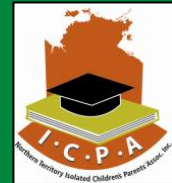


DOWN THE TRACK

Isolated Children's Parents' Association of the Northern Territory

NEWSLETTER

Issue 83 December 2019 / January 2020



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H A P P Y N E W D E C A D E



Many thanks to the Connellan Trust and
SIBA Ships for their generous support of the
NT ICPA ventures in 2020



A WORD FROM THE NT ICPA PRESIDENT...



Dear Members

"Too busy is a myth – people make time for things that are important to them" Anon.

It's that time of year in ICPA world; drafting motions, attending branch AGM's, renewing membership.

Maybe this year your child received one of the many ICPA bursaries across the Territory, maybe your family received the interim nbn subsidy that State Council successfully advocated for on your behalf.

Maybe you've shared a case study to help the Department of Education understand the problem (and that state council are so

grateful to receive).

Maybe you are one of the legendary people who joined your branch executive or state council?

Maybe you simply renewed your membership, and that my friend, is enough to keep our dream alive.

If you DID join the branch or state executive, bravo, you have joined hundreds of like-minded people across Australia, advocating to improve access to education for isolated children.

Recently, during state council delegations in Darwin, the Northern Territory Minister for Education Selena Uibo told us she shared a conversation about ICPA with the Federal Minister for Education, Dan Tehan. Minister Tehan referred to ICPA as **'well organised and a highly respected organisation across Australia'**. Members,

branches, state and federal council should be very proud of such high level and positive feedback.

Whether you want to play a big part, or just listen and learn about what's going on, we look forward to 'seeing you' at the 2020 State Conference on 25 March, which will be a webinar (being every third year). You can join the conversation on advocating for equity in education from a computer in your house!

Thanks for supporting NT ICPA. Best wishes for the school holidays and the festive season.

Sincerely,
Sarah Cook

A word from the Editor...

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone - and welcome to a new decade. I, for one, cannot believe that we are already in 2020, seriously where does the time go!

I would like to thank each and every one of you who have taken valuable time away from your families / lives/ work etc to send in so many wonderful photographs, stories, reports and snippets of information to share right here in Down the Track. As a Mum with 3 active children I can appreciate the effort and energy required to think about, find and then email content in - so cheers to you all!

And what a BUMPER edition we have in store for you!

For the first time in the history of Down the Track, we have had so much content sent in that we have expanded out to 28 pages! WOW! I have truly enjoyed receiving each and every piece, and

then carefully working out how to best place them in the pages.

I hope you enjoy reading through this edition, and as always, please do not hesitate to give me a call or send an email if you have any ideas or content you would like to share - no piece is too big or too small.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy and hopefully wetter 2020.

Cheers,
Annika Bell



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 - dt@icpa.com.au

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

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'





Isolated Children's Parents' Association

NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL Inc

2019 - 2020 Positions

Postal Address: PO Box 8346, Alice Springs 0871 | **Email:** NTSecretary@icpa.com.au | **Website:** www.nt.icpa.com.au

<p>PRESIDENT</p> <p>Sarah Cook Aileron Station PO Box 1361 Alice Springs NT 0871</p> <p>0889569705 NTPresident@icpa.com.au</p>	<p>SECRETARY</p> <p>Rebecca (Bec) Cadzow Mt Riddock Station PMB 43 Alice Springs NT 0872</p> <p>08 89569963 NTSecretary@icpa.com.au</p>	<p>TREASURER & LONE MEMBER OFFICER</p> <p>Sarah Measey Ceres Downs PMB 271 Winnellie NT 0822</p> <p>08 8978 2155 NTTreasurer@icpa.com.au</p>
<p>VICE PRESIDENT</p> <p>Suzanne Wilson 122/8 Gardiner Street Darwin NT 0800</p> <p>0418830214 NTVicePresident@react-live.com</p>	<p>NT ICPA STATE PATRON</p> <p>Mrs Jan Heaslip NT ICPA State Life Member Bond Springs Station, PO Box 4 Alice Springs NT 0872</p> <p>08 8952 9810 janiceheaslip@outbackretreat.com.au</p>	<p>PUBLICITY OFFICER</p> <p>Amanda Murphy Kalala Station PMB 203 Katherine NT 0852</p> <p>89 8975 9784 NTPublicityOfficer@icpa.com.au</p>
<p>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</p> <p>Tiani Cook PO Box 704 Alice Springs NT 0870</p> <p>0429826054 nt_icpa_ipp@outlook.com</p>	<p>NT ICPA STATE COMMITTEE</p> <p>Sally Sullivan - Cave Creek Station 08 8975 4321 cavecreek2@bigpond.com</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Anna Weir - Amaroo Station 08 8956 9899 Sandooverpastoral@bigpond.com</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Kerrie Scott - Mountain Valley Station 08 8975 4064 kcpa.kscott@gmail.com</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Amber Driver - Elkedra Station 08 8956 9889 president.as.icpa@gmail.com</p>	<p>LIFE MEMBERS</p> <p>Jan Heaslip.....8952 9810 Pat Elliott.....8971 2116 Chrissie Holt.....Deceased Deneise Edwards Del Harlan0417 835504 Kate Schubert.....9305 5857</p>
<p>DOWN THE TRACK NEWSLETTER</p> <p>Annika Bell C/- PO Box 728 Palmerston NT 0821</p> <p>0403729814 dtt@icpa.com.au</p>		<p>NT WEB MASTER</p> <p>Helen Kempe NTWebmaster@icpa.com.au</p>

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

KATHERINE SCHOOL OF THE AIR INTERSTATE TRIP 2019

Extraordinary Grant helps extraordinary young people on their way to Sydney and Canberra



From the moment the students from Katherine School of the Air gathered at Darwin Airport until they returned ten days later they made teachers Kate Haddow, Rhiannon Lehman, Sharni Wilson and Rachel Williams very proud.

The two groups of students; sixteen Year 5 and 6 students and twelve Year 7, 8 and 9 students, seized with both hands the opportunities given to them by their parents and those who generously supported their fundraising efforts. The Extraordinary Grant provided by the Katherine Branch of the ICPA is an example of the support received.

The students travelled from far and wide to participate in the excursion. Some of the favourite activities in the jammed packed itinerary for the primary group included a show at the Opera House, a walk across the Sydney Harbour Bridge, Toronga Zoo and dressing up in the historical Rocks area.

In Canberra highlights included the Floriade Festival, the National Art Gallery, Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial

and the monuments along ANZAC Parade. At the Geoscience Centre they met a young geologist who grew up in the Katherine area who may have inspired a few to consider this as a career.

The absolute favourite activity for most was a difficult choice – how could they choose between the zero gravity machine at Questacon, the Virtual Tour of Antarctica or ice skating?

For the middle years students it was the spectacular sights of Tasmania and the many ‘firsts’ such as seeing snow, wombats, Tasmanian devils, fur seals, whales and Mrs Wilson’s favourite .. eating fudge!

On excursion our students demonstrated they are resilient and respectful young people prepared to work together to support each other as they build memories that may last a life time. Each group received many complements about the student’s conduct.

Thank-you to all those who worked hard to raise money to support opportunities such as the Katherine School of the Air interstate excursions.

Kate Haddow

Senior Teacher / Year 6 Teacher, KSA





CONGRATULATIONS

A big congratulations to the Katherine Isolated Children's Service (KICS) who late last year attended the Education and Care Awards at Parliament House in the NT, where they were shortlisted for two awards; Outstanding achievement in innovative practice and Outstanding achievement in community engagement, of which they deservedly took home the award for Community Engagement.



These awards and the others won on the night are to formally recognise the people and programs that work so hard to deliver outstanding early childhood service to the children of the Northern Territory.

In particular, KICS works tirelessly with children and families who are both socially and geographically isolated – and through their incredible programs they are helping to build and encourage the futures of our youngest children in rural and remote locations.

Well done and THANK YOU to all at KICS!

Pictures: LEFT - Mandy Tootell and Liz O'Brien accepting the award from NT Minister for Education Selena Uibo | RIGHT - The KICS Team celebrating their well deserved win.

JOURNEY THAT MAKES ME

Gabby Cadzow is a student at New England Girls Schools in New South Wales. Prior to attending NEGS she and her two sisters; Bridgette and Imogen, grew up on Mount Riddock Station in the NT, and began her educational journey just like many of us have, or are now experiencing with our own children.

This is a part of a speech that Gabby recently gave at an assembly at NEGS.

"We grew up two hundred kilometres from any form of town, on the family property called Mt Riddock. My childhood was not all that different to anyone else's with the exception that I didn't go to a normal school, and see my friends or my teacher face to face with the exception of five days a term where I'd go into our nearest town to finally see my classmates and teacher.

The school, if you could call it that, was a computer orientated program. We'd log into a program called REACT and do our classes in a similar way to a Skype video chat. We had one of those lessons a week, but that then turned into one a day towards the end of my time at Alice Springs School of the Air.

Our work was sent out on the mail plane that arrived once a week, but there was not always enough to keep us busy. There were times where, if needed, Brigette and I would do our school work in one day and then go and help our parents run the station.

We also had a person that was hired to teach us. They lived on the station, and we were their only students, so before we came to NEGS, all we knew was one-on-one teaching. You could never escape them if you didn't do your work. I have heard stories where the child didn't want to do work and sat in a tree in hopes of fooling them, and the home tutor would sit under said tree until they came down. There was no escaping school.

Since we could do anywhere from a week, to a month's work of school in a day, as well as attend our Interactive Distant Learning sessions (IDL), quite often I found myself riding when I should have been doing school work that I had already done. As a little girl, my parents often came home to tales of how far Bridgette and I had gotten before we fell asleep on our horses. As we got older, we of course got taller, but I found myself still too short to saddle my horse, so as a side effect of inheriting the short genes, something that has not been given to either of my "little" sisters, I found myself riding bareback, only riding in a saddle if I was going to ride for longer than an hour, or chasing cattle. As such, I can now hold on when I lose my reins going over a jump and can now safely fall. For that last one, I have dad's horses and my pony Hannah to thank.

