

NEWS

and Views



CONTENTS

A Note from the Editor.....	3	Comment From An “Old” Councillor!	11
Members Recommendations	3	ICPA Qld Virtual Rally	12
From Your President.....	4	A Stellar Boarding Career Ends.....	14
Minister’s Message.....	5	Vale Diana Palmer	16
Our Rural Schools Kilcummin State School	6	St George Update.....	18
Anthony Neil Bursary Recipient for 2019	8	Western Downs Update.....	19
CBA Tertiary Scholarship Awarded.....	9	Tiktok Can Be Good for Your Kids if You Follow a Few Tips to Stay Safe.....	20
A Note From Yaraka/Isisford	9	Winton News	22
Waltzing Matilda Junior Bush Poetry Festival Banjo Goes Digital	10	A Note From nbn™	23
		Branch Bites	24

NEWS and Views

Front Cover Photo:

Jack Heelan, Belyando/Mt Coolon branch, was back on the job while home from boarding at BBC during covid lockdown

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14 January • 1 April
1 July • 1 November

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers

Well the year just keeps on getting stranger! I hope this finds all of you in good health and that your lives haven't been disrupted too much due to the changes we have seen since the dreaded Covid.

It is unfortunate that due to the covid restrictions in place the annual ICPA Qld Conference will not be able to take place in Roma this year. However, conference will go ahead as a VIRTUAL event. A first for our Qld State Council who are working hard to ensure this runs as smoothly as possible. Big thanks must go to Kate Scott and her hardworking committee from Roma Branch who have been so flexible and understanding during this unfolding situation.

As conference comes around many jobs on the ICPA list are handed over to new recruits. The time has come for me to step down as the editor of this wonderful publication called News & Views. I have thoroughly enjoyed this role and have learnt so much during my time. I invite anyone with an interest in this position to please get in touch, I'm happy to share information about the role and I promise I won't pressure anyone into a job ;)

I look forward to hearing you all online at the virtual conference in October.

Over and Out

Natalie

Natalie Kenny
Editor



ICPA QLD VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

SAME BUT DIFFERENT



MOTIONS DUE 12 SEPT
SUP MOTIONS DUE 2 OCT

20
—
21
—
OCT

2020 ICPA QLD

KEEP UP-TO-DATE ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS



Fourteen, my year of darkness & the light that followed by Shannon Molloy.

Journalist Shannon Molloy's memoir about his 14th year, a time of torment, self-loathing and near tragedy, is heartbreaking. At an all-boys Catholic school in coastal Yeppoon, Shannon was always an outcast and soon became a victim of extreme violence.



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PODCAST

The Rural Compass presented by Samantha Meurant.

There is an abundance of innovative and talented women working hard in rural and remote areas across Australia and The Rural Compass's goal is to find these women and bring you interviews with them.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much” Helen Keller

I feel this quote epitomises the last few months for ICPA Qld! As I write these words, we are seeing the return of our boarding school students to their schools, albeit with stringent restrictions in place, but this situation is a far cry from the one we saw last term. I was so proud to stand together with our members last term as we worked together to #bringourboardersback – and so appreciative of the support from ICPA across the country. The campaign and rally were a great success in terms of raising the profile of ICPA and achieving our core goal to get our boarding students back to face to face learning as quickly as possible. We will continue to monitor the situation within boarding schools throughout the term and hope to see restrictions ease as quickly as it is safe to do so.

Whilst Covid has certainly imposed difficulty on State Council in terms of our regular lobbying, we have endeavoured to keep in touch in any way possible. We have held Zoom meetings and teleconferences to further motions wherever we can as well as promoting our issues through media and conversations

with local MP's. The lack of a State Budget has meant that both sides of parliament are presently unable to make any financial commitments and the uncertainty around the election at this stage has everyone in a state of indecision. ICPA State Council will continue to work within our policy and action motions at every opportunity.

With restrictions playing havoc with our own calendar, State Council will head to Emerald in August for a face-to-face meeting. Whilst there is no local branch, Emerald provides a central location for the majority of our councillors to get to for a weekend. This meeting will provide a forum for us to discuss and make decisions around the format of our State Conference in October. We remain hopeful that it will continue as planned, however the nature of the virus and the impact it is having on other states at the current time means that State Council need to work on back up plans for all possibilities. We certainly thank the Roma convening committee for working with us in what has become a very different outlook for us all moving forward.

As this will be my final President's report for News and Views, I would like to take this opportunity to say a very heartfelt thankyou to all for your support over the past two years. My personal situation changed quite dramatically the day after I took on the role of President in Winton in 2018 and I cannot thank State Council and our members enough for allowing me the privilege of representing ICPA

Qld in this role. Relocating myself and my children to Toowoomba was a challenge, however it has also highlighted the amazing life and opportunities we can provide for our children in rural and remote areas of our state, despite the isolation. Taking the step to be a part of ICPA all those years ago has left my life so much richer and reinforced my mantra of speaking out if you want things to change rather than sitting back and waiting for somebody else to do it for you.

So thankyou to our members – alone we are strong, together we are stronger! I believe that despite the trials of Covid 19, we have shown that isolated doesn't mean alone and that our voices together can definitely be heard!

Tammie

Tammie
President



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Term 3, 2020!

It is wonderful to be starting a new semester, while celebrating the achievements and resilience of Queensland state school communities in tirelessly navigating the unusual circumstances brought about by COVID-19.

