

SA Shines as Conference is Hailed a Success



Convenors are all smiles as day two of the conference provides rainbows, a splash of rain and the hope for more to come.

Katrina Morris
2019 Federal Conference Convenor

Armed with a few outback balls and gymkhanas already organised under my belt, I quietly thought I could take on the gig of organising the Federal Conference for 2019. Although I knew it would be way more than ordering food and a couple of trophies, I could never have imagined the steep learning curve that I was about to undertake and how Office Works would become my second home in the week leading up to conference. 'You're only as good as the people or team you surround yourself with', has never been more prominent than in the year leading up to the conference,

and I was so lucky to have such a wonderful group of ladies from all over South Australia that led the way to this year's conference, and from the moment I said yes to being the convenor to the end of the conference, everyone brought their amazing talent to the table.

All of us on the committee really wanted to showcase South Australia and having the conference at the Adelaide Oval was something we all agreed on and worked hard towards right from the start. The ideas of what we could do came thick and fast on tele links and face to face meetings. We also wanted to highlight our homes and where SA ICPA actually came from, and to bring a little bit of us into the room with

photos on fence lines, maps and stalls, and although the kids weren't actually there in person, I think the spirit of where we are from and the distances travelled came into the room. It was truly amazing to see you all with the spectacular back drop of the Adelaide oval which lived up to our expectations, and the Ian McLachlan room being filled with passionate and down to earth people wanting the best for their kids' education, hearing inspiring speakers and stories of hardship, love, drought and kids' schooling. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who came from near and far to attend.

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SA Shines as Conference is Hailed a Success

From page 1

After sending my husband on the partner's tour for the day where they checked out Brussel sprout farms and feedlots I wrangled him into being the MC for the dinner at the Festival Theatre. Walking across the bridge for a quick change after the day's events had finished. Looking at the Oval under lights across the river with a room filled with people from all over Australia, having five minutes to wind down after enduring challenging times was good to see. We had some fun with photo booths, husbands out singing each other with the School of the Air song, as if they were still competing for top voice over the radio, some auctions and dancing.

I would like to thank every sponsor, big or small who helped in some way to put this whole show together. Without your generous support and commitment to our children, this would not have gone ahead. This includes the final evening of catch ups, with gin connoisseurs after day two of the partners' tour, and a relaxed (relieved) atmosphere at the end of the conference.

Again all this wouldn't have been possible without the wonderful team working behind the scenes and the real heroes of the convening committee. To Jodie for her cool head, amazing organisation skills, corporate knowledge that kept us all in line and the books organised and balanced. Kirsty for her tenacious energy and sharp mind in getting the sponsorships, raffles and ideas on the table. Lynly whose creative energy and organisation skills brightened all the rooms and market place. Petie for her can do attitude and absolute amazing way with words that had everyone enthralled to get here. Jill for her practical attitude and experience of what does and doesn't work at previous conferences, and finally to Joanna who is totally organised and always kindly pointed me in the right direction.

So even though our umbrellas haven't brought the rain yet, it's always inspiring to go to a conference, and I look forward to seeing you all in Tasmania in 2020, it's worth it, especially for our kids.



From the President

As I write my Presidents report I am glad that I'm not on a motorbike or in the cattle yards today as I can barely see my front gate from the dust. I wish it was a different situation that many of our ICPA members are in but alas it is not. My only thought is that we need to stick together when times are tough and its

organisations like ICPA that give members positive hope that we can all work together to make a difference.

My last report was delivered at the Federal Conference in Adelaide. Firstly, thank you to all that coaxed me through my first major public speaking event, apart from the nerves and my legs shaking violently I am hoping that I can only improve! Which leads me onto why I was very keen to have a workshop for public speaking.....maybe its something I should have done years ago.

On the 8th and 9th of November State Councillors came together to have a face to face meeting. We also organised a workshop, presented by Jodie Bouilly (Invest In You) about public speaking and getting your message across. We had 9 councillors attend and from the feel in the room after 2 days it was well worth the trip. Jodie had us out of our comfort zones, preparing and speaking about ourselves, ICPA and topics of our own choice with gusto. It was an excellent 2 days and I encourage anyone, whatever your confidence level is, to give it a go.

After coming off a high from Federal Conference in early August, State Council has held three tele-meetings and one face to face meeting. (We are looking into holding our meetings via a more interactive platform so that reports and information can be visually shared). One SA State Council motion was moved and carried at the Federal Conference. It was regarding the AIC Distance Education allowance being extended to Kindy/Preschool students. We look forward to receiving a response from Federal Council as they have the enormous task of working through all of the motions that were carried at conference and striving for positive outcomes.

The Melbourne Declaration review forum was attended by Edwina Bowie and Joanna Gibson via a webinar on the 22nd of August. Thank you to Joanna and Edwina for attending and providing feedback.

The Melbourne Declaration (it is named this as this is where the Declaration is signed) provides the policy framework for the Australian Curriculum. The current 2 goals are:

- Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence
- All young Australians become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens

Some points of interest were:

- That high-quality teaching shows students gain better results learning at their own individual rate.
- The continuation of an emphasis on the 0-8 age group.
- The importance of providing representation for our rural and remote students.

Lisa Hunt has resigned from the Webmaster position and this position is currently vacant so if you think that this is something that you would be interested in then please contact myself or Edwina for more information. I would like to thank Lisa for all of her hard work, commitment and compassion towards the SA ICPA. Lisa had been on State Council since 2006 and held the Presidents role for 3 terms. We wish Lisa all the best for the future.

On the 2nd of September, SA ICPA organised an online forum, hosted by School of the Air (SOTA), with the Department of Ed-

Please Note

The boarding Schools Portfolio has had a slight name change. The portfolio is now called 'Boarding/Hostels/Second Home'

This change now encompasses all genre of student moving from their primary home to attend an education facility.

Don't forget to regularly check in with the ICPA Aust website on all portfolios and

keep up to date with all things

Federal for each area our

Federal Council are working on.

education review panel to give feedback on Year 7 becoming High School by 2022.

There are 2 options for SOTA:

1) SOTA is eligible for the extension of 3 years to 2024.

2) Year 7 stays with SOTA indefinitely.

I felt it was a positive meeting with many parents from SOTA attending and strongly voicing their opinions. SA ICPA sent a letter supporting the retention of year 7 at SOTA for the indefinite future, hoping to positively impact future students and families. I would like to thank Edwina Bowie for all her effort in the organisation of the review meeting and the supporting letter. A copy of the Consultation Report was received by SA ICPA in early October and a decision by the government will be ready by the end of the year.

Joanna Gibson attended the opening of the Spencer Gulf Uni Hub, which will be offering tertiary education support hoping to develop a skilled workforce to meet our region's needs. Courses on offer range from Bachelors in Nursing, Education and Social Work. The Hub is based at the TAFE SA campus in Port Augusta, any course can be accessed from there with free WiFi, tutoring support and mentors. The Uni Hub people are keen to meet with the ICPA to see how they can assist further our interests. We look forward to working with them to discuss ways that our remote and isolated students can access this service.

At our June Delegation we met with three representatives from Child and Family Health Service (CaFHS), this was following on from a motion from state conference. We have had correspondence back and forth regarding the process for baby checks and 4-year-old checks. Joanna Gibson, Kate Greenfield and myself met with CaFHS representatives again on the 25th of October in Adelaide. This meeting was to follow up on the issue of the lack of a CaFHS nurse based at Remote and Isolated Children's Exercise (RICE) and to see what is happening moving forward. CaFHS had also requested ICPA's feedback on a letter they were sending to families and their scheduled clinic visits. Cheryl Boles is now in the position and working very closely with the RFDS (Central Operations). CaFHS has been in contact with RFDS (Broken Hill). An agreement with RFDS is about to be signed.

Joanna Gibson, Col Greenfield and myself had a phone meeting with Robin O'Dea and Shannon Pillion from TAFE SA on the 15th of November to discuss the TAFE course which was offered to properties and employees in 2019. Points of discussion were; timing of units, course content, location of courses and drought. A survey is being collated by TAFE SA to see what members and the wider community would like to see for 2020. Please take the time to complete the survey as it is from your feedback that TAFE are able to tailor the course to suit producer's needs.

As SA ICPA President I have had many phone calls and conversations with present SOTA parents over the last couple of weeks; regarding SOTA class plans for 2020. At the time there was some concern that the SOTA classes will be increasingly combined with OAC students and OAC Marden based teachers. Many members are concerned over the future of the Port Augusta campus of School of the Air. Since then, and due to parents voicing their concerns, it was announced that there would be no combining of classes and that SOTA students will remain in straight SOTA classes with teachers also being based at the Port Augusta campus for 2020. This decision was applauded by the community, however has not been promised into the long term. Please keep in contact with your local branch or state councilors to keep them informed of your views on this matter.

Penny Rasheed has done a wonderful job collating information for the Mailchimps. If you have any ideas: for content, timing of the Mailchimp and how to grab the reader's attention to open the email please send the ideas to Penny or myself. The Mailchimp is currently being sent to 120 recipients.

The 2019 State Conference minutes are on the website. A massive

thank you to Sharon Nutt who kindly compiled the minutes.

Plans for the SA ICPA State Conference to be held in Port Augusta on Friday the 13th of March 2020 hosted by the North East Branch are well underway.

Throughout this time; letters have been written, phone calls made and received, emails have flowed continuously and members concerns addressed. I look forward to 'maybe' clocking off from ICPA over the Christmas break however with the State Conference looming in the New Year it will be all hands back on deck soon enough.

I would like to thank State Council for supporting me as I weave my way through my first year of President. Please remember "many hands make for light work".

Wishing our members and friends a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year. Let's hope 2020 has full dams, overflowing rain water tanks and muddy kids!



From the Editor

Ladies with bright orange umbrellas, did you notice them on the front page? You may be wondering why on earth I would choose a picture of relics from the past (the umbrellas, not the ladies) But I am putting it out there to the universe as a sign of hope and faith that we will one day soon need to pull out our dusty umbrellas from

their hiding spots in the backs of cars and broom cupboards so they can shelter us from the driving rain – when it happens.

It is a great photo however, and I think our faces show how happily smitten we all were that the 2019 Federal Conference was such a sensational event. As part of that team, it would have had to have been one of my highlights of the year. Topped off only by my daughter deciding to stand up there at the tender age of 10 and open the second day of conference with a few slap dash notes she wrote down the evening before. I wish I had that much poise and confidence now, let alone when I was her age. It is clearly not genetic. It was a privilege to be a part of the team who all went to task in their own special way to bring it all together under the guidance of Katrina Morris. A huge thank you and well done to you Kat and the girls for what was a mammoth task.

Our executives have been busy little bees, and many are in their position as newbie's, being thrown in the deep end. It is nice to see some fresh faces on council, being lead by some well-known faces. So when March comes around and we are deep into State Conference & AGM business, please consider what you can give to SA ICPA and think about taking on a role and broaden your capacity to give back to the organisation. Also, best of luck to the North East branch as this year's State Council convenors.

I thought this Pipeline may have been on the lean side part way through November, but alas with a little bit of nudging, some astounding writers came out of the dark and sent in some magnificent articles which find themselves set in ink and have contributed to this now bursting edition. A big thanks to Mija for layout, she is so patient with me! Thank you to all of you whom sent me content, it makes me so happy to read the creativity we have out there, and find that we have many wordsmiths amongst us. I love this job when it all comes together.

So clean out the dirt and cobwebs from your rain gauges in anticipation for some relief in 2020. In the mean time, grab a coldy or a cuppa and enjoy this edition, number 96, of The Pipeline.



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia
Advocating for equitable access to education for students in rural and remote Australia

It's time to Renew your ICPA Membership.

An existing member or a new member can pay their annual ICPA membership subscription two ways – through their branch or through the online payment system.

If you have already renewed your membership for the 2020 thank you for your continued support.

Membership through a Branch

A member can pay their annual membership directly to the treasurer of the branch they are a member of or wish to join. This can be paid by cash, cheque or direct deposit into their branch's bank account.

Membership through the online payment system

A renewing member can also pay their annual membership through the online payment system. This can be paid via the PayPal gateway either by credit card, debit card or their PayPal account. If you have a Life Membership your Branch Treasurer will renew your membership for you.

Members can renew online only through the main ICPA website at www.icpa.com.au. You must **log in** to the website using your username (which is the email registered on the database) and your password.

If you have forgotten your password then click on the "Forget Password" link and follow the instructions.

If you still have problems logging in due to your email address not being recognised, please email the [Federal Membership Officer](#) and update your email address.

If you would like to Join ICPA and become a member, please head to the ICPA website at www.icpa.com.au. For more information or email fedmembership.com@icpa.com.au

Thank you for your membership payment. Through your payment you are supporting your branch, your State Council and Federal Council to advocate on your behalf to make sure rural and remote children access the educational opportunities they deserve.