When needed, as I have said before, we'd skimp on school if we had to help mum and dad. More often than not, we spent those weeks or days in the stock camp mustering cattle in what we consider small holding paddocks (I now know that some of these are as large as some properties,

they could be as large as 10 square kilometres), branding cattle, doing yard work better than some of the jackaroos and jillaroos (employees) and walking cattle distances anywhere between 18 kilometres to 60 in a day.

Because we lived so far from town, we could only go into town every now and then, so we bulk ordered everything from vegetables and fruit to toilet paper and AJAX window cleaner. Once a month, either mum or dad or both would drive the small truck into town and pick up the groceries and attend to other appointments that would have been booked in at times a month before or the day before. If we had been good, Bridgette and I could join mum and dad on these rare escapes from the station.

Now, some people may be wondering; if we ordered fruits and vegetables, did we do the same for meat? No we didn't. We grew our own, so once a month, and I'm sorry for all the animal activists in the room in advance, we grew and slaughtered our own meat. Milk? Sorry everyone, but mum got a milking cow when she and dad were married. She had missed the luxury of fresh milk and there was no way that Mum or Dad were going to allow anyone to go through the horrors of powdered milk or long-life milk.

When it was time for me to decide what school I wanted or NEEDED to go to as I saw it, Mum and I started asking around for all girl boarding schools. Then we heard of NEGS. All I did for the next month after hearing about the equestrian team was comb through the internet for scores or programs that rivalled NEGS, or even offered the same programs without having to search for another place to board my horse and go to school. There was no way that I was going anywhere without my horse, even when I had broken my arm, I rode however the doctor did not particularly like that. But no matter what happened, no matter what search words I put in, NEGS turned up in at the very least every search at least twice.

So, it was NEGS I set my sights on and when the NEGS stall came to the Alice Springs Show, I dragged my mum and my current home tutor to the stall and bounced up and down while I asked about the school. Just before walking away, I had firmly told my mum at least twice, that I would not settle for anything less than NEGS, and mum had replied equally as firmly that the only other place I'd be sent is home if I didn't stop bouncing, that she was going to send me to this school come hell or high water. That summer was spent fixing fences, moving cattle in the rain and fixing flood gates (fences across the river beds that either have to be fixed or replaced in the worst cases) instead of packing for school. We had received one of the largest rainfalls in years. Eventually, we arrived at NEGS with my horse and belongings after a three and a half day drive. First day at NEGS, was one I'll never forget. Mum helped me unpack my room, and not a few days after, my family had to head back to the station. After all, there are not many holidays when you own a largish-smallish station.

I have everything to thank my family for, because even though mum and I both chose this school, they're the ones who helped make my home both at Mt Riddock and here. NEGS has helped shape me into the person I am today.

Thank you to Gabby for allowing us to share this wonderful account of her time as a distance education student, and then how her experience at New England Girls School is expanding her horizons further.



Photos of Gabby with her sisters Bridgette and Imogen growing up and living at Mount Riddock Station.

ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH

education
etc, but
Australia

2019 has been a busy year for the Alice Springs Branch ICPA, and one that I have learnt a lot from, becoming the secretary.

Our Executive has worked very closely with me, and I am very grateful for the support and time our President, Amber Driver, our Vice President, Lisa Kimlin, and our Treasurer, Katherine Warby, have given to me, so that I have never felt alone, and a helping hand or voice was always there to help me if I was ever confused or lost with anything to do with ICPA. We have had an excellent year with smooth running meetings, well planned and run fundraisers, a great number of attendees at the State and Federal Conferences, and now Branch Members are working on Motions for the 2020 State Conference.

Meetings have been very successful, and we are very appreciative of our members giving their time to be able to attend these, and be involved in arising matters and decisions in 2019 for our Branch. Our last face to face meeting in September was held at St. Philip's College in Alice Springs. Their facilities, and the attention to detail they put in for us to hold our meeting there was perfect, and very much appreciated.

Fundraising is a combined effort from all of our members and volunteers, and it would not have been possible without the vital backing from these people. We are forever grateful for all of your assistance. We have had members travel to; Tennant Creek to run the Bar for the Barkly Rodeo Association; Hart's Range to run the canteen for the Hart's Range Amateur Race Club N.T. and Undoolya Station for the Bronco Branding Competition to organise and serve the meals on the Saturday night.

Our most recent fundraiser has been the ICPA & Remote Concrete fishing shirts. These have been a sought-after item, and I know I cannot wait to wear my shirt around. We are so very fortunate to have amazing sponsors and donors towards anything our Branch does, and we cannot say thank you enough to these remarkable families, people and businesses.

State and Federal Conferences in 2019 have been well attended by our Branch, and I feel so lucky to have been able to be present on behalf of our members at the Federal Conference held in Adelaide. I learnt so much, and it really opened up my eyes to the issues we face, not only in and around Alice Springs District for

wide. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing our motions come to light at the Conference and was very glad they were all carried.

If any Members are sitting on the fence in regard to attending a Conference, you will not be disappointed if you do get to one, they are unbelievable – do it!!

Our Branch has also setup a Bursary Subcommittee, who have been busy all year reviewing our Branch Bursaries, and all going well, should be finished the process in December. Announcement of the Alice Springs Bursaries will be in December, if fully allocated, they total \$7500. Gail Auricht is our current Bursary Secretary, and has held this position for the branch for several years. If members do not know if their children are eligible, please let us know, and we can advise specifics.

NT State and Federal ICPA are there for us 100%, and we are so fortunate to have their backing, year in, year out. It never matters what the question or issue is, an answer is always received in a timely manner, and their knowledge is invaluable. Thank you for your care, knowledge and support in 2019.

May 2020 see many new Members come on board our wonderful Alice Springs ICPA Branch, our fundraising events be maintained with a high level of integrity, and plenty of rain for all, Australia wide.

Georgie Hamlyn

NT ICPA Alice Springs Branch Secretary

KATHERINE BRANCH

2019 saw the Katherine Branch hosting the NT State Conference which was well represented from Members far & wide, it's wonderful to be able to come together knowing that we are all fighting for the same thing "Equity in Education Outback".

Kerrie Scott & Amanda Murphy travelled to Adelaide to attend Federal Conference to represent the Katherine Branch, and came

Wrapping Up 2019

back with a load of fantastic information. Katherine ICPA Branch held their AGM during Swim Week in Katherine, we had a fantastic turn out of members.

The election of Office Bearers saw the following positions being filled:

- President: Kerrie Scott
- Vice President: Julie Richter
- Secretary: Katie Payne
- Treasurer/Public
- Officer: Fiona McDonald
- Publicity/Social Media Officer: Amanda Murphy
- Bursary Officer: Helen Harding
- Fundraising Officer: Heidi Millership

Committee Members:

- Annie Craig
- Lauren Hoar
- Renee Johnson
- Bianca Brown
- Jenny Riggs

The new committee are looking forward to a fabulous 2020.

Our December meeting also saw the branch getting the swing with the State & Federal Motions on the agenda.

On behalf of the Katherine Branch would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Katie Payne

NT ICPA Katherine Branch Secretary



Newly re-elected NT ICPA Katherine Branch committee members: L to R - Back Row: Heidi Millership, Lauren Hore, Renee Johnson, Bianca Brown, Jenny Riggs. Front Row: Katie Payne, Kerrie Scott, Amanda Murphy, Fiona McDonald.

Looking Towards 2020

NT STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT



NT ICPA President Sarah Cook with Marija Zivic
from Sky News

2020 is an election year for the Territory, so it's a very important and opportunistic year for ICPA state council and members alike.

Election years are a good opportunity to influence change; in policy, budgets and the decision-making processes. We are fortunate in the NT, in that we have very good access to elected members and party candidates.

NT State Council recently developed a Top 5 Priorities document, and took it to Darwin for our November delegations. As simple as it sounds to us, not everyone understands what they need to do to improve access to education for geographically isolated students.

The Top 5 document gives us a good starting point to outline the changes we needed. Our next step is to cost the priorities and share them with everyone who'll listen!

In addition to the regular processes we have and the things we do, in 2020 State Council will aim to meet every candidate possible, to share ICPAs Top 5 Priorities and motions. We want the incoming government to understand our issues before they take on the role of

representing us, and we want our solutions to be front and centre when they think about how to improve education in the bush.

What can you do? Please request a meeting with your local member and candidates, to discuss the issues important to you. ABOVE ALL ELSE, be sure to vote; that your family votes, that your friends and your neighbours vote.

Let's make our voice count at this election, and clearly remind those who often forget about us.

Sarah Cook
NT State Council President

ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH

January: Hopefully we are enjoying a wet New Year and the kids are enjoying last precious moments of the school holidays! I know that the holidays seem to sneak past way too quickly at our place and before you know it, the rush to pack bags for the boarding school run is a hard way for many families to end the holidays. The Boarding school drop off, for a few families, sits side by side with the rush to prepare the stations school room for the start of the new year: where do we put the set work for Term 1? Does the computer still work? Did I buy ink for the printer? And if you are lucky enough to be starting the year with a governess, what day did she say she was coming? Is her room ready? Is she still coming? Will she make it out on the dirt road as we got another 10ml of rain last night... However the start of your new year looks, take solace in knowing that there will be many families in the same boat. It will be OK if you forgot to dry clean the blazer or replace the ink in the printer... If you are having a first (day at school or boarding school) ease into it, enjoy it.

February & March: The Lead up to the 2020 NT ICPA State Conference. It will be hosted by the NT ICPA via webinar and held at ASSOA in Alice Springs in March. Alice Springs Branch has 4 of its members holding positions on NT State Council. Sarah Cook is the President, Bec

Cadzow is Secretary, Anna Weir Early Childhood Portfolio holder and Amber Driver is a committee member.

Once again, the NT State ICPA will hold its AGM at the conference and all ICPA Members in the NT are able to be nominated to make up the State Council.

