane McLaughlin

President Trish Christie welcomed everyone, acknowledging the efforts of past branch members and how current members now benefit from their past work. Trish also gave a brief rundown of the branch history, explaining how our branch had grown from been the Auburn (A) branch, to the Auburn-Cadarga (AC) branch to the current Auburn-Burrandowan-Cadarga (ABC) branch.



ABC Branch executive, Jane Coe (secretary), Trish Christie (president), local member and Qld Opposition Leader Deb Frecklington, Louisa Wilson (treasurer) and Melissa Hoare (VP)

The highlight of the day was inviting our retiring treasurer of 30 years, Mrs Joan Northcott, to cut the birthday cake. Joan had been a member before becoming our treasurer and has been the one to keep the branch ticking over, even when memberships were low. Jane McLaughlin presented Joan with a beautiful potted plant. Joan made note in a short speech that following a bovine break-in to her garden and recent heavy frosts, this would be the only green thing in her garden! Joan also put together a great display of photos, past 'Pedals', newspaper clippings, conference mementos and other interesting branch bits for guests to view.

A great afternoon was had by all. The food was fantastic, the hall looked gorgeous and the company was superb – some past members asked could we do this again next year!

WESTERN DOWNS BRANCH

A partnership between Western Downs ICPA Branch and the Toowoomba Anglican College and Preparatory School (TACAPS) saw three specialist teachers from TACAPS visit our area to conduct school-based workshops in robotics, art, drama and public speaking in late June.

The aim of these workshops was to allow students to experience a range of opportunities to which they might not otherwise have easy access, to support the teachers and, above all, to have some fun! There was no cost involved for the small schools or students.



Condamine State School

The two small schools on the Western Downs that eagerly accepted the opportunities these workshops offered their students were the Condamine State School and the Miles State School. Sessions were run concurrently and had versions tailored to suit both the younger and older students.

TACAPS staff, many of which have strong connections to the bush, thoroughly enjoyed their time with students and teachers at the small schools.

Mr Oldham, Mrs Lagden-Hoey and Mrs Reynolds told us they have all learnt from our schools, teachers and most of all, the kids! They hope to repeat this initiative again in 2019. Well done to Miles and Condamine State Schools for giving their students this exciting opportunity.

Adele Hughes

Publicity Officer

JULIA CREEK BRANCH

The Julia Creek branch is a balanced group of members and pleasingly the numbers are actually increasing. We have country as well as town members. We have members whose children have long left the nest and their financial support and we have those just beginning. This mix becomes apparent when we are called together. Recently the members

came together to prepare for our one yearly major fundraising event, catering for a McKinlay Shire Bush Dinner for the tourists at the local caravan park. On Monday 23rd August 144 visitors were fed a delicious meal of Shepard's pie and mixed steamed vegetables, followed by apple crumble cake and custard.

When the call went out for volunteers to cook, donate items or serve on the night, things quickly came together. On the night, 11 members (including 2 dad's) manned the food or washed dishes, some of them having travelled for 2 hours to be there. That's not to mention the numbers of members, who even though they were unable to attend on the night, and are suffering through this relentless drought, were happy enough for items to be 'booked up' to their accounts at the local supermarkets.

The night wasn't just a success in a monetary manner, but it gave the visitors an opportunity to learn more about the role and importance of ICPA to rural and remote students and the enormous support offered to their families. It was also explained that recently Julia Creek ICPA and Julia Creek state School had joined together to present a motion at conference regarding Teacher:Student ratios in small schools. This joining of these two groups also helped our branch membership numbers increase with people realising that ICPA is there for those in town schools also.

Kylie Cook

Julia Creek Branch Secretary



Julia Creek Branch

A NOTE FROM nbn™



NBN CO TO BOOST RURAL BUSINESS CONNECTIVITY

NBN Co is currently gearing up to launch a new wholesale business-grade satellite service for remote and rural Australia.

The **nbn™** Business Satellite Service will be complementary to the existing retail Sky Muster™ satellite service which, until now, has been primarily intended for residential use.

The development is part of **NBN Co's** ongoing commitment to evolve the wholesale product suite to better meet the broadband needs of Australians.

