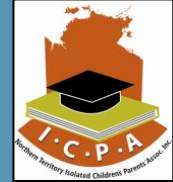


DOWN THE TRACK

Isolated Children's Parents' Association of the Northern Territory

NEWSLETTER

Issue 80 December 2018



Many thanks to the Connellan Trust and
SIBA Ships for their generous support of the
NT ICPA ventures in 2019



Greetings from our President Tiani Cook

Welcome to the Northern Territory Isolated Children's Parents Associations' Christmas edition of 'Down the Track' and our last for 2018.

NT ICPA Councillors travelled to Darwin in November for the annual Delegations to meet with relevant stakeholders and departments. Please take time to read through the comprehensive report later in this edition.

We're happy to report the first round of the Interstate Boarding Allowance has been issued to applicants. There is still time to apply, please contact our Boarding Schools Portfolio Leader Sarah Cook (details on next page) for more information.

NT ICPA attended the 2018 Hospitality NT's Presidents Luncheon in November. Sue Wilson and Sarah Measey represented NT ICPA and we were again pledged a donation towards the running of two personal and social development camps in 2019. Katherine ICPA branch and Alice Springs ICPA Branch will facilitate two separate events, one in the north and one in the south of the state for geographically isolated children. Please read more about the camps which were held earlier this year, later in the edition. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Hospitality NT for their continued support of DE kids.

What a great reason to sign up or renew your NT ICPA membership again next year and stay up to date with news of upcoming events across the NT. See NT ICPA website for more information and for memberships.

The 2019 NT ICPA State Conference date is set for April 2, 2019. Katherine Branch of ICPA will host our annual conference in Katherine. Thank you to Julie Richter who has put her hand up to take on the position of Conference Convenor. This coming year's conference theme focuses on our new tagline 'Equity in Education Outback'. Please stay up to date with Conference happenings in the lead up through our Facebook page and on the NT ICPA website.

Alice Springs School of the Air and Katherine School of the

Air children have celebrated their last face to face, in-school week and end of year award presentations. Face to face SOTA in-school gatherings for DE students from transition to year 9, are a time for classmates and families to come together for end of school activities and very important social interactions. Congratulations to not only all students on the successful completion of another year of schooling but also to all the amazing home tutors (often Mums) who work tirelessly to ensure children receive an equitable level of education.

On a personal note...at home here at Suplejack we almost saw two consecutive Christmas' without a visit from the RFDS... nearly, not quite with a last-minute December flight for my daughter with a burst appendix. My son then underwent reconstructive shoulder surgery, it was jokingly said perhaps I need a room of my own at the Alice Springs hospital. Hopefully though, they'll be our last visits for a while.

The annual Horses for Courses, 'Ride for Bush Kids' took place in October earlier this year and saw 15 riders complete the trek along the spectacular West MacDonnell Ranges from Glen Helen Homestead to Alice Springs raising awareness of issues facing bush kids and their families and also supporting Dolly's Dream with a donation of \$3,500.

In closing I'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Fingers crossed for some much-anticipated and decent rainfalls across our wonderful Territory...a perfect Christmas gift for all.

...So, grab a cuppa, put your feet up and enjoy reading through another fantastic edition of our DTT Magazine, compiled by our very talented magazine editor Ruth Woerle.

Cheers Tiani.



Volunteers for Isolated Students Education Aussie Helpers



AHVISE (Aussie Helpers Volunteers for Isolated Students Education) is a voluntary organisation that assists rural and remote children with their educational needs. Retired tutors/teachers volunteer their time to go bush and help our rural and remote kids in the school room. Many of these kids have their own schoolroom on cattle stations, communities, national parks, properties, farms, fishing villages or even the odd remote island.

Where there's help needed AHVISE will be sure to assist if there is a volunteer available.

If you feel you can help our kids by volunteering, or if you are a parent requiring help please get more information and register by going to:

www.ahvise.org.au

Newsletter Editor: Ruth Woerle - woerles@hotmail.com

Printer: Hollands Print Solutions - McCourt Rd, Yarrowonga. NT.

Our Newsletter is now printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.

NT WEBSITE – <http://nt.icpa.com.au>

Keep an eye on our website as news items, media releases and events will be posted regularly.

If your branch has something important to share with other NT members please email it to the ntwebmaster@icpa.com.au

The NT webpage homepage has a Facebook feed which allows you to view the NT Facebook page without the added burden of increased data due to the ads.



Twitter -- @NTICPA

'Northern Territory Isolated
Children's Parent Association'



Isolated Children's Parents' Association

NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL Inc



2018 - 2019 Positions

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PORTFOLIO POSITIONS

Allowances - Sarah Cook
Boarding - Sarah Cook
Communications & Technology - Tiani Cook
Curriculum - Bec Cadzow
Distance Ed - Bec Cadzow

Early Childhood - Anna Weir
Rural/Remote Schools - Sarah Measey
Special Needs - Sally Sullivan
Tertiary - Sally Sullivan
Training - Sally Sullivan
Miscellaneous & Across the Border - Tiani Cook

Northern Territory School of Distance Learning

Graduation 2018

The 2018 NTSDE Graduation Dinner was again held in the Grand Ballroom at SkyCity Resort Mindil Beach on Friday 23rd of November. We were fortunate that the afternoon storms were finished by the early evening and many guests took the opportunity to have their photos taken on the lawns. The graduates were the stars of the evening and shone in their best evening attire. As guests entered the ballroom the room came to life with happy chatter of students and families finding their tables decorated with teal & gold balloons and candles.



The guests totalled 136 including 15 of the 17 NTSDE graduating students for 2018. There were 6 NTSDE students, 4 students from West Arnhem College Jabiru, 2 students from Tiwi College, 3 students from Xavier Catholic College. For Xavier College it was an extra special occasion as their graduates included the first male to complete his NT Certificate of Education from their school.

The evening was co-hosted by NTSDE teachers, Paul Anderson and George Tumino.

The students owned the evening. Looking relaxed and no doubt relieved to have their Year 12 studies behind them they shared their celebrations with family and friends and teachers alike.

Sandra Jestin was presented with the Caltex All Rounder Award and the ADF Long Tan and Youth Leadership Award with Nisa Howie of Jabiru Area School receiving The Board of Studies Year 12 Achiever Award and the NTSDE Principal's Award and a number of students presented with Stage 2 individual Subject Awards.

The student addresses and presentations were worth hearing. Aggie Kantilla, Kyanne Warlapinni and Paulinus Tipungwuti who studied at Xavier Catholic College talked about their pride in their completion of Year 12 and their aspirations and dreams for the future. Paulinus was particularly proud to have been the first young man to graduate from Xavier College.

Olivia Tester and Sandra Jestin gave a presentation on behalf of their NTSDE peers and thanked family and NTSDE staff for the support they provided. Both young ladies expressed the relief they felt at their completion and how they looked forward to whatever the future offered them.

Corben Nabanardi from Jabiru Area School gave a humorous presentation, saying how his parents were really important factors in encouraging his continued study. A highlight for Corben this year was representing the Jabiru Army Cadet Unit through his attendance at the Commemoration of the Battle of Amiens in France. These presentations were the icing on the cake with the students showing confidence, maturity and excellent presentation skills.

The 2018 NTSDE Year 12 Graduation Dinner was a magnificent evening. Congratulations to all the students and thank you to all the guests who contributed with their enthusiastic responses to the evening.



Shannai Wade receives her award

The Graduation Ceremony guests included Tiani Cook (above left) Chairperson of the NTSDE School Council. Other special guests included Marion Guppy - Deputy Chief Executive, Department of Education and Aderyn Chatterton - Senior Manager School Improvement and Leadership. Also, there to celebrate were principals and staff of the NTSDE Community and Area Partner Schools along with the NTSDE Principal, Anne White and NTSDE staff. Another honoured guest was former NTSDE principal Marcia Harvey. She was presented with a delightful flora arrangement by Olivia Tester one of the school Council student representatives, with Tiani Cook delivering a speech of thanks and farewell to Marcia on behalf of the school council and school community.



Above Sherina, Milena and Hayley Van Loenhout



Right Cameron Dunbar receives his award from Principal Anne White

Alice Springs Branch Report

Presidents Report – Amber Driver

The last few months have certainly gone past very quickly, it feels as though only a few weeks have passed since our last branch meeting in September. I will take the time to reflect on the past few months for the Alice Springs ICPA Branch.

Preparations for the AHA / ICPA Social Development Weekend

Our 2017 & 2018 Coordinator Natasha McCormack has dedicated many dozens of hours in the organising and planning of this years' event. At the time of writing this report, we are still a few days out from the weekend activities... I know at the time of presenting this report, the many hours of preparation Natasha has put in, will have ensured all who attend over the weekend would have thoroughly enjoyed the event. I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Tash, for again organising such a great array of activities for our children. Your efforts and the efforts of your volunteers has been appreciated by our members children and other children across the community.

