DOWN THE TRACK

Isolated Children's Parents' Association of the Northern Territory

NEWSLETTER

Issue 82 September 2019







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



A WORD FROM THE NT ICPA PRESIDENT...

Dear Members

If you Google "every child deserves an education" the top search result says;

'The Australian Government is delivering record funding to schools – from \$17.5 billion in 2017 to \$32.4 billion in 2029. Every child deserves a quality education and we want teachers to have the

support they need to lift outcomes for our students and help them feel ready for whatever the future holds'. Apr 11, 2019.

bush You'd think children would receive their fair share of funding, but based on some of the issues we face here in Territory the upon reading the 95 motions raised at Federal Conference, held this year in

Adelaide from the 31 July - 1 August, evidently Equity In Education is not easily achieved or received.

Patricia Mitchell OAM opened her Federal Conference speech titled "Why ICPA is as necessary as ever after 48 years" with;

"I looked back and compared the first motion from the 1971 conference agenda with the first motion from this conference. Word for word, they were almost identical." The motion from this year, which Mrs Mitchell used for comparison, reads

"That ICPA (Australia) continues to lobby both the Minister for Families and Social Services and the Minister for Education for a substantial increase to the Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Basic Boarding Allowance to take into account the ever increasing gap between the allowance and the true cost of boarding."

Of course it was carried, but don't miss the point.

ICPA needs your membership.

If you support Equity in Education Outback, please at least become a member.

Meetings, fundraising and functions are important, but membership sustains our cause.

I trust you receive the Member Updates I

email regularly, keeping you in the loop with State Council activity, advocating for branch motions.

Don't forget to contact your State Council anytime. Sarah Cook.

PHOTO: Jessica Hackett, Executive Officer, Connellan Airways Trust and Sarah Cook, NT ICPA President at the Adelaide Federal Conference.



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: Annika Bell - dtt@icpa.com.au

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Our Newsletter is now proudly printed on 100%

post-consumer recycled paper.

NOTE: In order to reduce our carbon footprint we are trialling a reduced plastic mail out for this edition. If you have had any troubles with this new process please email Annika with your concerns on the address above.



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'

FRONT COVER PHOTO: Kids out in support of the Landmark Fundraising Auction at the Katherine Show. See full article on page 12 and 13. BACK COVER PHOTOS: 2019 Federal Conference [TOP - Lone Branch members] [CENTRE - Alice Springs Branch members] [BOTTOM - Katherine Branch members]



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DOWN THE TRACK NEWSLETTER

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PORTFOLIO POSITIONS

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

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

ICPA HARTS RANGE CANTEEN



'All set up' with help from the husbands - Luke James (Murray



The new set up



'Some of the amazing yummy donations we received over the weekend - Amy Marcic (Alice Springs)

The conveners of the HARTS RANGE ICPA CANTEEN would like to thank, in no particular order:

Elders

NTFS

Murray Downs Station and Luke James

> **SDA plumbing and Owen Auricht**

Peter Nicholson

Benji Quilliam **Frontier Services Pastor**

BlueDust NT

Brodie Anderson NT POLICE



'Serving from the new window at the Talent Quest night' -Andrew Barrett and Carly Gogel (Elders Alice Springs)



'Keeping the hoards fed on the chip cooker' -Liz Bird (Indiana



'Cooking up a storm' - Sebastian and Amandine (Rocky Hill



'Husbands on hand to help with the morning shift cooking bacon and eggs' - Malcolm Chalmers and Luke James





First day of trade



Sebastian (Rocky Hill backpacker) and Jodie Solczaniuk (Alice Springs and canteen convenor) preparing Buddha bowls

1 7 0 T

CPA HARTS RANGE CANTEEN



'Fish and chips in newspaper with a slice of lemon-new to the menu and a huge hit' - Mel Quilliam (Alice Springs)



Emma Chalmers (convenor, Jodie Solczaniuk (convenor), Georgie Hamlyn (Delmore Downs Station) and Sarah Cook



'Enjoying the new menu items and the amazing Butter chicken' -Malcolm Chalmers and Claire Young (Alice Springs)

2019 saw another year of ICPA running the canteen at the Harts Range Races over the Picnic Weekend.

A very big thank you to those members, family, friends, and new recruits for their support in cooking, cleaning and serving in the canteen this year.

This was the first year in three that we were without the Variety Club as our support for running the Saturday. This definitely was felt in having to fill the extra shifts but we made it through. We were very lucky to have the services of Aysha Solczaniuk (9) and Hayden Chalmers (9), who spent in excess of 20 hours over the weekend, serving in the canteen. Charlie Oldfield, Ziggy Solczaniuk and Ben Wotton assisted in providing manpower for set up and breakdown alongside Jo Fogarty and her always reliable crew, who made the unloading of the truck flow so easily on Friday afternoon. The children definitely put the fun in fundraising and were more than willing to help the association that helps them.

This year saw the Red Centre Campdraft being cancelled due to the dry times, and with other contributing factors within the community, attendance through the gates was down, but in true Picnic weekend style this didn't stop people having a great time and making the most of the weather and numerous events on offer.

The canteen took on a new look with a total change around in service areas and design this year. The whole canteen floor area is now being utilized with the BBQ and deep fryer and food preparation area being in the old service area, and the old bar area becoming the service hub. We had some great feedback from volunteers on the new arrangement.

The fare of the canteen is usually fairly similar each year but we tried a few new items, including breakfast jaffles/ toasties, Buddha bowls, and fish and chips for dinner - all the changes were really well received. We wrapped the fish and chips in newspaper as single serves with lemon and it went down a treat. The butter chicken again this year was the stand out "wet dish", completely selling out - thank you Andrew Barrett and Lisa Goldsworthy for your sort-after special!!

We also had an amazing array of sweet treats. This is in keeping with the

tradition of ICPA members generously giving baked goods for over the weekend.

A major lynch pin in the whole operation is acquiring a truck, a driver and refrigerated trailer and this year NTFS once again came to our rescue with the donation of the trailer and their staff managing our many drop offs and then loading the day prior. The truck and driver came in the form of Luke James and Murray Downs Station (AGP). A very big thank you to these parties! Without this vital donation we simply couldn't operate.

Many people play an important role before, leading into and of course the emergencies that come up along the line when you decide to run an operation for 3 days a year.

As this report will be going to print, we are still finalizing financials from the weekend but needless to say that we will be posting a profit to contribute to our branch.

Thank you Emma Chalmers, Lisa Goldsworthy and Jodie Solczaniuk

2019 Harts Range Canteen Convenors



Kids supporting -Billy James (Murray Downs Station), Mason and Hayden Chalmers (Alice Springs)



First Day of trade



The kids supporting the association that helps them' Hayden Chalmers, Aysha and Ziggy Solczaniuk (Alice Springs), Charlie Oldfield and Mason Chalmers



NT ICPA PRESIDENT **SPEECH**

ICPA Australia Federal Conference: 'SUSTAIN our FUTURE -INVEST in our CHILDREN'

Adelaide 31 July - 1 August 2019

By Sarah Cook

Thank you for the opportunity to present on behalf of the Northern Territory State Council of ICPA. I have held the position of President for a just a few months, so it feels a bit premature for me to be standing here, although there certainly is a lot to talk about.

Before we move onto business, I'd like to set the scene around education for Northern Territory geographically isolated families.

The Northern Territory has a population of almost 246,000 people. About half of our population live in our capital city, Darwin.

We are a young population, almost half of us are between 25-50 years old and a quarter of us are younger than 17 years old.

A statistic I found really interesting and which makes me feel quite proud is about 10% of the national Indigenous population lives in the Northern Territory; Aboriginal people make up over 30% of our population.

Therefore it follows geographically isolated families in the Northern Territory are most likely Aboriginal, living in the several hundred communities, outstations and homelands spread across the Territory.

What these statistics mean, and the point I'm trying to make, is

there are many 'levels of need' of equity in education in the Northern Territory; and ICPAs voice for our geographically isolated members is heard in the same space as the levels extreme disadvantage, which is a difficult space to position our issues.

The second challenge we have is, due to our small population and large land area, Northern Territory Government money is very hard to come by, and many of our buckets of money come directly from the Council of Australian Governments - or COAG - which are tied to reducing Indigenous disadvantage.

As a new President, I have been seeking advice and mentorship on how ICPA can pitch our issues in a space that often easily gets stuck on competing ideologies.

While everybody, including ICPA, strongly agree Indigenous disadvantage is an absolute priority for us all - including the Northern Territory and Australian Governments,

over 30 motions were carried at our State Conference in Katherine earlier this clearly year, members demonstrating our continue to seek equity in **ICPAs** education and require advocacy as much as ever.

