

THE PIPELINE



NEWSLETTER OF THE ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION - SA

JULY 2018

Edition 93



Pictured are Flinders Ranges Branch members Michelle Hilder, Treasurer. Lisa Slade, President. Lisa's husband and Conference Opener Keith Slade. Publicity Officer Emilee Warnest, Linda Haydon, Mija Reynolds, Conference Convenor Belinda Hatcher, Sonya Fels and Luke & Frances Frahn. Image courtesy of Marco Balsamo, The Transcontinental.

Well done to the Flinders Ranges branch and their convening committee on hosting the 47th SA ICPA Annual State Conference in Port Augusta. With a pleasing number of registrations the 14 motions and 1 supplementary motion were discussed, debated and carried by attending branch and council delegates. To view the motions from this year's State Conference head over to <https://sa.icpa.com.au/documents> Conference was attended by Dan van Holst Pellekaan, State Member for Stuart and the Minister for Energy and Mining and Rowan Ramsey, Federal Member for Grey, as well as key education and department figures. Conference was also well covered by local news stations as well as state and local publications with the two motions from the North West and Marla

Oodnadatta branch regarding School of the Air becoming a standalone school the most coveted motion of the day and attracting plenty of interest. The motion was well received by our members and support has grown enormously since then. This motion and others pertaining to the Department of Education will be discussed heavily during delegation at a meeting with Minister Gardner. Quite fitting that Emeritus Professor John Halsey (pictured) was available as our guest speaker. Professor Halsey spoke avidly concerning his Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education (IRRRRE). The review uncovered some serious issues with education in rural areas, some of which came as no surprise to the parents present who have firsthand experience with many of them. His

recommendations were well received by attendees who know it is time to fight hard to see rural and remote education put in the spotlight and for changes to begin that will see our children disadvantaged no longer.



MORE CONFERENCE PICTURES ON PAGES 16-19



From the President

As I write this we are two weeks away from delegation in Adelaide, where we will take the issues raised from our State Conference directly to the politicians and representatives from DECD as well as Open Access College Principal Julie Taylor. Member for Stuart, Dan van Holst Pellekaan, has once again offered his support and is taking us to lunch at Parliament

House. We look forward to sharing the outcome of delegation with you soon!

Our State Conference was another successful day and thank you again to Convenor Belinda Hatcher and the Flinders Ranges Branch for a well organised day. Some highlights of the day were our Communications panel and our Boarding panel, where industry leaders were available on each topic to take questions from the floor. The Communications Q&A panel was presented by Lalla MacKenzie, Senior National Stakeholder Relations Manager NBN Co Limited, Mark Bolton, Telstra SA Area General Manager and Mike Hayes from IN2IT. In the afternoon we covered all things boarding with Paul Tosch from tertiary accommodation provider Lincoln College, Richard Stokes from the Australian Boarding Schools Association, Darin Betro from Westminster College and Libby Twigden from Pembroke College. We really appreciated these representatives taking the time to bring their expertise to us in Port Augusta and supporting our members through this panel. Feedback on the panels was excellent. We also enjoyed a presentation from Professor John Halsey, updating us on the outcome of the Independent Review into Rural, Regional and Remote Education (IRRRRE). Again, we were very fortunate that Professor Halsey was willing to travel to us and share his perspectives from the Review. Country music star Adam Harvey had everyone in stitches at the conference dinner. Thank you to our many sponsors and guests who supported this annual event and also our members who travelled vast distances to attend.

It was with much sadness that we farewelled our State Secretary Frances Frahn after conference. During her two years in the role, Frances was always reliable and very professional. Despite not renominating in 2017, she continued on as there was no other interest in the role. This year we are once again faced with no nominations for Secretary. At our post-conference State Council meeting, Frances generously agreed to tie up loose ends from conference and submit our Federal Conference motions. She will be officially stepping down at our next meeting on 3rd July. As you can imagine, we are still desperately seeking expressions of interest for the role of State Secretary, or offers of assistance in splitting the role, such as a Minutes/Agenda secretary, Conference Secretary etc. Please consider if you have a couple of hours a week to give back to ICPA. We are all busy and all juggling work, businesses, schooling, study, families and other commitments in the community. It is crucial that SAICPA remains constitutional and can continue advocating for our rural and remote families.

Several members from SA will be heading to Canberra on 31st July for the Federal Conference. SA State Council has submitted four motions, on communications, specific education needs and concessional airfares for rural and remote students accessing an education. We will also present a motion that SA host the Federal Conference in Adelaide in 2019. Planning is well underway for this exciting event, thanks to Conference Convenor Katrina Morris and her committee. I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone who is attending in Canberra.

Finally, I hope those of you continuing to struggle through the drought get some relief soon. Stay warm but not dry!