St. Phillips Yr12 Graduation Ceremony

I was invited again this year to attend as a special guest at the St. Phillips Yr12 Graduation Ceremony that was held on Friday 23rd November. I took my place in my reserved seat (right at the front) to be included in the assembly. I was overwhelmed by the calibre of speeches made by the 2018 School Captains – They were two truly inspirational young leaders who will be sure to continue with confidence into 'life after school'. One of our Branch Life Members' Jan Heaslip was officiating at the Ceremony as the Patron of St. Phillips. Jan was able to present awards to some of the graduating students as part of her duties. Sally Sullivan, our Federal Vice President and NT State councillor was also in attendance with her husband to mark the end of an era of Sullivan's at St. Phillips - their 5th child, has just completed Yr12 and was presented with a swag of Academic and Community Awards during the Ceremony. I loved being involved in such a special day and at the conclusion of the Graduation I left feeling uplifted and positive for the 2018 Graduates.

2018 Alice Springs Branch Bursaries

Our Bursary Secretary, Gail Auricht has been very busy this last few weeks ensuring the Branch Bursaries are awarded. This is quite a process and as a result Gail has spent many hours ensuring candidates meet the set criteria, panel members are sourced and the Alice Springs ICPA Branch Bursaries can be awarded. Each year our Branch offers up to \$7,500 spread across several bursaries, for our members children. Gail is also working on collating a digital copy of our Bursary Records and we will be able to share them in the new year with our members. I would like to Thank Gail for her commitment in her role as the Bursary Secretary – I believe she has held this position for 5 years. Well done to our 2018 Bursary recipients.

Executive and Committee

I would like to thank the Executive and Committee for their support over the last few months.

Not only have they supported me, they are supporting each other with ICPA activities, planned events, learning the intricacies of ICPA and seeking support when needed.

I have continued to learn as I go in this position and have been encouraged to improve my leadership with the feedback that has been directed to me over the past year. I acknowledge that Leadership exists in different capacities and styles and there are many aspects to good leadership. I hope to continue to learn and grow within ICPA to reach our common goal: In short, improving remote education for our children. As always, I am happy to hear from our members and will endeavour to take on board your ideas and feedback.

All Members and Potential New Members

Thank you to the members who have travelled into the meeting today, it is wonderful to see your faces and share the end of year meeting and Christmas spirit with you all. For the members who were unable to attend today – I am sure you will hear about the meeting in the coming weeks. Thanks for another great year for ICPA, Alice Springs! Have a safe, happy and hopefully wet Christmas.



Alice Springs Branch Executive Committee 2019

The Alice Springs Branch AGM was held in early December, prior to their Social Development Weekend. The following positions have been filled:

President:	Amber Driver
Vice-President:	Lisa Kimlin
Secretary:	Georgina Hamlyn
Treasurer:	Katherine Warby
Public Officer:	Ley Kunoth
Publicity Officer:	Natasha McCormack
Bursary Office:	Gail Auricht

Committee Members: Benjamin Quilliam, Leza Cook, Emma Chalmers, Vikki McGlynn, Mary Bayly, Sarah Cook.

Life Membership - A reflection on many years of service to ICPA

At the recent AGM of the Alice Springs Branch Liz was awarded Life Membership of the branch. A well deserved award, Liz reflects on her many years with ICPA

Thank you very much Alice Springs Branch for bestowing the honour of Alice Springs Branch Life Membership upon me - and what an honour it is! I hope to fill it to the best of my and your expectations. Sarah Cook (Branch Publicity Officer for 2018) has asked me to fill in some details about myself.

How long have you been a member of the Alice Springs branch: I became a member of the local branch in approx. 1995 when David, Jack and I moved back to Indiana Station after being at Annitowa Station. David's sister Rebecca was a member and received the PEDALS mag once a quarter and I was impressed with the information in the magazine, thinking, "if I have to send our little ones away to boarding school one day, it may be a good thing to keep in touch with these institutions". I had previously been a Govie on a couple of stations and certainly heard of ICPA and knew that back then they used the radio for their meetings but had no idea what impact this wonderful organisation would have on my life. So, I read the mags, for the next few years, but not really closely and life was simple...

Do you remember your first meeting? What was your first impression/experience like?

Jack was in enrolled in 1998 and at the end of the year, the Swim Week, there was a meeting for the ICPA group at the 'Red Centre Resort' – poolside. I did not know many people there and felt quite out of my depth, social wise. (I did not know many people in the district and saw them only a couple of times a year) AGM time rolled around and I was nominated to be the Vice President by one of my previous employers – I think this was my first ICPA meeting! Certainly my first AGM. All good - 'you don't do much as VP' they all say. Good training for you...bla bla... All was fine till the April meeting where the then President said that she was moving away. Over the crackle of the radio I was not 100% sure what that meant, but soon did when everyone was congratulating me on being President. I was to chair the next meeting as my test run - and the rest is history.

'Daunting' is the word I would use for my feelings back then, but I had SOOOO much help and mentoring and guidance from Kaye Clapin back then, and I think I was a good student, I lapped up the learning of 'good governance 1 on 1'. I also had continuing Secretary Sue Murphy and Treasurer Denise Broad who also gave me great advice and guidance, and of course there was also our State Life Member Jan Heaslip (who is part of our branch) offering sage advice. I stayed in this position for 98/99/00/01/02 (our branch limit is 4 years but the 98 didn't count) I was told that positions on committees runs like this:

Year 1- you learn the position

Year 2- you do something

Year 3- you have fun

I had a few extra years to learn and do something...And I would agree with this extra time, for me, back then anyway.

It is a gradual learning process on how the position works, how it fits in with the other positions and a gaining of confidence; all the while remaining committed to understanding the wider operations of ICPA both at State and Federal level - not to mention learning about people's personalities and developing your own. I also had to learn the difference between P&F, School Council and ICPA and all their processes so that I could understand how things are done in one arena and not another.



Amber Driver, President of the Alice Springs Branch awards Liz her Life Members badge

You must have attended some interesting meetings over the years; do you have a particular 'stand-out' memory?

I guess the one above would be one and there were others - but they were ones of personality clash and not worth rehashing here in Down the Track. I am sure that all branches and councils have had their fair share of these. I have learnt though that running a meeting effectively, takes a lot of preparation before the meeting. Running a committee takes a lot of communication from all sides and there is a fine line between motivating your troops and running under a 'Hitler style' governance. Perhaps it should read 'make the time to make ICPA sexy without losing its accountability'.

A stand out conference was the 21st State Conference held in Alice Springs in 2003. Although I had attended every State and Federal Conference since 1999, it was my first exposure to a great speaker and very relevant topic - Succession Planning. From this activity we learnt more about our own behaviours and the traits of the people in the room. These types of activities help immensely when dealing with personality issues amongst people - family, staff, and association members. The local ladies who convened the conference were all about having fun for the night's festivities. I have found an old Newsletter with photos and song words rewritten to reflect the ICPA. I think at times we do tend to forget to have fun, while also working hard.

The 2005 Federal Conference also was memorable as I co-convened this and Federal held it in Canberra, for the first time.

I heard you say you've done just about every role on the committee – what role did you enjoy the most, and what have you taken away from sitting in all the positions over the years?

While as President I gradually increased my contact with State Council (to help expand my knowledge of ICPA and help in my new position) and became their Publicity Officer in about 2001. During my role as President the Alice Springs ICPA website was created and I assisted in keeping this going for quite a number of years until we moved to a new system under Federal, in which I also looked after the State Council website as well.

When leaving Alice branch as President I stepped into the State

Council President role and held positions as Newsletter editor, Vice President, President, Secretary and a fill-in Treasurer when required over my time on State. My time on State was for a period of about 13 years in various roles. I also supported many state conference convenors over my time on State Council. While on State I also helped the branch with their own governance; and to mentor the various committee members who came and went (if asked). I saw this as my role as the Branch Public Officer for 9 years. After my time on State I was the Bursary Secretary for a few years also collating all the previous bursary winners into a spreadsheet, so that history was recorded accurately.

My varied roles over the last nearly 20 years working for the branch have come not only in holding positions but for being a support to the branch during meetings and out of meeting when called upon. Fundraising, Bursary development support and reviews, constitution reviews and general governance advice. Sometimes one does not need a 'position' or a label to help, but more the time and effort. The secret is to find what you enjoy doing (or what your members are good at doing) and encourage them to take on roles they are suited for.