Having said that, I want to thank ICPA Australia, together with every other State Council and Branch, for providing an ongoing platform of strength and professionalism which gives ICPA a foot in the door, almost every time.

In Pedals and the State Newsletters I marvel at all the different models of sports and social development camps.

State Council is absolutely delighted that Hospitality NT once again gave us a significant donation which enables the Katherine and Alice Springs Branches to continue building their respective sports and social development camps in their regions.

I'd like to acknowledge both Branch Presidents who are here today, Kerrie Scott representing Katherine and Amber Driver representing Alice Springs. NT ICPA is very fortunate to be guided and supported by our Territory Branches under

the leadership of Kerrie and Amber, who also both sit on State Council.

While State Council has many motions on its agenda, Early Childhood crosses over with Special Needs. Allowances and Miscellaneous motions, so Early Childhood is a big focus area for us at present.

excellent work done by our Early Childhood Leader Anna Weir has enabled ICPA to demonstrate to our Department of Education (or DoE) that

many rural and remote Territory children under 5 years old are missing out on early childhood services including playgroups, early detection and intervention.

We hope what follows is both more funding and continuity of funding for mobile playgroups, early detection and intervention programs for those children who are presently falling through the cracks.

Also on Early Childhood is the challenge Territory families continue to face in accessing In Home Care. Last year we were advised there are ample 'placements' available in the Northern Territory, so we are not sure why families are still struggling to access them.

Possibly more concerning is the feedback ICPA received from members last week that our only In Home Care provider, who is based in Longreach, will cease servicing the Territory soon, leaving us with no available providers, at least for the short term.

We hope support from ICPA Australia and conversations with the In Home Care representative here at conference will help us get to the bottom of these concerns either way, sooner rather than later.

NT ICPA is very pleased with the progress of our motions and a few highlights flowed from our recent delegations. Firstly,

the DoE agreed to facilitate a highlevel meeting to consider our case to review the Northern Territory Student Assistance Scheme.

This Scheme provides some financial assistance



Sarah presenting her speech at the Conference

INVEST in our CHILDREN

towards the cost of educating children living in isolated areas of the NT.

I'm not sure now if this is a win or a moment of exasperation, but earlier this year ICPA represented some members in their issues with the scheme. Ironically, just last week and after the DoE agreed ICPA could present their case for a review, we learned the reasons why applications were being knocked back or underpaid.

The scheme was in fact reviewed early last year, but neither those who use the scheme or ICPA were aware of the new policy or guidelines.

The scheme itself is paper based, it lacks systems to engage with end users at almost every point and importantly, ICPA believe the scheme is both underutilised in some respects and over-utilised in others, indicating our input into improving the scheme is not only necessary, but important to keep in step with the needs of rural and remote families we represent.

On a positive note, recently the DoE responded to a conference floor motion with a subsidy for families unable to connect to the NT Government owned Stars network, and who pay for their own internet to do school.

This subsidy follows policy work from our Distance Education Leaders Amanda Murphy together with Kerrie Scott and is an interim arrangement of \$50 per family, per month towards the cost of Skymuster internet.

ICPA understands most affected families are paying much more than \$50 per month, however it is a positive outcome that the Department acknowledges our motion and the circumstances of our affected families in this way.

In the long term, we anticipate the NT Government will settle its negotiations with the NBN and all distance education (School of Air) families will transition off the Stars network and onto a multicast NBN service that facilitates REACT, which the NT uses and some of you might remember Michael and Suzanne Wilson presented at the Alice Springs Federal Conference two years ago.

Another big piece of news is the Northern Territory and Australian Governments will jointly fund a new 40-bed boarding facility, positioned alongside the Tennant Creek high school.

While this announcement is welcome on many levels, and ICPA have agreed to provide

support and feedback in the development of the project, we are not sure how many of our members will use it, being there are many reasons why families choose a boarding facility including family support, curriculum choice, single sex boarding and proximity to travel options, to name a few. I'm sure many of you here today will appreciate how complex this decision can be.

The issue of educating school students about Food and Fibre is talked about in many circles and several motions were carried at our State Conference this year also.

NT Farmers recently invited ICPA to participate in their initiative

ACER/PIEF 'Food, Fibre and the Future Survey

- 75% of year 6 students thought cotton socks were a animal product.
- 27% of year 10 students thought yoghurt were a plant product.

 Ideas ideas if that bread cheese.
- 45% of students could not identify that bread, cheese and bananas all originate from farmed products.

 40% of Year 10 students believed farming damages the
- 43% of students did not link science to primary
- production
 55% of students did not link innovation to primary

Primary Industries Education - Orime ZOD

At Federal Conference, the CEO of Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia (PIEFA) Ben Stockwin presented this particularly poignant snapshot of how important education is to Food & Fibre industries. Alice Springs and Tambo (QLD) presented Federal Conference motions in support of including food & fibre in our classroom curriculum, both motions were carried.

"To support a coordinated approach in the Northern Territory to educating school students about Australian Food and Fibre production and the career opportunities available."

Our participation will be under the leadership of Sally Sullivan, Tertiary and Training Leader.

I will close by saying, and you will all appreciate

this, what I've reported today is just a snapshot of what's going on in the Territory.

Following conference, we are still trying to bed down State Council emails, documents storage and the necessary systems to help us function effectively. There are 10 of us on Council but getting 10 in the same room is probably harder than herding cats.

State Conference is bang-on

the start line of hectic mustering rounds, inschools and camp drafts. Finding time to prepare and attend meetings, record and follow-up actions and hold our stakeholders and decision makers to account is a challenge for our volunteers, but I personally believe these are the things that create change.

A few years ago I asked a State President whom I admire greatly "how do you do it?" She replied simply "lead by example". And that's what I intend to do.

- Tiani Cook is our Immediate Past President and Communications/ Technology Portfolio Leader,
- Suzanne Wilson is our Vice President and Miscellaneous/Across the Border Leader. Suzanne is also the Federal Secretary
- Rebecca Cadzow is our Secretary and Curriculum Leader,
- Sarah Measey is our Treasurer and Rural and Remote Schools Leader,
- Amanda Murphy is our Publicity Officer and joint Distance Education Leader.
- **Anna Weir** is our *Early Childhood Leader*
- Sally Sullivan is our Special Needs, Tertiary & Training Leader as well as the Federal Vice-President
- And I am the Boarding and Allowances Leader.

I confess I promised Amber and Kerrie that, as Branch Presidents, if they joined State Council I would protect them from a Portfolio, nevertheless, they have both stepped up in the same way they contribute to their branch.

This is our State Council and I am privileged to represent them here today.

Thank you.



Alice Springs Region returning home from the conference:

Jessica Hackett - Executive Officer, Connellan Airways Trust, Craig Cook—
attended the ICPA Partner Tours, Sarah Cook - President NT ICPA, Georgina
Hamlyn - Secretary AS Branch, Katherine Warby - Treasurer AS Branch, Amber
Driver - President AS Branch, Bec Cadzow - Secretary NT ICPA, Benjamin Quilliam
- Frontier Services NT and member of AS Branch.

You Think Your Child Might be Gifted?

Gifted and Talented education is a huge and often complex subject. Theory after theory emerges, often within schools and departments and "we live in a society that rejects absolute truth and accepts each opinion as equally valid. The problem is not that our culture believes nothing, but that it believes everything".

Syncretism, not scepticism is our greatest enemy.

WHAT IS GIFTEDNESS?

The past forty years has produced a number of theories, but perhaps the most significant was the work of Joseph Renzulli – Professor of American Psychology at The University of Connecticut, USA – a leader and pioneer in gifted education.

Prior to Renzulli's research, intellectually able students were measured and classified by Intelligence Quotient (IQ) tests. Renzulli questioned this method as being limited. He redefined the meaning of "gifted "when he claimed not everyone with the high IQ was necessarily gifted. He is known as the 'father of flexibility' as he redefined the boundaries set previously.

His theory for giftedness has three traits:

- 1. Above average ability not just in academic, traditional areas.
- 2. Task Commitment.
- 3. Creativity "Imagination is more important than knowledge." Einstein.

At some point the three behaviours may intercept

"Interest is the key element in giftedness and the combination of the three behaviours.

IQ tests will measure intelligence but will not necessarily measure giftedness."

and it is here giftedness may be recognised.

Renzulli explains this theory further :

- ACT At Certain Times;
- ICP in certain people;
- WCC Within certain contexts (subjects).

When the three are aligned, a pattern emerges of a small percentage of people. Renzulli rejects the popular theory that all children are gifted (as do !!).