The service has two broad wholesale category product offerings for phone and internet providers:

- **Bandwidth services** – designed for businesses with more complex networking requirements including wide-area network connections to multiple locations.
- **Broadband internet** – designed for businesses requiring more broadband data, higher speeds and business-grade service levels.

How will the service be delivered?

Underutilised spectrum from the Sky Muster™ satellite service will be allocated to the **nbn™** Business Satellite Service – **NBN Co** anticipate using less than 15 per cent of the overall capacity on the access technology.

The **nbn™** Business Satellite Service will initially only be made available to customers where there is spare capacity to deliver the service – these typically sit within remote locations away from the eastern seaboard.

How can it help rural and remote businesses?

The **nbn™** Business Satellite Service is set to support remote and rural businesses by helping to support online applications such as video conferencing and cloud-based services.

For farmers in rural Australia, this service is being developed to help enable them to better leverage new technologies such as remote monitoring, video conferencing and livestock tracking devices to save time and potentially reduce operational costs.

When will it be available?

The **nbn™** Business Satellite Service is undergoing extensive consultation of wholesale product and pricing in the next few months followed by subsequent service trials in late 2018. It is expected to launch in the first half of 2019.

For more information visit www.nbn.com.au



TELSTRA UPDATE



DROUGHT SUPPORT

With parts of Australia impacted by significant drought, including 50 per cent of Queensland and NSW, we are making our natural disaster support arrangements available to all Telstra customers effected by drought across the country.

These support arrangements include working with customers in financial hardship to offer longer-term payment options or extensions, reviewing and removing any administrative fees (e.g. for late payment), and reviewing a customer's mobile, fixed line and broadband plans to make sure they are affordable.

Affected customers are encouraged to contact us at any time on 13 22 00, provide your phone number and say 'payment options' to discuss their situation.

TELSTRA GO REPEATER

We have been receiving great feedback on the Telstra Go Repeater which can both improve and extend coverage in areas where signal doesn't reach. Operating on both our 3G, 4G and 4GX technology, the device works by receiving mobile signals through an external antenna and then enhancing and re-transmitting this signal to a single indoor or in vehicle antenna to extend coverage.

The device is available in two variants: a stationary version designed for customers seeking a coverage solution in a building, and a portable version designed for customers that want to boost coverage in their car, truck or boat.

Visit your local Telstra shop for help choosing and installing the right repeater and antenna for your location or call 13 22 00 and say 'coverage' after providing your phone number.



Telstra Go Repeater

REGIONAL CALL CENTRE

Over the past 12 months, Telstra has been working on improving the way we interact with customers located in rural and remote areas.

Improvements to our call management system have not only helped to identify why a customer is calling us, but also where customers are calling from.

Using this methodology, we are now able to redirect calls from customers located in rural and remote areas where possible to a specialised team who have received additional training on our regional product set.

Telstra has a long history of supporting regional Australia and we know these customers live in unique circumstances and have unique telecommunications and technology needs. This is why we have set up a specialised team to manage their enquiries.

This service is available to customers who live more than 100km from a Telstra branded store and is available from 9am to 9pm AEST. This is just another way Telstra is able to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to our regional customers.

There is no special number to call. All customers need to do is call us on 13 22 00 and the system will redirect the call.

USEFUL TERTIARY AND TRAINING WEBSITES

Some helpful resources compiled by ICPA Federal Council's Kate Thompson, who looks after the Tertiary, Trade and Training portfolio.

My Future

www.myfuture.edu.au

My Future is an easy-to-use interactive online service with career information, assisting people to make career decisions, plan career pathways and manage work transitions. It includes:

- A career profile tool to help discover occupations and plan your future
- Information about a broad range of occupations and industries
- Up-to-date details of education and training providers, scholarships and courses Australia-wide

Learning Potential App

www.learningpotential.gov.au

Learning Potential is an online resource with tips, ideas and resources to assist and support your child's learning.

The Learning Potential website and mobile app's suite has hundreds of articles on all aspects of a child's learning and development and is currently being enhanced to include a career education toolkit for parents – expected to be ready for the 2019 school year!

All the content is also available on the free Learning Potential app - download it on the App Store or Google Play.