Life Membership often has a special meaning to the individual, what does it mean to you?

In 1999, the Alice Springs Branch hosted the State Conference. Back then, this was a big event, 2 days, 3 dinners, 100 odd people... bigger and longer than today. At the State Conference Dinner, I was to award Bev Seidel with the first Alice Springs Branch Life Membership for her efforts to the branch. Bev was the first VISE Co-ordinator for our southern NT area and held this position for 7 years. She had been a member of the branch for 16 and in that time helped the branch with a lot of fundraising. She also attended conferences on behalf of the branch and played an active role at meetings.

I was told, in the letter nominating her for LM that her award nomination was based on her time and commitment to acting positively and professionally for the branch and its members (and others for whom VISE serviced as well). LM is usually awarded when a person has held a position for some time and they are then stepping down, and it is a recognition of their service. It is not to be given away lightly and without due consideration between the membership. There should be an understanding throughout the branch of why this award is being presented.

You are still quite an active member, how would you like to contribute to ICPA as a Life Member?

In our circumstance, a branch Life Member would be across their branch issues and procedures, far better than their State or Federal Councils as we have our own constitution – not all branches do. I see the role of the Life Members, (all 3 of us now) as a bank of history, a place to go to for mentoring as well as someone who may be removed from the current membership, who can give honest, sound and independent advice on bursaries, constitutional issues, branch issues, procedures and policy development. Members, and in particular the executive committee have a lot to take in and manage as ICPA is very dense (and confusing!), most of which is written down somewhere, but knowing where to go to is the first step. Not all issues that come up are written down so there needs to be some sort of guidance from people who can cover these 'grey areas'.

As an addendum to this article, I would like to reflect on the good things that have come from me being involved in ICPA.

- ICPA has given me a good grounding on what to expect from sound governance and procedures. I am on a few other committees and boards and nowhere else does there have the governance and the assistance to new people as the ICPA procedures - you just need to read a lot, and have someone help and decipher. This all takes time. The old saying 'You don't know, what you don't know' is so true. It also helped with business and employing people as well, back before workplace standards.
- It has helped me understand a bit clearer the 'ways of government' – not only the Education dept but all government departments. And become more relaxed when speaking to them. This in turn also helped when dealing with Schools of the Air and boarding schools.
- It has helped me connect with others in a similar position – and this is very important, we all need a 'feel good' moment here and there. Whether this connection was with my neighbours or people from the other side of Australia, it didn't matter.
- It helped my reading, writing and public speaking, simply because I was doing these things more and learning from working with others on papers/media releases, etc. It also helped with my organisational & computer & website skills.
- ICPA also took me away from the station too - but in a good way, to take part in activities that were only for me. Sometimes we all need a 're-fresh' with other adults away from the business and the family.

A closing quote from Mahatma Ghandi, which can be used in so many situations, (*but I am borrowing it from Sue Holder - co state councillor with me in the 2000's who used it in her President's report one year*):

"Be the Change You Want to See"



On Wednesday 31st October State Council had their second face-to-face meeting for the year; the first one was during the June delegations. When preparing the finer details around delegation meetings we've found F2F meetings are better than teleconferences. The 31st of October was also Halloween, a highlight, thanks to Suzanne Wilson's effort. Suzanne is our secretary; she also lives in a swanky spot in Darwin and has the facilities to host our F2F meetings. You can see from the photos that Suzanne went to great lengths to swath us in Halloween; and like usual, the food, bells, whistles and organisation was brilliant... (sending you a special thank you, Suzanne).



To make the most of our meeting times, we invite guests to join us during F2F. We were very pleased Tubby Fudge (COGSO), David Cannon (The Essington International School Darwin), and Marianne St Clair with David Murtagh (CDU) could join and brief us. For parents considering boarding options in the future, keep an eye on The Essington International School Darwin; they have a very high academic record, excellent extra-curricular focus and are running a small-scale boarding facility, with plans to scale up in the future.

One of our F2F meeting agenda items was State Council being more involved with branches, in addition to the reports we provide back and forth, and everyone's willingness to respond to enquiries and other requests. It was agreed one or more State Council members should try to attend each branch meeting and if branches agree, a state NT ICPA report might be read out at each of the AGMs. State Council also agreed to extend an invitation to Branch Presidents, asking them to join us in at least two State Council teleconference each year, and invite them to also give a report on their Branch.

We discussed how tricky it was to fundraise for State Council, although fundraising income is as important to our continuity as it is to any Branch. We explored different fundraising opportunities; including selling a donated beast at the Alice Springs Show Sale and asking members to sell \$50 boards on NT ICPA's behalf.

Another agenda item was deciding on our new tag line, based on entries received during our competition earlier this year. The winner is Kate McMaster, and although it's not exactly what Kate sent in, her entry inspired the final tagline

NTICPA's New Tag line is
"Equity in Education Outback"

which NT ICPA will use from now on. Congratulations Kate and thank you everyone for your contribution. Your enthusiasm and loads of entries made it a hard but entertaining selection process!

During delegations, councillors have been staying in an Airbnb house, where we prepare meals and eat-in. This has helped cut down our costs and during these delegations, our Airbnb host was an ICPA supporter who grew up on a cattle station in north west Queensland. Sue gave us a discount and her facilities were perfect.

Our first day of formal meetings was on Thursday. Key points, meetings - Thursday 1 November.

THE HON SELENA UIBO MLA – MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR TRAINING together with VICKI BAYLIS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE – DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



The Minister has agreed that NT ICPA are to have a bi-monthly meeting with the Department, to keep dialogue open, particularly following differences in our understanding of some of the recent issues around boarding including funding arrangements for boarding facilities in the NT, and boarding opportunities available to non-indigenous students.

The Department supports professional development for home tutors and expressed a willingness to facilitate online training sessions for home tutors to better understand dyslexia and (significant) reading difficulties. NT ICPA will provide the Department with NT SOA in-school dates, so the Department can support HT's in accessing and utilising these resources.

The Department advised they will not be able to guarantee one laptop for every DE student. Although this motion outcome did look promising when discussed with the Department during our June delegations, the Department has since reviewed its budget and is not in a position to make such a commitment.

The Department advised a full review of the Isolated Students Assistance Scheme is not imminent, although NT ICPA provided feedback on the policy and scheme in December 2017.



TIM SAUL – HEAD NBN LOCAL NT & SA

NBN's feedback on the technical aspects of the multi-cast trials were positive, it does work on SkyMuster and NBN will now meet with ASSOA, KSA and NT SDE for the second stage of product trials in 2019. ANT Communications (FSG) was the provider for the trial, when the trial is over all providers will be given the opportunity to tender for the supply.

New corporate and business plans are being rolled out on NBN next year; we probably won't see them in the market till mid next year. Skymuster is more stable than ever, hence the upgrades are happening. NBN has done over 92,000 Skymuster installations since the beginning, including 2,000 in the NT.

Discussions on telehealth port, i.e. unmetered video program to support the families.

**TONY CONSIDINE GENERAL MANAGER
ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS**

Forms for the Interstate Boarding Allowance are not on the Departments web site and there is no area on the form for additional information (such as justification for sending siblings together). NT ICPA expressed the position that members would like the allowance to not be linked solely to curriculum offerings which aren't available in the NT.

As there is a strong focus on indigenous boarding in the NT, the meeting discussed the future for non-indigenous boarding in the NT, and the NT government boarding funding model being so heavily tied to Indigenous student attendance. The Departments position is the Territory loses money when children board interstate, however acknowledged the circumstances of support for indigenous students boarding interstate.

The Department will give NT ICPA a full update on the 'Starting Early for a Better Future' policy at our next meeting. Discussed also, was the KICS funding arrangement—being only secure until June 2019, NT ICPA asked the Department to consider assisting KICS to ensure continuity of funding and therefore the program.

Discussion on increasing population of NT and looking after rural and remote families.

**LIA FINOCCHIARO MLA - SHADOW MINISTER FOR
EDUCATION AND DEPUTY LEADER OF
THE OPPOSITION**

Interstate Boarding allowance, and the restrictive criteria.

Policy 'Starting Early for a better future'. Very little reference to remote non-indigenous children. KICS only has 30% of funding till June 2019.

Discussed the heavy focus on indigenous boarding in the NT; advised Haileybury will accept to non-Indigenous boarders. The Principal's contact details were provided to NT ICPA. Discussion on increasing population of NT, looking after rural and remote families.

Discussed transcript of Parliament sittings regarding boarding funding, and details in the Department of Education's Annual Report which was released earlier the same week.

Key points, meetings Friday 2 November.