Alice Springs will have a face to face meeting in March 2020. This coincides with the In-School event at ASSOA. Over the past few years the Alice Springs Branch has held a 'Meet & Greet' where new families are invited to come along with their children and enjoy some time catching up and being welcomed into the community. Details of the Meet & Greet will be shared with members in the New Year.

April: This marks a time for members to start thinking of the issues that the branch can table at a federal level. New motions can be written, old motions can be followed up on for outcomes etc.

June & July: Finalising motions for Federal Conference.

August: The ICPA Federal Conference will be held in Hobart in 2020. Alice Springs Branch hope to be able to send some members to represent their issues at this level.

2020 Alice Springs Branch Fundraisers: Over the years the Alice Springs ICPA branch been involved a few different fundraising events. As a branch, members will decide if and where they can help out. ICPA members have volunteered their time at the ICPA Canteen at Harts Range, Running the Bar at the Tennant Creek Rodeo, Providing the Dinner Service at the Bronco Branding. The branch has also looked into some fundraising options through the sale of merchandise. Remote Concrete were generous supporters of the Fishing Shirts that were on sale at the end of 2019 and Vikki M has some great merchandise ideas for 2020.

In 2019, A recommendation surfaced following the ICPA Canteen at Harts Range this year and the executive started the process of writing / obtaining a Fundraising Procedures document to assist members who volunteer to coordinate events on behalf of the Alice Springs ICPA branch. If this document is not finalised by the 2019 AGM, the new executive will be given the opportunity to continue working on this document with support and in collaboration of the branch. We have been supported by Federal Council in our endeavour.

Amber Driver
NT ICPA Alice Springs Branch President



People often say, with pride, 'I'm not interested in politics.' They might as well say, 'I'm not interested in my standard of living, my health, my job, my rights, my freedoms, my future or any future.'... If we mean to keep any control over our world and lives, we must be interested in politics.

— Martha Gellhorn —

AZ QUOTES

The Gifted Underachiever - Pat Elliot

For the purpose of this article, I have used studies and research from several sources, both national and international; some anecdotal references, personal opinions and observations resulting from those studies; consultations with educators and conversations with parents and teachers.

There is a universal misconception that gifted people are exceptional achievers in one or multiple areas. They are often identified as “nerdy”, elitist or egocentric. The truth is, many are not.

WHAT IS UNDERACHIEVMENT?

In order to make sense out of the expression, we must accept there will be variants. Those who are identified come from a widely diverse group who display common characteristics. Having said that, identification of giftedness, initially, is frequently obscure. Often the greatest contributing factor to underachievement is the absence of identification of giftedness. It is a sad indictment on our society that we accept mediocrity as being ok, and if we achieve at a level where “average” is always acceptable, we have forgotten how to be creative.

How then do we find these children?

As a parent living in a remote part of this country, I have experienced living with a gifted underachiever. It took until his sixteenth year before I could convince our educators of the time, we had the classic gifted underachiever on our hands; not a rebellious, disinterested rebel. He was the youngest of eight.

My first indication was a realization he was exhibiting some distinct differences from his older siblings. Even though I was acutely aware of the existence of children of high intellectual potential through post graduate studies and involvement with some amazing experts in the field of gifted education, I was not prepared for the challenge of dealing with one of my own.

School was a ritual in our house. During the build-up and during the wet, school started at six and we were finished by midday. Dry season, eight am to three plus. If you happened to visit Birrimba during the day, you would be welcomed, treated with respect, but, “Please make me a cup of coffee while you get your own”. A slight exaggeration, but the inference is that school was our first priority. I would often lose the battle when Father decided on a bore run and needed a gate opener! There would be an instant mass exodus from the crowded breezeway table to the vehicle ready to go just outside.

With his older siblings, Gus took his infant turn on the floor of the breezeway with paper, crayons, varying shapes and sizes of building blocks, with a myriad of paraphernalia (living and preserved!) collected from outside. He was inventive, inquisitive, focussed and creative. I began to take notice when at four he began to answer questions directed to his sister two years his senior.

Was this just because he was there? Was he subconsciously absorbing knowledge, some form of intellectual osmosis?

What did I do about it? Nothing. Like most of us, my days were full and next morning finding the cutlery in the oven and the clean, folded clothes back in the laundry, little energy was left to provide further for one child with the intellectual capacity of a giant sponge. I had the others to consider, all of whom were eager learners. It was a happy classroom where daily challenges were shared. Believe me, it was not always beer and skittles, we had our days and our battles.

There were days when I would say “Bush-gate kids, see you at afternoon smoko”.

Sometimes it is ok to do just that. One of the enduring benefits of organising your own timetable. Today that is not so easy with the advent of the internet and interactive learning and the increasing reliance on

technology. However, as the guardian/ facilitator of your child’s education, you have the right to make that call if you feel it is necessary. For those who rely on employed tutors/ governesses/ supervisors, make sure you have an open, honest dialogue with each other. This applies to parents and the classroom teacher in the school situation.

How do we find these children? As parents we know our children better than anyone else. Normally we recognize differences in our children, but unless there is open communication between parent and child, this can become problematic. Family problems, emotional distress, unreasonable expectations (“You have always come top in maths, what’s this – a C?”), lack of self-esteem, peer pressure can lead to a lack of motivation. In some cases, even the limitations of the school regulations can cause once enthusiastic, ardent learners to develop an absence of academic challenge. This can manifest itself over a period of time and is often a response to boredom and the acceptance that near enough is good enough. Fly just below the radar and you won’t be noticed, but you will achieve an acceptable result. It is not uncommon for a student at secondary level to coast through school without great effort and without being recognised.

Some may have an apparent learning disability leading to further inhibition. Add geographic isolation and the problem becomes threefold. Sometimes it is obvious to those, parents and teachers alike, who are in sync with the possibility that particular child displays the characteristics of a gifted underachiever, but, the challenge is – how do we measure potential in order to cater for these students?

According to the Northern Territory there is a somewhat basic/safe list of characteristics of gifted students that is by no means exhaustive. It contains so many variables and does not apply to all of the students all of the time.

- Learns easily
- Long attention span
- Wide general knowledge
- Explores specific interests in depth
- Curious
- Vivid imagination
- Unusual/ keen sense of humour.
- Seeks challenges
- Sees, (but does not necessarily fully understand) relationships early.
- Finds pleasure in intellectual activities
- Leadership qualities
- Sensitivity towards others
- Self-aware
- Emotional intensity
- High personal expectations
- Perfectionism
- Advanced levels of moral judgement

The Northern Territory – Underachieving Gifted Students

- Boredom
- “turned off” school
- Good oral language, but this is not always translated to the written word
- Absorbed in private world
- Inattentive and restless
- Tactless and intolerant of others
- Excessively self-critical
- Poor relations with peers
- Class clown
- Friends with older students and adults
- Unconventional behaviour

Once more a wide brush approach.

SO, WHO ARE THE GIFTED UNDERACHIEVERS?

World researchers have decided upon a three-point criteria for defining underachievement.

- 1.A discrepancy between ability and achievement
- 2.Must have persisted for at least a year
- 3.Not due to a learning disability

They have detailed information based on thorough studies and have provided an example of their findings to “create a picture of the complexity of identification. They have provided us with four different categories.

The research was initiated in the USA but has universal credibility.

I will attempt to precis the information which can be found in detail on the web at <https://giftedchallenges.blogspot.com>.

Involuntary underachievers

Students who would like to succeed but attend school that are poorly funded/staffed. Low income communities. May never have been identified. Bored. Not caused by personal/ family/peer problems.

Classic underachiever

Underperform in all areas of study. They have given up on school and themselves. Typically starts in middle school. Often angry, apathetic, rebellious, withdrawn. Resist efforts to encourage them and have “logical” arguments for their behaviour. Can be easily ‘lost’ in the system.

Selective underperformers

Choose to excel only in areas that interest them, classes and teachers they may or may not like. Unfortunately this attitude limits their opportunities to succeed.

Underachievers under the radar

Often overlooked and are sometimes mistaken for high achievers. Extremely high achievers who fail to reach their potential. Result in inability to take academic risks and challenge themselves.

Most research is restricted, though not exclusively, to the classroom. Identifying and intervening to stop / reverse underachievement remains complicated. Test scores can show so much, but there are “what ifs”. Standard tests identifying as underachiever by showing a two-year discrepancy in test results is, in my opinion, inconclusive and only scratches the surface. Counselling may help some students, but how do we achieve that in geographic isolation? Skype? Who pays?

Obviously, this is not the forum to go into academic detail and reasons for and against various theories. Suffice

it to say that as a parent there are things you can do if you believe your child may exhibit underachieving characteristics. Remember they first must be identified as having high intellectual potential. It is a very individual phenomenon. Effort must be made NOT to impose the problem on the child – “Johnny, you could do so much better if you applied yourself and made a greater effort”. This is an assumption the problem lies with the child, not the system that has failed to recognize his pain.

According to S Stanford (2001), from his study “Underserved gifted populations”

“Underachievement is very specific to the individual child; intervention and remediation of underachievement must be individually developed and implemented.”

Points to ponder:

- Does your child believe he can do his work and retain control over what he does?
- Does your child see value in his schoolwork?
- Communicate concerns to your child’s teacher – are they receptive?
- Include the student in any deliberations – where do their interests lie? How do they see themselves attaining their dreams?
- Encourage them, however young, to express themselves in a way that brings light to their eyes and smiles to their faces. Concentrate on their strengths – always!

Finally, every child needs a role model. The gifted underachiever requires twofold; that special person who is committed to their success, their peace of mind, intellectual satisfaction, their contribution to their own and others’ lives.

**THAT
SOMEONE
MAY BE YOU!**



Pat Elliot



ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS ASSOCIATION NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL INCORPORATED



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

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

WHAT ARE THEY?

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

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

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

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

CONDITIONS OF APPLICATIONS

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

- How are you or your family isolated
- Details of family membership with the ICPA in the NT
- Details of costs and how the activity or materials that you are applying for will benefit you and what is its relevance to the course you are studying; or your career pathway; or personal development.