Edward de Bono, a Maltese by birth, educated at the University of Malta; Oxford, as a Rhodes Scholar; Doctorate of Philosophy in Medicine, to name a few of his academic achievements, initiated the term 'lateral thinking'. I was fortunate enough to work for a brief time with this remarkable man nearly twenty years ago. His theories on creativity were fascinating and for some, controversial.

As a firm believer creativity in all its forms lies at the very core of our being, I was enthralled by the way he made real the concept of giftedness. Traditional thinking is related to analysis, judgement and argument. Whilst there is a place for traditional thinking, today we need to look beyond the restrictions of traditional thinking and build on creative and constructive thinking.

THE YOUNG GIFTED CHILD

It should be recognised that gifted children come from all walks of life. Standardised testing seems to be of limited significance when dealing with

young children.

The Northern Territory policy on gifted education is essentially non-specific; its theory based on recent research that appears to further broaden former research interpretation. As with many

"...If children's talents are not recognized and fostered early, the habit of under-achievement may become entrenched and difficult to reverse."

interpretations, it neglects the potential of the profoundly intellectually able child in order to cater for a somewhat wishy washy attitude that we all have gifts and talents to be enhanced. Surely that should be the basis of all education!

Dr Eddie Braggett, a highly respected Australian researcher into gifted education, explains giftedness in young children:

'First there are children who come from enriched home backgrounds. The quality of parental involvement is evident, leading to accelerated intellectual development and to early emergence of school-related skills. The second group comprises children with other characteristics. They are "divergers". They are characterised not by linear acceleration but by individualism and by divergent styles that influence their thinking and behaviour. Some have difficulty in conforming when it is required, while others find it extremely difficult to think in a conventional, sequential fashion." 2

The Northern Territory Guidelines: Gifted and Talented Education – part thereof:

"The Northern Territory has no provision for early entry to Pre-school and Transition. The holistic nurturing and enrichment of young gifted children can be provided in a variety of contexts such as home, playgroup and childcare. However, gifted students in Transition, who fall within the exceptionally or profoundly gifted categories may be considered for acceleration, taking into consideration their social and emotional readiness.

EARLY, PRIMARY, MIDDLE AND SENIOR YEARS

Acceleration of a Gifted and talented student to a higher level will be at the discretion of the principal who will ensure that:

- Documented evidence about student suitability is gathered, based upon the International Guidelines on Suitability for Accelerated Progression
- Collaboration has occurred between the school, parents and student
- Year level acceleration is practical and feasible within the school organisation
- The Student Wellbeing and Inclusion division has been consulted for further advice and assessment regarding student suitability.

Where the student is deemed suitable for year level acceleration, there will be:

- · An initial trial period
- A process for regular monitoring and review.

Where students are not considered suitable for year level acceleration, an alternative learning program should be developed."3

I keep hearing that schools and communities "should" adopt a variety of methods of identification suited to their students. Historically, geographically isolated students are amongst the most disadvantaged and under-represented in programs for gifted students.

Teachers at Distance Education centres (Schools of

"It is universally recognised there is no one, correct, precise way to provide for our gifted children, but paying less than one hundred per cent effort into making sure they are not neglected, is unacceptable."

The Air; Northern Territory School Of Distance Education; External Tertiary Courses) work in isolation to cater for any student who they believe to be above the average achievement standard of their level, let alone one they may recognise as being potentially gifted. Little is done to provide them with practical and effective information and motivation.

Questions are raised about the method of identification used in early childhood when in fact, there appears to be no provision for many of these children. Who makes the initial assessment? We know parents are usually the ones to recognise differences in their children; many will refrain from claiming they believe their child has any differences, let alone claiming they may be gifted. Teachers are often happy a child is achieving at the required level and is not looking for difference. Be creative!

Take notice of your child. There is no magic formula, but your instinct is important. Initiate conversation with your school. Look up the site where you can access information.

"Professional development lectures/ workshops, provided by academics whose practical experience of the challenges faced by working in isolation, physically, mentally and emotionally, is essentially nonexistent."

For further information go to the NT Department of Education: curriculum.decs@nt.gov.au

My next edition will deal with the classic underachiever.

Pat Elliot

Pat is an NT ICPA State and Katherine Branch Life Member. Pat has a wealth of experience in education and we value her contributions to Down the Track.

If you missed "YOU THINK YOUR CHILD MIGHT BE GIFTED | PART 1" you can access an electronic copy of the last edition of Down the Track by going to the NT ICPA website: http://nticpa.com.au or alternatively you can email Annika Bell—Down the Track Newsletter editor at dtt@icpa.com.au

Foot notes:

- The Education of Gifted and Talented Children Report by The Senate Select Committee on The education of gifted and talented children
- 2. Dr Eddie Braggett—University of Newcastle NSW
- 3. NT Department of Education

Katherine Branch Presidents Report - KERRIE SCOTT

Late July Amanda Murphy and I headed down to Adelaide for the 48th Annual ICPA Federal Conference as delegates of the Katherine Branch, and were able to present our branch motions, to which all were carried.

The conference, convened by the SA State Council, was an amazing experience to attend, and it was an honour to be a representative of the Katherine Branch. Guest Speakers included Olympic Gold Medallist Anna Meares, the CEO of Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia, presentations on "Communicating with Teenagers" and the 'Wellbeing of Australian Boarders" and much more.

Sharni Wilson, KSA Principal, was in attendance as a guest representing Katherine School of the Air, it is a credit to Sharni that she continues to ensure the school remains up to date with all of our issues, and is committed to the mutual support and strong working relationship between organisations.

A full report on NT issues at Federal Conference will be submitted by our State President in due course, and copies of all the motions presented — carried and lost - can be found on the ICPA Australia website. Without duplicating that information, there are a few points of interest I would like to bring back to branch, including some issues I believe we should be investigating further.

NBN

Jacob King from NBN co was in attendance – he stated that any student that does not have access to school internet WILL be provided with an education port – we still need to clarify some issues with the need for multicast, which I believe will be a conversation between NBN Co, Department of Education, and Service Providers. This all seems to be a bit of a mess, with each entity handballing responsibility and reasons for delay over to the other.

Rebecca Cadzow of the Alice Springs Branch has been the first NT person to successfully receive an education port, so we will be closely monitoring her experience...it is interesting to note that her children attend a private interstate distance education school and do not attend an NT Education Department School. 50gb allocation per DE family is also a point of contention, as we are still yet to realise the full data requirements in multi aged classrooms.

IN HOME CARE

The In Home Care service provider in Longreach has withdrawn its capability of servicing NT Families from September, so we are waiting for Wanslea – the dedicated IHC NT coordinator - from South Australia, to advise who will be an NT service provider for IHC after that date.

KICS

KICS funding is in dire straights and along with other mobile early childhood services across the country, has still had no confirmation of where, or in which capacity any funding after this year will come from. There is no provision from a Federal or State level for expansion of any mobile early childhood services – despite the evidence of its benefits- and the existence of these fabulous and much needed services is very much under threat. It would be a sad day to see them cease to exist – especially under our watch. Motions for support and advocacy from Federal Council were carried.

NON-GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED VS GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED STUDENTS

I've been closely monitoring the issues and impact our QLD counterparts are having with the influx of non geographically isolated students into Schools of the Air. There was a motion carried, submitted by QLD State Council, requesting geographically isolated (GI) students be categorised separately under the AIC to identify their unique needs and keep count of numbers for the true reflection of children studying via distance education as their only access to education.

As this is something that directly effects our branch, I believe we should be working on a motion to support this. We are at risk of being lost in the system – which was one of the organisations very first achievements, back in 1973, to have our GI students acknowledged by the Commonwealth Government – and the extra costs associated with home schooling and distance education monitored.

I also think we need to question the School of the Air (SOA) funding model. If our SOA's are at risk of reduced funding under the Global School Budget

Funding Model due to enrolment numbers, and indeed at risk of being viewed as non-viable unless we increase numbers by including more and more special circumstance enrolments - with those enrolments requiring distinctive expertise and stretching current teacher time and resources in classrooms, in particular the additional learning needs departments - do we need to be asking the Government to view our SOA's as they view all Special Need schools in regard to funding, which is like the old model and gives stability regardless of enrolment numbers? Is that an option that could benefit us?

Whilst we absolutely acknowledge that the schooling model of SOA's is often a perfect solution for children that don't fit into conventional schooling, and we encourage diversity within the SOA cohort, we also need to identify and counteract the associated extra time and resources that these enrolments put on the already stretched staff and resources currently accessed by GI students who have no other option but to study via distance education.

At a recent COGSO school governance session, we were told School Councils must always act and make decisions that are in the best interest of the school – so I believe there are some conversations that need to be had on direction and what exactly is the 'best interest of the school' to ensure the best educational outcomes for all students.