**DOUG COOK – SENIOR DIRECTOR
DIGITAL POLICY (DCIS)**



2nd co-investment trial with Telstra is targeting tourism and indigenous communities. Cost of macro cells (\$350,000) and small cells approximately (\$35,000 to \$350,000). The Federal Government continues working on the small cell 'Black Spot' Program.

R Radio has been raised with Telstra and the Federal Government. NT Gov't believes Telstra will meet the USO/USG around this situation. Doug Cook is happy to pass questions on to Telstra regarding R Radio and HCRC.

Multi-cast trial discussion.

**THE HON LAUREN MOSS MLA - MINISTER FOR
CORPORATE AND INFORMATION SERVICES**



Minister requested more stories about communications/phone/internet problems experienced by rural and remote Territorians. Minister asked NT ICPA to share these stories so they can be taken to the Federal Government.

Tele-health; specialised services for our remote students. NT ICPA asked the relevant Departments to collaborate to enable OT and Speech therapy etc. for rural and remote families.

It doesn't take long to read the main points, but each meeting is a big deal. Securing meetings, preparing and gathering in Darwin takes an awful lot of effort and involves highly influential people. To give you a sense, and not including everyone, this year we have met with 2 Education Ministers and their advisors, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Education together with her advisor, very senior Department of Education officers - including the Chief Executive Officer, the COGSO President and Chief Executive, senior Telstra and NBN representatives and representatives from Virgin Australia and Qantas.

During each meeting we communicate your motion/s and provide context, that is, to help decision makers understand the back story to why the motion came about. Afterwards, you can fully appreciate how important delegations are, and we hope to continue two delegations a year, budget permitting.

As this DTT issue goes to print, each branch is drafting motions for the 2019 State Conference. You may feel like a broken record submitting the same motion over and over again – but State Council doesn't meet the same people over and over again, certainly not year-to-year. Ministers change, advisors change, departmental officers change. We need to keep telling the story and sharing the motion until it is no longer necessary to do so.

This year NT ICPA MEMBERS had a big win with the Interstate Boarding Allowance. This allowance came about from members writing motions asking for interstate boarding support. It's not the only win; we've seen many changes in ICPA's portfolio landscapes. So when you & your branch draft up a motion about something which really needs to change, feel a little bit proud of yourself. Your efforts do make a difference.

Written by Sarah Cook – NT State Publicity Officer.



ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS ASSOCIATION NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL INCORPORATED



SIBA SHIPS - WELLARD RURAL EXPORTS 'BRIDGING THE GAP' GRANTS PROGRAM

A donation from Siba Ships and the Wellard Rural Export group has allowed NT ICPA to offer the 'Bridging the Gap' Grants program.

WHAT ARE THEY?

These grants shall be awarded in February and August each year to assist in the costs associated for a child to attend an educationally based activity, purchase materials, which are relevant to their current studies or chosen career path or undertake personal development activities.

They are intended to cover course costs, books, equipment, travel and study aids. This is also extended to include activities that relate to student's study course or personal development: leadership skills, information gathering, networking with peers, and course extension activities.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1. The applicant's family must be geographically isolated and have been a Branch or Lone Member within the NT for at least two years.
2. The applicant must be aged between 15 to 22 years at the 1st January in the year of application.
3. Applicants do not have to be enrolled in fulltime study.

CONDITIONS OF APPLICATIONS

As part of the claim the applicant must provide a 500 word (approx) application which would include:

How are you or your family isolated

Details of family membership with the ICPA in the NT

Details of costs and how the activity or materials that you are applying for will benefit you and what is its relevance to the course you are studying; or your career pathway; or personal development.

Payment will be made in the form of a cheque payable to the successful recipient or guardian, once the application has been deemed successful or alternatively, when a receipt or invoice has been presented to the NTICPA Treasurer, pertaining to the activity or materials from the educational body.

Retrospective applications can be made for an activity or cost associated that has occurred within the previous semester.

The successful applicants will be required to provide a brief written report outlining the content and achievements obtained, for inclusion in the following NTICPA 'Down the Track' Newsletter. (photographs encouraged)

A successful applicant may not apply for consecutive bursaries.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications will be strictly confidential. The names of the applicants will only be known to the current State Council Assistant Secretary, who will not be eligible to sit on the selection panel.

If in the opinion of the selection panel no suitable application is received, grants will not be awarded and the budgeted amount rolled over into the next semester. Amounts awarded each semester will be decided by the panel, ensuring that any single payment is not under \$750 and with the annual amount available to the grants being reviewed and allocated after each AGM.

The decision of the selection panel will be final. Parents of applicants shall not be eligible to sit on the panel.

CLOSING DATES

January 31st July 30th each year.

The application must be received by the Returning Officer by C.O.B. on the closing dates. Please forward the application along with your current address, email and contact phone number to:

NTICPA Secretary:
Helen Harding
Gorrie Station
RSD MS 1953
Katherine NT 0852
T: 8975 9965
E: hardingnt@bigpond.com

Note: As this mailing address is in a remote location, please allow plenty of time for delivery - email is preferred.

*It is advisable that you ring to ensure that the application has been received.
If sending by email, please ensure you have a 'read receipt' on your outgoing message
and that your email is confirmed as received.*

CONNELLAN AIRWAYS TRUST OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER AWARD

Helen Kempe

Helen Kempe, former resident of Tennant Creek now retired to Mt Riddock Station in the Northern Territory, has been presented with the Connellan Airways Trust's prestigious Outstanding Achiever Award by its Chairman Mr Mark Coffey.

Helen received the award at the Trust's annual dinner in front of guests which included Chris and Edward Connellan, son and grandson of the Trust's founder E J Connellan. She was given a bespoke plaque which provides recognition of Helen's continual commitment to the people of the Outback.

Mark Coffey says, "Helen is a thoroughly deserving recipient of the award and has been recognised because she epitomizes the vision and purpose of the Connellan Airways Trust to improve the social and economic outcomes for people living in Outback Australia, so it may prosper."

After growing up in the South Australian bush where her dad managed Sidney Kidman's Macumba Station, Helen first came to the Barkly region 50 years ago to be a governess at Muckaty Station, north of Tennant Creek. She then moved into Tennant Creek and in 1989 started work with the Department of Primary Industries.

She has continually contributed to the community and the surrounding pastoral stations through her work with many local groups and events including Rotary, the Barkly Goldrush Campdrafting and as an unofficial photographer recording events throughout the region. She has also built a strong connection with the Isolated Children's and Parents' Association and the Country Women's Association whose outlook aligns with those of the Connellan Airways Trust.

There aren't many corners of the NT where there isn't someone that has been touched by Helen's kind, gentle heart.

Recipients of the Outstanding Achiever Award exhibit the traditional spirit of Aussie Outback pioneers, which includes a healthy element of get up and go, with qualities associated with the late E J Connellan, not least passion, endeavour, innovation and determination.



Right: Helen is awarded the Connellan Airways Trust's prestigious 'Outstanding Achiever Award' by Chairman Mr Mark Coffey.

The Trust welcomes donations, which are tax deductible.



E. J. CONNELLAN AWARD

The Chairman of the Connellan Airways Trust, Mr Mark Coffey, announces the opening of the E.J. Connellan Award for 2019.

The Award provides an opportunity for people living in outback Australia to undertake study, research or invention that might not be possible otherwise. The Award provides financial support of up to \$20,000 in two categories: Junior 16-25 years of age and Senior 26 years of age and over. There are no specific pre-requisites for applicants. Merit is the primary criterion, based on either past or demonstrated ability for future achievement in any endeavour acceptable to the Connellan Airways Trust.

The Award was established in 1988 in honour of the founder of the Trust, the pioneer Northern Territory aviator, Eddie Connellan. He was a man of strong and passionate character, with special abilities attuned to trail blazing. These qualities enabled him to overcome significant problems and to achieve much where others would have been daunted. He was a successful pastoralist and a visionary business man; he played a prominent role in Central Australian affairs. He was a legend in his own lifetime.

Applicants are sought who exhibit the traditional spirit of Aussie Outback pioneers, which includes a healthy element of get up and go, with qualities associated with the late E J Connellan, not least passion, endeavour, innovation and determination.

Applications for the E. J. Connellan Award close on 31 January 2019

Application forms can be downloaded from the Connellan Airways Trust Website

To find out more about the To find out more about the work of Connellan Airways Trust and the Award

www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au

Kaye Clapin on 1800 733 810

info@connellanairwaystrust.org.au



This year's Hospitality NT (previously Australian Hostels Australia (NT)) Social Development event was held on the 1st and 2nd of December in Alice Springs. Thirty three children attended, supported by parents and extended family. Promotion and advertising of this event also prompted four new family memberships. Community support was also overwhelming with many organisations getting behind the cause, offering their time, expertise and assistance. This enabled ICPA members' children to participate in an array of activities they may otherwise not have the opportunity to do or be exposed to, and definitely had an impact in helping develop their social skills.