That's a wrap! – Federal Conference 2019

*Edwina Bowie, State Secretary and
North West Branch Member*

The ICPA's 48th Annual Federal Conference with the theme "Sustain our Future, Invest in our Children" was held in Adelaide at the Adelaide Oval on July the 31st, August 1st. It was magnificently hosted by our convening committee (Petie Rankin, Kirsty Williams, Jill Greenfield, Kat Morris, Joanna Gibson, Jodie Keogh and Lynly Kerin), and what a wonderful job they did.

As a novice State Secretary I wasn't sure what I was attending, I had a vague idea that it would follow a similar format to the State Conference, but wow the Federal Conference really manages to squeeze an incredible amount in over a 2 day event. I can now see this event is very important (not that I didn't before), but with all states getting together and being able to hear over 200 participants differing point of views through discussion and debate I can see that the conference paves an important pathway for the ICPA to follow the exact route the members want to carve out. Be it to knock on the door of Parliament House or to approach big corporations and talk big business.

With 86 motions listed in the book, supplementary motions, extra floor motions added, Federal President and Treasurers reports, State President reports, Portfolio reports and inspiring guest speakers there was an immense amount of content covered over the 2 days. The majority of motions were pertaining to the theme of the unsustainable cost of boarding school, calling on the Federal Government to increase its financial assistance for rural education.

Most motions and stories debated and shared were about better communications for schooling, access to allowances for Tertiary study, improving early childhood care and education, an increase in the AIC allowance and the implementation of a Rural Hardship Education Fund.

Some highlights for me were the guest speakers; Dr Kate Gunn, Ms Anna Meares OAM, the CEO of Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia, Mr Ben Stockwin and the Education Minister Dan Tehan's speech via a pre-recorded presentation.

Dan Tehan spoke about the further action taking place from John Halsey's Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education with a strategy currently in development to help drive increased participation in post secondary education. Also his strong recommendation to the youth to apply for the Destination Australia program for financial support scholarships for tertiary study also inspired in me some hope for students finishing year 12 in 2019, as I know that the drought and the resulting lack of funds for further study will be weighing heavily on a lot of school leavers

this year.

I enjoyed listening to Ben Stockwin and from what he spoke about and displayed to us I believe that PIEFA is doing a fantastic job at providing schools, whatever their geographical location (importantly city kids), with valuable information regarding primary industries (such as ourselves) and what an essential role we play in the food chain. As one of the curriculum motions presented at the 2018 Federal Conference was to lobby for Primary Production to be included in a compulsory component of the national curriculum I think this is a step in the right direction and is the result of the Federal Council knocking on the door and having direct relations with a corporation. Ben Stockwin also spoke about scholarships available and I've had a look at the newsletter since the conference and it's full of great information re: courses (the micro online course in agriculture sounds good), competitions, career snapshots, scholarships, excursions etc... you should download a newsletter and have a read.

Australian Champion and Olympic track cyclist OAM Anna Meares shared her inspiring story with us (plus the recipe for her parent's famous cooked chook stuffing, but I've forgotten what she rattled off so if you can remember it please share). With her and her sister's passion for cycling becoming increasingly evident their family, who resided in Middlemount which was a 2 hour drive away from Mackay where the closest velodrome was located, made the decision to move and change careers to follow their girl's passion. A massive risk which evidently paid off with the success of their daughters racing careers. This is a similar scenario to all rural and remote families from the ICPA re: the child boarding away from home, the choice of the whole family relocating, or one parent moving from the family home to help educate their children in the city. Anna is a truly inspirational sportswoman, her determination and the backing of her team and family led to her success and the medals she showed us. She is a wonderful role model for young country Australians.

Dr Kate Gunn spoke about improving the mental health of farmers and her research into cancer affected rural people. I thought her speech tied in well to the issue raised at our SA State Council Conference re: the well being of students in times of hardship. It would be great to see if Kate could possibly help to initiate some research into the effects of mental duress on students occurring from drought and seasonal disasters. Results from research such as this could potentially help in many ways, being able to pull on data and statistics for corporations are so important and with lobbying at a federal level.

Ms Hayley Hall from Seymour College provided the room with some laughs and spoke about successfully raising teenagers and

the importance of the 3 S's: sleep, salad and sweat. She has a wealth of experience having worked in the boarding houses at both Prince Alfred College and Seymour College.

There were more wonderful speakers but this could get pretty long!

Something important I noted down during the conference was that the Federal Council requested that the Departments of Human Services and Social Services indicate the numbers of actual geographically isolated students receiving the AIC -DE allowance. Numbers reviewed showed that of the 400 students in SA receiving the allowance, only 80 were geographically isolated. Personally I think this gives us a clear guideline of where we should be applying some thought to re: the increase of AIC being selected to those considered only geographically isolated.

The 2 day event winded up with the farewells to the outgoing Federal members. Wendy Hick finished her 4 year presidential role with the ropes handed over to Alana Moller of Hope Station.

Pre conference dinner and drinks at the Adelaide Oval, the dinner at Adelaide Festival Centre and the windup at Regattas Bar and Kitchen were all culinary delights and wonderfully social. Everyone looked fabulous dressed up to the nines! Keith Slade entertained us with his hilarious auctioning skills; he really rallied up some great bidding. Ian Morris's speech at the dinner was also a real treat; I just loved his stories of the torment he dealt out to his governess. The photo booth was so much fun; I have some great photos from the evening that got some giggles from my kids.

As State Secretary it's good for me to have an open mind and listen to the differing opinions, everyone's opinion is important and should be heard. I am new to this role and learning. It was also great for me as a mum and home supervisor to attend this conference to meet other mums in the same circumstances and feel the support for one another as we all strive for better educational opportunities for our rural and remote children.

Thank you to the convening committee for this wonderful event. Organising the lovely stalls (there is nothing like a bit of retail therapy in the midst of all the talk), the dinners and drinks, catering (done so well and made tricky for those of us with dietary requirements), the venue, displays and decorations, raffles, the microphones and IT, slideshows and videos, speakers and so on would have been no mean feat! You did a fantastic job of showcasing the SA ICPA families and children. Well done on pulling something so tremendous off with such savoir faire!

I will finish on a quote that was read by Dr Kate Gunn;

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever".

Flinders Ranges Branch News

FIRST TIMERS ATTENDING THE 2019 ICPA FEDERAL CONFERENCE

Jo Ridsdale and Michelle Hilder,

Flinders Ranges ICPA Branch

On Wednesday morning the 31st July we nervously went off to attend our first ICPA Federal Conference, full of optimism and a little fear!

The Adelaide Oval was the Conference venue and as we made our way into the Conference Room we were struck by an eye-catching presentation filled with SA ICPA Branch displays. The dedication and hard work put in by the SA ICPA Convening Committee was remarkable. Convening something of this magnitude when Committee members are spread all over the State is no mean feat!! Hats off to you all on organising such a great event.

We were warmly welcomed into the ICPA world and found ourselves eagerly listening to the long list of motions that ICPA members are currently faced with. A lot relevant to us, some not, but interesting to hear others struggles and so comforting knowing that we are not alone in our plight for our Children's education.

We were captivated by keynote speaker, Mrs Patricia Mitchell, OAM. Mrs Mitchell opened with "I've always been a lover of a cause...." and instantly struck a chord with us, how accurately put and no doubt it left many of us wondering whether that could possibly be any of us saying something similar to that in many years to come.

In addition, we were lucky enough to hear Anna Meares speak of her rise to Olympic Gold and her struggles along the way, wow, she is something



Flinders Ranges Branch ICPA members (L-R): Michelle Hilder, Jo Ridsdale, Mija Reynolds, Sonya Fels, Lisa McIntosh, Emilee Warnest & Lisa Slade. Absent: Belinda Hatcher & Sharon Nutt.

else! Her strength and courage despite much adversity is just astounding and I don't think we were the only ones who may have quietly shed a tear hearing her story.

A busy 2 days, filled with much debate, a lot of ground covered and so much more to do! We learnt so much about ICPA, and the people who stand so strongly within it. We returned home exhausted, but with so much optimism for the future and the strength of the Association.

We were both in absolute awe of the amazing Federal Councilors' and the time and dedication they put into their roles, they are truly inspirational and their fight for the cause is astonishing!

Anyone who is thinking about attending a Federal Conference, if you can spare the time, get amongst it as this is an experience that you will never ever forget.



Aurelia Reynolds of Upalinna Station won her first netball grand final playing for Quorn's U11, Div 4. Pictured here with her SOTA governess Miss Claire, who also played for Quorn. Congratulations.

Flinders Ranges Branch News

Baptism in the Flinders Ranges

Elsie May Henery, daughter of John and Keziah Henery of Alpana Station, Blinman, was baptised at St Mark's Anglican Church, Blinman, on Sunday November 3rd by retired Reverend David Amery from Port Victoria. The following lunch at the home of John, Keziah and Elsie was enjoyed by 25 family members and friends who had travelled from many parts of South Australia to attend.

Elsie is the latest in a long line to be baptised wearing the Thiele family heirloom Christening gown. Judith Hall brought the gown from Loxton on the Murray River to the Flinders Ranges for the baptism of her great-grand-daughter. According to Judith, the cherished gown was made by her grandmother, Mrs FW Thiele, from the lace petticoat of Mrs Thiele's wedding dress, in approximately 1905. "All of my grandparents' children and grandchildren wore the gown for their christenings", said Mrs Hall, and some of their great-grand and great-great grandchildren have similarly worn the heirloom gown. Elsie is the first of the fifth generation, three 'greats', to wear the



John, Keziah & baby Elsie in the family gown.

Thiele gown.

Pictured in the photograph are five family members of four generations, each of whom have been baptised wearing the Thiele gown and are descendants of Mr and Mrs Fred W and Maria Louise Thiele: John



Four generations of the Thiele/Henery family.

Henery, Sally Henery, Elsie Henery, Judith Hall and Michelle Henery who is holding the gown. The Henery family of Alpana Station have been members of the Flinders Ranges Branch of ICPA since 1991.

Flinders Family Gets Top Award

Out of the dust comes something GOLD. Flinders Bush Retreats, a Station Stay in the Flinders Ranges, was awarded winner of the Self Contained Accommodation category at the 2019 South Australian



South Australian Tourism Award Winners Allen & Sharon McInnes of Flinders Bush Retreats.

Tourism Awards held on Friday 8th November at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

The McInnis Family, 5th and 6th generation on their 140 year old farm, diversified into tourism 6 years ago to supplement their farm income during drought.

The last 3 years have been exceptionally tough with drought forcing destocking on their property east of Hawker. While the drought has been heartbreaking, it is tourism that is helping them through the tough times.

"Receiving this award has given us confidence for our farms future combining agriculture with tourism." Said Sharon McInnis.



Allen and Sharon pictured with children Callie, Tayla and Angus.

Flinders Bush Retreats will now represent South Australia, for Self Contained Accommodation, at the Austral-

ian Tourism Awards held in Canberra on the 6th of March 2020. Congratulations Sharon, Allen and family.

Flinders Ranges Branch News



Northern SAPSASA District Cricket 2019

*Corey Hilder, Flinders Ranges Branch
Year 7 Port Augusta School of the Air*

In week 4 of this term I travelled to Adelaide for SAPSASA cricket. I played for the Northern SAPSASA team. I had a great time over the whole week. It helped me develop my cricket and team work skills. We played cricket over four days and some of the ovals that we played at were Park 10, Flinders University Oval, St Peter's Lloyd Oval and The Pines Primary School Oval. My team was in Division 4 and we played against many teams. The teams we played were: Mid North, Northern Onkaparinga, Northern Yorke Peninsula and Riverland. We won only one of our games but I still enjoyed it. We lost one game by only one run! On the Wednesday night our team went out for tea at the Watermark Hotel, Glenelg. I met lots of new people during the week. Some of my teammates that I played with, I play against on weekends when I play for Quorn. It was an amazing week and I really enjoyed it. I can't do it next year, as I will be too old, but I would definitely recommend to anyone in year 6 or year 7 to try out for it, if you are interested.



Marla Oodnadatta Branch News

*Helen Williams &
Paulaine Vermeulen*

Hi again everyone- and with another year almost over I wonder where did it go? Sadly we haven't spent too much time measuring rainfall- or washing muddy vehicles and clothes, but hopefully it won't be long before the heavens open for us all.

Our social life has slowed down a bit now the warmer weather is here- although we are still finding to time to attend the odd Christmas party and

work round-up. A cricket match in Coober Pedy is also on the agenda. A couple of months ago we all ventured to Oodnadatta for the annual football match. Although the town team broke away to a great start, the Station players kicked their way back into contention, and ended up losing by only three points- a very close game. Congratulations to the Town team players.