My Skills

www.myskills.gov.au

My Skills website provides a national directory of vocational education and training (VET) organisations and courses. It enables the student to search for and compare VET courses and training providers and courses by industry and skills in demand.

It is an Australian Government initiative to ensure access to current, straightforward, independent and trustworthy information to help make choices about training options.

Australian Apprenticeships

www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

This website is designed to provide quick and easy access to information

regarding Australian Apprenticeships including programs, support and advice for people looking to start apprenticeships, whether in school, just out of school, or mature-age, and support and assistance for apprentices during their apprenticeships.

Job Outlook

joboutlook.gov.au

Job Outlook is an interactive site which can help you make decisions about study and training, your first job, or the next step in your career:

- Career Quiz – discover careers that match your work style
- Career Profiles – learn about job tasks, skills, prospects and pay
- Future Outlook – find industries and jobs expected to grow.

Study Assist

www.studyassist.gov.au

Information for students about government assistance for financing tertiary study including links to study options, subsidised fees and government loans (HELP), loan repayments, scholarships and additional student income support options.

- www.studyassist.gov.au/beyond-year-12

The section contains information on comparing courses and providers in both the higher education and vocational education and training (VET) sectors.

- Beyond School Study Guide – digital resource aimed at year 10 to year 12 students that provides information on tertiary study options and government assistance. www.studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/files/beyond_school_study_guide.pdf

Student Update Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/StudentUpdate

- This Centrelink, Medicare and Department of Human Services' Facebook page contains up-to-date information about news, support, services and payments specific to students including Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY.
- 'Like' the Student Update Facebook page and you will receive the regular updates about services and payments from Centrelink and Department of Human Services relevant to students.

Vocational Education and Training – Australian Government

www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/education-and-training/vocational-education-and-training

This Government website contains information and links to websites relating to VET.

Higher Education – Australian Government

www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/education-and-training/higher-education

This Government website contains information and links to websites relating to Higher Education.

BRANCH BITES

The idea for a recipe page in News & Views came about during the St George branch August General Meeting. These recipes were tried, tested and photographed at this meeting and the St George Branch hopes you enjoy them too.

Please forward your recipes for our BRANCH BITES page so all Branches of ICPA may be included. **Email contributions to Lisa Southern redbankgrazing@bigpond.com.**



SLOW COOKER PUMPKIN SOUP

(Michelle Freshwater – Past President, Past Conference Convenor & Qld State Councillor)

750g Jap or Butternut Pumpkin Salt & Pepper
1 Onion ½ Cup Cream
1 ½ cups Chicken or Vegetable Stock ½ Grated Cheese

1. Peel pumpkin and onion and chop into pieces. Place into a slow cooker with the stock, salt and pepper to taste.
2. Stir to combine. Set slow cooker on High and cook for 4 hours or Low for 8 hours.
3. When cooked puree in a blender. Stir through the cream and grated cheese before serving. (If cheese is not melting zap in the microwave)

You can substitute sweet potato for the pumpkin and add half a Granny Smith apple (diced).

KITCHEN TIP:

When preparing fruit and veggies that turn brown easily and won't be used straightaway, place the cut items in a bowl of water with a good squeeze of lemon juice and add a cut piece of lemon. This will help prevent discolouring.



HONEY ALMOND SLICE

(Lisa Southern – Past President & Conference Catering Convenor)

BASE

90g melted butter
½ cup brown sugar (firmly packed)
1 cup plain flour
½ cup ground almonds/almond meal

1. Combine all base ingredients in bowl and mix well. Press mixture into a greased slice pan (30x20cm) and bake in a moderate oven (180°C) for 12 minutes or till browned. Cool.
2. Combine butter and honey for the topping in a small heavy based saucepan and stir over a medium heat until butter is melted. Simmer uncovered for about 3 minutes or until a light caramel colour. Stir in the almonds.
3. Spread hot topping over the base and bake in a moderate oven for 15 minutes or until browned. Cool in pan before slicing.