Saturday morning kicked off with an official welcome at the Gillen Club where all enjoyed breakfast and each child received a goodies bag which included a swim bag, drink bottle, stationary, bubbles, posters, tennis balls and sport clothing, graciously donated by NSW based company 'Contact KitBag for Kids' and local Alice Springs organisations. Breakfast was followed by an hour-long football clinic with Australian Football League NT, then an hour-long cricket clinic run by NT Cricket where the children learnt basic skills and participated in drills and games.



They all then jumped on the bus, (which was a fun novelty for all!) and headed to Yaye's Café at the Araluen Precinct for lunch where the children enjoyed pizza, burgers, ice-cream and cupcakes before jumping back on the bus to attend their next clinic.



Perentie Jiu Jitsu put on an energetic and fun hour session where the children learnt various manoeuvres and self-defence techniques. Saturday finished off with a very engaging ballet and jazz session including a small performance and tour of the costume room with the Australian Dance Academy/Duprada Dance Company.



AUSTRALIAN DANCE ACADEMY



Social Development Weekend

Sunday morning convened at the tennis courts with a clinic run by NT Tennis.



After a lovely lunch and a milkshake at the Olive Pink Botanical Gardens it was back on the bus to the YMCA for some rock climbing and ball games. The weekend finished off with a table tennis clinic run by the Alice Springs Table Tennis Association.



All then jumped on the bus again and headed to the Alice Springs Public Library for a 90-minute robotics workshop where each child had a chance to play with and explore the mechanics of robotics and information technology using Ipad's and spheres.



Feedback received from the children and parents/care givers were positive with all children commenting they had a great weekend, learnt some new skills, and had a great time catching up with their friends, and parents commenting their children were exhausted but for all the right reasons.

The weekend could also not have happened without the support and volunteering of our branch members whom put their hand up to help. Thank you to all these members and all sponsors and other organisations, especially Hospitality NT. The weekend was a great success!



Haileybury Rendall School Welcomes Boarders in Darwin



HAILEYBURY
RENDALL SCHOOL

Families living in remote locations across northern Australia now have access to an elite boarding school education in Darwin at Haileybury Rendall School.

The new School opened in 2018 after Haileybury acquired Kormilda College. It offers the best of Haileybury's leading academic, co-curricular and pastoral programs.

A revamped Boarding Program provides students with wonderful opportunities in a strong and supportive co-educational environment. The family-like atmosphere and positive culture ensure that every student matters every day. This is underlined by a dedicated team of experienced and supportive staff with high expectations of all students.

Boarding for All

While Haileybury Rendall School previously only accepted Aboriginal boarders, it now welcomes all Years 7 to 12 students from across northern Australia in its recently refurbished facilities.

Haileybury Rendall School Principal Mr Craig Class is pleased to offer this experience to families who would prefer to see their children closer to home.

"We provide a world-class education and boarding experience in Darwin, so there is no need to travel elsewhere," he says.

"We are delighted that these students have the opportunity to experience the Haileybury difference."

A Great World School

Like Haileybury's Melbourne and Beijing campuses, Haileybury Rendall School aims to be a great world school that develops high-achieving students who are connected globally, to each other and their communities.

In Darwin, boarders live in newly refurbished facilities and access one of Australia's most rigorous and rewarding school programs.

Haileybury is among Australia's highest performing schools academically, with consistently high Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) results.

In 2018 Haileybury students achieved their best results in NAPLAN's 11-year history, placing among the top schools nationally. This was further recognised at the 2018 Australian Education Awards where Haileybury was named Australian School of the Year and Primary School of the Year – Non-Government.

This award-winning Academic Program is being delivered at Haileybury Rendall School in Darwin.

High Level Learning

At Haileybury Rendall School, every learning stage is equally important. Individual needs are met at with a student-centered approach reflecting their gender, age, interests and potential. Junior Years teachers use the renowned explicit instruction approach to Literacy and Numeracy, supplemented by a thinking and problem-solving approach.

The Middle Years emphasise learning and gaining a deeper understanding of issues and higher-level learning outcomes, while the Senior Years Program nurtures resilient, independent learners.

The Boarding Program

Boarders access all this and more. The Boarding Program establishes strong, positive social relationships and friendships while learning lifelong values of respect and responsibility. Independence is fostered by taking on responsibilities and leadership roles such as Boarder Prefect (Year 12) and Boarding Assistant (Year 11).

Physical, social and cultural wellbeing is a focus through an extensive Pastoral Care Program and academic support.

Modern Facilities

Recently refurbished facilities provide boarders with a modern

and comfortable home away from home, with girls and boys accommodated in two air-conditioned complexes.

Dewarra House has seven pods with nine single and twin rooms each. Each pod has a Common Room with kitchen facilities, laundry and store room.

Gumimba House will officially open for Middle School Students in January 2019 with 30 twin rooms opening onto green space. It has a large central common room and kitchen area easily accessed from either side.

Other communal areas include a games room, music room, computer rooms, kitchens and outdoor areas, including fire pits, ponds and gym equipment.

Girls and boys enjoy nutritious and delicious meals in the Boarders' Dining Hall, which also provides morning tea at recess and school lunches.

Structure is an important part of HRS boarding during the week, while weekends are more flexible.

Work and Play

Students complete homework each weeknight after dinner and can access academic staff, GAP students, academic tutors and IT resources.

After school and on weekends, they can join off campus excursions and activities such as waterparks, cinemas, AFL games, fishing, the Botanic Gardens and local markets.

Outdoor spaces have been landscaped based on student feedback with socially interactive areas such as fire pits, basketball rings, ponds and gym equipment.

Behaviour guidelines and House rules are based on mutual courtesy, respect, and the safety of all students.

Supportive Links

Haileybury Rendall School Head of Boarding, Mr Andrew Junge, oversees the program and provides an important link between Boarding and the Day School.

Mr Junge and his experienced team offer academic assistance, tutors, pastoral care and 24-hour general support.

Communication is open and encouraged between students, staff and families.

Students Services provides a medical clinic, psychology counselling services, restorative meetings and holistic wellbeing programs based on individual needs.

High Expectations

Mr Junge is building a boarding culture that has high expectations of students and staff.

"This is centred on establishing strong positive social relationships and developing an optimistic outlook on the opportunities that education provides," he says. "Our high expectations are based on the mantra that 'Effort is everything and Support is everywhere'."

"HRS boarding offers many wonderful opportunities to the young people of northern Australia. Our boarding staff are caring and experienced; they go above and beyond to ensure that all students are supported."



Haileybury Rendall School Darwin
www.haileyburyrendall.com.au



I dialled the number for the Royal Flying Doctors Service...this morning my daughter was running a temperature of 39.2c, she had severe stomach cramps predominantly on the left-hand side, her pulse was 90bbs and her blood pressure had dropped to 89/53. Every time she moved, she wanted to vomit, she hadn't eaten in two days, her face was red and flushed one moment, then all colour would drain in the next and she'd be white as a ghost. This was the morning of day three and clearly, she wasn't getting better, she was getting worse, I called the RFDS...

Our family live and work on our family's cattle station 'Suplejack Downs' in the Northern Tanami of the Northern Territory. Suplejack is regarded as the most remote cattle station in Australia, but even in this harshest of environments our family love's our life at Suplejack. This country provides for our business, raising beef cattle, it's where we raise our children and a place to replenish our heart and soul. We educate our children to be environmentalists, to love, respect and protect the land they live on.

There are many issues, which the tyranny of distance due to our geographical location, intensifies. Health and medical services are just one of these. A drive to town takes approx. 9 hours in the car depending on the road, which just so happens to be one of the most hostile road surfaces in the country. Our road can be washed away in the wet season or so corrugated in the dry season we joke about the need to wear a mouthguard, so as not to chip your teeth, when driving across it.

So, what do we do when one of our children begins feeling sick? We can't pop up to the doctor's clinic for a check-up and we don't have a GP or hospital just up the street which we can go to for monitoring. We rely on our own intuition, take on the role of nurse as best we can. We make the decisions up until the point when the patient gets better or identifies the need to escalate the situation to an emergency. In an emergency we rely on our medical lifeline in the bush...the Royal Flying Doctors Service!

We've had many emergencies at Suplejack over the years, we're not strangers to the wonderful service of the RFDS. Last year when my nephew was thrown from his horse and was left unconscious, we immediately called the RFDS. My niece was bitten by a snake, we called the RFDS. My father was badly thrown from a colt whilst tailing weaners, again we called the RFDS. In an emergency we call upon the Royal Flying Doctors Service and they have medical professionals and specialist equipment to us in an average of 3 or 4 hours (provided our airstrip isn't 'out' with wet season weather, but that's a whole other story!)