CORE SUBJECTS REVIEW

Whilst there was a motion at Federal Conference, that was lost, which pertained to the streamlining of the national curriculum to restructure to focus on core subjects (it was purely lost on the reasoning that this issue is too large and not contained to isolated children — which I support), in saying that, I do think there is merit on the issue of trying to fit such a large amount of subject matter required to be taught in the national curriculum into the distance education classroom and the unique circumstances of such. I would welcome any further conversation on this, and if someone was passionate enough to look into that further, investigate how streamlining would benefit our distance education classrooms, and on ways we might be able to do that, I'd be more than interested in forming a motion to gain Federal Council support and assistance.

STUDENT CONCESSIONAL FARES

Finally, there was a motion on Student Concessional Fares — with announcements that both REX Airlines and Qantas have acknowledged this need and introduced resident and student flexible airfares. Federal Council will continue to lobby for Government support on this matter, and I have requested information from Airnorth on their current policy on student airfares, and ways which we could possibly work together for the benefit of both our students and to support regional airlines. There is much to gain in an alliance with Airnorth, and the information they could supply on this matter would also assist us in forming a motion to present to NT State Council to request they advocate both Government and airlines on our behalf.

There were many issues and motions at Federal Conference brought forward by branches across the country that directly impact on our members, and if you are interested further, I encourage you to get involved, check out the website, or even just having a read of the Facebook updates. There is an amazing network of people within the ICPA that all have the common goal of finding the best outcomes to educate our children despite the hurdles of being isolated.



Back row - Sarah Cook, Benjamin Quilliam, Georgina Hamlyn & Amanda Murphy **Front row** - Amber Driver, Sue Wilson, The Hon Shane Stone AC QC, Katherine Warby, Ley Fitzpatrick, Kerrie Scott, Rebecca Cadzow, Sharni Wilson, Lisa Kimlin



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 <u>not</u> 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 NT ICPA 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 NT ICPA '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:

> NT ICPA 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.

Our eldest son finished Year 12 at Saint Peters College in Adelaide last year, and our youngest son is half way through Year 12 this

It seems in a heartbeat six years of boarding will be over and another chapter of our lives begin.

Our eldest son has started an Auto Electrician apprenticeship in Alice Springs and the moment that we received his Year 12 certificate I could not have been prouder. All those long hard years of School of the Air, and the annual stress of finding a suitable Governess (although we were lucky enough to have two wonderful girls stay two years each), had brought us to that moment and I was definitely teary. I am grateful to all our Home Tutors and School of the Air teachers for giving our sons such a good start to their

Our youngest son intends to attend University, but given he is much younger than his peers we are encouraging him to have a gap year and work at home in 2020.

Like many pastoral families, before our children were even born, we knew we would be enrolling in School of the Air and ultimately sending our boys to boarding school. We also knew that boarding school is not cheap and we started planning and saving for this event before our boys could walk

In the lead up to boarding school I heard some parents and grandparents stressing about this moment, some financially, but mostly about the

emotional aspect of the separation and their child suffering home sickness. I was frustrated by this as to me it seemed that we had been planning for this moment all our lives so the inevitable should not be a surprise. I also took the view that it was selfish of me to heap stress and anxiety on my child at a time when they were already scared and worried for themselves. From experience I knew it was normal to feel home sickness and I did not want to make it worse. We were paying for our children to have the best education and the best experience they could possibly get, so I did not want to mar the moment by being "needy". I certainly did miss our boys, but I was confident they were getting the best care and learning that we could provide outside our family home and I was grateful for that. We sent them away from home because we wanted the best for them.

I was educated in public schools, first in rural South Australia and then in Alice Springs. When I started High School in Alice Springs, at Catholic High School (as it was called back in 1983) it was my first time in a uniform and I remember carrying on about it to my Mum (I

was being an ungrateful brat). Once I wore the uniform I realised it actually made life easier, I did not have to decide what to wear every day, nor did I have to compete with the other girls in the fashion stakes. I really liked that everyone dressed the same.

From the first moment at Catholic High I was an outsider as I had not attended Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College during Primary School. I also had not been raised Catholic, so going to church was new to me. What I did love was the pastoral care; how the teachers really seemed to care and take notice of your wellbeing and there was very little bullying (an almost daily occurrence in the public schools I attended). I went from being a very average student to excelling by the time I reached year 10. At the time Catholic High did not offer Year 11 and 12, so my parents made the decision to send me to boarding school.

After looking around, we settled on Loreto College in Marryatville, Adelaide, as it was close to my grandparents in Dulwich. I lived with my elderly grandparents for the two years I was at Loreto. Like starting at Catholic High it was difficult again as I

was an outsider; technically I was not a "day

bug" but not a boarder in the boarding house either. I found that it was harder to make friends in such a big school where some of the girls had been together from the junior school right through to senior level. Year 11 was pretty lonely until I decided that I had to make a bigger effort to make friends.

Initially I was complacent as I was used to Alice Springs where new people would show up and you make them feel welcome. I was naive and

thought friendships would just happen, like they did in the country.

My grandfather was a Second World War veteran and had difficult mood swings, so being 15 and living with two 70 year olds was trying, for them and for me, but I appreciate the time I had to get to know them so well. I also still have wonderful friends from my Loreto school days and I have not lost touch with them over the years. Social media has made it even easier.

Life can move in cycles as my husband went to boarding school at Saint Peters College and so did my Grandfather. My Grandfather's name is up on the board at Memorial Hall for war service and I showed our boys proudly when they started at the school. Their Dad's name is up on a board in the boarding house too.

hope one day that our boys look back and are incredibly grateful for the sacrifices made to make sure they had the best education. Not just the money cost, but the emotional toll of missing them all those years of their lives. We did it because we love them.

NT Government | Financial Help for Isolated Students

THE END OF A

PADDY WEIR

IMPORTANT: Applications must be submitted to the Department of Education by 30 September of each year

Claims can be made once your application has been approved by the Department of Education. Claims must be made by 31 March of the following year eg for the 2015 application year claims must be made by 31 March 2016. Late applications or claims will not be accepted.

Help with daily transport to and from school:

The conveyance subsidy scheme is available for help with daily transport for your child to and from school.

Help with distance education

The following schemes are available if your child attends a school of the air, the Northern Territory Open Education Centre (NTOEC) or other distance education:

- correspondence site allowance
- correspondence site allowance preschool
- correspondence materials delivery assistance scheme
- school of the air functions allowance.

Help with boarding

The following schemes are available if your child has to go away from home to attend school:

- education allowance for students with disabilities travel and boarding scheme
- isolated students education allowance

- mid-term travel scheme
- remote area travel allowance scheme
- student travel scheme
- supplementary boarding allowance scheme
- interstate boarding allowance (new).

Help going to university or higher education

The tertiary fares reimbursement scheme is available if your child attends university or higher education away from home in the NT or interstate.

In order to qualify for some NT student assistance schemes, you must first be approved for assistance under the Australian Government Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) or ABSTUDY Schemes.

CONTACT:

Department of Education student assistance officer. Student Assistance

Phone: 1800 019 157 or (08) 8901 4965 or studentassistance.det@nt.gov.au

For more information - NT ICPA State Council Allowances Portfolio Holder Sarah Cook 89569705 or see website for details

https://nt.icpa.com.au/contact.html

To apply, or for more information scan the QR Code or go to https://nt.gov.au/learning/student-financial-help-and-scholarships





























When the community of the Top End of the NT come together, they don't muck around.

On the 21st July at the annual Katherine show, \$112,025 was raised for the ICPA Katherine Branch, with goods donated from local businesses and their suppliers. Landmark Katherine were the collaborators of the auction, with goods ranging from concrete troughs to a set of buffalo horns; **the bidding was hot.**

The landmark tent was bursting at the seams with over 400 people attending the auction. The Katherine Show is the major event for the Top End Region, and as with campdraft, rodeo and general show events, it draws a diverse crowd. Anticipation about the auction had been building in the lead up to the show, as many people from isolated areas with isolated children throw their support behind the auction as it benefits geographically isolated kids that are members of the ICPA Katherine Branch.

Ben Coutts, manager of the Landmark Katherine branch, opened the afternoon by warmly welcoming everyone.

"We are overwhelmed by how much this (event) grows every year and we thank everyone for coming and especially to the donators of the goods. Its events like these that make you proud of the community that we live in and how so many of you get behind our bush kids; our next generation."

Auctioneers, Andy Gray from Territory Rural and Paul McCormick from Elders, opened the bidding and powered through the goods, with expertise. The Katherine Branch thanks both Andy and Paul for their time.

Bidding was shared amongst the crowd, but the ICPA would like to give special mention particularly to Milton and Christina Jones, Kurt and Meg Hammer and Ben Hoar. Their generosity and continuous bidding was infectious as bid after bid flowed from their table.