Payment will be made in the form of a cheque payable to the successful recipient or guardian, once the application has been deemed successful or alternatively, when a receipt or invoice has been presented to the 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 31st 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

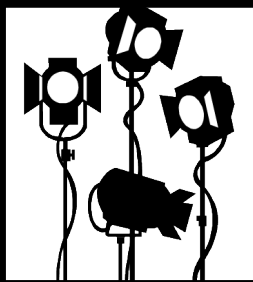
Note: As this mailing address is in a remote location, please allow plenty of time for delivery - email is preferred.

*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.*

**Thanks to FRRR and donor partners, the NT ICPA are able to once again offer the FRRR
Back to School Program.**

Our members' students can apply for a \$50 Target voucher to use towards costs of
returning to school.

A flier will be emailed to all members shortly with further info.



SPOTLIGHT ON

New State Members

Lisa Kimlin

Mount Ebenezer Station

ALICE SPRINGS VICE PRESIDENT



Our family live on and manage a cattle Station 400km N/E of Alice Springs (Murray Downs) which covers 5500 square kms. We have three children; our oldest daughter is in her first year of boarding school (year 8) in Adelaide at Westminster, whilst our other two are in grade six and two through Alice Springs School of the Air.

Before moving to Murray Downs, we managed a property S/W of Alice Springs for a family company for just over three years, and prior to that we have managed and worked on other properties for both our families and other family companies. My husband Luke grew up on his family property N/E of Alice Springs and also attended ASSOA and boarding school in Adelaide.

I attended my first ICPA federal conference in Perth in 2016, and as my first ever ICPA conference of any kind, I realised just how important and how much passion goes into this organisation from all the members. Since my first conference, I have attended two more Federal conferences as well as State conferences and many Alice Springs branch meetings.

Alice Springs branch had the honour of hosting the Federal conference in 2017 where I actively helped in the organising of raffles throughout the two days and we successfully pulled off yet another brilliant and inspiring event!

At our ICPA Alice Springs Branch 2018 AGM in December I took on the Vice President role and have loved every minute of it. We have a very passionate executive committee to help with this role and I would like to thank them sincerely in making this such an enjoyable experience. Thank you to Georgie Hamlyn (secretary), Katherine Warby (treasurer) and our President, Amber Driver - the passion and guidance you ladies all have makes for an inviting atmosphere.

Let's hope for a very WET and safe Christmas and New Year for everyone!

Julie Richter

VRD Station

KATHERINE VICE PRESIDENT



Hi all, my name is Julie Richter and I am the Vice President of the Katherine Branch of the NT ICPA.

I live on Victoria River Downs with my husband, Rusty and our two children Nathan 10yrs and Hayley 9yrs.

As a family we enjoy everything station life has to offer, we embrace our unique situation and take every opportunity to teach our children to be resourceful and independent. During our down time, we attend local campdrafts to spend time with friends and family or wet the fishing lines in the river behind the house to catch an elusive barramundi.

Growing up in the Territory, I am fully aware of the limitations children can encounter while studying in regional and remote Australia. Together, with my schooling experience and my children's enrollment in distance education through Katherine School of the Air, I believe I have a sound grasp on the challenges our Katherine Branch families face.

Over the years I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved with the ICPA at both a branch and state level; I have learnt so much about policies and procedures along with the importance of having a voice.

'We can choose to be affected by the world or we can choose to affect the world' Heidi Wills

Suzanne Wilson

Darwin

**ICPA FEDERAL SECRETARY
NT SECRETARY
NT VICE PRESIDENT**



Hi to our readers, my name is Suzanne (Sue) Wilson and I immigrated from England to Australia in 1983 and have lived in various cities, towns and remote parts of Australia including 6 years living on a yacht in Australia's northern waters. Becoming a landlubber in the late 1990s, I worked in adult education both in the VET sector as a course co-ordinator and at university level as a lecturer at Charles Darwin University in Darwin.

My husband Michael and I live in Darwin's CBD in the NT, we have four adult children and 4 grandchildren.

I completed my Master of Business Administration (MBA) in 2004 and put my skills learned into working with Michael in our small family business, M & S Consultants Pty Ltd. Our company specialises in Distance Education software used for Interactive Distance Learning (IDL).

Through this work, we discovered NT ICPA and realised the importance of what ICPA is and does, and have been strong supporters ever since attending both state and federal conferences before joining the NT Lone Members Branch five or six years ago. In 2017, at the Federal Conference in Alice Springs, I became the Federal Secretary, a role I continue to work in. In March 2018, I became the NT Secretary at the State Conference and am currently the NT Vice President.

In my spare time I enjoy cooking, entertaining, wining & dining, board games and trivia and recently started learning to play Bridge. I love to travel and enjoy the great outdoors especially going boating, fishing, camping and for long drives.

Desert Kids To Cycle In The Great Victorian Bike Ride

Seven St Philip's College boarders and their families have made the commitment for the teenagers to cycle the Great Victorian Bike Ride along the Great Ocean Road from Port Fairy to Torquay from 27th November to 1st December 2019. The boarders will be among 4,000 riders of all ages, and will ride on average 80km a day challenging their mental and physical strength.

The Indigenous cyclists have been training consistently for weeks in preparation for the gruelling ride. There have been early morning rides, gym workouts and local distance rides to places like Emily Gap, Honeymoon Gap and up the Stuart Highway to the Tanami Desert turn off.

The students have embarked on a very strong/dedicated path whereby they are learning road cycling skills, bike maintenance skills, they are getting fitter and in the process are gaining mental and emotional health outcomes through physical fitness.

Additionally, they are also gaining educational and life skills where they must research their air travel costs and itineraries, accommodation and have been investigating and calculating train schedules. To keep costs as low as possible they have also been fundraising and have held numerous campaigns i.e. stalls, raffles etc

Their trainer Graham (Tjilpi) Buckley together with boarding staff Sam Muir and Debbie Page (who are accompanying these young cyclists), have been impressed in how they are looking more professional as every week goes by.

In preparation for this ride, all the boy boarders at St Philip's College came together, and in October they held a Great Cycle Challenge. Throughout the month they raised money for charity and as a boarding house they rode 4,000 km and raised over \$5000 for cancer research. Staff were so impressed with the boys' dedication to riding. They rode hard, they rode fast and they rode far.

And so too will the seven cyclists heading to the Great Ocean Road! Their first day of training was when their journey commenced, and already there is a strong sense of achievement amongst the boarders and everyone is excited to see and hear about their adventure to Victoria.



Left: Delisha washing Amanda's car

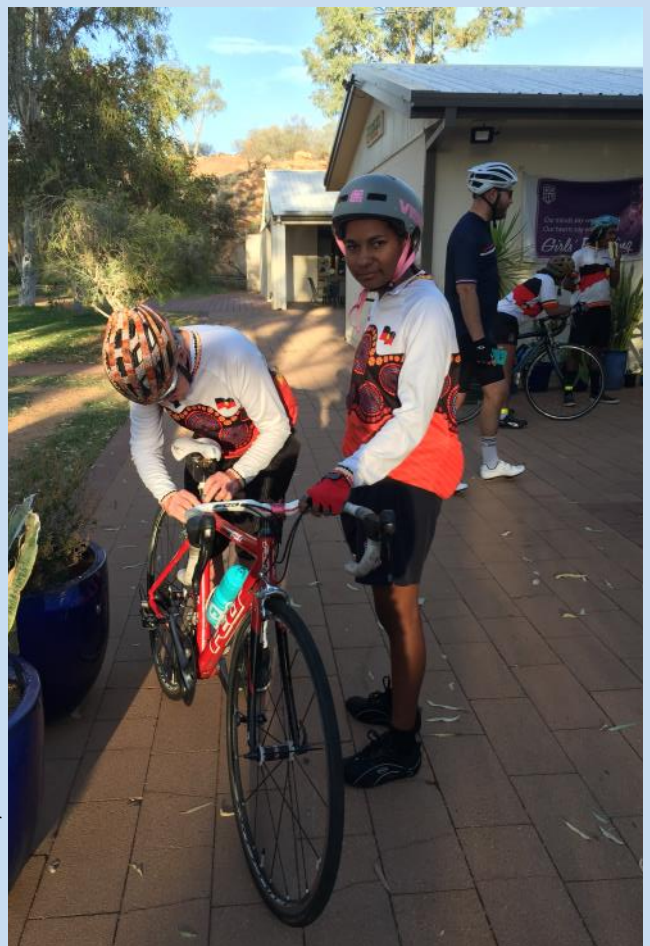
Right: Bike maintenance, adjustments and repairs



All the riders on the Tanami



Stretching and taking a break on the Tanami



KSA TEACHERS VISIT CARPENTARIA STATION

On the 28th to the 30th of August 2019 the Murphy Family had a very special visit from the Katherine School of the Air teachers. We live at Carpentaria station which is 200km south of Borroloola. With Miss Rhiannon, Miss Mon, Mr. Soph and Miss Clancy we had a special visit.

We had a whole day of doing our school work with our teachers as well as a few tests and lots of fun.

We did many things to explain our way of living in the bush. After school we went down to the yards and showed them how to brand and draft cattle. It was a new experience for some of the teachers. Miss Rhiannon had a very

special experience and went for a fly in my Dad's helicopter. We did other things like going for a long walk to show them where we get water from. They enjoyed finding new discoveries like the old yards that was built near the water hole. The teachers came to our station because it was a way of experiencing how we live and what we do. They got to see their students in person instead of on the computer. I think it's important for teachers to come and visit our distance education students because they are isolated from a real school. The teachers get to see how we are REALLY going with our school work.

AMANDA MURPHY

We love it when our teachers come to visit.



Murphy kids; Jack, Charlie, Georgie and Maggie, with KSA staff and home tutor Meg



Dear Katherine Branch of the ICPA

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to receive the Personal Development Grant for me to buy a new show bridle for my horse. I felt excited to go to spend the money while I was in Darwin.

I bought a new black show bridle and a dark blue brow band with white sparkly gems and blue rosettes on it.