It was a steep learning curve for all of us, and I was heartened to see the enormous display of community spirit, flexibility, adaptability and patience shown by school communities in remote parts of the state.

Home-based learning meant teachers and school staff needed to deliver lessons in a new way in Term 2 and I thank students, parents and caregivers for their support along this journey.

You have done an incredible job in supporting children through home learning, which has been fundamental in steering students through Term 2 and preparing them for a successful Term 3.

Importantly, through great advocacy

from the both the ICPA and Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee has relaxed restrictions around boarding houses.

This is a fantastic outcome for regional and remote families, especially the students who have continue to learn at home while their classmates returned to school.

I am also pleased to be able to say that COVID-19 hasn't stopped local tradies from finishing a number of key projects across the region, including the installation of air conditioners in our schools.

This work, to air condition classrooms, libraries and staff rooms across Queensland state schools, is continuing.

We have successfully met our commitment to air condition more than 300 schools under the \$477 million Cooler Cleaner Schools Program by 30 June 2020.

These are among the some 650 state schools targeted for air conditioning by mid-2022. Furthermore, schools that already have air conditioning in their classrooms, staff rooms, or libraries will not have to pay to have them serviced or replaced in the future.

Once again, I want to thank teachers, teacher aides, principals and other school support staff

as well as parents and carers for doing such a wonderful job in supporting the next generation of Queenslanders through their education journey – especially this year, in unprecedented circumstances.

Our rural and remote communities are renowned for their community spirit during challenging times and once again have demonstrated their resilience.

I wish all parents, carers, students and school communities all the best as we begin a new semester.

Grace

Grace Grace
Minister for Education



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OUR RURAL SCHOOLS KILCUMMIN STATE SCHOOL



Kilcummin State School was established in 1959 with 19 original students. Servicing surrounding properties, enrolment numbers have increased and decreased over the years, seeing generations within families passing through the school.

Many things have changed over the years, including some recent big developments for our school. In 2020, Kilcummin State School commenced it's State Delivered Kindergarten service. Six students from our local area attend our Kindergarten service five days a fortnight. We are proud to be able to offer this exciting opportunity to our community for the first time.

This year has also seen renovations and new buildings within our school. Last year, our P&C

raised a substantial amount of money through a 'community fun day', which contributed to building a brand new library. We have also built in a large eating/ outside learning area. These new additions to our school have been years in the making and we are pleased to finally see our students utilising and enjoying the spaces to assist their learning.

Our numbers have grown this year, and we started 2020 with 40 students enrolled in Prep to Year Six, and six students enrolled in Kindergarten. This growth in numbers has allowed the school to acquire a third full time teacher. Kilcummin also has specialist teachers who visit once a week to teach Health and

Physical Education, and Languages (AUSLAN - Sign Language).

Kilcummin State School partners closely with nearby schools including Mistake Creek State School, Clermont State School and Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary. We treasure these partnerships and thoroughly enjoy joining them in camps, carnivals, excursions and break up days at the local Clermont pool.

With reading as our primary improvement focus for 2020, Kilcummin State School strives to provide quality education that assists all students to achieve the best educational outcomes through commitment, co-operation and dedication to becoming a life-long learner.



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ANTHONY NEIL BURSARY RECIPIENT FOR 2019

In 1991 the Anthony Neil bursary was set up by Cheryl Neil and Zilla McAuliffe in memory of Cheryl's Son Anthony, who died suddenly while competing in a marathon. It is awarded each year to a family to assist with the costs incurred transporting their child/ children to extracurricular activities.

The funds for the bursary are raised by selling the local ICPA Community Directory.

The 2019 year recipient is the McLean family for their daughter Charlotte who was in year 5 studying through Charters Towers School of Distance Education (CTDSE).

Charlotte attended many sporting events throughout the year including Interschool Athletics, NQ Cross Country trials, NQ Athletics trials, swimming, sports camp, cricket days and campdrafting clinics. Throughout all her sporting achievements she has had to train and stay focused on her goals on her own without the help of a coach or training with other children.

She received the Gemma Thomas award from CTSDE which is a specific award allocated to a 10 yr old girl each year that earns the highest points for her sporting team. Charlotte was also awarded Charters Towers district age champion for 10 yr old girls. And although she was selected for the NQ Cross country team, she was unfortunately unable to compete for QLD trials due to becoming sick with the flu.

The Aramac – Muttaborra ICPA is proud to offer their congratulations to Charlotte and the McLean family.



CBA TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

This years Scholarship has been awarded to Georgia Wylie who grew up on a property at Dulacca and is now studying a Bachelor of Education (PE) at USQ in Toowoomba.

Growing up as a hearing impaired rural student Georgia is a wonderful role model showing that regardless of a disability you can achieve your goals with determination and hard work.

She is very enthusiastic about rural students having every opportunity afforded to their city counterparts. Obtaining this degree will lead her into an Advisory teacher for hearing impaired students in rural and remote communities as she understands the difficulties they face.

A talented athlete with many awards, individual records and proven successes. As the sports Captain at Miles State High School

, Georgia organized sporting activities , volunteered as a coach and assisted in running carnivals. As Co Captain of the South west Track and Field Team she talked to new members giving them encouragement and insight into state competitions. She assisted in building her team to show resilience during tough games.

Not only does Georgia excel in the sporting field but her community involvement is inspiring.