With the funds, the branch runs a successful sports camp for kids that are usually not able to access sports due to isolation. This camp is attended by 100 kids from Katherine School of the Air, Mataranka State School and other students of small schools and distance education in the area. This camp enables the isolated kids to have a go at sports such as rugby, gymnastics and softball, something that is not usually at all available to them.

Kerrie Scott, the Katherine Branch chair, ended the afternoon's proceedings by thanking the crowd for their generosity. "It's fantastic the support that the top end community put into this auction and it seems to get bigger every year. Thank you to you all and a huge thank you to Ben Coutts and Katherine Landmark."

















The Katherine Branch wish to thank all sponsors Mataranka Sports Camp 2019. Particular thanks to Landmark Katherine for their generosity with the auction and to Toowoomba Grammar School (TGS) who supplied a rugby union coach for



















PARRA PRINCIP Just because you live hundreds of kilometres from your nearest sports team, doesn't mean

you can't get amongst it.

The Parramatta Eels Medal offers schools the opportunity to recognise a student for following the PARRA principles to achieve success in the classroom or on the sporting field.

This year, Colt Scott, from Katherine School of the Air, was nominated by his school and was awarded a Parramatta Eels Medal! Colt was invited to attend the Eels vs Raiders game at TIO stadium in Darwin and was presented his medal on the field by Eels superstar Michael Jennings.

The PARRA principles are:

- Preparation
- Attitude
- Respect
- Responsibility and
- Achievement



PORTFOLIO | Early Childhood PORTFOLIO LEADER | Anna Weir

MOTION: That NT ICPA support ICPA (Aust) to advocate for the maintenance and expansion of Mobile Early Childhood Services into regions beyond the scope of Katherine Isolated Children's Services for all rural and remote children including non-indigenous and indigenous children.

Anna Weir leads the Early Childhood portfolio. To action this motion Anna has been in contact with KICS and other mobile playgroups in the Top End, unfortunately there are no similar mobile playgroups in Central Australia. Anna conducted a member survey of children and the data clearly demonstrated there is a need for mobile playgroups for NT geographically isolated children under five years old, and children in Central Australia were not accessing these services at all. ICPA provided the data to the NT Department of Education and Anna wrote to the NT Minister for Children, the Hon Michael Gunner, to request an invitation to the NT Ministerial Advisory Committee for Children and Young People, which would allow ICPA to further represent our issues directly with the relevant Minister. This motion was also discussed during delegations in June this year, with the Advisor to the Minister for Education and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

In Home Care (IHC) is also an issue for Northern Territory families. In July a member advised Anna the Northern Territory IHC provider had indicated they were withdrawing services. Anna immediately called ICPA Federal Council who secured a meeting with the Australian Government Department of Education, to discuss.

The Australian Government bought news of new funding. The NT will continue with two IHC service providers; Longreach and a new provider. NT ICPA asked the Australian Government how many IHC places are allocated to the NT and how many of those allocations are still available - we expect this advice directly. Last December the NT had 40 IHC places allocated with 50% being used. Remember, one child (not family) = one IHC place. NT families should contact Wanslea on 1300 164 202.

Members are encouraged to contact Anna to discuss Early Childhood.

PORTFOLIO LEADER BIO: ANNA WEIR

Anna Weir is a born and bred Territorian. She was brought up West of Alice Springs on Amburla and Milton Park Stations where she was educated through Alice Springs School of the Air with her mother as governess. Anna says she had the best childhood surrounded by beautiful country and a great family.

Anna completed her secondary education in Adelaide at Walford. After five years of Boarding School and lots of missing home terribly she came home and helped Mum and Dad as well as working on several other stations in the area and a three month stint at Mistake Creek.

Anna was always an outdoors girl and loved everything about cattle and horses and life on a station. Mum and Dad eventually sold and went to live in SA, Anna decided to stay in the NT and was given a job at Ammaroo Station. Twenty-six years later she is still living and "working" there!



Anna says she has been lucky enough to give her children the same upbringing that she had, seeing them complete their primary education through Alice Springs School of Air and secondary education in Adelaide. Anna's son has just finished year 12 and is at home helping the family. Her daughter is in Year 11 this year.

Anna is committed to ensuring all isolated children have access to quality education so they can continue to live in this fantastic part of Australia that we call home.

PORTFOLIO | Allowances PORTFOLIO LEADER | Sarah Cook

MOTION: That NT ICPA lobby the Northern Territory Department of Education to increase the Remote Area Travel Allowance Scheme to allow travel, including the return trip, to be covered for all 8 return trips per year, not just when the student is in the private vehicle.

MOTION: That NT ICPA encourage the NT Department of Education to improve the Student Assistance Scheme application, re-application and processing systems.

Sarah Cook leads the Allowances portfolio. Sally Sullivan and Sarah Cook provided in-depth comment on the Student Assistance Schemes policy and guidelines to the Department of Education (DoE) in November 2017, highlighting the need to update the schemes to bring it in line with the needs of rural and remote families.

Late 2018 and early 2019, it became apparent there were inconsistencies in what some families were receiving vs others. On this basis, the DoE agreed ICPA could present their case for a review and a meeting with the DoE Finance Team is set for September. However, in setting this date, the DoE also advised it had reviewed the schemes in 2018, which resulted in new guidelines. Disappointingly, those new guidelines/changes were not communicated with users. We assume this will explain the inconsistencies in what some families are receiving vs others. Members please contact NT ICPA with your case studies.

In addition to the above motion, asking for the Remote Area Travel Allowance Scheme to reflect return trips 8 times per year, the Student Assistance Schemes application process is paper based, lacks systems to engage with end users at almost every point and importantly, NT ICPA expects some of the schemes are underutilised while others could be determined inadequate, indicating improvements are not only necessary, but important to keep in step with the needs of rural and remote Territory families

For several years now, motions have asked for the inclusion of a Living Away From Home allowance (LAFHA). Several states in Australia have a LAFHA to assist families with the expenses of tuition and travel; some states even make the allowance available if the student boards in another state. A review of the Student Assistance Schemes will allow ICPA to recommend a LAFHA to replace two existing boarding allowances: the Supplementary Boarding Allowance which is only available to students boarding in the Northern Territory, and the Interstate Boarding Allowance which is only available to students who board interstate if at a school with a curriculum not available in the NT.

ICPA believes families should be supported to choose a boarding school suitable to family and student needs. We continue to advocate for a single LAFHA for all NT boarding students, as the most equitable solution to assist with accessing quality education for rural and remote Territory families.

Members are encouraged to contact Sarah to discuss Allowances.

HORSES FOR COURSES FOR BUSH KIDS 2 0 1 9

The time has come again for the inaugural 1000km horseback ride from The Red Centre to the far north of the NT.

Last year, 15 rider's ranging in age from 5yrs

to 18yrs took part in the week long ride.

For 5 fabulous days we'll host riders in the magnificent Tjoritja/West MacDonnell Ranges, offering isolated children the opportunity to create friendships and lifelong memories. Some bush kids have limited opportunities to make new friends and just be kids.

Horses for Courses for Bush Kids uses the platform of horses to raise awareness of the issues facing rural and remote children and their families, but the annual H4C Charity Ride for Bush Kids is a whole lot more than that; it's an opportunity to create bonds of friendship for isolated children.

Recent research shows the importance of friendship and its impact on mental and physical health. Friendships are helpful in developing social and emotional skills, increasing a sense of belonging and decreasing stress. Paul Schwartz, a professor of psychology and child behaviour expert, has noted the many benefits of childhood friendship.

"Friendships contribute significantly to the development of social skills, such as being sensitive to another's viewpoints, learning the rules of conversation, and age-appropriate behaviours," Schwartz has written in an article in the Hudson Valley Parent.

"More than half the children referred for emotional behavioural problems have no friends or find difficulty interacting with peers".

Riders and horses depart camp Sunday September 29 and ride back into Alice Springs Friday October 4. All meals including breakfast, smoko, lunch and dinner will be supplied for the duration of the ride. There are afternoon activities and adventures planned at the end of each days riding. All camping and tack will be transported from campsite to campsite by the H4C support crew.

For more info please go to the website: www.horsesforcourses.net.au

Hello there!

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute a little something to Down the Track.

My name is Jessica Hacket and I'm the new Executive Officer with Connellan Airways Trust. Thankyou to Kaye Clapin who paved the way for me!

I have stepped into the position fulltime and am loving the work we do in supporting people like you, in outback Australia.

Many of you know the Connellan Airways Trust and its support of ICPA/members over the years; from conference sponsorship, to branch grants and, of course, directly to people who happen to be members. We're a long-standing organisation (1981) and we our proud of our NT heritage.