The Macumba syndicate won the Burra cup with Grand Taj ridden by Justin Nunn. They had a successful day with three

wins and two seconds. Chloe Nunn also from Macumba has reason to celebrate also as she finished her Masters in Psychology after completing studies in Darwin for the last two years.

Our littlies have been kept busy with a RICE Play Day in Oodnadatta on November 20th. It was well attended and we thank the RICE team for making the effort to come to our area. Lisma Vermeulen (pictured), daughter of Paulaine and Harvey will join her brother PJ in the classroom as she begins

kindy through RICE in 2020. On the schooling front Gracie Williams will commence her formal primary schooling with Transition through the Alice Springs School of the Air in 2020 after completing Kindy this year. She will be joined by Elenoar Fennell from Lambina Station who is also beginning her schooling through Alice Springs. Big brother Alan Fennell will attend St Marks in Port Pirie for Year 9. Harvey Williams from Nilpinna has completed his primary schooling with SOTA and will attend Orroroo Area School in Year 8. Harvey recently was chosen to play in the SAPSASA Cricket in November and played with the Northern team at various Adelaide venues.

A few newborns amongst the families up here with Leone Stock and Tim Gooch from The Peake welcoming a son Rodney on October 12th in Alice Springs. While Billy Fennell and Erika Syvertson from Roxby Downs welcomed a daughter Paisley Ann on November 26th.

We would like to say farewell to Sarah Daniels and Marcus Greinke and son Hamish who have left Macumba Station recently.

Telstra have been active in our area and we now have mobile coverage in the townships of William Creek and Oodnadatta. We hope everyone has a great festive season, stay safe and we look forward to catching up with everyone in 2020.



North East Branch News

Ros Breeding President & Publicity Officer

Hello ICPA members and friends,

The North East Pastoral District has endured over 18 months of drought conditions - with no sign of rain on the horizon. Many pastoralists have destocked and/or are feeding what sheep they have.

Three loads of donated hay from the South East arrived in Yunta on 16th November. Young Lachie Jacobs of Coonalpyn Area School called for hay donations – and local farmers generously donated over 200 bales. Such gestures give us all a cheerful boost.

We are looking forward to saying ‘goodbye’ (and good riddance!!) to 2019 and hope for a better and wetter 2020.

Drought funding has been most welcome, with communities rallying to host events in the hope of promoting fun and fellowship, if only for a few hours. A North of the Line Cricket and Family Day was held on 17th November at the Peterborough Oval and a few North East families drifted along to partake of the free entertainment, food and fun - with some startling cricket performances by our blokes.

Congratulations to the Sarah and Jimmy Smith of Devonborough Downs Station on the arrival of Jack on 5th November; a brother for Emily, Chloe, Lucy and Annabel!



Baby Jack Smith of Devonborough Downs Station. A brother for Emily, Chloe, Lucy and Annabel

With several pre-schoolers now in the Yunta area, the signs are good for the future of the Yunta Campus (of the Peterborough Primary School). Because of the spread of our branch membership, we held no face-to-face meetings in 2019; but we have capably dealt with branch administration through the wonders of teleconferencing. Our AGM was held on 26th November through the convenience of the phone network. There was little change to the executive with Ros Breeding remaining as President and Publicity Officer, Jane Gloster continues as Secretary and Leisa Breeding will continue as Vice President - and adds the role of Treasurer to her busy life. We hope for more enthusiastic, young families joining our branch in the near future - and wish Kristina and Byron Crawford and children happy travels in 2020.

We are now focussed on convening the 2020 SA State Conference on Friday 13th March at the Standpipe Golf Motor Inn, Pt Augusta. We aim to offer a worthwhile and pleasant day for all attending, with a focus on ‘well-being’. Penny Rasheed has designed an ‘eye-catching’ (get it!?) logo, with the slogan - ‘A 2020 Vision for the Future’.

Here’s hoping that we will all be sharing rainfall recordings by the time this issue of Pipeline arrives in our mailbags! Best wishes to all.



Lachie Jacobs of Coonalpyn Area School organised the hay delivery to Yunta



Hay being unloaded in Yunta to assist properties feeding stock

North West Branch News

Christmas already?! What a year it has been with not a drop of worthwhile rain in months, I'm pretty sure I know what is on everyone's Christmas wish list this year! This dry spell is certainly hanging over us, but certainly hasn't suppressed the community spirit of the North West. Everyone's efforts of organising and presence has not gone unnoticed, surrounding support has been amazing and comforting to know that

we aren't battling this drought alone.

Starting off the second half of the year, the North West and Gawler Ranges kids had the opportunity to learn about creepy crawlies and all things native to our region at the NRM Kids Day on the 27th July, held at North Well Station. You can read all about that in a separate article.

Not long after was the 48th ICPA Federal Conference on

the 31st July and 1st August at the impressive Adelaide Oval. The North West Branch was well represented over the two days, Jill Greenfield (Billa Kalina Station), Joanna Gibson (Yudnapinna Station), Lynly Kerin (North Well Station), Petie Rankin (Twins Station) did a wonderful job as part of the convening committee. Hats off to you all, all that hard work paid off as it was a great success. 10 year old Elke Kerin from North Well Station (daughter of convenor Lynly Kerin) opened day two of the conference with much confidence and poise. Candice Brown (Arcoona Station) and Jess Barry (Commonwealth Hill Station) were first time delegates at their first ICPA Federal Conference also. SOTA Mini School and RICE Kindergarten Experience Week came around at the end of September in Port Augusta. Mini School included a variety of activities Pichi Richi Railway adventure, SAPOL and MFS incursion. Plus NAPLAN trials (yrs 3-7) and the completion of PAT testing (yrs 3-6). The newly appointed RICE kindy teacher Megan Hamper had a great chance to get to know her enthusiastic kindergarten class over the two days at the RICE Kindy experience.

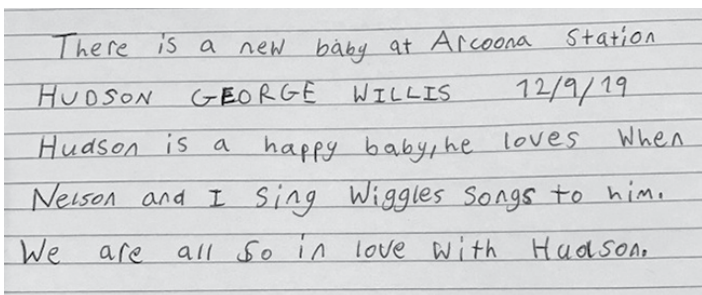
End of October meant school camp for year 6 and 7 SOTA kids, Hayden Rankin (Twins Station) and Max Matherson (Wilgena Station) headed east to Canberra, ACT. Students visited many cultural and historic attractions including Australian War Memorial, National Museum of Australia and Parliament House. The ICPA North West Branch financially assisted these students to attend due to the extremities of the current drought. We are proud to assist these kids to attend important activities for both educational and social importance. A large crowd from near and far attended our annual KAPRD Glendambo Gymkhana on the 12th of October. Great turn out of horse and motorbike competitors, all hungry for the prize. Plenty of kids tacking the course with big smiles, really to do it all again next year! Our branch again cooked and served the Friday evening crowd delicious burgers, and kept the refreshments flowing at the bar. Credit goes out to all the KPRC committee members the day is always enjoyed by all, food is always in fruitful supply, the bar staff and band ensure a fun night!

As the year draws to the end, it also a milestone for some. Max Matheson (Wilgena Station) will close his 7th year with SOTA and off to board at Prince Alfred Collage, Adelaide. Exciting but nervous times ahead as the eldest leaves the nest. Charlie Gibson (Yudnapinna Station) is now a free man a year 12 graduate from Scotch Collage, Adelaide. Charlie attended SOTA and boarded with Scotch since year 7. Congratulations Charlie, best of luck for your next adventure.

After a fun year of messy paint, sticky fingers and vibrant im-



The Willis family, Arcoona Station.



Ruby with baby Hudson.

North West Branch News

aginations Lawson Rankin (Twins Station), Indiana Cooper (Millers Creek Station) and Connor Barry (Commonwealth Hill Station) have graduated from RICE Kindergarten. All three kids will commence reception with SOTA in the new year. After watching her brother complete kindergarten this year, Asher Barry is very excited to have started Pre-Term RICE Kindergarten in Term 4. A few new babies have been welcomed to the North West, Adam Willis and Candice Brown (Arcoona Station) welcomed Mr Hudson George. Amy and Ash Cooper (Millers Creek Station) also welcomed their third addition Miss Charlotte. Back in August Eddie Rankin and Tara Poulton (Alice Springs formerly Twins Station) welcomed their little bundle of joy Braxton Wayne.

Usually this time of the year we hold a combined ICPA AGM and KPRC GM, but unfortunately due to busy calendars we will aim to hold our AGM during the SOTA Induction Week, in January 2020. As I draw to a close, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas with families and friends and here's to a wet and rainy new year. *Jess Barry, Publicity Officer.*



First time Conference delegates get into the swing of things presenting a motion.



Local ladies line up at the starting line at the KAPRC Glendambo gymkhana.



Congratulations to Charlie Gibson of Yudnapinna Station for completing his secondary education at Scotch College Adelaide.



KAPRC Gymkhana first time competitor Connor Barry of Commonwealth Hill.

Speaking at Federal Conference

By Elke Kerin, North Well Station

When I got to speak about my country life and school at the conference I was very excited. When Mum told me on the phone that I can do a speech the next day, I was very happy. I got up from the bed and ran over to the desk and got the notebook. I started writing (it was very messy). The next day

we again, woke up at 5:00, we went downstairs and had breakfast with Tamlyn, Petie and Mum. We then drove in the car to the Adelaide oval where the conference was being held. At 6:00 I was surprised with how many people were there already! After time passed quickly it was time for me to give my speech. I felt very nervous and my hands and legs were shaking. I gave my

speech and walked down the steps back to Mum and everybody clapped. My governess from last year Alice, came and picked me up.

I would like to thank Nikki Macqueen for giving me the chance to give a speech and thank you to all mums' friends for putting effort into the 2019 federal ICPA conference.

2020 SA ICPA STATE CONFERENCE

*Jane Gloster – 2020 Convenor, North East branch
& Federal Life Member*

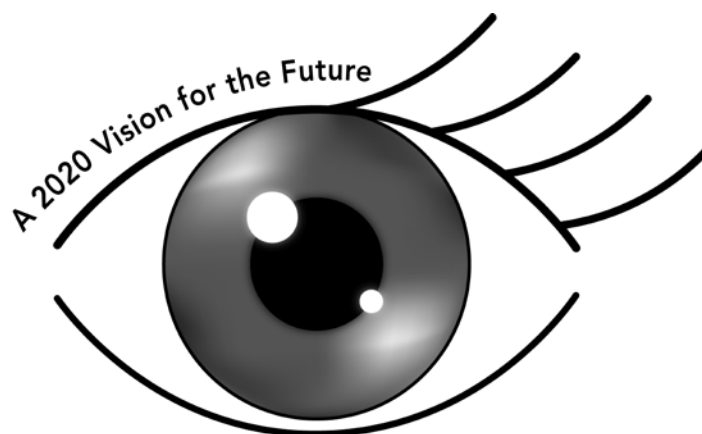
Plans are well under way for the 2020 South Australian State Conference, to be held on Friday March 13 in Port Augusta and being convened by the North East Branch. Our 6 member convening committee is a nice mix of youthful enthusiasm and experience, so we aim to have all bases covered. The conference is being held at the Standpipe Golf Motor Inn, which has great facilities, and which also has accommodation available for those of us who do not wish to walk too far home after dinner. There will be childcare available, thanks to RICE and Outback Childcare, and we are looking forward to welcoming a variety of interesting stallholders. By the time you are reading this, the registration form and information sheet will be available online, which will have everything you need to know about attending conference, including costs, accommodation options and more. There will also of course be plenty of information available on the various ICPA SA social media outlets and on the ICPA website.

The conference theme is “A 2020 Vision for the Future”, reflecting our clear vision of what it is that our members need in order to equitably access an appropriate education, and of course taking advantage of the year we’re in, and all the connotations that 2020 vision brings with it. We hope to be able to go some way further down the track of convincing the various powers that be to step closer to our 2020 vision!

Our focus as a committee and a branch for this conference is on members’ and guests’ wellbeing, mental health and wellness, given the current horrible drought. We are aiming to make it a fun and positive conference, with lots of prizes and giveaways, which will complement the debate and information sharing that our conferences are well known for.

We are especially excited in the North East Branch to be having Alex Thomas as our keynote speaker. Alex is the daughter of long term NE ICPA members and is the product of SOTA, a small rural school and boarding school. Alex’s focus is on “Co-creating lasting safety outcomes...differently.” <https://www.alexthomasptyltd.com/> Here in the NE branch we are super proud of Alex and are really looking forward to hearing her pearls of wisdom.