Helped at many functions, catering for Variety club, cleaning up after Miles races, fund raising for Miles State High school, participating in annual ANZAC services, awarded the Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Award in the Junior Sporting Category.

In amongst all this Georgia has also managed to obtain paid work holiday jobs, cleaning, feeding animals, babysitting, at

Foodworks and Dulacca Truckstop.

Georgia is described as passionate in what she believes in above and beyond anyone of her age. With a vision for making an impact ,throwing her heart and soul into whatever she does. Demonstrating leadership qualities , an advocate and supporter for better opportunities for students in rural areas, having the ability to engage others and apply herself with dedication and aptitude to the task at hand.

She has already proved she can make a difference in a rural community and is eager to return to provide education, leadership and her special type of enthusiasm and encouragement.

A most worthy recipient of this scholarship, congratulations Georgia.

Fiona Owens

A NOTE FROM YARAKA/ISISFORD

The Yaraka Isisford Branch, like many branches has experienced a very quiet 2020 so far. Positively, it is great to see our children back at primary and boarding schools around the State, ensuring that their education can continue despite the circumstances. Speaking of education, we extend a congratulations to our Branch

Member, Terri Searle, on recently celebrating 25 Years of Service with Education Queensland. That is amazing feat and no doubt Terri has seen and experienced many changes over this time.

Our Branch would like to extend our heartfelt thoughts and condolences to the Joseland Family on the loss of their son Jack. We wish you

all comfort and courage at this time and may you cherish Jack's wonderful memories forever.

As we head toward the final half of the year, we wish all students all their best with their studies and goals. Here's hoping that life as we knew it can return soon!

Ingrid Miller - Publicity Officer

WALTZING MATILDA JUNIOR BUSH POETRY FESTIVAL

BANJO GOES DIGITAL

The largest junior performance bush poetry competition in Australia, held annually in Winton, Outback Queensland, has had to adapt to accommodate COVID. The 25th annual Junior Bush Poetry festival was to attract competitors from across Western Queensland, and further afield for the written contest.

COVID has put paid to the getting together of competitors, but organisers, the Winton Business and Tourist Association, will be running the written part and adding a 'virtual' one as well. Competitors

from anywhere in the world can now choose a bush poem, record it on MP4 and send it in to Winton by the end of Term 3. The judge, renowned poet Jack Drake, has agreed to adjudicate from his home base in Stanthorpe.

Honorary Festival Co-ordinator, Jeff Close, said that one of the many skills students have brushed up on during COVID was emailing their work into school. "We hope that students will be able to use those same skills to help keep traditional bush verse alive", Mr Close said.

"Banjo Paterson, who wrote the words to Waltzing Matilda in the Winton district in 1895, would be pleased to see how creative the modern school child has become".

The competition is open to students from Prep to year 6, and full details are available at the website www.bronzeswagman.info. There is no entry fee, and prizes and certificates will be awarded in Term 4.

For further information contact Jeff Close at closeandmoller@gmail.com

COMMENT FROM AN "OLD" COUNCILLOR!

The 'virtual rally' held in mid-June via Zoom link up had plenty of social distancing to suit Covid-19. We were staying up at The Bunya Mountains for a few days and I only had one bar on my iPhone but managed to hear and see the whole rally quite effectively. Although I'm not sure my placard was visible?

Our Premier allows marches, but won't allow our children to learn!! All we need is a road map

The rally clearly demonstrated the enormity of the situation for boarding families and their schools and the #bringourboardersback campaign was a huge success I'd say with positive government action the very next day!

I would like to commend Queensland Council for their proactive approach to a tricky situation in these difficult and strange times. I was thrilled to see the support from other state councils, parents and boarding schools and a good few past councillors too. We 'old ones'

are always here to offer support, just call on us – numbers do matter!

Well done President Tammie and State Council.

Adele Hughes
Western Downs Branch
State Councillor 1994 - 2003

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ICPA QLD VIRTUAL RALLY

COVID-19, a familiar word to everyone through this crazy 2020 we are experiencing. Term 2 saw Qld schools close and all students (except essential worker children) schooling from home. Suddenly the whole state was thrust into a situation that many rural and remote families had experienced already; through using distance education. Many families welcomed the opportunity to have boarders home for an extended period, enjoying family time together. However, the situation at week 5 of the term saw many students return to face-to-face delivery back at their schools except one group – boarding school students. Many schools were unable to welcome boarders back due to the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) guidelines restricting numbers in boarding accommodation. Schools took as many students as they were able prioritising senior students which left most at home or faced with relocating to the town where their school operates and attend as day students.

As frustration mounted in the back half of term 2 with no direction or certainty that students would

be able to return to face-to-face learning and boarding ICPA Qld called members spread the message that not all students had returned and were calling for a review of the guidelines. ICPA Qld started a social media campaign encouraging members, schools and media to use the hash tag bring our boarders back to spread the message that not all students were back to their “normal” school arrangements.

The lobby gained some great momentum through video messages from students, media articles, TV news appearances and members sharing and tagging everything that ICPA Qld released. Our social media posts were getting up to 21 thousand interactions which were extremely pleased with. The lobby extended to include a virtual rally where on the 18 June 2020 ICPA Qld called members together for our first ever virtual rally to demonstrate the enormity of the situation for boarding families and schools. The rally was held via zoom with 154 participants joining online to support the call to #bringourboardersback. Participants included members, supporters, members of parliament, State and Federal

ICPA councillors and media.