As I dialled the number for the RFDS I thought, just days before Shannai had completed her year 12 studies. We made the 12-hour (one way) trip from Suplejack to Darwin to attend her celebration dinner, she was presented with her NTCET Completers Certificate from the Northern Territory School of Distance Education (NTSDE). Shannai looked stunning in her black, full length dress, her hair lightly curled falling to her shoulders, wearing a pair of gorgeous silver sparkly stiletto shoes, which she was so proud of. Her drop pearl earrings, a graduation gift, framing her beautiful, smiling face and now today she was curled up on the bed in pain...the RFDS doctor answered the phone and I relayed her condition.

They say we raise them tough in the bush, and we most certainly do, but sometimes I wonder if that's a good thing or bad! For the last two days Shannai hadn't left her bed except to make the excruciating walk to the toilet doubled up in grimacing pain, never making a single complaint. I'd been monitoring her closely, keeping an eye on her vitals and nagging her to keep drinking water, which of course meant more frequent walks to the loo, but she obliged without complaint. When I asked her, on a scale from 1 to 10 what is your pain, she would reply, 'about a four'!

By the time the RFDS Retrieval doctor Sam, nurse Mark and pilot Heather arrived, Shannai had put herself into a sleep state to deal with the pain, the painkillers weren't making much difference, only bringing down her temperature a little. Sam finally found a vein, it seems despite all the water she was drinking she was severely dehydrated. A makeshift drip holder was made from a coat hanger attached to the curtain rod and antibiotics were administered. Sam made the diagnosis that it was Shannai's appendix causing her distress and she needed to be medevacked (evacuated) to Alice Springs Hospital.

A week in hospital and Shannai is doing much better. It wasn't just appendicitis, her appendix had actually burst and by all accounts, she is a very lucky young lady. A burst appendix allows bacteria to spread around the abdomen and can cause all kinds of problems and secondary infections. Shannai arrived at the hospital recording an infection indicator in her blood count of over four times the normal limits. Her body had reacted to the burst appendix in a very favourable way though, it isolated the fluid into an abscess on the left-hand side of her abdomen. Which is why most of her pain was on the left when the appendix is actually on the right-hand side.

We are extremely lucky to have the services of the RFDS in the bush, this is a service we don't take for granted. The RFDS relies on donations and support to ensure they can continue to provide medical emergency and primary health care services to Australia's remote and very remote areas. Our family are huge advocates for the Royal Flying Doctors Service and encourage everyone to give when they can. I don't even dare to imagine the outcome if we had to bounce Shannai 730kms over that corrugated dirt road to get her to town for the medical attention she required. Thank goodness for the RFDS!

Tiani Cook Suplejack Downs



Mix boarding with community service and you get a recipe for success St Philips College

No boarder at St Philip's College should ever be bored. Heads of Boarding, Ms Marg Stevenson and Mr Sam Muir ensure there are activities and events to keep everyone active, and more importantly, involved in the greater community of Alice Springs, the NT, Australia and the world.

As Marg reflected, "It's been a great year for the St Philip's girl boarders in so many respects and I have felt privileged to be a part of it. One of the highlights was our Jazz and High Tea fundraising event which raised \$4,400 for Drought Relief. Not only did we raise a lot of money, but the girls were exceptional hosts and everyone who came had a wonderful time. Community service is always very high on our agenda, and as well as this event, we raised over \$1000 doing Bob a Jobs for the Fred Hollows Foundation, visited and sang to the residents at Old Timers and supported them by running a face



painting stall at their fete. We've supported the environment by participating in the Alice Springs Town Council's tree planting day, by recycling cans and bottles and cutting down on our use of plastic plates etc for picnics.

Sport, as always, has played an important role in the year and for the first time we have had enough players to enter two basketball teams in the town competition: U16s and Women's B grade. Netball and WAFL run a close second, with many of boarders playing in the town competitions for both these sports. We have also had boarders selected to represent the Northern Territory this year in both these sports. On the weekends we have also had numbers of boarders rising early to take part in Alice Springs Running and Walking events or climbing Mt Gillen. A special well done to the five boarders who completed ten of these events."

The boys are also achieving great things. Head of Boys' Boarding, Sam Muir explained, "This year Pedrea Jackson landed a lead role in the SBS TV show, 'Robbie Hood'. Another

boarder, Charlie Oldfield was successful in his application for exchange to the USA next year, and our three graduating Year 12 boys, Hamish Wark, Philip Sullivan and Imran Mahmood achieved great things, not only this year but throughout their high school career.

Community service plays a big part in boys' boarding as well, and Angus Baty received awards for his sense of community and outgoing and friendly demeanour during his first year in the boarding house. In 2018, during Youth Week, the boys successfully organised and facilitated an inaugural fun run and they are to be commended on their efforts."

At St Philip's College, Alice Springs the focus on community does not remain inside the campus grounds, nor just our local and regional back yards. Our boarders have consistently focused on national and international causes and are to be commended on becoming caring, concerned and proactive global citizens.

There are scholarships and bursaries available for boarding students at St Philip's College and for more information about this and about enrolling your child, please call Registrar, Kim Bateman on 8950 4501
Email: registrar@stphilips.nt.edu.au



Left: Philip Sullivan receiving one of the College's major awards from College Life Governor, Jan Heaslip. The Heaslip Award 'In Pursuit of Excellence' is awarded to one who exemplifies excellence in all areas of the school and the community.



For 24-hour medical and emergency assistance:

SA -1800 RFDS SA (1800 733 772)

NT -1800 RFDS NT (1800 733 768)

HF Radio (4010kHz, 6890kHz or 8165kHz)

CareFlight

CAREFLIGHT NORTHERN
OPERATIONS (NT)

CALL 000 to be referred



NT ICPA POST SECONDARY BURSARY 2019

WHAT IS IT ?

This is a bursary of \$2000 awarded to a child of a current financial ICPA member to assist them with ongoing costs of their Post Secondary Education.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1. The applicant's family must be geographically isolated and have been a Branch or Lone Member within the NT for at least (2) years.
2. The applicant must be enrolled in full time study at any Tertiary Institution, Agricultural College, an approved TAFE or VET (Vocational Education Training) Course, or undertaking a Traineeship or Apprenticeship which must be of at least one year duration.

CONDITIONS OF APPLICATIONS

The Degree/Course, Traineeship/Apprenticeship to commence within two (2) years of completing their Post Secondary/Tertiary schooling.

An applicant who has previously been awarded the NT ICPA Post Secondary Bursary or the former NT ICPA Tertiary Scholarship will not be eligible to apply again.

A written report is to be provided for presentation at the Annual Conference, on how funding was utilised.

ADMINISTRATION OF BURSARY

This Bursary is administered by ICPA NT State Council.

The bursary will be awarded in one (1) payment of \$2000 within the month following Annual State Conference.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications will be strictly confidential. Where more than one applicant meets the selection criteria, assessment of all information provided would contribute towards selection. If in the opinion of the selection panel no suitable application is received, the Bursary will not be awarded. The decision of the selection panel will be final.

SELECTION CRITERIA

These criteria must be presented in a neat, concise and well laid out format. All selection criteria must be completed.

1. How you are geographically isolated?
2. Details of family membership with ICPA in the NT.
3. Summary of schooling history.
4. Why I chose the place of study (Degree/Course) or employment (Traineeship/Apprenticeship)
5. 500 word essay: ***'If I was the recipient of the ICPA Post Secondary Bursary, how it will benefit me and what would the Bursary be used for?'***

ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Document that includes Points 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 from the **Selection Criteria**, as detailed above.

School Leavers of current year: Copy of last High School report AND/OR Reference from teacher.

Other Students/ Employees: Copy of most **recent** Report AND/OR Reference from Lecturer or Employer.

Proof of current enrolment/ employment at any Tertiary Institution, Agricultural College, TAFE/VET course, Traineeship or Apprenticeship.

CLOSING DATE 22nd March 2019 - see notes below regarding postal applications

The application must be received by the Returning Officer by C.O.B. on the closing date. Please forward all the above documents compiled in a folder, along with your current address and contact phone number to:

NTICPA Bursary Coordinator: Helen Harding

Gorrie Station

RSD MS 1953

Katherine NT 0852

Ph: 08 89759965

Email: hardingnt@bigpond.com

Note: As this mailing address is remote, please allow plenty of time for delivery- email is preferred.

It is advisable that you ring to ensure that the application has been received.

Bring your Difference



The theme of the 2018 Round Square International Conference I attended in Canada was "Bring Your Difference". There were over one hundred schools from around the globe attending.