The bridle fit my horse perfectly but unfortunately the brow band was too small.

I used the bridle for the Katherine show, when I was doing show-jumping. I didn't get a place but I still felt good doing this. I also rode in the ASH Classes and the gymkhana which was a lot of fun.

Thank you again for supporting me.

Hayley Richter - 9yrs
VRD Station, Katherine

THANKS KATHERINE ICPA



Sharlette is school captain of Katherine School of the Air and in Grade 8. Absolutely passionate about the cattle industry, her horses and an up and coming bull rider. One of the crew snapped this of her with her mare Danni during mustering this year at Providence Station and she just loves it so she decided to draw it and we think she has done a great job!

Sharlette Johnson
Grade 8 KSA



2019 ROGER CONNELLAN AWARD

Connellan Airways Trust Chairman Mr. Mark Coffey recently announced Mr. Sam Short to be the recipient of the 2019 Roger Connellan Award for Excellence in Aviation.

The Trust will provide financial assistance of \$20,000 for Sam to complete his Diploma of Aviation and several flying endorsements in 2020. Sam will be studying at Tafe Queensland in support of his goal to provide flying services to remote areas of Central Australia.

Sam lives in Alice Springs and grew up on Bushy Park cattle station in the NT. He has been working towards his lifelong goal of becoming a helicopter pilot since he was young, when he spent time mustering in helicopters with family. Recently he completed his RPL fixed wing license and endorsements through the new Flight Standards at the Alice Springs Airport. Long term Sam would like to work with his brothers, providing a mix of trade services by air to those in remote locations.

Sam says "Flying has always been my absolute dream, and I am doing anything and everything in my power to move forward in that career path. It is an honour to receive the Roger Connellan Award and a big help to further my career and fulfil my dream of flying in the outback supporting people in remote locations."

Mark Coffey says "Sam has demonstrated his commitment to aviation in outback Australia through the completion of his fixed wing licenses and endorsements and through his enrolment in further education within the field. Aviation plays a vital role in outback Australia and Sam aims to support outback access to services, which is in the spirit of the Award. The board was impressed with the commitment Sam has shown to his flying goals and is very pleased to announce this Award".

The Award is in memory of Eddie Connellan's son Roger Connellan who was a bush pilot who rose to Chief Check and Training Captain of Connair (he also helped establish the Alice Springs Aero Club in 1964). It aims to give the opportunity, by provision of financial support to people living in Outback Australia for skill development in an aviation related field excluding initial licensing. Since the Alice Springs based Trust commenced in 1981, it has been able to provide more than \$3.7 million to residents of the Outback. The Connellan Airways Trust will fund the Roger Connellan Award again next year, with applications closing on 15 July 2020.

To find out more about this, and other Awards and grants visit: www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au
Freecall 1800 733 810 | info@connellanairwaystrust.org.au
The Trust welcomes tax deductible donations.



Connellan Airways Trust Chairman Mr Mark Coffey with Sam Short



2019 Roger Connellan Award winner Sam Short



Murphy Family NBN Port



It's a thumbs up from the Murphy kids at Carpentaria Station, Borroloola, as they watch the Katherine School of the Air assembly through their newly installed NBN Education Port.

This is the first NBN Education Port approved for School of the Air students in the NT, while the Territory Government develops its strategy for School of the Air students to transition from the STARS network and onto the NBN.

Education Ports provide 50GB per student of unshaped data, to access Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) lessons and delivery of Distance Education materials.

This is a big day for the Murphy kids, as hopefully it will help towards the continued problem of running out of data each month.

Please contact Amanda Murphy on 0889759784 if you'd like more information.

2020 SCHOOL AND ICPA DATES

TERM 1

Urban Schools
28 January - 9 April
Remote Schools
29 January - 9 April

TERM 2

All Schools
20 April - 26 June

TERM 3

All Schools
21 July - 25 September

TERM 4

Urban Schools
12 October - 17 December
Remote Schools
12 October - 18 December

AUSTRALIA WIDE TERM 1 START DATES

NSW - 4 February
QLD - 28 January
VIC - 28 January
SA - 28 January
ACT - 3 February
NT - 28 January
WA - 3 February
TAS - 5 February

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

NEW YEAR'S DAY - Wednesday 1 Jan
AUSTRALIA DAY - Sunday 26 Jan
AUST DAY HOLIDAY - Monday 27 Jan
GOOD FRIDAY - Friday 10 Apr
EASTER MONDAY - Monday 13 Apr
ANZAC DAY - Saturday 25 Apr
MAY DAY - Monday 4 May
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY - Monday 8 Jun
PICNIC DAY - Monday 3 Aug
CHRISTMAS DAY - Friday 25 Dec
BOXING DAY - Saturday 26 Dec

Note: Dates may vary between schools and states.

NT ICPA IMPORTANT DATES 2020

25
MAR

NT State Conference - Webinar

5
AUG

Federal Conference - Hobart, Tasmania



If you would like a detailed 2020 Calendar of the School Year dates for the Northern Territory, visit the NT Government School Term Dates page at <https://nt.gov.au/learning/primary-and-secondary-students/school-term-dates-in-nt>
OR scan the QR Code to the right to go directly to the page

Desert Poppies – Connecting through Creativity



On 2nd November 2019 the Desert Poppies treated a group of ladies (Townies & Bushies) to a day of felting, eco tie-dyeing and weaving. The day was held at Central Craft, Araluen Precinct and generously supported by Connellan Airways trust and CWA.

The Desert Poppies was proudly established in Alice Springs in 2013 by a group of 19 rural women. Desert Poppies continues to grow and provide a space for rural women to connect, network and be inspired. Desert Poppies have their own facebook page and can be emailed at: desert.poppies@gmail.com

I was lucky enough to have time away from the Station to attend this event and learn a new skill. I have always loved the freedom that art gives you to express yourself. I studied three art units during high school and had art works displayed in a NSW State tour as part of my achievements in Visual Art in Yr 12. I have continued to do lots of art & crafty things over the years, painting, sewing and many of you probably know how much I love to crochet, but I have never made felt before. So naturally, I

put my hand up to have a go at it.

I must say, there is a lot that goes into felting! Felt is actually made from wool (I did not know this...) and can also incorporate other textures in the many layers such as silk, material etc. Our wonderful teacher squeezed our 'felting master class' into just a few hours and I am pleased to report that she was quite surprised that all 6 of us managed to turn out felt that held together when picked up. I am sure there were a few felting miracles in our group.

To start the process (please forgive the lack of knowledge I have when talking about wool) we all selected some 'raw wool' and teased little bits of it onto the table. We had to overlap each piece as we moved from left to right. This helped the fibres overlap and bind together. We continued in a very methodical manner – left to right, row after row, until we had covered our square work area in wool. The same process was then repeated in the second layer, however, each layer needed to be a different direction. So my second layer was working in a vertical manner. The pieces of wool we teased out to form each layer needed to be a consistent

thickness and overlay. A good 'felter' can do up to seven layers per one piece of felt. By the time I got to my 4th layer I had run out of wool and each layer appeared to be way too thick. Never the less, we forged ahead and proceeded with our felt process.

After the layers were all compiled, we wet the felt and 'worked' the fibres and encouraged them, yes we talked to our felt, to bind together. Rubbing the felt lasted for a good hour – maybe more. The more you work it, the better it will bind. The gentle circles progressed to slapping the felt piece down on to the table and we were encouraged to rub it on the wash board and some of us even got the electric sander out to give it a buzz. Eventually all of us were in possession of a perfect felt square.

The fun did not stop there. Just when we thought our day was done, we continued our felting master class to include felt embellishments. We could then add these felted buttons to our felt squares or turn them into felt earrings, necklaces, or make miniature felt teddies – the possibilities really are only limited by our imagination. It turns out that I was not that

great at producing these fiddly little felt buttons – but I did manage to make 3 that passed the grade and a couple that looked more like squashed, washed tissues...

I took my felt and silk square home and proceeded to cut it up. I knew I had to keep the momentum on this project going. Before long I had a hand stitched purse with hand stitched quilting to bring out the colours. Next up was a small hand bag. I hadn't made a handbag before, so I let the felt do the talking ;) It turns out that my little felt bag can even be used inside out and is super cool. I got creative with some old shoelaces and cord to make the handle for the bag.

I have taken my little purse out to a meeting and a trip to town and am happy to report that it is holding together quite well – another one of life's felting miracles...

So now I must admit, I consider myself a master 'felter' and hand bag maker and can't wait for the next Desert Poppies 'Connecting through Creativity' day and another round of felting.

Amber Driver

November 2019

On November 21st and 22nd, three very passionate ICPA women ventured to Darwin for the bi-annual Delegation trip. As always the days seem to fly by with meetings, and although you always think you have plenty of time to get to the next meeting on the agenda, it is nearly always in the 'nick of time'!

We take a very structured approach to meetings. Agendas include member's motions to keep us clearly focused. This round of meetings we were intentionally 'outcomes' focused, meaning that we were focussed on actions from the meetings, so that accountability was seen to.

As with all great systems – Team Work makes the Dream work; from Suzanne Wilson organising meetings, Sarah Cook, Sally Sullivan and myself attending, and behind the scenes messaging other State Council members for case study support,



NT ICPA with Department of Education representatives

teleconference-calls and checking details. It all adds to our impact.

At all of our meetings we presented a document called: **TOP 5 PRIORITIES, 2020 Election "Improving access to Education for geographically isolated students in the Northern Territory"**.

And here are our top 5:

1. To improve access to education for geographically isolated students, the NT Student Assistance Schemes must be clearly defined, easy to understand, have transparent claim management systems, have subsidies which more closely reflect actual costs and include a Living Away From Home Allowance for all students who attend boarding school due to geographic isolation.
2. To improve access to education for geographically isolated students, Mobile Playgroups for children aged five years and under must receive the necessary funding to maintain existing services and to extend into regions where no such services exist.
3. To improve access to education for geographically isolated students, there must be prioritised and clear pathways to services required for early

intervention, diagnosis and management of special learning needs.