Tammie addressed the gathered audience with “Thank you all for attending this morning – such action is a first for ICPA Qld and whilst we would love nothing more than to be seeing you all outside Parliament House in Brisbane, we will follow the social distancing rules of our state and begin with a virtual rally. State Council are here today to show you that we have your back – your concerns and frustrations are important to us and we want to hear your stories! We are frustrated and disappointed that it has come this far – that we have not received one word of a response from the Premier in the 10 days since we sent our letter requesting a decision around the opening of boarding schools for Term 3”. Tammie further addressed the meeting with “The treatment of these families by the Qld government is disappointing – we continue to hear Minister’s announce that ALL children are back at school when we know that has never been the case! Despite the easing of restrictions across the state, we continue to see no changes in the health restrictions posed on Queensland boarding schools and their families. We

have heard from students who are struggling with learning at home independently from their teachers and classmates – feeling isolated and disconnected from their peers who have returned to school and face to face learning. We have heard from students who are now living with a parent, or friends, or in some cases strangers in a billeting situation – they are feeling a loss of identity as a boarder – they don’t fit in either category and their sense of wellbeing is being eroded. We have also heard from students who are back in boarding, who are feeling lonely and isolated due to the restrictive nature of boarding currently – not being able to visit friends in other rooms, not being able to have visitors or go out on weekends and that feeling of confusion when they step from the day school into their boarding environment and have all the rules change as apparently you can only catch corona virus between the hours of 3.30 and 8am in a boarding school.” “Whilst these boarding schools may be classed as independent schools, they face the same legal liability as any other organisation, and as such must follow the health guidelines of the state. These schools have worked tirelessly to comply with the health restrictions enforced on them by the AHPPC and the state government to protect our students – they have extended their existing Pandemic risk assessments and developed exit strategies, all of which have been signed off by the local public health units.”

The full address can be found on ICPA Qld website, but Tammie finished the address with “We acknowledge that there has finally been a release of a review of the AHPPC Statement on Risk Management for boarding schools late last night”. “The guidelines are still extremely onerous on our schools and many will still not be able to manage these conditions to enable all boarders to return”.



“We demand a date of return... be it Term 3, be it 2 months, be it 6 months – give us some certainty which will allow families to make decisions for their child’s education”. “They deserve that much. Bringourboardersback!”

An exciting new engagement to add to the ICPA Qld history.

We thank members, media, schools and our friends in parliament for the support and action through these changing times and are happy to report that term 3 did see most of Qld boarding students return to face-to-face teaching and boarding.

#I am I CPA

A STELLAR BOARDING CAREER ENDS

A well-known face in Queensland boarding schools Di Kerr has retired after more than 17 years caring for girls in three of Queensland's top boarding schools.

Di Kerr has been Clayfield College's Head of Boarding since 2011, following boarding roles at both Ipswich Girls' Grammar School and St Margaret's since 2003.

At 65, Di will remain as the Weekend Boarding Supervisor at Clayfield but looks forward to spending some more time gardening, walking, sorting photos, and going to the beach from her Gold Coast home.

Spending time with her grandchildren is also on the semi-retirement agenda, but fortunately for Di, two of her granddaughters Olivia, 15, and Darcy, 13, are boarders at Clayfield.

Apart from her career in boarding, Di has had a long association with rural and regional Queensland.

Growing up in Rockhampton herself attending Rockhampton Girls Grammar, her daughter teacher Jessie Persse became the Queensland Country Life's The Farmer's Wife after she met and married Thallon grazier Charlie Persse.

"With Jessie's three children growing up on a property, I have a thorough understanding of the pressures and joys of children growing up in the bush



today which has helped me immensely in my role," said Di.

But no understanding or experience could have prepared Di for the impact of COVID-19 on boarding schools, which didn't even exist when Di made the decision to retire at the beginning of the year.

According to Clayfield College

Principal Dr Andrew Cousins, "Di is a much-loved member of our Clayfield family, and I sincerely thank her for her commitment and energy. She has provided an exceptional level of care for our boarders throughout her time at Clayfield College," Dr Cousins said.

Over almost two decades in boarding, Di has seen many other changes in boarding.

"The impact of long-term drought on rural families has delayed the start of some children at boarding school.

"More boarders now come from regional towns such as Roma, Goondiwindi, Gladstone, and Emerald to access top quality coaching and training in sports such as swimming or dancing. We also have many more local

students boarding whose parents have jobs that require them to work away from home."

Di said the international boarders are also from a far broader mix of countries including Papua New Guinea, the Pacific Islands, China and Hong Kong.

Di said that in the last 20 years, boarding staff have

also significantly changed.

"The stereo-typical older matronly woman is no more. We now have a great mix of staff with several who are younger university students and great role models for the girls. Boarding staff are also more qualified doing ABSA courses in areas such as mental health first aid and child protection."

VALE DIANA PALMER

The ICPA family extends its warmest wishes to the family of Diana Palmer on her recent passing. Diana strove to establish links with the media, encouraging the establishment of the Queensland Newsletter which went on to become the 'News & Views'. Lovely contributions from members and branches have been received in her memory.

Cunnamulla Branch were greatly saddened by the recent passing of Diana Palmer - a passionate, courageous, intelligent and ever stylish founding member of our branch and active contributor to our local community in general. We were so fortunate to have known her, and to have benefited from her commitment and expertise. Thank you, Diana, may you Rest In Peace.