Should you find yourself with nothing special to do on Friday March 13 2020, we welcome you to join us in Port Augusta to explore further our concept of “A 2020 Vision For The Future”. For further information please contact conference convenor Jane Gloster on 0429 160 658, or gloster4@bigpond.net.au



2020
STATE CONFERENCE

MOTIONS DUE
by
February the 13th
AGM TO BE HELD
FOLLOWING THE
CONFERENCE

South Australian
Isolated Children's Parents' Association

*"Working together for equity of access to education for all
students who live in rural and remote Australia."*



Port Augusta Branch News

Katrina Morris

Ok I'm not coping my friends. My smallest baby is graduating kindy and starting school next year and my biggest baby is starting year 12. We all say it time and time again, but where does the time go. Bonnie along with a few of her friends has just completed a year of kindy through RICE, while it hasn't always been smooth sailing it was always tackled with enthusiasm from the Rice girls and the kids. I'm not sure if Bon knows what she is getting into, but she is looking forward to starting school next year with School of the Air.

The end of November saw a few of us getting together to beat the Christmas rush and it is always great to see the kids enjoying each other's company even when they haven't seen each other for a while. I love how the older kids always include and look after the younger ones, and this seems to follow through as they get older in boarding school and beyond.

We would love to send our congratulations out to Nic Greenfield, South Gap Station, who has finished his high school years at Scotch College. Nic's hard work and consistency have paid off in his efforts to graduate and I know his mum and Dad, Kate and Paul, are looking forward to him coming home to help and looking forward to hearing about his future learning in years ahead.

Congratulations to Chloe French for putting in the hard yards of four and half years of study to finish her teaching degree through Charles Darwin University. Chloe did this while governessing in Queensland, Childcare at RICE, travel, international study and in-home care. It's an amazing effort Chloe and what lucky kid's to have you at the helm in your future classrooms. On the banks of the Murray River at the end of November Brenton and Jo French of Corunna Station watched their daughter Jess marry her fiancé Josh Tilbrook (Whyalla) and we wish them all the very best for a bright and happy future together.

May the rains come tumbling down on your place sooner rather than later and have a safe and Merry Christmas. Cheers.



Jess French of Corunna Station married Josh Tilbrook of Whyalla at the lovely Trentham Estate.

You're invited to a magical night

G.R.P.A 10TH ANNIVERSARY MASQUERADE OUTBACK BALL

Held at the GRPA shed, Nonning Station

22nd February 2020

6:00 PM

\$140 tickets including

hors d' oeuvres, 3 courses created by Outback
Chefs at Epicurean Tuckerbox, beer and wine

Live band - Keep The Change

The Famous Nonning Yabbie race

Auction

Dress: Black Tie and Masks

ENQUIRIES : KATRINA MORRIS 86481881

FIONA FAGAN 0411138248

Port Augusta Branch News



Right: Chloe French of Co-runna Station, sister to Jess, Graduated with a Bachelor of Education from Charles Darwin University.

Left: Nic Greenfield, South Gap, beginning his education journey via SOTA.

Below: Nic graduates from Scotch College this year. Pictured here with parents Paul & Kate at the Year 12 final assembly.



Did you hear the news? ICPA Qld has our very own podcast. Episode 1 link is here for you to enjoy. We would love to hear from you too – what would you like discussed or hear about – give us some feedback via our social media pages.



Chinwag

THE ICPA QLD PODCAST

Episode 1:

<https://media.whooshkaa.com/show/8377/episode/410849.mp3>

As our dams are drying up we have had an abundance of yabbies.
A different way to serve them, which we all love.

Yabby Carbonara

Megan Henderson North West Branch

- Boil water in saucepan to cook fine spaghetti.
Cook spaghetti and drain.
- Finely chop 1 brown onion and fry until soft
in 2 tablespoons of butter.
- Add 1 cup of white wine and gently reduce by 1/3.
- Add 1 cup of cream, 1/2 a teaspoon of French or mild mustard,
salt and pepper to taste, simmer gently.
- Add 3 cups of precooked and cleaned yabbies.
About 45 medium sized. Warm through gently and add
3 tablespoons of grated Parmesan cheese.
- Serve over spaghetti.

Makes 4 small serves
Enjoy!



Upcoming Events

26th January	-	Australia Day
27th January	-	Australia Day Public Holiday
14th February to 15th March	-	Adelaide Fringe Festival
22nd February	-	Nonning Outback Ball
01st March	-	Tom Curtain's 'We're Still Here Tour' Quorn
10th April	-	Good Friday
13th April	-	Easter Monday
18th April	-	William Creek Gymkhana
25th April	-	Yunta Picnic Races & Gymkhana
8/9thth May	-	130th Oodnadatta Races
16th May	-	Nonning Gymkhana
30th May	-	Hawker Cup
19th/21st June	-	Coober Pedy Opal Festival
21st June	-	Port Augusta Farmers and Graziers Squatters Cup
30th June	-	'500 Miles of Music' Concert William Creek





10



11



12



13



14

FEDERAL CONFERENCE, ADELAIDE 2019

- 1 It's a full house on day one of conference.
- 2 It doesn't get much better than this for a Conference venue.
- 3 Convening ladies pose after a job well done.
- 4 Wendy Hick, now Immediate Federal Past President gives Federal Life membership to Patricia Mitchell, Cloncurry Branch QLD.
- 5 Anna Greenfield, Billa Kalina Station was chief microphone runner and Tamlyn Symonds The Twins Station was a fantastic Conference Photographer.
- 6 SA President Jill Greenfield and SA Publicity Officer Petie Rankin are live during the SA Country Hour.
- 7 Gold Medallist Anna Mearns OAM was an enthralling guest speaker
- 8 Just because it's a good photo! Petie Rankin & Lynly Kerin, part of the convening team.
- 9 North East branch members were in force at Conference. Standing from L to R are Penny Rasheed, Carol Burford, Leisa Breeding, Kristina Crawford, Katie Robinson, Ros Breeding. Seated L to R, Kerry Williams, Jane Gloster, Julia Materne and Dot Sandland.
- 10 Flinders Ranges branch member Belinda Hatcher and Conference Convenor Katrina Morris.
- 11 SA State President Jill Greenfield delivers her first Federal Conference Report.
- 12 Elke Kerin, North Well Station and SOTA student opened day two of conference with a touching speech.
- 13 Convenor Katrina Morris gave a lovely interview with ABC TV.
- 14 Our talented Chief Convenor Kat Morris receiving her thank you gifts from Judy Newton.

Dreams, diversity & a cowboy who

Anna Nunn, Flinders Ranges Branch

I don't think I am alone in the amount of time that I spend thinking about what to get my child as a birthday gift. Somewhere deep in those thoughts in April this year I hatched the perfect idea, I'm going to write a book. A big bold statement to my husband and Mum that this was my plan and I couldn't really back out if it.... but how do you even go about it??

'How to write a Children's book for dummies' chuckled my husband from the office one lunch time. I spent hours scrolling through articles and blogs on writing for children until I was confident I had a fair grasp on what to do. I now knew how to write the book but no idea what to write about...

Write about your life is what all these web pages suggested, but who would want to read about being deep in the trenches of toddlerhood in the middle of the outback. I mean it feels like all I do is chase after Roy telling him to put his hat on and then never being able to find where he had taken it off and left it last!! And there it was... the idea for the book (not the hat, always looking for the hat)

I scribbled ideas in a note book and on my phone before I finally sat down at the computer and started putting serious words down. I shared it with my Mum who spent 30+ years teaching in primary schools and whose opinion I value highly when it comes to written work even though I frustrate her no end that after 32 years, 3 of which I spent as her student I still use been & being incorrectly on a regular basis. Mum told me she thought I was onto something but her next questions stumped me... how are you going to illustrate it?



Roy and Dad Justin Nunn. Roy loves heading out with his Dad!



From dreams to reality, 'Where is Cowboy Roy's Hat? Anna and Cowboy Roy himself.

I had been so totally caught up in worrying about what and how to write I had forgotten that a children's book needed pictures! As I scrolled once again down a Google search page this time of 'Australian Children's book illustrators' I decided that I was either going to have to go big or go home... illustrations aren't cheap. I couldn't justify paying all that money on pictures for one book! I was going to write a book for every person who wanted to read about a little boy in the outback that lost his hat.

I made enquires with lots of illustrators but none came back with things that reflected 'us' and where we lived. In a bit of a defeated conversation with my Mum she suggested contacting a teacher she had worked with who was an artist. I am not going to lie I did umm and err wondering if someone who hadn't illustrated a book before was going to be the right fit but after making a nervous phone call and emailing through what I had written I received some sample work and fell in love instantly. The work Tanja had produced was exactly what I had envisaged for the book.

The 12 weeks that followed saying yes to Tanja were full of fine tuning the words I had written and working on the layout of the book. There were moments when I second guessed going public with the book. Sharing something you have poured your heart into that would be open to criticism and judging is nerve racking but every time an email came through from Tanja my heart would skip a beat and I would nervously await the image to

can't find his hat

download, which in the bush on satellite internet can take some time. Seeing my words brought to life in an image made me fall in love even more with the idea of sharing this book with others so they could enjoy it and would squash the second guessing I was doing.

When all the images were completed and cover art done it was time to send my words off to an editor for a final check over and tweak. Once the edit was completed I set about putting the words in the book layout and ordered the proof copy of the book. Every Monday and Thursday we eagerly awaited the mail man out here, but there was a lot more eagerness after the email arrived saying 'your book has been shipped'

Opening the packaging that contained the book proof my stomach was in my mouth, it was better than I could have ever imagined. My husband sat down with Roy after work that day and read him the story for the first time and any doubt or care of what other people might think of the story no longer mattered, the two most important people in my life enjoying the book was one of the best things I have experienced.

That night I hovered the cursor over the 'create book' button, a stomach full of butterflies knowing full well that when I clicked it, the images and words I smiled at on the computer screen for a few months would soon arrive as a book to share with you all.



Cowboy Roy himself ready to post out his special book to eager readers.

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Media Release

Sunday 1 December 2019

The Hon Dan Tehan MP

Federal Minister for Education

Teacher quality, classroom environment and school leadership are the biggest in-school factors affecting educational outcomes for Indigenous, regional, remote and disadvantaged students.

The full report is available at <https://docs.education.gov.au/documents/unpacking-drivers-learning-outcomes-students-different-backgrounds>.



RURAL HARDSHIP EDUCATION FUND



ICPA (Aust) calls on the Federal Government to establish a Rural Hardship Education Fund (RHEF) to assist rural and remote students, schools and early learning centres with the cost of education during times of rural hardship to ensure education can continue unchanged in tough times.

RHEF should include, but not be limited to:

- **Supplementary payment made to the Commonwealth Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) allowance for families affected by hardship.** *The AIC consists of several components including Boarding, Distance Education and Second Home and is well designed to quickly get assistance to rural and remote families to use for accessing education.*
- **Additional funding for Rural Schools located in affected areas.**
- **Additional itinerant and specialist teachers made available in affected areas to enable more support for Distance Education students and Rural Schools, including home visits in remote classrooms and other localised support resources.**
- **Adjusted rate/additional subsidy to assist affected families to access In Home Care for young children.**
- **Tertiary Access Allowance for rural and remote students enrolled in university, training courses, or apprenticeships.**

Assistance should be aimed at geographically isolated/rural and remote students. Consideration should be available for individual applications in situations where a family is outside of a recognised assistance area or category but have similar circumstances and needs.



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia, ICPA (Aust).
For further information see:

<https://www.icpa.com.au/documents/download/1189/federal-current-issues/rural-hardship-education-fund-october-2019.pdf>



MEDIA RELEASE
20 October, 2019

Senate Supports ICPA Call for Rural Hardship Education Fund



ICPA (Aust) Immediate Past President Wendy Hick (L) and ICPA (Aust) President Alana Moller (R) with Senator Pauline Hanson

ICPA (Aust) are excited to announce that rural and remote families are one step closer to the establishment of a much-needed Rural Hardship Education Fund following the passing of a motion put by Senator Hanson in the Senate on Thursday 17 October 2019.

The motion called for the Federal Government to consider putting in place a Rural Hardship Education Fund or other options to assist geographically isolated students and their families with educational expenses during times of rural hardship. It was supported by the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries and Senator for Tasmania, Senator Duniam, and Senator Faruqi, Senator for NSW and passed in the Senate Chamber during the ICPA (Aust) delegation to Canberra this past week.

ICPA Federal President, Alana Moller said “it is pleasing to see that as a direct result of ICPA Australia’s continued call for a Rural Hardship Education Fund to be established, the Senate has supported such a proposal. To see this measure be implemented will ensure rural and remote students’ education continues unchanged in times of drought and other rural hardship whether they are boarding away from home, attending a local rural school/kindergarten or studying via distance education.”