I was privileged to attend the recent ICPA Federal Conference in Adelaide and got to know some of the delegates, and particularly some of the NT State Council... ladies, you are all amazing.

The Trust is excited to now have an office based in Alice Springs at the Central Australian Aviation Museum on Memorial Drive. Please drop in if you are in Alice. I make decent tea and coffee, and as I work mostly by myself, I am always up for a chat.

The Trust is committed to continuing and increasing the support we provide to people in remote and rural (outback) areas and is always considering ways we can have the greatest impact.

We are always making improvements to our services. Our website now includes a map that helps people determine eligibility for grants and awards based on their location. Have a look at www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au/grants. We also now have a Facebook page, and I encourage people to "Like" this to stay connected with what the Trust is doing and how we can potentially support you.

Over the past 12 months alone, we have assisted over 100 families through grants, awards, organisations, sponsorships and scholarships. EJ Connellan, who was the driving force of the establishment of the Trust with the shareholders of Connair, did so to ensure that people in remote and isolated areas of Australia were acknowledged for taking on the challenge of this type of lifestyle. He saw the development of outback Australia imperative to the future of the country and its industries.

We acknowledge that isolated families are one of the driving connectors to community through education, services and activities, and we continue to support people for a variety of opportunities aiming to decrease the disadvantage faced by location. Our Deed stands as strong today as it did in 1981 and guides our support of people in Outback Australia.

As a local Alice Springs girl, I appreciate the distances and isolation that remote and rural people experience. I've lived and worked in the Territory most of my life, am raising my own family here and am keen to get to know ICPA and you, its members.

I'd love to hear from you, so please give me a call at any time. Freecall 1800 733 810 or if email suits you better info@connellanairwaystrust.org.au.

I look forward to meeting you sometime 'Down the Track'.

Kind regards, Jessica Hacket



DELEGATIONS

June 2019

Delegations are an important opportunity to raise and discuss ICPA motions with stakeholders, to build relationships, develop mutual understandings and ultimately work towards getting ICPA issues addressed.

In the Northern Territory, we have two delegations a year, one after State Conference and usually one in or around November. In June, Suzanne Wilson, Sally Sullivan, Sarah Measey, Kerrie Scott and Sarah Cook attended two days of delegations in Darwin.

We had a big meeting with the Department of Education, discussing mainly the Communication & Technology, Early Childhood and Allowances motions; and met with

COGSO, nbnTM, Advisors to the Minister for Education and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, discussing specific motions during every meeting.

When we weren't in stakeholder meetings we worked on ICPA State Council policy and hashed out our admin challenges, including how to manage NT ICPA information systems better. Instead of big delegation reports, I hope the regularly emailed MEMBER UPDATES are just as informative and useful.

Members are always encouraged to call NT ICPA Portfolio Leaders or anyone on State Council, to ask questions or discuss particular issues. Your experiences and understanding how issues affect you are very helpful references for us on delegations.

Sarah Cook



THE ORANGE BOOK



Wondering if your child is having developmental difficulties?

Wondering if your child requires developmental support prior to starting school?

Don't know where to turn?

Queensland Department of Health, at the behest of ICPA (Qld), have developed 'Children starting school in rural and remote Queensland: Parent resource', also referred to now as 'The Orange Book'.

From The Orange Book's Introduction:

Children living in rural and remote areas of Australia experience higher rates of developmental vulnerability compared to their peers in urban areas. This is due to several factors including geographic isolation, lack of access to appropriate services and less engagement in early childhood education. ICPA Queensland's objective to obtain equal justice for every school child isolated by distance led to the collaboration with Queensland Health to develop a resource for parents to assist children starting school in rural and remote Queensland.

The aims of this resource are to:

- help parents to identify if their child requires developmental support prior to starting school
- provide information that assists parents in asking for the right information from health professionals
- $\ \ \text{help parents to understand who can provide assistance for their child with developmental difficulties}$
- have access to information and tips on helping their child start school.

All children have the right to grow and develop in a way that supports optimal participation in day-to-day activity, including formal schooling. While most children achieve appropriate developmental outcomes, some do not develop cognitive, motor, language, and social-emotional skills at the rate or level of sophistication that the wider community may expect of a child of a similar age. The purpose of this document is to empower parents to facilitate communication between health and education service providers that their child is involved with, to ensure the best start to schooling.

While some details in the book are specific to the Queensland Health or Education systems, most aspects of the book are generic and will be very helpful to NT parents with concerns about their child's development. The process of determining whether your concerns are warranted and seeking a diagnosis and early intervention is largely transferrable.

Early diagnosis and intervention for specific learning needs is a long-running concern of NT ICPA members. NT State Council of ICPA is keen to advocate to the NT Department of Health for an adapted Orange Book for NT parents and welcomes case studies from our Territory members.

The book is freely available online https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/PDF/qcycn/isolated-childrens-orange-book.pdf or by scanning the QR code.



"You know what YOUSE should do ...?"

We've all heard it before, anyone that has ever sat on a committee, helped in a working group or even just volunteered a shift on the canteen. It is usually accompanied with a squinted eye, a genuine look of concern, by the well meaning, just trying to be helpful participant or onlooker.

It is generally not said with malice, but just a harmless bit of feedback, a suggestion for improving, a slice of constructive criticism. We've all said it at some point, and we've all been on the receiving end. So who exactly is "YOUSE" and why should "YOUSE" do it?

I think YOUSE would be defined as 'You and the other people on your committee...but definitely not me'.

Whenever you volunteer your time to sit on a committee or help out, you will hear that phrase time and time again. But is it really helpful?

What the person hearing it thinks you've said...

"You know what you've done is ok, but it could be way better...so what you should do instead of spending that extra time with your family, or even on yourself, before anything else, is do what I have suggested and spend hours researching it, budgeting for it, fundraising for it, then get other people in the 'YOUSE' gang to implement it....and I'll tell you if you got it right at the end. I'd help, but my time is more important than yours."

What the person saying it thinks they've said...

"You've done/doing an amazing job. I'd really love to help and my idea is awesome, but I've

got so many commitments, I've prioritised my time, and I just can't...so to be helpful, I'll give you the idea/criticism/feedback and in turn I've done my part to make it better."

Let's be honest, there aren't many people that do any time on voluntary committee's that don't have some type of personal agenda. That might be – accessing a better education for their kids, enjoying rodeo, campdraft, or whatever sport so they get involved to make it happen, they might just want to do something worthwhile in their spare time and they like to be involved and have a say (yes some people have spare time).

Whatever it is, there is usually a reason they've chosen to be on that particular committee, but what we've all been guilty of, is believing those people must have an insatiable burning desire to be involved, that they have more time than me, or more support at home, or more resources at their fingertips. The fact is, they rarely have any of these things.

So...should we say anything? YES! But what we need to remember is that whatever their motivation, the work the committee members do benefits everyone in their community. They work hard and should be respected for the time, effort, energy and thought they put in - whether it be small or large - and whilst the "You know what YOUSE should do..." suggestions are most always well meant and often great idea's, it should always try to be followed with a "so I would like to help by.....what do you think?" and then if agreed on - doing it.

The 'YOUSE' is actually 'YOU'!

- · Your kids,
- · your sports,
- · your community.

Yes; sometimes the only help you can give will be a few words of support, but before you declare the worlds greatest suggestion, maybe instead of "What YOUSE should do.." could change to "What I'd like to do.."!

KERRIE SCOTT



ARE YOU A PARENT OF A CHILD AGED 2 TO 12?

The Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland is conducting research into parents' opinions about parenting and parenting programs. If you have a child between 2 and 12 years, we would love to hear your views on parenting and the services that are available to you as a parent. You will need to complete a short survey.

To find out more or to participate please visit https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parenting



DESERT POPPIES has secured two trainers and equipment to hold a **WOMEN IN THE WORKSHOP** course.

The course will cover:

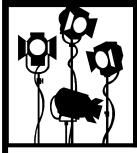
- welding
- chainsaw ticket
- · grinder and drop saw certificates
- bobcat certificate

This is a 2.5 day course being run from Friday lunch time till Sunday afternoon, at Mt Riddock Station via Alice Springs.

This course is structured to meet the needs of station women and will cost \$100.

If you wish to attend one of the courses on offer please send an email to mtriddock@gmail.com, or by going to the Desert Poppies Facebook page www.facebook.com/desertpoppies.

Thank you to Rebecca Cadzow for organizing on behalf of Desert Poppies.



SPOTLIGHT ON

New State Members

Amber Driver

Elkedra Station

ALICE SPRINGS PRESIDENT



I moved to the NT in 1999 from outback NSW. I grew up between Narrabri and Wee Waa and spent 6 years at Boarding School at Calrossy in Tamworth.