Contributed by Julie Hawker on behalf of Cunnamulla ICPA

On the 22nd of June former Queensland Council member Diana Palmer passed away in St Vincents hospital Toowoomba. Di was a vibrant member of ICPA from the Cunnamulla Branch. Di and Neville lived at Offham Station, Wyandra with their three children Evan, Russell and Vanessa. When Neville sadly died suddenly Di retired and made her home on the banks of the Warrego in Cunnamulla. It was here in her lovely garden that she told me about ten years ago she had Alzhiemers.

Di was Executive Officer and Treasurer during her term with Qld council.

She was meticulous with whatever



she did, attending to every detail and always impeccably dressed. Di loved a party and we had many fun times after the formalities of meetings.

Thank you Di and your family for all you have given to ICPA.

Contributed by Teresa Cobb

Diana Mary Palmer was a vital member of the Cunnamulla community. She made a significant contribution to the lives of people in the south west and throughout Queensland.

Diana Palmer was an inaugural member of the Cunnamulla ICPA branch (Isolated Children's Parents'

Association) which was the first branch formed in Queensland in August 1971. In 1974, she was elected as Secretary, a position she held for the next four years. A dedicated worker, Diana set a high standard in her secretarial duties. She was a committee member for 1979-81 and was elected as Cunnamulla President in 1982. In 1982, Cunnamulla was the venue for the 12th State Conference and, as Branch President, Diana was an invaluable asset for the successful staging of this daunting task. She served two years as Branch President. She represented Cunnamulla as a delegate at State and Federal Conferences on many occasions.

Diana Palmer was elected to the Qld Council of ICPA at the 6th Annual State Conference, held in Longreach in 1977. She served on the committee for four years and maintained keen interest in all areas of education, giving particular attention to small remote schools and teacher training. She was the Lone Member Officer from 1978 to 1981.

It was remarked, "Diana is one of the most discerning members we have on Council, who is not afraid to say what she thinks and is invariably correct in her reasoning".

At the 1981 State Conference in Rockhampton, Diana was elected to the position of State Treasurer, a post she held for the next three years. In 1983 she compiled a submission to the Minister for Education regarding small remote schools in Qld and was a member of the sub-committee formed to write the submission to the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Distance Education in Queensland.

Diana also helped to compose the initial response to "Education 2000" and the discussion paper on "Project 21-Teachers for the 21st Century".

In 1984 she retired as State Treasurer and was elected to the committee. At the 1985 State Conference she was

nominated as Executive Officer, which involved handling all the publicity for Qld ICPA.

With her photographic eye, enthusiasm and creative flair, Diana strove to establish links with the media, encouraging the establishment of the Queensland Newsletter which was first printed in February 1986.

After two printings it was decided to formulate "News and Views" with the first issue appearing in November 1986. Diana was the co-ordinator for three years for Qld Publicity for the Federal magazine "Pedals" and "News and Views" until her retirement from State Council at the Roma Conference in 1988. At this conference, the State Secretary said, "without Di to make us all sit up and think, life would be dull!"

During her eleven years on State Council, Diana only missed three Council meetings and attended every State Conference and many Federal Conferences.

Diana Palmer was awarded the Qld Certificate of Appreciation in 1990 at the Clermont Conference. I prepared the nomination which was a very proud moment. She served eleven years on Qld Council ICPA.

Summary for Qld State Council ICPA:

- Committee: 29.09.1977 to 09.10.1981
- Treasurer: 09.10.1981 to 12.10.1984
- Committee: 12.10.1984 to 09.10.1985
- Executive Officer: 09.10.1985 to 11.10.1988.

Another passion was the Cunnamulla and District Show Society.

In honour of her commitment, Diana Palmer was awarded Life Membership of Cunnamulla and District Show Society.

Diana and Neville were strong supporters of the Priority Country Area Program, known as PCAP. Music camps were regularly held at Offham which was always a major highlight in the school calendar. During this time she learnt the trombone which could be heard all over the Offham sheepyards as she practised.

In the 1990's, Diana served several terms on the Paroo Shire Council before moving to Toowoomba.

Diana was always fun to be around. She was a strong, determined woman who was loved and admired by all who knew her.

Contributed by Helen Miller



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ST GEORGE UPDATE

Breaker Camp, Bursary and Speech and Awards took us to the end of 2019 with great anticipation for what was going to happen in 2020. What a rewarding year 2019 was for our branch.

Congratulations to John Schultz who won our bursary. With 10 students sitting the exam it was

sure tough competition. Well done, John, a great credit to you! This bursary is presented to a grade 6 student within our branch.

Our branch once again presented awards at the Speech & Awards ceremonies in all the schools of our catchment area. From St George State School, a year P-3

student who showed "Persistence and perseverance in all areas of School Life-" was awarded to Phoebe Olive. Begonia State Schools, music award went to Ryan McKay. St George State High School's, Grace Waters again took out "The most outstanding Year 7, 8 or 9 student who demonstrates a high level of consistency over

all aspects of school life." The two grade 6 students from St Patrick's Primary School who received the ICPA Academic Excellence Award- "who have been consistent in their studies/homework and have attained a commendable standard", were Mia Anderson and Hugh Graham. Well done and congratulation to these incredible young people. Outstanding effort!