4. To improve access to education for geographically isolated students, affordable and reliable technology for education purposes, together with connectivity, the software and hardware required for delivery, must be a priority.
5. To improve access to education for geographically isolated students, a Distance Education Teaching Allowance must be included in the NT Student Assistance Schemes.

Firstly, a very progressive and enthusiastic meeting was had with Agnes McGrath (GM early Childhood, Education and Care) and Regina Thompson (Families as First Teachers). These ladies were able to give us knowledge on the early testing that Northern Territory children can undertake from birth to 4 years of age; the ASQ test.

ASQ-3 screens and assesses the developmental performance of children in the areas of communication, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, problem solving, and personal-social skills. It is used to identify children that would benefit from in-depth evaluation for developmental delays.

Together with the DoE and Do Health we are hoping that early testing for pre-schoolers and younger will be able to commence during in-school events in 2020. This will assist families in helping them with early intervention for learning needs and support, as required.

But, on an even bigger note we managed to get our hands on some incredible new material for Pre-school learners. These modules are very detailed and in-depth and the DoE is looking for feedback to see how these modules could help our families. One particular module is called 'Transitioning to School'. This particular module details what the child can or cannot do before they enter the school room – it is a resource that may help the schools and the parents begin to communicate what the child can bring to the learning environment.

Next meeting on the agenda was with Luke Twyford (Exec Director Strategy, Policy and Performance) and Margaret Close (Director, Legal Territory families). This meeting detailed the work being done in the Working With Children space. The departments acknowledge that this year they were grossly unprepared for the lengthy delays in processing the Ochre Card, but they have put in several new measures to deal with this in the future. Also we discussed the idea of a National WWCC, this idea although is supported by the NT it is not supported unanimously by other states. A point to acknowledge from this meeting though is that a National Minimum Standards has been set by all states and territories. By doing this it is hoped by NT ICPA that the NT will accept other states WWCC cards for an interim period of time whilst their Ochre card is being progressed. This is a watch this space – and wait and see!



ICPA and Advisor to the Shadow Education Minister

The afternoon saw us meeting remotely with the Minister of Education Minister Selena Uibo.

The meeting held by video conference was quite ironic considering how we all interact on a daily basis with the DoE. The Minister was very happy and commended ICPA on their ability to be so well prepared. This meeting was very fluid, unrushed and meant that we could really have some great conversations with the Minister around the member's motions. As well as going through our Top 5 Priorities, we flagged with the Minister;

- The difficulty in getting USI's for students wanting to access an Education Port, and also the need to be able to access Education and the costs involved for our families via Distance Education and the NBN.
- We have asked the Minister to give us an update on the NBN trials, so that families can begin to make plans, we thanked the Minister for the \$50 per family for the cost of the NBN but discussed with her that



Sally, Sarah and Bec representing NT ICPA at Parliament House

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CLEARANCE: apply and renew

what our families really needed was \$50 per student as an interim subsidy, until we transition from the STARS to the NBN. She noted this information

- The Minister gave us all reassurance that both SOA's would definitely remain open
- We again pressed for a laptop or computer for each child enrolled in DE
- ICPA mentioned the lack of mobile early childhood services in Central Australia
- We asked the Minister to collaborate with the Do Health to commence testing of our early childhood students during in-school weeks
- That we were working towards one single Living Away from Home Allowance
- We discussed the changes at CDU regarding tertiary training and the impacts this will have on our remote families
- The Minister is very excited about the upcoming Alice Springs Declaration on Educations Goals for Young Australian announcement on the 11/12th December in Alice Springs, which will be attended by all State and Territory Ministers of Education, as well as the Federal Minister for Education. It's quite a big deal!



NT ICPA members Sarah, Sally and Bec, and NT Minister for Education Selena Uiobo

If Thursday wasn't gruelling enough mentally, we buckled up for an intense and very productive two hour meeting with the DoE (Tony Considine, GM Engagement and Partnerships and Sophia Sutton Director Finance Shared Services). This meeting was building on previous meetings with both Tony and Sophia, their knowledge of our context is becoming much clearer, and therefore the outcomes for us are becoming better each delegation. One major positive here is that Sophia advised ICPA's motion to increase our Student Travel Scheme and Remote Area Travel Allowance from 4 trips a year to 8 trips per year was approved by the Department!

We discussed all of our concerns and came away from the meeting feeling very empowered. We felt that we were not only being heard but we are being understood! It is refreshing to have such a good relationship with the DoE, and one that we can build further on in the future. Other people with whom we met and gave our top 5 priorities to were; Gerry Wood (Independent), Terry Mills (Independent) and Emily Fanning (on behalf of Lia Finocchiaro Shadow Minister for Education).

Delegations are always a great time to gather information on our motions. It became very clear that the more evidence and case studies that we can take to our meetings, the more powerful our message. This might be something to consider when doing your motions for the 2020 State conference, including case studies within your explanation assists us to get your message across.

You must by law apply for a working with children clearance, also called an Ochre Card, to work or volunteer with children in the Northern Territory (NT). Online applications are fast and easy to complete.

On the NT Police SAFE NT website you can apply or renew your card, check your renewal date, change your details, request a replacement card and check the progress of an online application.

Exemption from holding a valid Ochre Card

- In the Northern Territory, individuals engaged in child-related employment must hold a valid Working With Children Clearance (also known as an Ochre Card). Applications for Ochre cards are made to SAFE NT.
- Employers may apply to the Chief Executive Officer of Territory Families, on behalf of an employee or prospective employee, for a temporary (short-term) exemption from holding a valid Ochre Card while the employee's application is being processed by SAFE NT. Exemptions are granted for periods between 45 to 90 days.
- The exemption application form is available by visiting: https://nt.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/714827/working-with-children-clearance-exemption-form.pdf. We hope to launch a new online application process in the new year.

For more information about exemptions, you can contact us by emailing tf.exemptions@nt.gov.au or calling 08 89 992 619.



Hard working NT ICPA Katherine Branch ladies preparing to feed students at the Mataranka Sports Camp

PORTFOLIO | Curriculum

PORTFOLIO LEADER | Rebecca Cadzow

This year only one curriculum motion was put forward at the State Conference held in Katherine:

That NT ICPA reinforce to the Department of Education and other relevant Government Departments the importance of integrating sustainability into appropriate learning areas of the primary and secondary school curriculum.

This motion by the Alice Springs branch was carried, and therefore formed my portfolio for the year. In the first round of conversations with the Department of Education I was able to have certainty from the Department that they do value and will continue to integrate sustainability into appropriate learning areas of the curriculum. This has also been highlighted at the recent Landcare NT awards where a special school is awarded for their sustainable practices. I do believe that this motion needs to stay within the motions as with the closing of the Agricultural colleges in Queensland and the downsizing of the CDU operations we need to be proactive about teaching children sustainable practices in our ever changing world.

In the area of the Early Childhood Curriculum we had some movement in our most recent delegations. We met with the NT Early Childhood Director who very willingly shared with us their

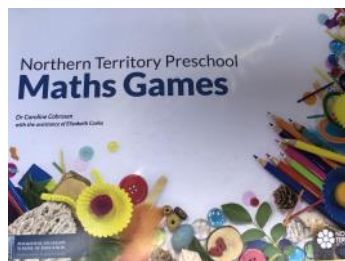


newly printed glossy curriculum for Preschool. I have had a chance to have a read and good look through these documents and can highly recommend them for any new families enrolling in Pre-school. We have asked that the Department of Education makes these documents easily accessible through our School Of the Air's for the families.

We have also been pushing for Early Childhood Families as First Practitioners to attend in-school functions next year to undertake early intervention testing on our early childhood children. This testing will assist in the early detection of learning difficulties and will, hopefully, assist families early on in their learning journey to make learning enjoyable and accessible for the children.

On a Federal Level within this Portfolio, the Federal ICPA councilors are championing for a de-cluttering of the crowded curriculum. Watch the Federal ICPA Facebook page for their updates on this topic.

If you have any comments, questions or issues, or would like more information, please contact Rebecca Cadzow - Curriculum Portfolio Leader on 08 89569963, or by emailing nt.icpa.secretary@gmail.com



PORTFOLIO | Allowances

PORTFOLIO LEADER | Sarah Cook

This year there are two motions in the Allowances Portfolio, they are:

1. *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 be covered for all 8 return trips per year, not just when the student is in the private vehicle.*
2. *That NT ICPA encourage the NT Department of Education to improve the Student Assistance Scheme application, re-application and processing systems.*

Fabulous news - State Council are very pleased we can report there has been a lot of activity around both of these motions!

The Northern Territory Department of Education understand families who claim for the Remote Area Travel Allowance Scheme and the Student Travel Scheme must drive to and from school at the start and end of each of the four terms, so they have changed their policy. **Effective from 2020, families will be able to claim up to 8 return trips per year (this is an increase of 4 return trips).**

The Northern Territory Department of Education also appreciates ICPAs request to improve the Student Assistance Scheme processing systems. The Department are planning to transition the scheme over to a website where families can apply, reapply and process claims. This requires a lot of planning and background work, so it make take a while, but standby – one day the Student Assistance Scheme will be electronic, retaining your family profile so information only has to be updated, not re-written each year! However we continue to receive feedback that some families are still not clear about what claims have or have not been approved, we've passed this feedback onto the Department.

If you have any comments, other issues, or need more information, please call Sarah Cook - Allowances Portfolio Leader on 0889569705.

Education Declaration

DECEMBER 2019

On 12 December 2019 ICPA Northern Territory's Sarah Cook and Rebecca Cadzow joined all Education Ministers of the Australian Governments Education Council for the launch of the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration, which sets out revised education goals for all Australians.