While drought continues to severely affect many rural families in several states, in particular Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, parts of Western Australia and recently the Northern Territory, rural hardship is not limited to drought. Some rural families are facing financial crisis through no fault of their own or their ability to run a viable business, including dairy farmers across Australia and communities affected by the 2019 catastrophic monsoon event in Northwest Queensland. A Rural Hardship Education Fund would ensure that assistance could be made available for children from these families who are not able to access mainstream schooling while living at home, and those who study by distance education or at a small rural school.

ICPA (Aust) will now call on the Federal Government to further consider the motion given this strong support and endorsement from the Senate.

For further information and comments please contact:

Alana Moller, Federal President ICPA Australia Ph: 07 4983 5353 Email: FedPresident@icpa.com.au

Nikki Macqueen, Federal Publicity Officer ICPA Australia Ph: 0417 793 705 Email: FedPublicityOfficer@icpa.com.au

www.icpa.com.au

Boarding call

Edwina Bowie, North West branch, SA State Secretary

Have you ever had your name called out in the airport as the last call to board an aeroplane? Well I have, and maybe more than once. Could this be a trait I developed in my formative teenage years? A reminder reliance I developed whilst at boarding school? Who knows but one thing I do know is this...

My kids will attend boarding school in their senior school years. The geographically isolated area we reside in means my kids cannot attend a local school or catch the bus to the closest school. Almost everyone reading the Pipeline is in a similar situation, with some families choosing to relocate mum and kids to a town or city, some kids attend boarding school and some kids will continue their on-line education with Open Access College.

Max, my eldest, is off to boarding school next year in 2020. I didn't think this time would come around as fast as it has. It's a funny feeling preparing your own child for boarding school when it feels as though it wasn't that long ago that I finished boarding (which I know is kind of laughable as I'm 38). I come from a long line of boarders, so my family is well versed with the swing and routine of a boarder's life. Often when I couldn't sleep as a child I would request a boarding story from my mum and she would share with me a funny or a heart-warming escapade from her boarding days. I really loved these stories and they instilled in me a love of boarding well before I went away. I have used this same technique with my kids, hoping that they will be just as excited as I was when I began my boarding journey.

Max had an introductory night in the boarding house this week, a taste of what's to come! I'm happy to report that he really enjoyed it. Walking him down to his share room it dawned on me what a far cry his experience of boarding will be to my own. The girl's dormitory I slept in was absolutely hideous, bright yellow and orange with long rows of beds. Side by side living with a little bed side table to divide our space which was probably no bigger than a ruler and a half. These tight living conditions were positively appalling but did facilitate to make us all "tight" friends. Max on the other hand will experience a hotel like living situation and I hope this lack of appalling conditions will still provide the correct comradery atmosphere that I thrived in.

The plethora of activities available to Max on a daily basis are exceptional. Many activities I know Max will enjoy are the same pretty ordinary activities that I loved and used to distract myself with from the impending home sickness that left me so empty inside i.e.; swimming, tennis, the pool table and ping pong (I am to this day quite a hand at the old ping pong). In fact, the first thing Max and the new boarders did after arriving was don their togs and head to the pool!

When the coordinators ran us through the daily and weekly routine and the extracurricular options (scuba diving, rock climbing, surfing and Asian cooking to name a few) I was so impressed I actually wanted to sign the dotted line and Sam my 10 year old is now on a countdown till he exits the Wilgena Schoolroom.

Whilst writing this an old boarding friend has called me! What a coincidence. She and I discussed our favourite bits on boarding (I might add here that Kate is a primary school teacher). Kate loved testing the boundaries and how good it felt to get away with something naughty, some little hijinks. These hijinks were nothing



The Matheson Family.

serious, a jaunt to the Gill St deli for some lollies or scheming to meet in the toilets after lights out. My highlights were being able to play tennis at the drop of a hat, late night swims just before bedtime, oh and of course all the comedy and pranks we inflicted on one another and the housemistresses. I can't wait to hear Max's favourite bits of boarding.

One thing Kate and I both firmly feel from having shared our teenage years in a boarding house is that the friendships we made are super special and akin to a sisterhood. We didn't just go away to a high school we lived together, and let's face it those teenage years were pretty confusing and being able to share it like we did was just magical, as a problem shared is a problem halved. So, although Max might not have me or Ian to debrief to at the end of a nightmare day he will hopefully have some great mates to lighten his load.

Finishing up I know there will be many hurdles ahead of us on this boarding journey. I had a panic attack at midnight on our last night in Adelaide and totally crumbled with my thought processes. I was distraught at the thought that I'm losing my best mate and my number one helper, what if he changes and he doesn't want to share with me anymore? Ahhhh! These are I hope normal stressful thoughts at such a huge milestone in life. Max and I are so lucky that we can contact one another with such ease in comparison to the blue and gold phones I had to line up to use with my 40 cents in hand when I went away.

To Max and all the other kids heading off on their boarding call, be it to a new town or off to Adelaide... Good Luck!

Art in the Garden

Penny Rasheed, North East Branch

After a few years of bad luck growing anything in our gardens, we have recently had some success growing flowers and vegetables in our wicking beds. Jess Barry has written an article about them previously if you are interested in more information you can find it in issue 94.

While it has been a great educational experience for Ada and Max to watch their seeds growing, I didn't expect it to be such an amazing and creative opportunity. Ada has always loved drawing, but Max is reluctant to get involved unless there's something a bit more interesting than crayons and pencils.

Chalk Pastels and Water

One dust-stormy day we spent an hour in the poly tunnel. Max was busy drawing with pastels because he loved dipping them into water. We watched a butterfly drinking nectar, and Max drew his own butterfly representation. Ada happily painted a rainbow of flowers with water colour paints.

Right: Ada and Max enjoying activities in the poly tunnel garden.



Hammer Prints

Anything with a hammer is a pretty popular activity at our house. Hapa-zome is a Japanese term for printing flowers and leaves onto fabric with a hammer. We used calico and paper – but found that the calico was easier for little fingers to pull smashed plants off to reveal the prints underneath. We placed calico onto a wooden chopping board and arranged bright flowers and leaves on one half. We folded the other half over the top and hammered all over the plants. This activity went on all morning and luckily, we ran out of fabric before we ran out of flowers!



Step 1 of Hammer prints.



Step 2 - enjoying the results!

Sun Prints

Nicci Noakes introduced me to cyanotype prints and they are addictive. I bought a kit from The Analogue Laboratory <https://www.analoguelab.com.au> and Ada and Max would make these prints all day if I let them. I mixed the chemicals together and supervised them painting the paper with the cyanotype mixture. The kids then foraged through the garden looking for interesting shapes and patterns to print. They placed their objects on the paper, placed it in the sun for a few minutes and then rinsed the paper with water. It feels a bit magic when you do these prints and I have a pile of 'station finds' that I think will make amazing prints; my husband thinks they are rusty rubbish. When I come home and say, 'Isn't this a great piece of wire?' Silence. "But don't you think it looks like a cowboy hat?" Silence. "And this way it looks like a witch's face?" He squints his eyes – but he can't see it.



cyanotype prints

So there you have it, some exciting ways to combine art and gardening with the kids whilst creating some gorgeous pieces of artwork to display in the home.



Art in the garden with Max.

Portfolio reports

Distance Education Report

Petie Rankin

In brief summary from the DE portfolio, I'll begin by mentioning the major 2019 news which was the yourSAy consultation that was conducted around South Australian rural and regional schools to retain year 7 in primary school for an extra three years past their 2022 deadline. It was brought to our attention so Port Augusta School of the Air wrote a strong submission and had a lengthy forum to give feedback and thoughts to strengthen our case. This was taken to the government and we received a response back with mixed results. It has been confirmed that from 2022, every year 7 South Australian student will need to go to high school, which brings us in line with the rest of the country. Port Augusta School of the Air has been allowed a transition period though, until 2024, for individuals to apply for their student to remain in primary school, for year 7, but this needs to be approved by the principal. It is still in the early stages of working out the finer details in regards to class sizes, numbers of students and teacher allocation, but this is a positive for us as we have been assured we have a good case if we wish to apply individually.

As mentioned in the publicity report, several SOTA students, teachers and govies got the chance to experience Canberra from an educational point of view. Back in October they spent 4 days sight-seeing our capital under the guidance of some trusty bus drivers and guides. Thanks to the teachers for organising this amazing opportunity for our SOTA students.

Recently a survey was sent out to families, giving them the opportunity to provide feedback on whether they would like to join our SOTA and Marden (Open Access College campus) students from 2020 to increase our teaching staff and class numbers. With School of the Air being a very strong community, it was not surprisingly met with concerned families and many questions. An online WebEx meeting was then held, due to the overwhelming alarm from parents, with our principal re-assuring us that SOTA will remain SOTA only for years to come.

Early Childhood Education

Penny Rasheed, Paulaine Vermeulen

There have been a few key issues in the Early Childhood Portfolio this year and Federal Counsellors have been busy actioning all motions from conference. Specific focus areas include: In Home Care, Inclusion Support Programs (for preschool distance education) and Community Childcare Funding for Special Circumstances (including drought).

RICE has been busy hosting play days and creches for various events over the past few months and the families attending have really appreciated the friendly faces and great activities provided. The Kindergarten Children have also been enjoying their online lessons, and next year's cohorts are already mastering Webex and are excited for the New Year.

State Council are still following up with CaFHS about how the healthcare service will run in our isolated communities in the future. We look forward to hearing more about the services that will be provided.

Tertiary

Joanna Gibson

There have been some happenings within the tertiary / career pathways portfolio over the last few months.

The Uni Hub in Port Augusta will be open for business in 2020. It will provide the opportunity for people to study a range of tertiary courses without the need to relocate to the city. At Uni Hub Spencer Gulf students can access learning via "distance with assistance" enabling students to access peer support, tutoring support and local mentors. The campus will provide students with study spaces, video conferencing facilities, high speed internet access and meeting rooms

Contact details are 1800 515 251 (Port Augusta) or 1800 549 779 (Port Pirie) E: admin@unihubsg.org W: www.unihubsg.org

Following a state conference motion in 2018, TAFE SA, along with Livestock SA and ICPA set up a Certificate 3 in Rural Operations, run out of the Port Augusta campus. The course involves attending blocks of units based either in Adelaide, Port Augusta or on stations. The uptake over 2019 has been small - with some stations participating and sending their workers off to complete courses in butchery, motor cycle maintenance and welding plus other units. The difficulty has been letting all staff go to blocks at the same time, people employing less staff during dry times and relevance of some units offered. The course will continue next year, but will depend on interest. TAFE SA and ICPA have been working together and a survey is about to go out to gauge interest in different units and timing throughout the year. For your chance to participate in the survey please head to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8BMBXSH>

The new Vocational Education and Training for School Students policy was released by the Department for Education at the end of October. It sets out the government's strategic direction and plans for reforming how vocational education and training (VET) will be delivered to South Australian secondary school students. State Council provided information to this enquiry earlier in the year. More information can be found at <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/vet-for-school-students.pdf?v=1574312130>





State Council members attending the F2F meeting and workshop. Pictured L to R are; Presenter Jodie Bouilly or Invest Consulting, Mija Reynolds, Jess Barry, Kate Greenfield, Joanna Gibson, Ros Breeding, Kat Morris, Jill Greenfield, Petie Rankin, Penny Rasheed and daughter Ava.

State Publicity Officer Report

Petie Rankin

And so ends my first year as the ICPA State Publicity Officer. It's always the hardest article to write because it's November and no Christmas celebrations have been and gone (except the setting up of my Christmas wonderland, which happens earlier each year) and the New Year will be underway by the time this gets read. But I will try my best to report on what I know and what I don't know, well I'll just wing it.

I won't recap on any news from my branch level, as I willingly handed that Publicity Officer role over to the very capable Jess Barry last year, so I will touch on all things State Council from 2019. This was Jill Greenfield's first, and very nerve wracking year as SA State President and she has performed with gusto and experience. From a girl that was all jitters and a shaky voice, she's pulled it off without a hiccup, including being on the convening committee for the Federal Conference in Adelaide in 2019. Well done to you Jill for all the hours and effort that has gone in to the last 12 months. Of course, well done to all newbies on the executive committee, and those on State Council, as it can be a daunting prospect when those before us set the bar high. This year, the following dot points were Federal ICPA's main concerns:

- The Assistance for Isolated

Children (AIC) Distance Education Allowance to be extended to the 200 pre-schoolers studying by distance education.

- Financial recognition of Distance Education Tutors for their supervision of the 1500 families studying by distance education.

- An increase in the AIC allowances to help rural and remote families afford compulsory education for the 11,000 children who have no daily access to face-to-face schooling due to distance and a Rural Hardship Education Fund set up for assistance through prolonged drought or other times of rural hardship.