Breaker Camp 2019, was held at the Glennie School, Toowoomba, with 40 students from Prep-grade 8 in attendance from our branch. Activities included swimming, athletics and gymnastics, with the awesome Glennie coaches. Dance, art, music, drama and science, "to blow your mind," with more of the Glennie team. Tennis coaching with our faithful tennis coach Brad Heck and wrestling with Coach Marty from Adelaide. Laser tag and Ten Pin bowling at "Bazinga Entertainment Centre" and indoor cricket really had the children talking for weeks after camp. On the last day of camp the children were able to preform their dance they learnt during camp for the "Bust The Dust" drought awareness campaign. What a one hour dance lesson with an awesome teacher can achieve still amazes me. Thankyou Miss Lucy. You're a champion and Breaker Camp kids, you did a fantastic job dancing your hearts out! I think we could easily say this was our best camp yet! Thankyou to all our wonderful support and sponsors, RACQ, FRRR, Translink, Rotary and Connellan Airways Trust and all the parents and helpers. Without you this camp would not have been able to go ahead. A special thankyou to Abby Varley and the Glennie team. You went above and beyond for us.

Tracey Armstrong
President- St George Branch



John Schultz, winner of the St George ICPA 2019 bursary



Phoebe Olive, winner of the St George State School ICPA Award, with Tracey Coombes, St George ICPA member.



Hugh Graham & Mia Anderson, St Patrick's Primary School, St George ICPA award winners with St George ICPA member Cindy Doonan

WESTERN DOWNS UPDATE

Saturday 11th July 2020 saw the 4th Annual Condamine Bell Gymkhana and Family Fun Day held at the Condamine Sports Grounds. With Covid-19 restrictions easing just in time, the event was well attended with over 120 horses lining up to compete.

As in previous years, the day was action packed with horse sports and push bike events catering for all ages! The youngest riders had fun competing in the led events with their energetic parents! Competitions were run for under 6's, right up to 14 years and under.

The excitement continued after lunch with the kids decorating their 'pushies' for the best presented bike, followed by the hotly contested obstacle course and burning rubber to compete in the prestigious Longest Skid competition! The Open Rescue Race was also a big draw card. Congratulations to the Winners and Runners Up in each class.

The Branch was extremely pleased to award Georgia Wylie, of Dulacca, the ICPA Western Downs Branch Tertiary Bursary for 2020. The commencement of study for Georgia and all other tertiary students has not been easy with all the restrictions and changes they have had to

cope with. Georgia is studying a Bachelor of Education at USQ, majoring in PE and knowing this young lady, she will make the very best of it and cope admirably with whatever obstacles appear in her path.

An evening Zoom meeting proved a successful way to hold the Western Downs Branch AGM and General Meeting recently. Executive positions were accepted as follows: President Kristen Coggan, Vice President Sharryn Gilmour, Secretary Miranda Ronnfeldt, Treasurer Ros Smith and Publicity Officer Adele Hughes. A vote of thanks was moved to State and Federal Council for the successful lobbying of the Queensland Government and the Australian Boarding Schools Association to keep education for rural and remote students continuing as seamlessly as possible in the current volatile situation.

Discussion in the general meeting centred on our motions for both Federal and State Conferences, and a suitable way to fund raise for our branch, in this new normal, saw some very innovative ideas tossed around.

Adele Hughes
Publicity Officer



TIKTOK CAN BE GOOD FOR YOUR KIDS IF YOU FOLLOW A FEW TIPS TO STAY SAFE

The video-sharing app TikTok is a hot political potato amid concerns over who has access to users' personal data.

The United States has moved to ban the app. Other countries, including Australia, have expressed concern.

But does this mean your children who use this app are at risk? If you're a parent, let me explain the issues and give you a few tips to make sure your kids stay safe.

A RECORD-BREAKER

Never has an app for young people been so popular. By April this year the TikTok app had been downloaded more than 2 billion times worldwide. The app recently broke all records for the most downloaded app in a quarterly period, with 315 million downloads globally in the first three months of 2020.

Its popularity with young Aussies has sky-rocketed. Around 1.6 million Australians use the app, including about one in five people born since 2006. That's an estimated 537,000 young Australians.

Like all social media apps, TikTok siphons data about its users such as email address, contacts, IP address and geolocation information.

TikTok was fined \$US5.8 million (A\$8 million) to settle US government claims it illegally collected personal information from children.

As a Chinese company, ByteDance, owns TikTok, US President Donald Trump and others are also worried about the app handing over this data to the Chinese state. TikTok denies it does this. Just days ago the Trump administration signed an executive order to seek a ban on TikTok operating or interacting with US companies.

YOUNGSTERS STILL TIKTOKING

There is no hint of this stopping our TikToking children. For them it's business as usual, creating and uploading videos of themselves lip-syncing, singing, dancing or just talking.

The most recent trend on TikTok – Taylor Swift Love Story dance – has resulted in more than 1.5 million video uploads



in around two weeks alone.

But the latest political issues with TikTok raise questions about whether children should be on this platform right now. More broadly, as we see copycat sites such as Instagram Reels launched, should children be using any social media platforms that focus on them sharing videos of themselves at all?

THE PROS AND CONS

The TikTok app has filled a genuine social need for this young age group. Social media sites can offer a sense of belonging to a group, such as a group focused on a particular interest, experience, social group or religion.