Throughout the week we listened to many guest speakers and then broke into groups to discuss the topics brought up. It was interesting hearing such a diverse range of opinions and ideas. A couple of my favourite speakers were Sophie Trudeau and Wade Davies but the stand out speaker for me was Emmanuel Jal who is a child soldier survivor and had an incredibly touching story.

As well as a service day, where we helped clean up at a camp for under-privileged children and made bird and bat boxes, there was an explore Ottawa day where we did a scavenger hunt around the city and learnt its history.

Before we embarked on the conference, we were lucky enough to travel to New York, Toronto and Niagara as part of a pre-conference tour. Some highlights were the view from the Rockefeller Centre which was amazing, a boat tour of Niagara Falls where we all got drenched and arriving in New York at 3:00am and having pizza with my teachers.

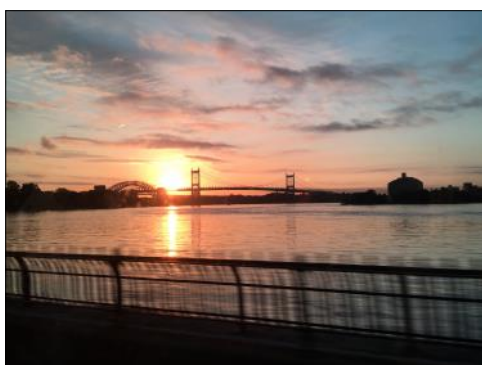
I would like to thank the Connellan Airways Trust for their generous grant which allowed me the opportunity to attend this conference.

Jordan Nicolle



Above: Niagara Falls.

Below: New York



BOILED PINEAPPLE FRUITCAKE

We all love to eat – and for some the cooking process is therapy too – for Sarah collecting cook books is part of the process.

I am a bit of a cook book collector. Mostly I love the really, old cook books, I don't think there was such a thing as recipe books until more recently, maybe it changed with the multicultural influence in Australia, I actually don't know. The old English 'cook books' make amazing cooking with the most basic ingredients, such as steamed jam pudding or a date cake that tastes like its full of caramel.

I search Op Shops and lawn sales with my fingers crossed to find such books, but they are as rare as hen's teeth. I'm guessing 'recipe' books became more popular in Australia the 1980's because that's the most common era of recipe book that people are getting rid of.

My most treasured cook books were left to me by my maternal Grandmother, the shortest, funniest lady I ever knew. My next love is recipe books by bush women, which are usually along the same lines - using basic ingredients to make a great feed. The Broken Hill SOA book has been advertised on Facebook for a while, so when I saw it at Federal Conference, I grabbed a copy. Today I was trying to recall the measurements to my favourite Pineapple Fruit Cake recipe, but I thought, blow it, I'll make a different fruit cake, and reached for this book. To my surprise, the recipe I was looking for was also in the book, contributed by 'Jacinta Cullen from Avenel Station'! If you're looking for an easy fruit cake, this is one of my 'go-to's'. I highly recommend the **BOOTS OFF, Apron On - Broken Hills School of the Air Cookbook**. There you go - it's even a 'cook book'!

Boiled Pineapple Fruit Cake

470g can crushed pineapple
500g mixed fruit
125g butter
1 cup sugar
1 tsp mixed spice
1 tsp bi-carb soda
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1 cup self-raising flour
1 cup plain flour

*Preheat oven to moderately slow 160 degrees.
Combine undrained pineapple, mixed fruit, butter, sugar, spice and bi-carb in pan. Stir over heat until sugar dissolves, then bring to the boil for 3 minutes. Allow to cool, then add eggs and sifted flour. Mix well. Spread in prepared tin and bake in a moderately slow oven for 1-1.5 hours. Allow to completely cool before removing it from the tin.*

'Boots Off, Apron on' can be purchased online for \$35.00 (+ \$5.00 postage) from Broken Hill School of the Air Facebook page.

Follow the QR code or link below:

<https://www.bootsoffapronon.com.au/>

Sarah Cook
Aileron Station
Alice Springs Branch



Horses for Courses Charity Bush Ride Glen Helen Homestead to Alice Springs

Wow...What a whirlwind '*Horses for Courses*' event it was this year. The '*Charity Ride for Bush Kids*' kicked off Sunday 7th October, after an amazing meet and greet dinner at the Glen Helen Homestead Lodge, the previous evening.

15 Horse riders and 5 support crew joined the adventure, riding between 19 and 34 kilometers each day, winding along the spectacular West MacDonnell Ranges, camping under the stars each night.

Six days later we all rode onto Alice Springs Town Council lawns, greeted with a mayoral welcome and sausage sizzle. A celebration dinner and auction was held later that evening at the Star of Alice function centre.

Over the last couple of years, *Horses for Courses* have chosen to support a charity which resonates with our own ideals and beliefs. Last year all profits were donated to Northern Territory Isolated Children's Parents' Association (NT ICPA). This year we chose to support *Dolly's Dream* and assist in their campaign to stamp out bullying and to create empathy and resilience in young people.

Bush kids, along with their families face many challenges, be it:

- Sitting in a car for up to 12 hours, one way, to attend School events.
- Not having the opportunity to play afterschool sports as part of a team.
- Not being able to participate in dance, swimming or music lessons, athletics, or after school tutoring.
- Not having easily obtainable access to medical, dental or specialists' services.
- Having limited telecommunication and road network services. Annual weather conditions result in families not being able to get to town for days or weeks due to dirt roads being partly or completely washed away.
- Social and emotional wellbeing for teenagers living in the bush is a very real ongoing concern because there are limited opportunities for face to face social interactions. This can impact on a teenager's developing sense of self.
- Distance Education & School of the Air Challenges
- Boarding School Blues

It's very easy to feel socially and emotionally isolated when you live in rural and remote Australia. Through the *Horses for Courses* '*Charity Ride for Bush Kids*' we endeavour to connect families in the bush by reassuring them, they are not alone.

We also aim to keep conversations about these issues flowing, through a focus on creating a *country/city connect*. Through our *Horses for Courses* programs we're helping to close the divide and rekindle empathy between city and country.

We believe by sharing stories with people right across

Australia, including those who have never experienced living in remote locations, helps to break down barriers and create connectedness. So please get involved, help to spread the word with family, friends and your greater communities.

On this year's *Horses for Courses, Charity ride for Bush Kids* we had 11 children riding horses. They travelled from Queensland, remote NT and Alice Springs. It was a great effort by their families to get them to Glen Helen and enable them to experience this epic adventure.

Our youngest little cowgirl, Matilda C (5ys old) and her cousin Callum (6yrs old) shared Matilda's pony 'Feedback Jack' to ride every step of the 135kms...What amazing little champions!



The week long ride was filled with serenity, adventure and fun. We got rained on (not once but twice), had an absolute ball with our beautiful horses and on occasion took the long way around, we didn't get lost, but the terrain made for some innovative trail riding. As we all rode along, we sang songs, played games; answered quiz's, absorbed our incredible surrounds and thoroughly enjoyed every step of the way.

Evening activities included campfire sing-alongs, boot-scooting boogie with some country line dancing, bush poetry, a Parks and Wildlife ranger session with Phil Cowan, a canvas painting session with Carolyn Sandaver, from InSpireEx Art Rockhampton and plenty of good old fashion country hospitality with camp-oven cook ups and some of the best campfire cooking imaginable, by Shane and Elai Pugh and Carolyn.

Sophie Pugh, a bush kid herself, serenaded us with her ukulele picking music. She also outlined some educational challenges facing families in the bush, through a song she composed herself. What a talented and amazing young lady!

A heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful sponsors, volunteers and supporters, who through their generous contributions continue to enable *Horses for Courses* to get on with the job of raising awareness of the issues facing Aussie bush kids and their families. Without you we would not be able to do what we do.

Thank you equally, to everyone who donated their time and energy selflessly, especially Donna Digby, Shane Muldoon, Carissa Read, the CWA ladies who spoilt us with some fine dining at Simpsons Gap and to my amazing family who make themselves available to support and lend a hand in every way possible.

Horses for Courses looks forward to next year's *Charity Ride for Bush Kids*, doing it all again in 2019. We invite anyone needing time out of the hustle and bustle of everyday life, looking to make new friends, reboot and reconnect with nature, no matter where you hail from, grab your horse and join us on our next adventure, keep up to date by following us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/H4CBushKids

Until next time, Cheers Tiani



Katherine School of the Air Swim Week was held in the last week of term 4, with kids, parents and home tutors making the trek to Katherine from all over the Top End of the NT.

The week is very busy with swimming lessons for all ages, concert practice, Christmas activities and the graduation of the Year 9 and Year 6 students.