- A Tertiary Access Allowance is required to allow rural and remote students' access to further study to address the inequity in Australia where more than 45% of people aged 25-34 years in our cities have a bachelor degree or higher qualification, yet this drops to 21% in the regional areas.

Back in October, Federal Council went to Canberra and were pleased to announce that Senator Pauline Hanson had put forward a motion to the Senate seeking the Federal Government to consider the establishment of a Rural Hardship Education Fund, which was passed. This brings us one step closer to the end goal.

At a state level though, Port Augusta School of the Air were part of a yourSAy consultation to convince our government that it's worth keeping year 7 in primary school for an extra three years longer than the 2022 introduction of this transition. We had many discussions and an

open forum, all of which were positive and productive, with feedback being we have a good chance of able to continue on as normal, until 2024.

Delegation came and went, after State Conference, with it not all being about fancy dinners and selfies with politicians. The group of ladies talked passionately about our state's motions, outback kids' education and health and wellbeing. One thing our SA ICPA do well is speak passionately and from the heart, which only helps our plights.

The major event for us this year was the Federal Conference and the wonderful atmosphere of the Adelaide oval. This was brought together by the convening committee (and the families who put up with them for the 12 months of planning!) and the hard work proved itself worthy when the 2 days/3 nights of conference went smoother than a pickup line from Michael Buble. The city, weather and the company were all showing off to those new to Adelaide which left a huge impression on all those that attended.

On the 8th and 9th of November, some very clever cookie organise a public speaking workshop for state councillors down in Port Augusta for members who can't speak without their legs turning to jelly (that's me!). Shaky voices may not be something you associate with ICPA because our members stand up and speak passionately and proudly about their kids and their education but behind those vocals there is often a scared, nervous little person making us sound like we

want to cry (which we often do anyway!). So, it was decided to bring in a pro to give us ladies a few lessons on standing strong and confident. Enter Jodie Bouilly of Invest Consulting, looking as business savvy and poised as we all wish we felt. She spent two sessions teaching 9 ladies how to overcome fears, have a clear objective, plan a speech and win a chocolate frog or two. It was an amazing opportunity for us all and I think we've all been using toothbrushes for microphones in the mirror since we finished the course. If this is ringing bells for you, Jodie told us the following books work wonders for you fears: Eat That Frog by Brian Tracy, Feel The Fear and Do It Anyway by Susan Jeffers, Find Your Strongest Life by Marcus Buckingham and Start With Why by Simon Sinek.

We must also say a huge thanks to Lisa Hunt, who has stepped off ICPA State Council this year, for all her hard work and effort. Lisa has had numerous roles, including President and webmaster, while also very successfully teaching her children from home so this is a woman we were lucky to have in our corner. We wish Lisa all the best.

Of course, drought has hit everyone in the state with gusto and I can only hope that when this is read, we have all had a drenching and if not, that it's on the horizon. The severity of this natural disaster has made everything in our lives so much harder because it has a huge ripple effect on lifestyles, families and communities so it seems everyone has been hit in some way or the other. Like everyone else in South Australia, I hope this year brings more recognition to our state from the government to bring the drought into the public eye from where we stand, and for some acknowledgment from them that it's not all beer and skittles. But above all, I wish for rain. I wish for vegetation, fat cattle, happy husbands and a steady income. Actually, just any income.

Cheers, Petie



CWA Accommodation

The South Australian Country Women's Association is located in Kent Town, just on the edge of the city parklands and minutes from the city centre.

SACWA accommodation in this historic home is available for both members and the public.

We have a range of accommodation options, including self-contained units and single or twin-share rooms, all with continental breakfast provided in our dining room. All guests can use our shared lounge room, kitchen and laundry facilities.

To find out about these accommodation options go to www.sacwa.org.au follow the link online to view the daily tariffs, or to make a booking, please contact SACWA State Office on 08 8332 4166

or sacwa@sacwa.org.au
Please Note: This email address is only monitored Monday to Friday 9am-4pm. If you require a prompt response outside of these hours, it's best to give us a call.

Discounts apply for SACWA Members and Friends of SACWA.

Do YOU know of anymore great accommodation deals in Adelaide that would benefit others? While SA ICPA is not an advertising agency, we are here to assist our members.

Please email Lynly at northwell@activ8.net.au

#buyfrom
thebush.

Buy From the Bush

Lynly Kerin, Editor

From little things, big things grow. Such is the phenomena of #buyfromthebush.

As drought tightens its grip in many parts of our country, it looked like it may be a low key Christmas for small businesses in the bush. Within a matter of days that changed as #buyfromthebush was born and as social media does, it quickly spread to the screens of laptops and phones all over the nation. People's side hustle businesses, small boutiques and creators of all things fantastic have now been able to showcase and sell their beautiful wares all the way from their rural communities into the homes of inner city and suburban folk looking for gifts with extra special meaning this year.

The campaign has literally changed lives as orders pour into these struggling businesses. A purchase not only helps that business but can help boost a regional town's economy and strengthen their community.

To support the movement then follow the Instagram/Facebook page buyfromthebush. Find something you love. Contact the business. Make a purchase. Wait at your mailbox for delivery. It's that simple!

Perhaps you want to get your own side hustle or self made business on the map. Direct message the page 'buyfromthebush', or head over to another Facebook page 'Ladies on the Land' who are also on board with the movement and are proud to highlight many boutique SA businesses. They have even produced a fantastic little map if you want to road trip with your besties and pick up something special to share or just goodies for yourself!



Second Home Allowance

This allowance can help you or your family with the cost of maintaining a second home so your children can go to a local school. You can get the allowance for up to 3 children. You must lodge a claim for each child.

You can get this allowance if:

- you meet eligibility criteria
- the main purpose of you maintaining a second home is to make it easier for the child you're claiming for to go to school, and
- the principal family home is:
 - ~ the family's usual place of residence, with at least one parent or guardian living there for more than half the time they're getting the allowance
 - ~ where the child you're claiming for usually spends school holidays

To us, it's not your second home if:

- you're separated or divorced and one parent is living with the child in that home
 - you, your partner or a dependent child get Rent Assistance for the home, or
- you got a First Home Owner Grant, stamp-duty concession or similar assistance when you bought the home
 - you or your partner aren't responsible for the cost of maintaining the home



Headspace App

Penny Rasheed, North East branch

I started using the Headspace App at the start of this year (currently on a 291-day run streak!). I was anxious (still am) and having difficulty switching off and sleeping. I downloaded the free trial (thinking what sucker would actually pay for the app?) and two weeks later, I paid for it.

The thing I like about it, besides Andy Puddicombe's English accent, is that it makes meditation easy. You can start small – at 3 minutes. And I was realising that the time I set aside for it, while not the best time (in bed just before sleep), was sometimes the first time all day that I had actually taken a deep breath. I googled Andy before I bought the app. I mean – you don't want to pay if they don't know what they're talking about, right?! And I was impressed that he actually trained as a Buddhist monk. The Drama teacher in me was just as impressed at his studies in Circus Arts. Seriously though, the app covers a broad range of meditation and mindfulness courses including; sleep, creativity, productivity, training and concentration, to name a few. There are also some great mindfulness sessions for kids, and helpful videos to help explain some of the more abstract ideas. While my feeling of Zen usually doesn't last past breakfast, I can fall asleep quickly and I am more aware of my thinking and breathing throughout the day. For me, that's totally worth it.

Spotlight on Mental Health for Men

Lynly Kerin, Editor, North West Branch

Tick Everett is of course the father of Amy 'Dolly' Everett. Dolly's Dream was founded by Tick and wife Kate after the tragic death of their girl Dolly. Dolly's Dream inspires to create a positive change amongst the community by raising awareness around bullying and its potentially devastating effect on our children and families.

Tick was a guest on TradeMutt's 120 Grit podcast. 120 Grit is hosted by two Aussie tradies who are embarking on a mission to change the face of mental health in Australia. The lads sit down with a variety of interesting people to have a frank conversation around men's mental health and wellbeing through their tough and life changing experiences, and encourage others to do the same.

Guests also include Ben Brooksby, founder of The Naked Farmer, and the actual naked farmer himself. Ben believes it takes as much guts to get your gear off as it takes to talk about mental health. TradeMutt's 120 Grit podcast and interview with Tick Everett and Ben Brooksby can be found on many podcast streaming services.



Podcast Reviews

Jodie Keogh, Marree Air Branch

As I write this it's nearly the end of the year, who can believe it! Podcast's are still on their trajectory rise and more and more different types are popping up. Here are a few that may interest you over the summer months....

GENERAL

Central Station

The popular blog now has its own podcast! A variety of people are interviewed, all with their own different stories to tell. Guests include Tom Curtain and Kate Everett

7am

A daily news show – hear from the country's best reporters about an in depth story each weekday

TRUE CRIME

A Perfect Storm

The true story of the Chamberlains. One of the more famous legal cases in Australian history goes through the events of the death of Azaria Chamberlain. It contains information from original journalists who covered the case, the Chamberlain legal team and never heard before police recordings

Nowhere Child & Where's William Tyrrell

2 different podcasts about the tragic disappearance of little 3-year-old William Tyrrell – both cover the case but are from slightly different points of view. Done by The Australian and 10 News, both are narrated by high profile and respected journalists

The Lighthouse

Theo Hayez is missing in Byron Bay – he is 18 and on a trip of a lifetime from Brussels. He vanished in May of 2019 after a night out at a local backpacker bar and has never been seen since. This podcast is quite fascinating as it shows how the Byron Bay community has really rallied behind trying to find Theo and support his family while being so far from home. It is also a little scary knowing how much information can be found from phone usage by a person without physically having access to the phone.

KIDS

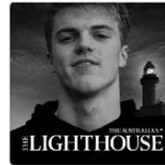
That's Incredible

A podcast for parents and kids that's packed with incredible facts and amazing stories from the world around us. Hosted by the entertaining Andrew Daddo, it covers everything from climbing Mount Everest, sport, music and space

Short & Curly

This gem of a kid's podcast returns for a new season. It's a fast paced fun-filled ethics podcast for kids and their parents, with questions and ideas to really get you thinking. It asks curly questions about animals, technology, school, pop culture and more

I hope you have an enjoyable Christmas and New year period with lots of fun & laughter and above all RAIN!




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Kids and Crawly Critters in the North West

Jess Barry, North West Branch

Is there any kid that doesn't like creepy crawlies, bones, skins and exploring the bush?? Well apparently none, all 16 kids from the North West and Gawler Ranges attended the Natural Resource Management Kids Day held at North Well Station on the 27th July 2019. Thanks to the Kingoonya NRM group, Lucy Goldspink organised a day just for the kids. Kristina Mudge from Bugs n Slugs provided all invertebrates to be studied up close. The Arid Recovery Team, Roxby Downs spoke about native animals in the region and brought an assortment of skulls, skins, animals in jars and even a LIVE woma python!

After lots of oohs and ahhs and the odd tears of fear (turns out

my daughter's fear of spiders is a bit worse than I realised!) we were presented by a wonderful spread for lunch, the kids ran around having a blast of a time while adults had a great chance for good overdue catch up.

The very last adventure of the day, Clint Taylor from Bush Heritage Australia set out with the kids and headed out for a



bushwalk on Bon Bon Reserve looking for animal tracks and discussions about native animals grazing habits.

Thanks to Lynly and Mat Kerin for hosting the day, it was great day enjoyed by all.

Below: Local kids from the area enjoyed a day out at North Well looking at all manners of slithery and crawly critters.

Below left: Eli Rankin from The Twins and Nelson Willis from Arcoona are intrigued with their new friend.



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SOTA Year 7 Canberra Trip

*Petie Rankin,
North West branch.*

On October 21st, six Port Augusta School of the Air students, along with two teachers and three volunteers flew out from Adelaide and into Canberra for four days of intense sight-seeing and learning about our nation's capital. Students visited many iconic Canberra attractions including the Royal Australian Mint, War Memorial, Qustacon and Parliament House. Our daughter Hayden was one of the lucky students able to attend, alongside our governess Tamlyn. But of course this would not have been possible for us without the extremely generous financial help from our North West ICPA branch and the Connellan Airways Trust. It goes without saying that times are tough for so many pastoralists and farmers, so experiences like this are not always possible to finance, and I'm honest enough to admit Hayden and Tamlyn would not have been able to attend without us being supported financially. A HUGE thanks goes out to NW ICPA and Connellan Airways for making an absolute fabulous experience possible. Here are a few words from the tourists themselves.

Tamlyn- I was extremely lucky to have been asked if I wanted to head to Canberra with Hayden and the year 6/7s and of course it was a big YES! It was such a great experience and I'm so very grateful to have the opportunity to go. There were so many amaz-



Students looking back towards Parliament House at the memorial.