TikTok celebrates diversity and inclusivity. It can provide a place where young people can join together to support each other in their needs.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, TikTok has had huge numbers of videos with coronavirus-related hashtags such as #quarantine (65 billion views), #happyathome (19.5 billion views) and #safehands (5.4 billion views).



Some of these videos are funny, some include song and dance. The World Health Organisation even posted its own youth-oriented videos on TikTok to provide young people with reliable public health advice about COVID-19.

The key benefit is the platform became a place where young people joined together from all corners of the planet, to understand and take the stressful edge off the pandemic for themselves and others their age. Where else could they do that? The mental health benefits this offers can be important.

LET'S GET CREATIVE

Another benefit lies in the creativity TikTok centres on. Passive use of technology, such as scrolling and checking social media with no purpose, can lead to addictive types of screen behaviours for young people.

Whereas planning and creating content, such as making their own videos, is meaningful use of technology and curbs addictive technology behaviours. In other words, if young people are

going to use technology, using it creatively, purposefully and with meaning is the type of use we want to encourage.

Users of TikTok must be at least 13 years old, although it does have a limited app for under 13s.

KNOW THE RISKS

Like all social media platforms, children are engaging in a space in which others can contact them. They may be engaging in adult concepts that they are not yet mature enough for, such as love gone wrong or suggestively twerking to songs.

The platform moves very quickly, with a huge amount of videos, likes and comments uploaded every day. Taking it all in can lead to cognitive overload. This can be distracting for children and decrease focus on other aspects of their life including schoolwork.

So here are a few tips for keeping your child safe, as well as getting the most out of the creative/ educational aspects of TikTok.

1. As with any social network, use privacy settings to

limit how much information your child is sharing

2. if your child is creating a video, make sure it is reviewed before it's uploaded to ensure it doesn't include content that can be misconstrued or have negative implications
3. if a child younger than 13 wants to use the app, there's a section for this younger age group that includes extra safety and privacy features
4. if you're okay with your child creating videos for TikTok, then doing it together or helping them plan and film the video can be a great parent-child bonding activity
5. be aware of the collection of data by TikTok, encourage your child to be aware of it, and help them know what they are giving away and the implications for them.

Happy (safe) TikToking!

Contributed by
Joanne Orlando
Researcher: Children & Technology,
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www.theconversation.com



WINTON NEWS

On a glorious, sunny, winter's day, Mal and Cyndi McQueen graciously opened their home and garden to host a social family day for the Winton ICPA. It was well attended as many locals jumped at the chance to have a cuppa while they explored the impressive gardens at Weston Station.

Emma Brodie gave a warm welcome to our new members and spoke about the history of the Winton Branch and the important role that ICPA plays within our community. For those of you who want to know a little more... the Winton Branch is 47 years and 9 months old, our members have hosted three State Conferences in 1995, 2009 and 2018, we have three valuable life members in Bruce & Helen Collins and Geraldine McKerrow, and have had many of our passionate representatives sit on State Council. Kim Hughes, Past QLD President, kindly gave a speech about the many wonderful things that ICPA embodies, further reinforcing to the non-members in the crowd just how great ICPA is!

A very big thank you must go out to the McQueen family for hosting and everyone who brought a plate of food and helped in any way.

Paula McKerrow & Susie Brodie



A NOTE FROM nbn™

BEWARE OF SCAMS

nbn themed scams are one of most common scams reported to Scamwatch, with more than 2,300 reported between January and June this year with losses of \$320,624.

Australians lost more than \$900,000 from NBN impersonation scams in 2019 with the highest number of reports and losses coming from people aged 65 years and older

NBN Co has partnered with Scamwatch to raise awareness on the evolving nature of scams and

tips for how the community can stay safe, with free information sessions to be held nationally.

These information sessions will be held across the week, both face-to-face and virtually. Please log on to nbn's facebook page to register to attend an event near you.

Branch BITES

Tasty treats tried and tested by our expert baker Lisa Southern



CARAMEL MARSHMALLOW SLICE

1 cup SR Flour
¾ cup coconut
½ cup brown sugar
125g melted butter

CARAMEL

400g can condensed milk
60g butter
2 tblspn golden syrup

MARSHMALLOW

1 cup caster sugar
1 cup water
1 tblspn gelatine
1 tspn vanilla essence

1. Grease a lamington pan & line base with baking paper. Preheat oven to 180C.
2. For the base combine the flour, coconut, brown sugar & melted butter in a bowl & mix well. Press over the base of the prepared pan. Bake for 15 mins or till lightly browned. Cool.
3. CARAMEL: Combine the condensed milk, syrup & butter in a medium saucepan & whisk over a medium heat until butter melts. Simmer for approx. 8 mins, constantly whisking, until the mixture has thickened & changed to a light golden brown. Spread over cooled base.
4. MARSHMALLOW: Combine the sugar, water & gelatine in a medium saucepan & stir over



a low heat without boiling until the gelatine dissolves. Simmer, stirring for 5 mins & allow to cool. Transfer mixture to a small bowl & beat with electric mixer until the mixture holds it shape. Add vanilla & combine.

5. Spread the marshmallow over the caramel layer. Can top with toasted coconut if desired. Refrigerate for 2 hrs before cutting.