Rick Harrison, Secretary of the Council of Australian Governments Education Council, wrote in his official letter "With the release of the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration, Australia's Education Ministers have committed to national educational goals and actions for the coming decade. The Declaration recognises that early childhood education is critical in giving every child the best possible start in school. It reinforces the importance of literacy and numeracy mastery in the early years of school as foundations for future learning. It also commits to ensuring the development of creative and critical thinking skills. These skills are best developed drawing on

deep content knowledge, which needs to continue as a feature of the school curriculum. The consultation on the Review of the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians has been extensive with 159 submissions received in response to the discussion paper published in April 2019, 23 consultation events held across the country and over 100 responses to an exposure draft published in October 2019.

ICPA NT were among the contributors to the draft, as were other state and federal ICPA councillors, and its pleasing that regional, rural and remote students were mentioned in the section 'Australian Governments commit to ensuring the education community works to provide equality of opportunity and educational outcomes for all students at risk of educational disadvantage'.



Top Picture: Rebecca Cadzow, Minister Selena Uibo and Sarah Cook

Bottom Picture: Sarah Cook and Federal Education Minister Dan Tehan



NT Government | Financial Help for Isolated Students

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 2019 application year claims must be made by 31 March 2020. 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 Officer,
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>



Katherine Branch Presidents Report

As another year comes to an end, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has been involved and helped in any way with the branch and its activities. Every little bit helps, whether it be just mentioning ICPA to the new neighbour, getting in and giving a hand in the sports camp kitchen, or chasing up a potential supporter for the annual auction. **We are very lucky to have such a great cohort of members, and as Branch President, it is a great feeling to be so well supported and encouraged by the entire membership and executive committee.**

The lack of an adequate wet season last year has put a lot of pressure on our families both in the Top End, and particularly families in the Barkly and Sturt regions. The never ending battle with keeping water up, pulling cattle out of bogs, watching the condition of livestock deteriorate, and the dry dusty paddocks surrounding us are a constant reminder of the harsh environment we live in, and it would be silly to believe that the impact of that stress doesn't filter down to our kids. The difficulties of delivering Distance Education, the financial and emotional upset of sending the kids away for Boarding, dealing with learning difficulties in isolated classrooms, and having to travel such broad distances to access help, or just to allow our children to be children by socialising, compounds to the stress.

In todays society, with the ease of access to almost everything you could possibly want at your fingertips, it is incomprehensible to most people that we bear such a heavy burden in order to educate our children through a government system.

Whether we have no other choice but to lose an income or employ a home tutor to educate our children through Distance Education or are forced to send our children into boarding in order to provide for their educational and social wellbeing, why is there such limited government support?

Aren't we the ones driving the rural economy? We have the sympathy of the Ministers and Departmental staff, but I believe its hard for them to truly connect with our struggles, as they enjoy the convenience of bitumen roads to get a quick drive-thru latte in their car that's only function is to drive from A to B (not tackle corrugations that rattle your teeth for hours or creek crossings that help you find religion) before their kids arrive home on the school bus and where they remain blissfully unaware of what Soundwaves test was missed, the dire consequences of a Project Assessment Rubric that hasn't been highlighted, or even feel the heartache of those boarding school calls from your child hundreds

of kilometres away while you spend the rest of the night scrolling through your fee statements.

Yes I'm jaded. Yes I'm sick of hearing how they understand, and they'd help us if they could...they just can't... but they'll use the information for 'future considerations'.

The positive to this though, is that we value our children's education more than most ever will, we draw strength from the challenges, and for all the hard work, we grow resilient, happy, well rounded children that then emerge into adults that know the satisfaction of achievement - despite the disadvantage of distance...or perhaps because of it.

As a branch, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved again this year in order to support our families – through our advocacy, our grants and bursaries, and providing community events such as Sports Camp.

Along with our Personal Development Grants, Extraordinary Opportunity Grants, Val Uteley Award, Roylene Hill Art Awards and Landmark Bursaries, we are also introducing another grant to help our families by way of the ICT Grant.

Our Branch prides itself on being relevant, and we've seen the growing need for Information and Communication Technology for students skyrocket in the past few years, particularly when they enter their Middle Years schooling.

Working with Katherine's information technology specialists, Emerge IT, this grant will provide a one off \$500 voucher toward an IT product for children entering Yr 7 – 12, and we get to support the people that support us, by shopping local. Emerge IT are committed to assisting our isolated families, and it is a great pleasure to be working with them on this grant. We hope it can help our isolated families keep up with the ever snowballing school and classroom expenses.

Katherine Branch has also been able to support our much loved Katherine Isolated Children's Service with a \$5000 donation again this year.

KICS is in dire need of stability of their government funding in order to continue their amazing work, and it boggles our brains that despite their awards and accolades, and the outpouring of community support validating their need, their future remains up in the air.

Thank you to our State and Federal Councils for their hard work advocating all of our motions. Katherine Branch has been able to provide them also with much

needed support financially, with \$10,000 and \$5,000 donations respectively.

Our Branch has been coming along in leaps and bounds over the past few years. The ICPA Mataranka Sports Camp has become bigger and better each year, and I've received an amazing amount of positive feedback, I cannot wait for our next camp!

We do have a high turnover of families to our region, and that is just the way it is in the Top End, so please remember to let new families know what we do, and encourage them to join up, like our Facebook page, and get involved.

I also encourage our members to drop in at any time to see the Member for Arnhem and Minister for Education Selena Uiibo to discuss any issues – she is there to represent you, and we all know the squeaky wheel gets the oil!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Let's hope there's much needed rain, for everyone!

Kerrie Scott
NT ICPA Katherine Branch President

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Do you live in a remote part of Australia?

Are you 16 years of age or over?

Are you an Australian resident?

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APPLY NOW

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Applications close January 31, 2020



Contact the Executive Officer

Freecall 1800 733 810

info@connellanairwaystrust.org.au

Po Box 979 Alice Springs NT 0871

INCLUSIVE PRACTICE

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Birth to end of Year 2
(Katherine based)**

**Education Advisor, Disability (DA) Year 3 to Year 12
(Katherine based)**

**Autism Spectrum Advisor (AS) students with an AS diagnosis
(Darwin based position)**

The advisors work with students, families and staff to identify and maximise learning outcomes and student engagement.

The Advisor may:

- Work with the child and family in settings such as home, playgroup, family day care, early childhood education and care centres and work with schools
- Collaborate with service providers in the community, focusing on aspects that will assist learning
- Develop collaborative relationships to facilitate the transfer of information between professionals and families of children with additional needs.

Advisors offer consultative support to students in any educational placement; it remains the responsibility of the school and other service providers to initiate the student referral to the team and follow through with the necessary educational adjustments.

CONTACTS

As the ECI position is currently vacant, please contact Rebecca Thomsen or Katherine School of the Air.

Rebecca Thomsen – DA

Phone: 08 89 725 343

Email: rebecca.thomsen@nt.gov.au or rebecca.thomsen@ntschoools.net

H4C

HORSES FOR COURSES
FOR BUSH KIDS
2019



2019 Horses for Courses Riders

Each year the Horses for Courses for Bush Kids' volunteers, supporters and riders embark on a weeklong adventure throughout the West MacDonnell Ranges to not only raise awareness of the issues Aussie bush kids and their families face, but to enjoy the social event that is 'The H4C Charity Ride for Bush Kids'.

This year a dozen riders set out from Hugh River and rode over five days arriving at Flynn's Grave (Alice Springs) to a warm welcome by supporters and media.

This year was the first year we had a large number of kids from Alice Springs join in on the weeklong ride. I can say hands down this was one of the hardest things many of them would have ever done!

Building resilience through digging deep to finish what they started was something I'm very proud of them for accomplishing!

It was also great opportunity to share stories of the many 'jobs' kids in the bush have to do to help their families living on cattle stations; jobs such as mustering, bore running and feeding stock in these tough times of drought.

A couple of this year's riders were affected by various sicknesses, which again this was a great opportunity to explain how bush kids deal with medical emergencies and illness. Bush kids don't have access to a doctor or hospital just around the corner. Medical help is often many hours drive over terribly corrugated dirt roads, that's if the roads are passable at all!

I loved the dynamic of having a mixed group of kids this year. It gave us the ability to swap stories across all

backgrounds and really bond through the shared experience.

We were very lucky to have a couple of Territory Legends join in on the ride this year. They also shared with the group their stories from pioneering days, when sometimes they wouldn't go to town for months on end.

Horses for Courses for Bush Kids works hard to raise awareness around the following topics effecting bush kids and their families:

- Social isolation implications effecting mental health, social and emotional well-being
- Educational inequities including distance education challenges & boarding school blues
- Insufficient access to healthcare and specialist services
- Inadequate access to reliable services such as telecommunication and road networks
- As well as the pressures which come with climatic uncertainties and unrelenting drought

As usual this year's ride was an incredible journey of learning and sharing...

I couldn't think of a better way to raise awareness and help build relationships of mutual understanding and respect between our country and city cousins, than a horse ride through Central Australia's West Mac's.

The scenery is spectacular, the company is amazing and the week's journey to overcome adversity and develop resilience highlights what life in the bush is like for so many families.

The Horses for Courses Annual Charity Ride for Bush Kids is on again in October 2020. We invite everyone, from all walks of life, pack up your horse and your family, and join us on a week of wonderful horse-riding fun. Make new friends and recharge your batteries in a land as old as time itself.

All horse-riders across all

disciplines, across Australia are welcome. We invite guests to take the stories from the bush home to share with their family and friends. Raising Awareness of the issues facing Aussie bush kids and their families through this epic adventure, is helping to close the divide between our city and country cousins.



Letitia and Pam

H4C is a volunteer organisation and we can't deliver the programs and rides each year without the ongoing support of these amazing people. So I'd like to say a very special thank you to our



The next generations of riders

sponsors, supporters and volunteers because without their help and contributions Horses for Courses simply would cease to operate.

For 2020 ride dates and additional information, check out the website: www.horsesforcourses.net.au

Tiani Cook

Founder & MD 'Horses for Courses for Bush Kids'
P.O Box 704, Alice Springs N.T 0872
M: 0429 826 054
E: tiani.cook@live.com
W: www.horsesforcourses.net.au



Taylor, Pam and Jessica



The amazing support crew



Spectacular scenery



Standley Chasm



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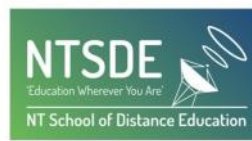


Tiani



Tiani and Letitia

Horses for Courses for Bush Kids is a Volunteer Organisation and we couldn't operate without our amazing Sponsors: THANK YOU to the Incredible People and Organisations below. We couldn't do it without your support!