My first two years after high school were spent out along the Tanami working as a 'ringer' for the Dann Family.

Looking back after 21 years living in the NT, it is fair to say the desire to stay here and make this my home was with me from day one.

I have spent the last 19 years living and working on Elkedra Station with my husband John and his family.

We have two children; Sonny is in Year 9 and is a Boarder at St. Peter's College in Adelaide, while Ruben is in Year 2 doing school like so many other bush kids - via distance education and supported by Alice Springs School of the Air.

Sonny and Ruben are 4th Generation of the Driver Family, with their late grandfather Roy Driver, being in the first radio lesson delivered though Alice Springs School of the Air using the RDFS radios.

I have been an active member of ICPA for 10 years and have enjoyed holding positions on the executive and committee. For the last 3 years I have been elected and standing as the Alice Springs Branch President.

Being involved with ICPA at an executive level has challenged me to learn and understand more about policy and procedure, leadership and diplomacy.

Being able to shine a light on the unique educational challenges we face in the NT and share our stories with the ICPA cohort, ministers and guest speakers at State and Federal conferences, to me, is a great privilege and something I really enjoy.

Annika Bell

Darwin

EDITOR - DOWN THE TRACK



Hello from your new Down the Track Newsletter editor.

Being the daughter of the previous editor, Ruth Woerle, I have been watching and occasionally helping out with DTT for years, and now have the pleasure of taking over this great communication tool that connects with so many people, from so many walks of life.

Growing up in the Territory outback, I am very familiar with distance education, having been a student of Katherine School of the Air back when we used radios. I have observed the changes in the delivery of distance education over the years as myself and all three of my sisters have been students with KSA, and for the youngest two, NT School of Distance Education.

My husband Jacob and I have three children; seven year old twin boys Elii and Caleb, and our two and half year old daughter Willow.

Jake and I are both born and bred Territory kids, and after working and living in Darwin for most of our lives, we purchased a caravan and packed up the kids to head out on the road late last year to travel Australia.

In this new role as editor I am hearing and learning so much about the challenges, but also the amazing opportunities, that people in geographically isolated locations come across when educating their children.

It is such an honour to be involved with a organisation of strong, dedicated, passionate people who are fighting for equality in education for those in rural and remote locations.

NTICPA Portfolio Positions 2019-2020



If you have any queries, concerns or areas of interest that pertain to the below portfolios, please get in touch with the assigned portfolio leader as they are there to work with you and help you have a 'voice' on the political stage - and help to create change.

ALLOWANCES: Sarah Cook

BOARDING: Sarah Cook

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY: Tian Cook

CURRICULUM: Bec Cadzow

DISTANCE ED: Amanda Murphy

EARLY CHILDHOOD: Anna Weir

RURAL/REMOTE

SCHOOLS: Sarah Measey

SPECIAL NEEDS: Sally Sullivan

TERTIARY &

TRAINING: Sally Sullivan

MISCELLANEOUS & ACROSS THE

BOARDER: Sue Wilson

ICPA Australia | 48th Federal Conference, Adelaide SA | 31 July - 1 August 2019

It is with great pleasure I am able to reflect on this experience as being a delegate on behalf of Northern Territory ICPA State Council.

This year's event was held in the very picturesque and beautiful city of Adelaide and more significantly the historic Adelaide Oval. Both the convening committee as well as Federal ICPA Council obviously worked tirelessly to bring together a wonderful event with amazing guest speakers and robust discussion.

As mentioned by Kerri in her overview of the Federal Conference, all our motions were carried, apart from a supplementary motion which was withdrawn, and after a lot of leg work and word smithing by our passionate Madam President a floor motion was passed and voted FOR by all in the room, much to the relief of our State

This 'bringing of heads and words together' is a true reflection of how this conference operates. I heard a few times from a Past Federal President we were privileged to be seated with; "that was not the intent of the motion", or "the explanation does not correspond with the motion". These words really resonated with me in the importance of writing motions that are specific to their explanations. The length of the explanation was also an interesting notion, due to time limits only 200 words were asked to be read. Therefore it is important that when we write our motions that this is kept in the fore front – get straight to the matter of the motion! Another interesting point to note is that Federally, we the Territory, are unique. An example of this is that when we are asking for DROUGHT assistance, this does not include the NT - because in simple words, we the NT do not have a drought policy, but instead are classed under Exceptional Circumstances. Again, when writing motions we need to keep in mind the unique legislations of different states and Territories.

This year our finish time was well over an hour past our official 'knock off time', all due to robust discussion and passionate supporters for children in remote and rural Australia. This discussion leads the way for our Federal ICPA Councillors in their delegations and submissions in the coming twelve months. Needless to say – these councillors will be extra busy.

Thankfully, a few new councillors were voted in at the AGM, along with a new Federal President - Alana Moller. Alana has very big shoes to fill, with Wendy Hick moving to Immediate Past President to assist with this transition.

As always, the Federal Council put a lot of thought into their guest speakers - and they did not disappoint. On day one we had the pleasure of hearing the admirable story of World and Olympic champion (and sight the odd Gold, Silver and Bronze medals) Anna Mears OAM.

Anna has gone from growing up in a grassroots family in remote Queensland, to a cycling World and Olympic Champion several times over. One aspect of her story that really resonated with me, was that in all of Anna's achievements and of 'making the team', someone had to miss out. In this instance the second best to Anna was her sister – as I type I have the urge to Google how this 'second best' sister has come to terms with her situation. But, focussing on all Anna's achievements despite a few setbacks (just a broken back and severe burns) it demonstrates the resilience that has to come with being a champion.

This level of resilience can be found in most, if not all, ICPA families as we cheer on our children and urge each other to 'fight harder' for equity in education for our kids.

The other guest speaker on day two was Dr Kate Gunn. I recommend you Google this women – so many achievements in the world of psychology, but more importantly, mental health in our farmers. This issue is of pertinent importance in the audience all around our country at the present moment, and some of her amazing research really hit an emotional chord in the room.

Of note, is the website: *ifarmwell.com.au* that I urge you all to have a look at. This is a farmer focussed website that is designed to help improve the well-being of all farmers.

As well as forging ahead on the motions front, another important part of any conference is making connections; whether they be friends from another life or support networks in Government and business. The strength of these connections are showing already with a meeting scheduled for next week to address our In Home Care delivery. Such is the power of the ICPA organisation, our passion gets things happening!

Hopefully I have been able to give a bit of an insight into Federal Conference, as I sat as a first time delegate (second Federal Conference though). Also after being on the convening committee in 2017, I truly admire the depth of knowledge and passion for education for rural and remote students in Australia – your lobby group is well and truly in capable hands.

CONNELLAN AIRWAYS TRUST

GENERAL GRANT APPLICATIONS CLOSING **15 NOVEMBER 2019**

Individuals and Organisations encouraged to apply.

Established to assist people who reside in reas of Outback Australia with financial support for any worthwhile project; particularly involving education communication, transport and health

For details on how to apply visit www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au

Or contact the Executive Officer on Free Call: 1800 733 810 Email: info@connellanairwaystrust.org.au



Supporting people in Outback Australia

Education: Employment of Governesses

(Question No. 2771)

Mr Wallis asked the Minister for Education and Science, upon notice:

(1) Does the Commonwealth Government provide any form of subsidy for the employment of governesses for the purpose of teaching children resident in remote areas of Australia where normal schooling facilities are not available.

(2) If so, what form does the subsidy take.

Mr N. H. Bowen-The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

(1) Yes. (2) Since September 1968, the Commonwealth Government has paid to parents an annual sub-sidy of \$100 for each child in the Northern Territory under the age of 12, who, because of distance from a school, studies at home under the supervision of a governess. The subsidy is also paid if the child's lessons are supervised by the mother and domestic help is employed to free the mother for this agent iden. mother for this supervision.

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(Question No. 2271)

Mr Hayden asked the Minister for Primary Industry, upon notice:

(1) What was the average export price pe unloading in Great Britain during each of the past 5 years.

DISTANCE EDUCATION TEACHING ALLOWANCE

NT State Council recently had to determine our Top 5 priorities for the Northern Territory (based on conference motions).

Of our Top 5 priorities, one is to advocate for the Distance Education Teaching Allowance (DETA), in recognition of the role the Home Tutor plays in facilitating education in the home school room. During Federal Conference a Queensland delegate sent this photo to Sarah Cook, (NT ICPA President). It is of an excerpt from Parliament Question Time.