EASY CARBONARA

300g spaghetti (or pasta of choice)
Olive oil
200g sliced pancetta/ prosciutto cut into strips
2 garlic cloves chopped
3 eggs
1 egg yolk
100ml thickened cream
2/3 cup grated parmesan cheese
2 tblspn chopped parsley

1. Cook spaghetti/pasta in a pan of boiling water according to directions.
2. Heat oil in frypan & add saute the pancetta stirring until crisp. Add garlic & cook 30 secs & set pan aside.
3. Place eggs, egg yolk, cream & parmesan in a bowl. Season with salt & pepper & mix together.
4. Drain pasta & return to pan. Add the egg mix, pancetta mix & parsley & toss to combine. (the heat from the pasta will cook the egg slightly to form a creamy sauce.)
5. Serve with extra grated parmesan & parsley. ***I always double the sauce mixture as I like a good creamy sauce over my pasta.

SPINACH CHEESECAKE

60g butter melted
1 cup finely crushed cheese biscuit crumbs (I use jatz or ritz)
¼ cup grated parmesan cheese
2 bunch spinach leaves
3 bacon rashers diced
1 onion diced
250g cream cheese
125g feta cheese
300g sour cream
4 eggs lightly beaten

1. BASE: Place crushed biscuits & parmesan in a bowl & pour over the melted butter. Mix well & press over the base of a 20cm springform pan. Refrigerate for 30 mins.
2. FILLING: Boil or steam the spinach until just tender & drain. Press excess liquid from the spinach & chop roughly.
3. Cook the bacon & onion in pan until soft.
4. Beat cream cheese & feta cheese together with an electric mixer till smooth. Add sour cream & eggs & beat till combined. Transfer to a large bowl & stir in the spinach & bacon mix. Mix well.
5. Pour over the biscuit base. Bake in a moderately slow oven 140C for 1 ¼ hrs or until golden brown & set. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese & stand for 10 mins before slicing.

CUSTARD CREAM DONUTS

3 eggs
1/3 cup sugar
1 cup cream
1 tblspn cornflour
25g butter

1. CUSTARD CREAM: Place eggs & sugar in saucepan & stir over a low heat. Add cream & cornflour & stir till thick. Stir in butter till combined & place into a small bowl to cool.
2. DONUTS: Beat together 1 egg, ¼ cup sugar & 175ml water & mix well. Add 3 cups SR Flour, 2 tblspns baking powder, ¾ cup powdered milk, ½ tspn salt & combine. Add 3 tblspn oil to bring together.
3. Knead together till smooth & shape into a ball. Cover with glad wrap & rest for 1 hr. Flour board & roll out dough to desired thickness & cut donuts with a scone cutter. Cover with tea towel & rest for 30mins.
4. Fry in hot oil over a low heat till golden. Coat with sugar. Cool
5. When donuts have cooled pull apart & fill with custard cream before serving.



EDUCATION IS
OUR PASSPORT
TO THE FUTURE,
FOR TOMORROW
BELONGS TO THE
PEOPLE WHO
PREPARE FOR
IT TODAY

MALCOM X

AROUND THE RIDGES

2020

SEPTEMBER

12th Qld ICPA conference motions due
18th Last day term 3 Qld State Schools

OCTOBER

2nd Qld ICPA supplementary motions due
5th Queen's Birthday public holiday
6th First day term 4 Qld State Schools
20th/21st Qld ICPA VIRTUAL state conference

NOVEMBER

1st News & Views Deadline

DECEMBER

11th Last day term 4 Qld State Schools

JANUARY

27th First day term 1 Qld State Schools

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	2			5				
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Quality Insurance Outcomes

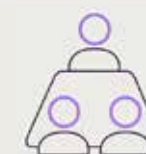
Small to medium-sized businesses are the lifeblood of Australian communities, helping them flourish and grow. But as every business owner knows, things don't always go to plan. That's why they rely on quality insurance from professional insurance advisors to keep things moving.

As an Authorised Broker for Community Broker Network (CBN), we are empowered to support businesses like you, to achieve the best insurance outcomes. CBN are wholly owned by Steadfast - Australia and New Zealand's largest insurance broking group.

Insurance Based on Advice, Not Hope



Expert advice from an advisor you can speak to. We will visit you in person. As qualified insurance professionals - we make recommendations that support you in achieving the best outcomes.



Specialist knowledge and relevant industry insights, ensuring your insurance program addresses key risk exposures for your industry.



Claims advocacy based on advice, not hope. Our team are driven to achieve the best outcomes on your behalf. We will discuss your options, and provide guidance to take the worry and confusion out of your claim.

What you can expect while working with us:

A TAILORED STRATEGY

We conduct a needs analysis to identify potential and existing risks to your business. You will then receive your personalised report, outlining the best insurance options for your circumstances.

INSURANCE COVER PLACEMENT

Our team will implement your tailored insurance strategy, confirming and communicating the important details of your policy and premiums.

ONGOING SERVICE DELIVERY

We handle the day-to-day management of your insurance program, conducting regular review meetings, whilst alerting you to emerging risks.

WE MANAGE YOUR CLAIMS

In a claim, we support you through the process - negotiating with insurers and relevant third parties to ensure swift payment of any settlement.

INSURANCE PROGRAM RENEWAL

Your business may experience changes throughout the year. We take this into account at renewal, presenting you with a revised coverage structure and policy recommendations for the coming year.

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Network Pty Ltd

ABN 60 096 916 184 | AFSL 233750

Important note - the information provided here is general advice only and has been prepared without taking into account your objectives, financial situation or needs.

NEWS

and Views



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