Georgina Macleod, RJ & J Muirhead, Amburla Nominees Pty, M&S Consultants, Alice Springs School of the Air Visitors Centre

OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS - THANK YOU

Tiani Cook, Loretta Adamson, Shane Muldoon, Donna Digby, Sam Hill, Bill & Letty Cook, Jon Dowdle



LETITIA'S RIDING EXPERIENCE



Hi, my name is Letitia Adamson and I am 5 years old. During the October school holidays, I joined my Aunty Tiani and rode my horse Jet, over 100km on the Horses for Courses Ride for Bush Kids, along the West MacDonnell Ranges.

I rode to raise awareness for kids and their families who do their schooling and growing up in the bush. I also raised \$625 to go towards this year's charity project, which will help get kids from Central Australia to the Snowy Mountains, as part of the 'Red Centre & High Country Bush Kids Adventure'.

I learnt how to ride my horse Jet all by myself on the Horses for Courses ride through the West MacDonnell National Park. I only started riding 6 weeks before our big adventure, everyone was shocked when I told them.

Aunty Tiani taught me to ride by leading me from off her horse while she was riding. We would ride every afternoon after school for over an hour and even longer on weekends to practice!

During the Horses for Courses ride I learnt lots of wonderful things. One was that if you fall off and you still have 10km to go, you can either walk or get back up and keep riding! I also made great friends who also love horses, like Pam, she is 70 years old and is now my pen pal.

But the best thing of all was learning to ride all by myself, without being led!



Above: ABC TV interviewed Letitia after she finished her ride.

Left: Letitia on Jet and Aunty Tiani on Tin Tin

KSA KATHERINE SCHOOL OF THE AIR

"Usually, projects end in students hosting a presentation of their learning. This is a really important part of the projects because it is when students show others what they've learned."

Katherine School of the Air works to develop resilience, independence and confidence in its students.

The distance education school, which caters for preschool to Year 9 students, places a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy through targeted English and Mathematics, but also seeks to engage its students in integrated inquiry projects.

The school's curriculum specialist Marisa Boscato said integrated inquiry, or Linked Learning, aims to involve students in real world tasks and issues.

"The Linked Learning projects encourage students to collaborate, and to work with experts in the local community."

"At the core is a question designed to stimulate students' curiosity, provoke them to find an answer or a solution, and direct how they communicate what they have learned and made.

"All inquiry projects connect skills and knowledge from across the Australian Curriculum. It makes the students'

learning much more connected to the way people work and learn in the world beyond school."

Principal Sharni Wilson said integrated learning is hugely important to the delivery of the curriculum.

"These projects are aligned with the curriculum, and because they are integrated, the students have opportunities to link what they are learning across traditional subject boundaries," she said.

"For instance, the school is currently putting together a project that gets the students to take on the role of park rangers so they can learn all about the geology and geography of landscapes and landforms.

"It includes Visual Arts, Science, Geography, and Design and Technology, just to name a few, and important capabilities such as intercultural understanding and critical thinking.

Ms Boscato said it's always exciting to see the "creative ways students show what they have learned, and hear them talk with confidence and expertise".

"Linked Learning is limited to only four projects each year," she said. "This is a great strength because students have the time to really get their teeth into a topic, problem or issue.

"Our students get very involved, and they will keep going until they find something that addresses the core question.

"Linked Learning ensures students experience a balance of subjects during the year, and develop talents and interests across several fields."

Article kindly provided by Katherine School of the Air.

Betty Bethel making a water feature for her Linked Learning Project - Use the Force



SAVE THE DATE!

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ICPA Mataranka Sports Camp 2020

2nd & 3rd April (following 2 day KSA mini school)



Basketball, Softball, Soccer, Gymnastics, Cricket, Hockey & Rugby League!

Accommodation options at reduced rates –
book early and quote ICPA:

TERRITORY MANOR

Family Rooms, Powered Sites, Non Powered Sites

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Family Cabins

Registration forms and further details will be available
early in Term 1.

All Enquiries to Kerrie Scott

Email: icpa.kscott@gmail.com | Phone: 89 754 064

Proudly brought to you by ICPA Katherine Branch

'Remote Concrete' Access Grant

Established in 2019 the 'Remote Concrete' Access Grant was generously funded by Jared Baldwin, owner and director of Remote Concrete.

The grant provides either 4 successful applicants with \$500, OR 2 successful applicants \$1000 per year to help cover the costs for education, licenses and training.

This can include

- Educational costs for Events / Courses / Sport eg: attending specialized training for chosen activity / sport / profession
- Drivers License and Motorbike License
- MR, HR, MC Truck License
- Machinery License ie. Grader, Forklift, Loader
- Trade School / Travel Costs (Other educational costs associated with attending courses for Trade)
- Other licenses / tickets required to enter the workforce

Jared can appreciate and empathise the strain caused on a family to provide an education for their children while living in rural and remote Australia. He has partnered with the NT ICPA to help reduce this burden by funding the 'Remote Concrete' Access Grant.

"This Grant was important to make happen, I know going through school was a strain on my mother, Bev Wilson and family, and understanding that has been a major motivator in my working life to work hard but remember to give back. I believe any child should have access to the ability to further themselves in their chosen education, sport or career prospects."



If you have a student aged 16—20 years who would like further information and to apply for the 'Remote Concrete' Access Grant, please contact Sarah Cook on 0889569705 or by emailing NTPresident@icpa.com.au

NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL
Conference Webinar
25 March 2020



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

Treasurer: Katherine Warby

Philip Creek Station
CMB 10
Tennant Creek NT 0862
Ph: (08) 89 644 710
philipcreek@hotmail.com

Westpac
BSB: 035 303
Acct#: 510446

KATHERINE

Treasurer: Fiona McDonald

PMB 38
Katherine NT 0852
M: 0408 520 452
E: calfe@bigpond.net.au

ANZ
BSB: 015 884
Acct#: 410 247 444

LONE MEMBERS

Treasurer: Sarah Measey

Ceres Downs
PMB 271
Winnellie NT 0822
Ph: 08 89782155
E: ntlonemembers@icpa.com.au

ANZ
BSB: 015 884
Acct#: 264 118 512

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

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

Your children's details

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

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

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

ALICE SPRINGS

PRESIDENT

Amber Driver
Elkedra Station
PMB 157
Alice Springs NT 0872
08 8956 9889
Mob: 0407065055
president.as.icpa@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Lisa Kimlin
Murray Downs Station
PMB
Alice Springs NT 0872
0889641958 0438897736
lkimlin81@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Georgina Hamlyn
Delmore Downs Station
PO Box 122
Alice Springs NT 0872
08 8956 6358
Mob: 0439 326 496
secretaryasicpa@gmail.com

TREASURER

Katherine Warby
Philip Creek Station
CMB 10
Tennant Creek NT 0862
08 89644710
sk.warby@bigpond.com

PUBLIC OFFICER

Ley Kunothe
PO Box 2680
Alice Springs NT 0871
0889569171 0488410148
leykunothe@live.com.au

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Katy Hayes
Arckaringa Station
PMB 4
Cooper Pedy SA 5723
08 86707992
katyh2811@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Vikki McGlynn - vikki.mcglynn@outlook.com
Danyelle Haigh -
contact@murrantjiwaterdrilling.com.au
Benjamin Quilliam -
benjamin.quilliam@ns.uca.org.au
Rebecca Zadow

ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

Denise Broad
Bev Seidel
Liz Bird

LONE MEMBERS

LONE MEMBER OFFICER

Sarah Measey
Ceres Downs
PMB 271
Winnellie NT 0822
08 8978 2155
ntlonemembers@icpa.com.au

NTICPA LONE MEMBERS

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

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

If you would like to receive regular publications from state council 'Down the Track' and Federal Council 'Pedals' then Lone Members is for you!



BARKLY BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

Wendy Ohlsen
Carmel Wagstaff
Robyn Peatling

KATHERINE

PRESIDENT

Kerrie Scott
Mountain Valley Station,
PMB 124,
Katherine NT 0852
08 8975 4064
kerrie_scott@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Julie Richter
VRD Station, PMB 19
Katherine NT 0852
08 8975 0795
vrd@heytesburycattleco.com.au

SECRETARY

Katie Payne
Larizona Station
RSD MS 1953
Katherine NT 0852
08 8975 0579
katie.andy@bigpond.com

TREASURER & PUBLIC OFFICER

Fiona McDonald
PMB 38
Katherine NT 0852
0408520452
calfe@bigpond.net.au

PUBLICITY OFFICER & SOCIAL MEDIA OFFICER

Amanda Murphy
PMB 203
Kalala Station
Katherine NT 0852
nt.icpa.publicity@gmail.com

BURSARY OFFICER

Helen Harding
Gorrie Station
RSD 1953
Katherine NT 0852
08 89759965 Fax: 08 8975 9906
hardingnt@bigpond.com.au

FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Heidi Millership

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lauren Hoar—hoarla9@hotmail.com
Renee Johnson—trjohnson3@bigpond.com
Jenny Riggs
Bianca Brown

KATHERINE BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS

Ros Andrews
Jackie Harvey
Merrial Lawrie
Martha Swart
Patricia Elliot
Royelene Hill
Janelle and Blue Pugh

CHILDHOOD FRIENDSHIP IS THE
MOST BEAUTIFUL MEMORY THAT
CAN'T EVER BE REPLACED

- UNKNOWN



Max, Heath and Waylon can't wait for their inschool weeks each term so they can get together and play.
School of the Air creates life long friendships that are beautiful to see and watch.

Max McGlynn - Rocklands Station | Heath Haigh - Murrnaji Water Drilling | Waylon Ford - Tennant Creek Station