The swimming lessons are co-ordinated by the teachers of KSA and all students participate in these lessons. The improvement of the children's swimming over the four days is astounding and was showcased in the Swimming Carnival on Friday morning, where Cyclones and Bushfires went head to head to battle it out for the winners honours. Middle years students work towards a Bronze Medallion for the week.



Shae Ford, Steven Craig and Wes Wortley received Landmark Bursaries

On Thursday afternoon the end of year concert was held including awards presentations. Each year level had prepared a concert item which had been practised on IDL. Following the concert was the KSA Christmas party, attended by parents, teachers, students, staff and friends of KSA. This is a relaxed evening with many catch ups and reminiscing of the year. Altogether, this week is a wonderful end to a busy year providing a chance to say a goodbye to their class mates for the year.

Katherine Branch Executive Committee 2019

Katherine ICPA Branch held their AGM during Swim Week in Katherine, we had a fantastic turn out of members. The election of office bearers saw the following positions being filled:

President:	Kerrie Scott
Vice President:	Julie Ritcher
Secretary:	Katie Payne
Treasurer/Public Officer:	Fiona McDonald
Publicity/Social Media Officer:	Amanda Murphy
Bursary Officer:	Helen Harding
Fundraising Officer:	Kaycie Desreaux
Committee Members:	

Stacey Ford, Lauren Hoar, Annie Craig, Renee Johnson and Lea Hamilton



*A Big Thank You to
Leisure & Lace
Katherine for
supporting ICPA
with an exclusive
shopping experience
for KSA Ladies
during swim week.
10% of all sales go to
Katherine Branch!*



Katherine Branch Report

Another year has rolled on by and what a fantastic one it has been for the Katherine Branch. All our projects have steamed ahead, and once again our community support and fundraising efforts have been exceptional.

Further to my June report, I'd like to recap on some of our major achievements so far this year:

- 2018 ICPA Sports Camp – Mataranka.
- An amazing \$70,000 raised at the Landmark Auction at the Katherine Show.
- Thank you gifts sent to all suppliers donating goods and key persons at auction.
- ICPA BBQ MNNF Campdraft raising money for Dolly's Dream and Katherine Branch - \$420.00.
- 50 Personal Development grants awarded.
- Sponsorship of the MNNF Campdraft Funkhana & Mini Draft.
- The Leisure & Lace Ladies Shopping night - raising \$240.80.
- ICPA Ladies Shirt Shootout – raising nearly \$500.
- Roylene Hill Art Awards.
- Val Utley Memorial Award – to be announced.
- KSA Sports Day medals awarded.
- Carol Armstrong Biggest Morning Tea - \$152.00.
- Extraordinary Opportunities Grant awarded to Yerrin Heaslip.
- Landmark Bursaries awarded
- Katherine Branch ICPA Fishing Shirts.
- Delegates attending State Conference Alice Springs.
- All motions put forward by Katherine Branch to State and Federal Councils at conference – carried and being actioned accordingly.
- Published articles from members in both DTT and Pedals Magazines.
- Keeping families in the loop on relevant issues pertaining to rural education.
- Katherine Branch Facebook page up and running.

.....And so on!

Soooo...if you hear anyone say... “Yes, but what exactly do you do?” Show them this! Because not only are we constantly fighting for equity in education for our students, we are supporting our children and our peers, working long hours, battling the tyranny of distance every single day, being Mums/Dads/Aunties/Husbands/Wives/Teachers (any one of these is a full-time job in itself most days!) ... plus, all the other ways we contribute to various committees and associations in our communities whilst trying at the same time to have some type of social life or even family time - we are also getting stuff done! So, THANK YOU to all members that have been there through another amazing year.

Looking toward 2019, there will be some fantastic things happening, with preparations underway already for the Sports Camp in April, which will be even bigger and better than the previous two years. We really seem to have hit the nail on the head with our format and we are looking forward to collaborating again with both Mataranka and KSA schools, as well as having our ICPA members from across the Territory

join us. Next year we see Toowoomba Grammar School come onboard with sponsorship and coaching as well as seeing some of our favourite sports back again. Lock the dates into your calendar for the 11th and 12th April 2019.

I would also like to remind families of AHVISE, which for those of you that don't know, operate the Volunteers for Isolated Students Educational support... so if you are in need of some respite in the classroom, or additional help, please check out their webpage www.ahvise.org.au. I have found the new system very easy to access and having changed some of the rules from the old system gives it more flexibility for families.

Katherine Branch is lucky enough to be convening the State Conference on the 2nd April 2019. Thank you to Julie Richter, our Convenor, and the convening Committee, Jade Andrews, Katie Payne, Sue Shotton, and Helen Harding. This is a great opportunity for members to participate in Conference without having to travel too far. This is where the magic happens ... where we start shovelling coal into the ICPA furnace that keeps our association steaming along. All the motions we put forward are considered and, we hope, carried, so we can ensure the voice of our little Katherine Branch kids can be heard at the very top, and we thank our State and Federal Councils for their tireless work supporting us. Every allowance, every support that has been put in place for our remote students, is there because of the work of members before us. It is easy to be complacent when things are going well and it is the implicit nature of our lifestyles that we almost expect things to be tougher for us, but it wasn't long ago the WA government decided with no consultation to scrap Schools of the Air, and it was the hard work of ICPA members that forced a reversal of that devastating decision.

On a lighter note, I wish everyone a fantastic wet and muddy Christmas and New Year. Good luck to all our kids transitioning into their new school years, and possibly new schools. The great thing about ICPA is that it doesn't matter what school, where you live, what your lifestyle is, you're still part of the ICPA family. Happy and Safe Holidays!



Above Photo of the 2019 Committee

Standing: Katie Payne, Lea Hamilton, Julie Richter, Lauren Hoar, Renee Johnson, Jenny Riggs, Annie Craig

Sitting: Kerrie Scott, Fiona McDonald, Helen Harding



Isolated Children's Parents' Association

NORTHERN TERRITORY MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2019

DUE JANUARY 1ST EACH YEAR.



MEMBERSHIP TO YOUR LOCAL BRANCH IS ONLY \$50/FAMILY/YEAR

- Entitles you to branch meeting voting, minutes and branch bursaries qualification.
- State and Federal conference voting rights and attendance (paid for by your branch or the lone members).
- Free access to the NTICPA run Home Tutor Register.
- Qualification for the NT ICPA State Council Bursaries.
- Free subscription to Publications- NTICPA 'Down the Track' and Federal ICPA 'Pedals' magazines.
- A voice in your children's education.

If you're not receiving these publications regularly, check with your treasurer- you may not be a financial member for 2019.

If you still want to keep in touch, but not be associated with a particular branch, then **Lone Members** is for you!

Please fill in this form and forward with a cheque, to one of the below treasurers.

Make it payable to the "**Branch** (e.g. Alice Springs) **ICPA**" or "**NT ICPA**" for Lone Members.

If paying by Direct Deposit method, please use your first initial and surname with the word 'Membership' as the reference to help the treasurer. (e.g. 'J Bloggs Membership') and fax, post or email your family details.

These are important to use for bursary qualifications and for ICPA lobbying purposes.

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BRANCH:		
TITLE:	FIRST NAME :	SURNAME:
ADDRESS:		
PH:	FAX:	EMAIL:

Please advise your Branch Secretary and Treasurer of your change of postal or email address

Your children's details

(this information is retained by the Branch and State Council Treasurers and Secretaries and used for Bursary qualifications and lobbying purposes)

Names (of Children)	Age (turning in 2019)	Year Level (in 2019)	School/University/College Attending

I give ICPA permission to use photographs of my children for use in ICPA Publications and Newsletters, including the NTICPA Facebook Page ☐ Please ✓

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NTICPA LONE MEMBERS

This is a group who wish to be informed
 of ICPA issues, but do not wish to
 belong to a 'branch' as such.
 Anyone who lives anywhere can be an NT Lone
 Member.

The Lone members do not hold meetings,
 but they do hold two votes at conferences
 (State & Federal).

If you would like to receive regular
 publications from state council

'Down the Track' and Federal Council
 'Pedals' then Lone Members is for you!

BARKLY BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

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 Carmel Wagstaff
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 Merrial Lawrie
 Martha Swart
 Patricia Elliot
 Royelene Hill
 Janelle and Blue Pugh



2019 Federal Conference

Adelaide Oval

31 July – 1 August 2019

Conference Convenor Katrina Morris
ian.kat@activ8.net.au



SAVE THE DATE 2ND APRIL 2019

Northern Territory Isolated Children's Parents' Association

State Conference

Katherine, NT

Hosted by the Katherine Branch