The question reads 'Does the Commonwealth Government provide any form of subsidy for the employment of governesses for the purpose of teaching children resident in remote areas of Australia, where normal schooling facilities are not available. If so, what form does the subsidy take?' Mr N. H Bowen answered. 'Yes. Since September 1968, the Commonwealth has paid to parents an annual subsidy for \$100 for each child in the Northern Territory under the age of 12, who, because of distance from a school, studies at home under the supervision of a governess. The subsidy is also paid if the child's lessons are supervised by the mother and domestic help is employed to free the mother for

If your family received this subsidy, or if you know why this subsidy ceased, State Council would like to hear the story. Please contact Sarah Cook - ntpresident@icpa.com.au or 0889569705.





www.ifarmwell.com.au is a new, FREE, online tool kit to help Australian farmers cope effectively with life's challenges and get the most out of every day.

It has been developed by Australian farmers in collaboration with a range of organisations from across the agricultural, health, mental health, university and financial sectors and has a particular focus on helping farmers to manage when things are out of their control (like the weather).

The www.ifarmwell.com.au website does this by guiding farmers through five engaging, evidence-based modules that contain a mixture of text to read, interactive exercises to complete, questions to answer, videos to watch and farming jokes to amuse. It teaches transferable coping skills and provides farmers with feedback on their current levels of well-being, practical tips on specific issues they indicate they are struggling with (e.g. relationships, aggression), guidance on how to seek professional mental health help (if necessary) and keeps them engaged via its clear farmer focus and automated text message reminders and messages of support.

The website is designed to maximise ease of navigation, reflect

farmers' preferences (e.g. language, graphics and humour) and to be suitable for use on various types of devices. Modules are completed fortnightly and take 20-30 minutes each to complete.

It is now freely available for use, so please visit www.ifarmwell.com.au to begin the modules.

The developers are looking for farmers to trial the website and help determine the most helpful aspects of the site and how it could be improved for future users.

If you're interested in helping, please visit the website and register to start today.

"You do not have to be experiencing a mental health issues to benefit from working through the five modules on this website."





www.facebook.com/ifarmwell/



https://twitter.com/ifarmwell_





For a short video -based tour of the website scan this QR Code



Our mission is to equip farmers with new tools that reduce the negative impact that stressful situations have on their lives, so they have more time and energy to focus on the things that make them happy.



A special thank you to Ruth Woerle - immediate past Editor of Down the Track Magazine.

For over 10 years Ruth has been the powering force behind Down the Track Magazine - tirelessly working together with the NT ICPA team to bring the readers of this worthwhile publication up-to-date information on all things related to living, working and educating our children in rural and remote Northern Territory.

No stranger to the trials and tribulations - and joys and rewards - of home-schooling in an isolated environment, Ruth home-schooled all four of her daughters at one time or another - with her two youngest daughters being educated in this way from years 5 and 6 through to matriculation.

Ruth and her family have lived all over the Territory, from the base of Ayres Rock in the centre, to the tropics of Litchfield National Park and then midway at Nathan River in Limmen National Park.

We, the members of NT ICPA, would like to extend a huge Thank you to Ruth for all her hard work.

The Warhorse Appaloosa Stud

The Warhorse Appaloosa Stud is our Boutique hobby stud that all began with our Appaloosa; Cayuse Belle O'Lena who I had loved from afar for a long time. She was located in Tennant Creek and was the first foal ever foaled at Cayuse Appaloosa Stud in NSW. She has the top cutting bloodlines in Australia, and I never ever dreamed I would be able to own her.

When I purchased her with foal 'in utero', she gave us a magnificent little blue-eyed Warhorse colt sired by Mighty Windstorm, who we named 'Four Winds O Fire' and was foaled on the 11/11/2018. Thus, the Warhorse Appaloosa Stud was born at the King River Ranch in the Northern Territory.

Belle O'Lena is a Leopard Buckskin by the well-known sire and legend of Appaloosa cutting horses Ric O'Lena, who was a multi-National cutting champion and prolific sire of reining, cutting and cowhorses. They have the conformation and movement to also win at dressage and they are renowned for their endurance. Ric O Lena had a National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) Certificate of Ability. Belle also carries a double cross of Australian Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) Imported Stallion Roc O'Lena.

I discovered Belle O'Lena's pedigree as we followed through the bloodlines by Fourwinds Leopard Day (5th) all the way back to Desert King, whose Sire was Pharoah, then Blue Hawk then Winged Hawk, then Spotted Eagle whose then Sire Pedigree goes all the way back to Fire Eyes in the 14th.

Fire Eyes of 1840, whose bloodline is traceable to the Ghost Wind Stallions of the 1800s, was listed as being owned by the Nez Perce people (originally called the Niimíipuu) who are a tribe of Native American Indians who were renowned for their Palouse spotted horses, named after the Palouse River.

The Ghost Wind Stallions were renowned for

their strong conformation, usually thick manes and tails and their leopard, or near leopard, large-spotted coats bred by the Nez Perce. The Nez Perce war wiped out most of the Appaloosas in 1877 but a remnant were preserved.

The bloodline of Fire Eyes has been preserved through to Four Winds Leopard Day and then carried through to Belle O'Lena and her progeny, and in particular through to her stunning AAA registered 2018 colt 'Four Winds O Fire' also known as the 'Warhorse' who we have retained and plan to upgrade to Stallion status on his 2nd birthday.

Recently I brought an amazing, yet unbroken, Appaloosa Stallion up from Victoria, whom our daughter Jerusie has been training and riding with a bit-less bridle. We are in the process of DNA testing this stallion and it seems he could be sired by one of the founders of the Australian Appaloosa Association's original stallions. I knew when I saw stallion 'Blue' that he had the attributes the Nez Perce were renowned for in their Appaloosas, and that he was very special. Therefore we are now on tenterhooks awaiting to find out if he is in fact from one of the most desired bloodlines in Australia and beyond. If it is found that he is, we will be able to breed not only performance Appaloosas from him as he has been accepted by the Association as a desired breeding PA Stallion, but also the highly sought after AAA registered Appaloosas; and therefore bringing yet another stallion of exceptional quality to the Northern Territory!

This will see us breeding some of the most versatile and beautiful performance Appaloosa horses in Australia, and when the little AAA registered Warhorse colt, 'Four Winds O Fire' comes of age and is upgraded to stallion status he will be siring AAA Appaloosa and Performance Appaloosa progeny.

We have a large herd that runs on two properties under two different banners; 'The Warhorse Appaloosa Stud' and 'The Horses of King River'. You can find the Horses of King River on Instagram.

Our daughter Jerusie Bracey is responsible for the training, and re-educating of the horses that come through our property. She has successfully retrained some of the older 'stuck in their ways' stock horses into wonderful Liberty Horses; whereby there is no tack used and they run off voice command only. She is currently training a brumby mare originally from Ngukurr in Liberty, who will be her top Liberty Horse, as well as other clients horses for a variety of disciplines.

Our desire and hope is to breed that special horse for your desired discipline and fill the Territory with beautiful spotted horses, renowned for their bloodlines, bravery and endurance, with strong conformation who are willing, sound and able mounts to be proud of.

- thewarhorseministries@gmail.com
- https://www.facebook.com/ TheWarhorseAppaloosaStud/
- https://www.instagram.com/ thehorsesofkingriver/

PHOTOS: Top Row - Left to Right

"Four Winds O Fire"; Jerusie Bracey riding "Blue Whistling Kyte"; Padora Bevan riding "Savanagh Rockstar", previous foul of Cayuse Belle O Lena, whilst competing in a Pony Mountain Breast Cancer Challenge in early 2019. This photo graced the cover of "Stirling's Endurance Life" Magazine (below far right). Photo credit - Sarah Sullivan Photography

Bottom Row - Left to Right "Cayuse Belle O'Lena, "Four Winds O Fire" with "Cayuse Belle O'Lena"; "Blue Whilstling Kyte".















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.

ALICE SPRINGS KATHERINE LONE MEMBERS

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PO Box 12 Camooweal QLD 4828 Mob: 0409925212 0747484966 E: vikki.mcglynn@outlook.com

> Westpac BSB: 035 303 Acct#: 510446

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Gorrie Station- RSD MS 1953 Katherine NT 0852 Ph: (08) 8975 9965 Fax: (08) 8975 9906 E: hardingnt@bigpond.com.au

> ANZ BSB: 015 884 Acct#: 410 247 444

Treasurer: Sarah Measey

Ceres Downs PMB 271 Winnellie NT 0822 Ph: 08 89782155

ANZ BSB: 015 884 Acct#: 264 118 512

E: ntlonemembers@icpa.com.au

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 \square Please \checkmark

ALICE SPRINGS

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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!

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ICPA Australia 48th Federal Conference - Adelaide 31 July—1 August 2019