Kerry

From the Editor



Six months have passed in a flurry of branch meetings, school camps, school holidays, two long school terms and one state conference as well as the compulsory social gatherings to help balance the work and play! Conference has helped to make this a bumper issue of The Pipeline, and I must thank Helen Williams for providing me with

most of the photos from the day. I did remember to take a few from my vantage point of being in the front row this year, but it sure makes content easier to find when people offer up their snaps. To those that sent in articles and the like, my gratitude you have! You put up with my harassment and requests every time deadline looms, buuuuut, please remember you can send me content anytime throughout the year, this would certainly help lower my stress levels when cutoff date is sneaking up and I am left tapping my fingers at the desk waiting for the inbox to start filling.

In regards to conference, was it just me or did anyone else feel like shouting out a concurrent "here, here" during Professor Halsey's address? His findings and recommendations presented after his Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education surely struck a chord with not just myself. For me, the most significant recommendation was establishing a national focus for regional, rural and remote education, training and research to enhance access, outcomes and opportunities in regional Australia. Rural education will always face more challenges than the mainstream system and because of these challenges it does deserve a national focus aimed at addressing them. I cross my fingers that the Professors 11 recommendations & 53 actions are pertinently acted on when left in the hands of our nation's leaders. Maybe then, my trust in their ability to uphold an election promise to rural education can hold out.

The chance to listen to speakers like Professor Halsey ignites a passion in me to play a more significant part in advocating for the ICPA cause. From working at the grass roots level of my branch, to State Council obligations and simply acknowledging the work of Federal Council by reading the updates, answering the emails and sparing some time to assist wherever I can makes the wheels of progress keep turning for our organisation. State Councils wheels could come to a grinding halt however if we cannot source a State Secretary. To put it bluntly, to remain a State Council we must have a State Secretary, without the position filled we would be in breach of our constitution. I certainly hope that the passion ignites in someone soon that can support council by taking on this position. Frances would be an amazing mentor and with Kerry at the helm, I am sure support and guidance would never be far away.

Delegation is fast approaching and I am happy to be attending my first one while hoping I can contribute positively to the discussions! It is a year of firsts for me as I again look forward to attending August's Federal Conference in Canberra as a delegate for the North West branch. New experiences are on offer and comfort zones stretched, but that's when growth happens right?! I will be sure to report on the happenings in the next issue.

For now though, take a break from your day, sit back and enjoy reading this issue, number 93 of The Pipeline.

Lynly

SOTA turned 60!!

On a historical day in 1958, Port Augusta held its first radio lesson to the states remote and isolated students, up since dawn and fresh faced from chores, they began their education through a brown envelope received in the weekly mail bag and a voice at the other end of a handpiece. 60 years later and in the great big scheme of things, not much has changed. The lessons are received via an online platform, still just a voice at the end of satellite signal, work is uploaded and downloaded, and often still send via post and students still live 100's of kilometres from their teachers and classmates. This 60-year milestone was reason to celebrate an amazing achievement by our Port Augusta School of the Air, and to enjoy an afternoon of storytelling and memories.

On Wednesday the 16th of May, the crowd gathered at West Augusta Football Club to browse the bygone day's memorabilia alongside works from our current students. Brett Benbow, Deputy Mayor of Port Augusta, opened the afternoon with guest speakers Colleen Manning, Rowan Ramsey, Ron Dare and our Principal Julie Taylor following. Colleen regaled in stories of her experiences of a life spent in connection with School of the Air and how her time there has shaped her friendships and lives of her daughters in such a positive way. Ron enlightened us with stories from his years of teaching with SOTA and how he saw changes, people and eras come and go. Our wonderful students took to the stage to sing the school song to a proud and absorbed crowd of parents and friends. Following speeches, the lovely 60th cake was cut and handed out to hungry kids while the afternoon slipped away in a murmur of chatter, an array of beautiful food

and a flurry of merchandise purchases.

As I stood back and watched the afternoon unfold, I couldn't help but notice the passion and spirit Colleen spoke of in her recollections as faces lit up at photos from long forgotten memories and recognition in eyes as they recalled faces in yearbooks. It may only be that you were a student, a parent, a teacher or a person of interest, but one way or another, if you have played a part in SOTA, it's hard to shake off the fond memories that are no doubt embedded in you.

Petie Rankin, North West Branch



Petie Rankin who chaired the organising committee for the event gets to cut the anniversary cake.



Ron Dare kept guests entertained with stories from his time teaching at the school.



2018 DES Governesses with their trading table at the celebration.



SOTA students sang the school song to open the afternoon.

Flinders Ranges Branch News



Members attending the March meeting at Old Wilpena Homestead. Linda and Alan Harbour, Belinda Hatcher, Frances Frahn, Janne Warwick, Lisa Slade, Emilee Warnest, Michelle Hilder and Sonya Fels.

Flinders Ranges Branch held their usual cheese stall fundraiser at the Hawker Races on the 26th May. The weather was spot on to watch the horses have a run around the Hawker track. The crowd was a tough one this year and platters were slow to sell, but none the less, we got there in the end and made a tidy profit for the branch.