Students were lucky enough to meet with Federal Member for Grey Rowan Ramsey. Pictured are L to R. Corey Hilder, Hayden Rankin, Rowan Ramsey, Max Matheson, Gerri Tshirner, Jessica Haydon and Harvey Williams seated.

ing highlights for me but one that really stood out to me was watching the kids be exposed to the big city living life for the week and see them adapt and take everything in their stride. They all bonded so well as a group and they had so much fun! It was a jam-packed week squeezing in as much as we could, and the kids just kept going no matter how tired they were! The kiddies got to experience a lot in that week that not many other kids get the chance to do. They will forever be talking about it and all the memories they made with their friends while away. Thank you to the North West ICPA branch and Petie & Ryan Rankin for giving me an amazing opportunity that not all govies get to do! I will be forever grateful. xo

Hayden- My favourite thing about going to Canberra was seeing my friends, going up and down the lifts and escalators, and the big slide at Qustacon. The Qustacon slide was 6 meters tall and you had to wear a big orange suit, so you slide down the slide easier and quicker. You go up the stairs and then you go up and sit on the slide and hold onto a metal pole and the lady counts to three and then you let go. You free fall for a bit and then you can feel the slide on your back. I would never go on the big slide again it was so scary! Thanks to the ICPA for helping Mum and Dad out so I could go to Canberra.

Corey Hilder of Willipa Station and his governess Miss Bernie also attended the camp. Here is a wrap up of the trip from them.

In Term 4, Week 2, two teachers, two govies two year 6 students and four year 7 students from School of The Air, Port Augusta, flew to Canberra. The trip started off early Monday morning at Adelaide airport; we met everyone at the airport ready to fly to Canberra. When we got to Canberra we met the bus driver and went and had lunch. Over the next four days we visited many interesting places, all over Canberra. Some of the places we visited were the Museum of Australian Democracy, Royal Australian Mint, Rotary Peace Bell, High Court of Australia, Australian War Memorial, National Museum of Australia, National Arboretum Canberra, ANZAC Parade, National Capital Exhibition, Parliament House, National Gallery of Australia, Qustacon, Australia Institute of Sport, Blundell's Cottage, Government House and Mount Ainslie Lookout. The trip was an incredible experience and we all got to gain a deeper understanding of Australia's Democracy and understand more about Australia's history. Whilst at Parliament House, Rowan Ramsey invited us into his office and we were able to ask him some questions about his job as Federal Member for Grey. My favourite part was the Australia Institute of Sport. Australia Institute of Sport is a place where athletes train to become better at their sport. We had a guided tour by an injured long distance running athlete, through the main buildings. We saw the gymnastics training centre, the basketball court, the stadium, the

volleyball courts, the swimming pool, the soccer oval and the weights room. Whilst we were there, we also saw gymnasts, volleyball players and some athletes training in the weights room. At the end of the tour we went to the 'Sportex' which is a games room where we got to play things such as cycling, footy, basketball, skiing and bobsled. We stayed at the Greenhills Centre, Stromlo ACT, the food was amazing and we even got to go on a bush walk, on Thursday morning, before breakfast. Our trip ended on Thursday when we flew back to Adelaide on a late flight. The Canberra trip was lots of fun and something that we will remember forever.



Taking in the scenery of the old Parliament House.



Harvey Williams testing out a replica war helicopter at the Australian War Memorial.



Kondoolka Kids

Stefanie Röske

Wow, it feels like the year only just started, but reality is, it is almost finished! Yep, another year, that has just gone by in no time. It only feels like yesterday, when Mareike (7) went into the workshop with her Dad to create her contribution for the School of the Air ART competition 2018. With no fear and little practice, she created a piece of art using the plasma cutter that symbolised her school. This year, I took the kids into my little photo studio up the back of the house and let them go wild with some props, lights and cameras. Mareike created a self-portrait trying to reflect on herself and showcasing what is going on in her busy head. She is an inquisitive, quirky little girl, that is stretching my nerves and is testing her boundaries most days. But I wouldn't want her any different!

We started the year with a hot and dry summer at Kondoolka Station, just like most of you would have. School holidays meant going to work for the whole family, struggling along through the seasons with very little rain. This quickly became a daily routine. Most days Dave is going one way and the kids and I would go the other way, sharing the work load of cleaning and maintaining troughs and pipelines, pulling the odd bore, hoping that it only stopped pumping, because there was an issue with the pump and not another water supply that has run dry.

But 2019 wasn't just all struggles! Martin (5) started Kindy through RICE in Port Augusta and we had a ball in the school room this year. Thanks to the girls at RICE who have made online lessons engaging and fun for the kids and supplied us with an awesome, flexible and engaging hands on program for this year. Highlights were yoga with Miss Nee and Miss Jess, a climb on Mt Wallaby with Miss Megan and Miss Nee, creating African animals from recycled materials, lots of messy experiments and not to forget 'Farmer George' came out for a visit. A massive THANK YOU to the girls in Port Augusta at RICE who have helped us create some great memories throughout Martins Kindy year. Next year, Martin will join his sister full time in the school room attending Reception classes through SOTA Port Augusta. I can't believe how fast these kids grow up!

Another highlight was the visit of Dave's niece from NSW. Charli grew up on a farm in Wellington and moved into Dubbo as a teenager. She has spent a fair few holidays with us out on the Station following her dream of becoming a jillaroo. Straight out of school and only 18 years old, she has now begun her new journey in life. While she is still on the hunt for a job for the new season in 2020, she has joined us at Kondoolka. The kids love having her around, as she is a ball of energy and there is never a dull moment having her here. We will be sad to see her go into the big open world but wish her all the best and hope she will keep following her dreams and become a kick ass jillaroo, showing all these boys out there how it's done!

The Power of Three

Kate Greenfield, Port Augusta branch

When Nic and John were at SOTA I was lucky enough to engage the help of several REVISE Teachers. They were just sensational and the boys and I all learnt a lot from their visits and grew our friendship circle as a result. I will never forget Joy Bricknell teaching me about the power of three. She taught me this in an education context in that if you get the kids to go over things they need to learn 3 times in a session it helps them remember it i.e. spelling. However the lesson relates to so many areas of life. It can also be given as three things to remember or three things to do to progress. Today I want to use this idea with gardening.

Three gardening focused ways to survive and thrive through Summer. My philosophy when it comes to gardening is make it so doable you can't say no.

- Fertilise with ½ strength Seasol when the weather is under 34C that day. I use half strength because I'm cautious and I don't like the extra pressure of always trying to remember which fortnight I last used it. The pack suggests to use it fortnightly. I find that by using it half strength the plants never get too much and I just try and use it weekly or so. This is in no way sponsored but seasol is just magic for supporting plants when it's hot.

- If you can't help yourself and you've got a plant something. Plant something that is quick to grow like raddish. Raddish only take a month and boom they're done. The benefit of planting things with a quick lead time is that the weather will have less opportunity to knock them about.

- Spend the hot afternoons inside on the computer planning the veg to come when the weather cools. I often sift through online catalogues and make plans on what plants will form my cool season veggie garden as well as trying to work out which of the 5000+ tomato varieties would be great to try next summer. There are plenty of companies out there that sell seed online. I've had terrific success with seeds bought from www.rangeviewseeds.com.au And www.EdenSeeds.com.au

Happiness feels so far away!

*Paulaine Vermeulen,
Marla Oodnadatta branch*

When I try and I try,
and I give and I give.
And all that I've got to give
is not good enough.
I close myself in and I hide
everything deep inside.
Then the darkness slowly takes
over and I am struggling to breathe.

I ask myself:
How I am going to carry on?
What am I worth?
Who cares about me?
Where is my life going?
When will it get better?

Happiness feels so far away!
Happiness feels so far away!

Keep on taking one step at a time.
Get some mates to help you along.
Treasure the little things.
Then the light will start shining
through.
The darkness will start to fade.

Then Happiness doesn't feel
so far away!
Then Happiness doesn't feel
so far away!

Life Members

Federal Life Members

Julia Materne

Jane Gloster

State Life Members

Bob Baker

Lorrayne Balharry

Glennis Crawford

Jane Gloster

Julia Materne

Lynn Nagel

Don Nicholson

Sharon Nutt

Port Augusta

Lynn Nagel

Don Nicholson

Colleen Manning

North East Branch

Julia Materne

Glennis Crawford

Jane Gloster

Dot Sandland

Roslyn Breeding

Flinders Ranges

Kaye Fels

Richard and Janne Warwick

Sally Henery

Marla Oodnadatta

Digby and Bernadette Giles

Helen Williams

North West Branch

Joanna Gibson

Jill Greenfield

Date: 12th November 2019

The School's Best News

Written by: Ruby Willis

My News

Time for haircuts for Arcoona's sheep!



Last week on the 4th of November Arcoona Station crutched 15000 sheep. The Arcoona workers, Dad and the crutchers crutch the sheep to protect them from being fly blown. This happens once a year and this year they are selling some sheep because of the drought. Crutching is lots of fun and good for the sheep. This time of the year is always very hot and dusty making it hard work. Dad said "It has been the driest year for crutching since we have been here, and it is the least sheep we have ever crutched."

Q&A with our ICPA Execs

*Kate Greenfield, Port Augusta branch
& State Council Vice President*

I'm a natural sticky beak. I'm always interested in the background stories of things as I feel it helps create a greater understanding of how things came to be and why. I'm always chuffed to see the growth in people as they take on roles in State and Federal Council of ICPA and for the most part the very ordinary beginnings people had. Sometimes it gets me all Paul Kelly in the 'From Little Things Big Things Grow' perspective.

ICPA SA's wonderful Executive members past and present have not managed to escape my curiosity as I have pondered what their backgrounds were and what drew them into ICPA. So, I emailed several of our Executives and the following are the responses I received to the questions posed. I hope you get as much from reading these as I did.

What are two things you wish everyone realised about this role?

- 'You learn so much, meet so many inspiring people and make wonderful friends all over Australia.' *Joanna Gibson*

- 'I'd not put much thought into what the ICPA secretary role would involve before I took on the job. The truth is I'd filed it in the banks of my mind as dull, but since throwing myself in the deep of it when I said "yes" I've found it's actually quite stimulating. It's been an excellent challenge for me, as although writing minutes is a bit prosaic it's been at times a creative output for me! I write minutes a little bit like a "Dear Diary" entry. I hope the State Council are enjoying reading them.

A little-known fact (or maybe everyone knows this) is that I am a master of procrastination! If there was a degree for procrastination, I would have received honors. I can make a bed worthy of military judgement, drink at least 3 cups of tea, vacuum dust bunnies behind the TV cabinet, tackle weeding garden beds all before doing the job I'm actually meant to be doing (I'm particularly effective at this around tax time). Juggling the secretary role with station duties and the schoolroom has meant I've really had to use a jobs list effectively. I did a course a year ago where the presenter said to never write too many jobs on a daily list, I've sort of stuck to this rule and for the most part it appears to be working

(except for when I lose the job's list). So, if I can do this job then I think almost anyone can!' *Edwina Bowie*

How long were you involved with ICPA before you became a State Councilor?

- 'My involvement was very minimal; I'd bake a cake for the local branch once a year but that's about it. Until this job plopped itself into my lap I'd been pretty caught up in my kids and the station, living happily in my own little bubble quite unaware of everything the ICPA does for the community. My eldest son is off to boarding school next year in 2020, and his eminent departure brought about a deeper understanding of the ICPA and the important role it plays for my family. Although late to the party (oh yes, another wonderful trait of mine, I am reliably late) I hope to be a late stayer and play my part.' *Edwina Bowie*

- 'I joined the North West Branch in 1999 when we lived at Parakylia Station. Amelia was a toddler and Molly had just been born. I then joined State Council in 2001. Over the years I have held the positions of State Treasurer, State Publicity Officer and North West Branch Delegate, 2005 Adelaide State Council conference convenor, 2009 North West Branch State Conference Convenor, President of the North West Branch from 2008 until 2015, and I was elected to Federal Council in 2013 until 2017.

I ended up spending a lot of time involved in the Communications Portfolio both at a state and federal level - this stemmed from the disastrous experiences that my own children were having with Centra and the internet and it became a bit of an obsession to try and improve things for children that had no other choice but to learn via distance education.' *Joanna Gibson*

How long were you involved with ICPA before you became a Federal Councilor?

- 'After joining ICPA in 2001, I have been involved across the three tiers in various capacities. In 2017 I was elected to the position of Federal Treasurer. The last of our children had made their way to Adelaide for Boarding School and I needed something to fill my void! I always felt that ICPA had been so generous to me over the years, with not only the friendships that I had made along the way but by providing our family with the allowances and support we would need to educate our children. It

was my time to give back, finances were my thing and the rest is history. It has certainly been a learning curve, it has taken up quite a bit of my time over the last 2 and a bit years, but what I have gained in return is immeasurable. Volunteering always has an amazing capacity to give back. It has given me purpose in a world of few career opportunities, and a pleasant distraction from this merciless drought.' *Lisa Slade*

How long were you involved before you became part of the Executive?