TOPPING

125g butter
¼ cup honey
75g slivered almonds



AROUND THE RIDGES

- **4 - 5 September 2018**
QCS Testing Grade 12
- **7 - 8 September 2018**
P&C's Qld Conference, Brisbane
- **15 September 2018**
Tour de Tambo, Contact Kimberley Rains:
caldervale@georginapastoral.com.au
- **21 (Friday) September 2018**
Last Day Term 3 Qld State Schools
- **2 - 4 October 2018**
ABSA Conference, Melbourne
- **8 (Monday) October 2018**
First Day Term 4 Qld State Schools
- **16 (Friday) November 2018**
Year 12 Students Final Day of School
- **28 November 2018**
Bush Christmas Exhibition Opens, Toowoomba
- **7 December 2018**
Bush Christmas Exhibition Last Day
- **14 (Friday) December 2018**
Last Day Term 4 Qld State Schools
- **January 2019**
Alpha ICPA Cricket Day
- **29 January 2019**
First Day Term 1 Qld State Schools
- **6 - 7 March 2019**
ICPA NSW Conference, Wentworth
- **5 (Friday) April 2019**
Last Day Term 1 Qld State Schools
- **23 (Tuesday) April 2019**
First Day Term 2 Qld State Schools
- **26 April 2019**
Agenda Motions Close for ICPA
Qld Conference
- **14-16 May 2019**
NAPLAN Testing Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9
- **17 May 2019**
Early Bird Registrations Close for
Qld Conference
- **24 May 2019**
Registrations and Sup Motions Close for
Qld Conference
- **5 - 6 June 2019**
ICPA Qld Conference, Charters Towers
- **28 (Friday) June 2019**
Last Day Term 2 Qld State Schools

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MUNCHKIN MUSINGS

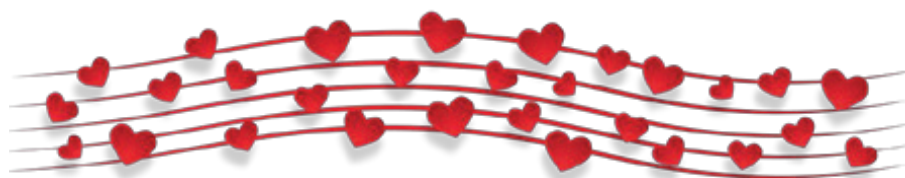
Fred

By Addison Moller

Fred is a fun fish
And doesn't eat from a dish
When you give him a touch
He swims about very much

He flaps his fins
Like shining pins
I love to watch him
When he swims

.....



*Your jokes are lamer than a cow with stringholds, and your clothes are always torn, but you're kind and sweeter than a lollipop, and you work until you're worn.
Your dogs obey, their loyalties never stray, and you care for them, your love is sworn.
I love you dad, you're great, you're rad! And your hugs are always warm!*



By Zara Moller

If anyone has children that would like to share a poem, short story or something similar in News & Views please email to qldnewsandviewseeditor@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!

CONVERSATIONS WITH:

Andrea Crothers

Chief of Staff and TV Reporter at WIN News, previously a journalist at ABC Western Qld and once the Town and Country Editor at Qld Country Life. A bush girl from Hebel now living in Rockhampton. A Friend of ICPA!

My earliest memory is...

Of my third birthday at home, with my cousins and grandparents. We had these blue party balloons and I blew mine so big it busted, with the latex flinging up onto the wall. Dad had to peel it off. Naturally, to a three-year-old, this was hilarious.

I went to school...

Via Distance Education for preschool, which being a twin meant we got two boxes of toys (winning). My sisters and I then went to Hebel State School, before choofing off to board at St Hilda's School on the Gold Coast.



My childhood idol was... Cher

My favourite part of my job is...

Meeting people... and realising there are far better people to adore than Cher

I'm embarrassed to admit that...

I didn't learn to tie my shoelaces until Year 4 (some would say that's effective outsourcing)

If I could live anywhere in the world...

Rural Queensland.

If I won the lottery tomorrow I would...

Buy a property in rural Queensland, so my twin sister had no excuse but to return from NSW

I want to be remembered for...

My oldest sister, who's a school principal, would likely say "Andrea is a spirited child". But let's be honest, those strong-willed pains in the bottoms make for splendid adventures.





NEWS and Views

If undelivered return to :
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