- 'I joined the Flinders Ranges branch in about 2001 I think and my first executive role was Branch Publicity Officer a few years later. As many branches have difficulty filling positions, there's no better way to help out than to jump right in. No experience necessary, you'll get your training on the job.' *Lisa Slade*

- 'Being reliably late often means you have to take the express lane in life' *Edwina Bowie*

How much time does your role take?

- 'I think it depends on how much time you have to give to the role. I believe that if you join a committee and take on a role you need to give it your best shot. If everyone works together it makes the outcomes so much better. The main tip is to check your emails.' *Joanna Gibson*

What are the behind the scenes elements of your role that fellow ICPA members may not be aware of?

- I write minutes, check emails, help write letters and so on. I'm only half way through my first year so I will be able to more accurately fill you in at the end of next March. I'm not going to lie...I'm terrified about State Conference! Imagine my jobs lists! My arms will be inked with permanent marker!

Delegation was an absolute highlight for me and I hope to get to go again. It was great going into the Department of Education, signing in and seeing the busy little ant workers in their cubicles (I've often wondered about what's going on in those buildings and by the looks of it from the inside not that much). Listening to the bell siren incessantly in Parliament House during a sitting whilst we were talking to the minister was a real spin out. Watching the minister juggle us, his pager, his mobile and the bells going off was quite a spec-

tacle. I go to the city with my kids to shop so this was a side to Adelaide I hadn't been privy to; it was really very interesting and did genuinely surprise me.' *Edwina Bowie*

The quote 'If you want something done ask a busy person' always resonates with me when I think about the many hats that our state councilors wear. Please share some of yours.

• 'I do not really like this question for fear of making this about who is doing more than whom. But I will try and tackle it!

I think we are all crazy busy, the question that I consider to be more relevant is how much of your own personal time are you willing to invest in volunteering? In the country we all wear many hats, there seem to be fewer and fewer of us out there to keep the same volunteer roles going in our communities. I cannot see that changing in the foreseeable future. It has to be said that volunteering can be in any capacity, every little bit counts, many hands make light work yada yada, but there comes a time where you need to step up. For me, it wasn't that I thought I would be excellent in that position, it was that I could see that those on the various executives before me had done their time, they had earned their stripes and deserved to step down knowing someone was going to step up into their shoes. I really believe in ICPA, it is the only voice advocating for rural and remote children's education in Australia, who is going to do it if we cannot fill executive positions and our branches fold? While there is still so much inequity being faced across the board, I think it is as important as ever that we are the voice for not only our children, but those to come. If I have learnt anything from ICPA, it is that you will always be supported when taking on an executive role, you will continue to learn and you will continue to make a difference...and you will make lifelong friendships along the way. My one piece of advice, and I think Jo has touched on this, give it the time you can afford and the effort it deserves to lighten the load on everyone.' *Lisa Slade*

One thing about ICPA that seems eternally true is that it may take a little time to volunteer but the rewards greatly outweigh to committed required. I've certainly found that to be true.

I'd just like to sign off by thanking the wonderful ladies for sharing their insights and motivations.

ARE YOUR WORDS DOING DAMAGE?



Teens and parents join forces with fresh approach to tackling cyber bullying

Kate and Tick Everett, the parents of Dolly Everett who took her life last year after sustained bullying, have welcomed a first of its kind anti-bullying video created by teens for teens and are pleased to launch a new Dolly's Dream parent and carer information resource. Written and directed for the anti-bullying initiative, Dolly's Dream, by 15-year old filmmaker Charlotte McLaverty, and with the backing of young American musician Billie Eilish, the video takes a fresh approach to tackling cyber bullying – and is by teens, for teens.

The story draws attention to the pervasive nature of cyber bullying, highlights its devastating impacts and asks young viewers, 'are your words doing damage?'

Kate Everett says she hopes the video will cause teens to stop and think about the impact their words could be having and encourage young people speak up about this issue.

"Dolly left us with a message that was 'speak, even if your voice shakes'. I hope that this video will touch home for a lot of teens and help them understand that speaking up about bullying can help to stop it," Kate said.

"And I hope it reveals to parents how cyber bullying can happen anywhere, even at the dining table or watching TV with the family." Around one in five young people report being bullied in any one year, with secondary students more likely to engage in cyber bullying than primary school students. Additionally, 95 per cent of parents agree that they need more online safety information.

To help address this, Dolly's Dream has developed an online resource for parents and carers seeking practical information on online safety.

Informed by insights from parents and curated by online safety experts, The Parent Hub, is a collation of the most trusted information from around the internet about online safety and bullying, making it a one-stop-shop for parents looking to grow their digital literacy and keep their kids safe online.

"The video reinforced to us how cyber bully-

ing can happen in the home without parents even being aware," Kate said.

"There's no shortage of reliable resources to assist parents with online safety, but the sheer volume can be overwhelming. The Parent Hub simplifies that as a single source of trustworthy and regularly updated information, so parents won't have to scour the internet for resources to help their children," said Kate.

"With these new resources, we hope to reset the discussion around cyber bullying. We're asking teens to start a conversation among themselves and we're providing parents with the right tools so they can be part of the solution."

The teenage director of the video created for Dolly's Dream, Charlotte McLaverty, hopes her film connects with teenagers in a different way to traditional resources.

"I hope this video influences people my age to have a conversation about how we speak to each other and think before we write a toxic message online. I also hope it gives parents an insight into the isolation that young people can face when they are cyber bullied, so we can all ultimately speak up about this issue," Charlotte said.

About the Campaign

To view the video, head to Dolly's Dream YouTube. Parents looking for tips on how to talk to children about cyber bullying, and many other online safety topics, can visit parenthub.dollysdream.org.au About Dolly's Dream

Dolly's Dream was set up in memory of Amy "Dolly" Everett, aged 14, who took her own life in January 2018 after an extended period of bullying and cyber bullying. Dolly left behind her parents and sister, Tick, Kate and Meg, who are now focused on preventing other families from going through the same devastating experience.

Their efforts were recognised when they were named 2019 Australia Day Local Heroes.

Dolly's Dream is supported by national children's charity, the Alannah & Madeline Foundation. For more information, visit www.dollysdream.org.au

OUTBACK COMEDY ROADSHOW

SAVE THE DATE

PORT AUGUSTA (VENUE TBC) – 9 JANUARY

WOOMERA (VENUE TBC) – 10 JANUARY

COOBER PEDY RSL – 11 JANUARY

BLINMAN HOTEL – 16 JANUARY

MARREE HOTEL – 17 JANUARY

YUNTA HOTEL – 18 JANUARY



Government of South Australia
South Australian Arid Lands Natural
Resources Management Board



Government
of South Australia



**Outback
Communities
Authority**



SA ICPA Raffle WINNERS



SA Isolated Children's Parents' Association State Council

"Ensuring rural & remote students have equity of access to a continuing & appropriate education"

A HUGE thank you to everyone that bought tickets and supported the raffle!



FIRST: Port Lincoln Experience (worth over \$1100)

- Calypso Star Shark cage dive
- 2 nights @ Tourist Park in an Executive Cabin for 2 adults and 2 children
- Glen Forest Family pass + 1 x Segway voucher, 2 x maze voucher, 2 x putt putt voucher
 - \$100 Fuel voucher

WON BY: Debbie McConnell

SECOND: REX Mystery flight for 2 people

WON BY: Karl Wurst

THIRD: Adelaide Oval Roof top climb & 2 nights' accommodation @ Air B & B "Alpha House"

WON BY: Jo Darcy

4th: \$300 Paramount Browns voucher

WON BY: Andrew Proctor

5th: GME UHF Radio Twin pack TX665

WON BY: Hannah Leiblich

6th: Barristers Block Premium Wines

WON BY: Penny Georgiou

7th: Pink Roadhouse Pink 'Kitchen' pack

WON BY: Emily Hassell

8th: My Grandma Ben – hamper

WON BY: Josh Hilder

9th: Innamincka Hotel - 2 bottles of "Outback Loop" wine & cap

WON BY: Nic Greenfield

10th: Red Tractor Designs \$25 voucher

WON BY: Stef Röske

~CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS~

Allowances for remote and isolated families

Allowance	Who can apply?	How much? (2018 Rates)
Federal Allowances: Centrelink Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boarding Allowance 	Parents of geographically isolated school aged students who need to board away from home to attend school. Applies to boarding schools, hostels and private board	\$11,011 per year, made up of 2 components: \$8,557 - basic \$2,454 - additional subject to parental income and actual boarding costs \$8,307 minimum boarding charge threshold for Additional Boarding Allowance
Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance Education Allowance 	Geographically isolated and undertaking schooling via Distance Education	\$4,278 per year.
Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second Home Allowance 	Geographically isolated and run a second home to access education.	\$6,499 per year paid in fortnightly instalments, for up to three students. \$19,497 maximum second home allowance for each family (three children).
Youth Allowance	Young people from 16-24 years, studying, training or looking for work. Dependant children up to 22 years are subject to Parental Means Test. Rural and regional students can claim the independent rate by earning 75% of Wage Level A in a 14 month period.	Varies by situation. Please call or see the Centrelink website.
State Allowances: DECD Transport Services Department (08) 8226 2406 Travel Allowance	School students living five kilometres or more from the nearest public school or school bus run.	Paid per km. Apply through school principal.
State Education Allowance (SEA)	Families in receipt of AIC Basic Boarding Allowance	\$2250 per year.

Further information regarding the Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC)

Apply through Centrelink

- **Dedicated Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Call Centre: 13 23 18**
- **Dedicated Youth Allowance Hotline for ICPA Families: 13 24 90**

To qualify for AIC, students must live at least 56km from an appropriate government school, or at least 16km from an appropriate state school and at least 4.5km from the nearest bus route.

www.icpa.com.au TAB: Boarding/Hostels/Second Home

LINK: Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) payment amounts and or dates.

SA ICPA State Council 2019/2020

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Portfolio Allocation

Boarding Schools & School Hostels	Kate Greenfield, Katrina Morris	Distance Education	Petie Rankin, Jess Barry
Early Childhood Education	Penny Rasheed, Paulaine Vermeulen	Specific Education	Kerry Williams, Jodie Keogh
Rural Schools/School Travel	Mija Reynolds, Lisa McIntosh	Tertiary Education	Joanna Gibson, Roslyn Breeding
Communications	Helen Williams, Jodie Keogh		



THE PIPELINE

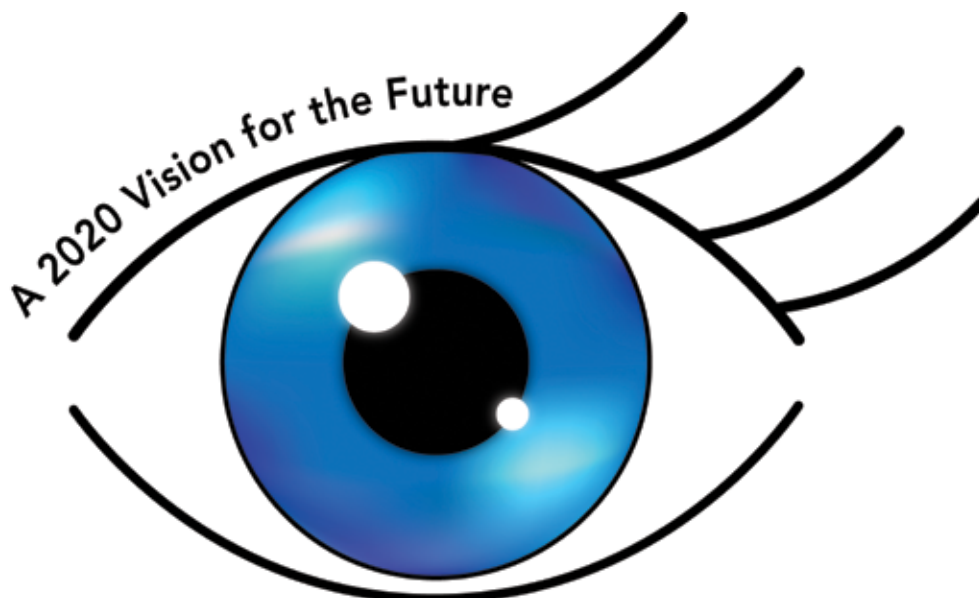
Next deadline - 1st JUNE 2020

Please send articles to: The Editor, Lynly Kerin

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SA ICPA STATE CONFERENCE 13th March 2020

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST

PRINT POST APPROVED

100002577

PRINTED BY SA ICPA STATE COUNCIL

EDITION 96

If undeliverable, return to:
Editor, The Pipeline
PVT 100
PORT AUGUSTA SA 5701

THE **PIPELINE** DECEMBER 2019

SURFACE
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