A big thank you to the Alexandrina Cheese Company at Mt Jagged for again supplying the great cheeses, Genesis Transport for delivery, Hawker Area School, Teagues Hawker Motors and everyone who helped out on the day. Also Mikki Laongbottom for her 'Saviour' spices for the dips, Kay Fels for her fabulous quince paste and Sharon and Leonard Nutt for their gorgeous Red gum cheese boards which were available for purchase. The crowd was well behaved, the company was fun and we look forward to doing it all again next year.

10 Flinders Ranges Branch members attended their March meeting at the Old Wilpena Homestead meeting room. Many thanks to Linda and Alan Harbour for organising. The kids came along and enjoyed nature's playground, helping relocate a young emu chick who found itself on the wrong side of the fence!

Lisa Slade took on the vacated President's role with Belinda Hatcher Vice President. Lisa would like to thank her branch members for their dedication and commitment to ICPA. Your passion is inspiring and motivating and thank you for your time and commitment.

Emilee Warnest



Frances Frahn and Sharon McInnis raising funds for their branch at the races

Flinders Ranges Branch News

Mortlock Scholarship 2018

Urrbrae Agricultural High
School Recipients

Jessica Fels

- Merna Mora Station

James McInnis

- Lovegrove Station

From

Flinders Ranges Branch

The Mortlock Scholarships aim to assist students who are studying Agriculture and Horticulture in both secondary and Tertiary levels. It is derived from Mr John Mortlock leaving a bequest to carry out work at the Waite Institutes. Also in addition he bequeathed a sum of \$10,000 to establish the Mortlock Agricultural Scholarship at Urrbrae Agricultural High School. Today the scholarship is worth over \$55,000 per year including high school and graduate levels.



Jessica Fels and James McInnis both received the Mortlock Scholarship for 2018. Congratulations to you both.



Tilly Warnest received her first trophy, "Junior Encouragement Award" at the Yunta Races



Holly Warnest riding 'Cookie', who also enjoyed a day out at the Yunta races.

Flinders Ranges Branch News

Young Regional Achiever Recognised



John Henery with his finalists award for Regional Service Young Achiever 2018. Congratulations John.

John Henery from Alpina Station, Blinman in the Flinders Ranges ICPA Branch area, was nominated for the Channel 9 Young Achiever Award 2018, in the Regional Service category. This was one of twelve separate categories under the award. Sponsored by Santos, the Regional Service Award aims to recognise South Australia's regional and rural young achievers and community contributors, acknowledging those who are helping to reshape and inspire their local communities through volunteering, leadership, sport, community activities or in their career, business or enterprise.

John is a shining example of all that the Young Achiever Awards Santos Regional Service Award seeks to recognise. John is an active member of the Blinman Progress Association and the Captain of the Wilpena Country Fire Service Brigade. He chose to return to be the sixth generation of the one family to live and work in a

small family business in a small isolated community. John saw a need to be part of what he loved in order for it to continue and improve.

Initiating the Blinman Motokhana (which will be run for the third time on Saturday July 21 2018) John commenced and as a volunteer he has coordinated this very successful event that brings together Blinman locals, the wider community and visitors from further afield to enjoy a day of motorbike games, good food, campfires and entertainment. Creating an opportunity to get more use from existing facilities at the Blinman racecourse as well as adding another social event to the calendar year for young people and families in the bush, the Blinman Motokhana is a great fun day out that raises money for the Blinman Progress Association and the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

John was short listed and became one of three finalists for the Santos Regional Service category.

"No one does community work for the awards or praise, we do it because we care and want to help or make a difference, and it is a very great honour to be nominated for the Santos Regional Service award" said John, who could not attend the Awards Night in person because he was in Canada enjoying his honeymoon with new wife Keziah. John's parents, David and Sally Henery, attended in his place and received his Category Finalist Certificate on John's behalf.

The Awards Night was held at the Hilton Hotel in Adelaide on Friday May 11 and was attended by a record 520 people. Hosted by MC Will McDonald from Channel 9 News, it was a night of glitz and glamour, good food and popular entertainment that really highlighted the achievements of all the nominees. There was a very positive vibe in the very large room and the accomplishments of these young people offer a hugely optimistic outlook for the future of South Australia.

John's nomination and success at becoming a category finalist has brought attention to his achievements and, in his view more importantly, has brought attention to Blinman and the Motokhana event. His story has spread far and wide via social media and was recently picked up by BrandSA. He was not named the winner of the category on the night but that didn't matter; all nominees and finalists are winners.

The Young Achiever Awards 2018 were sponsored by Channel 9, Axsys, Bartercard and Fresh 92.7 and each of the twelve categories are sponsored by individual businesses or universities. If you know a young South Australian who is doing something special please do them the honour of nominating them. It will give them some much deserved recognition and a moral boost, and will put a spotlight on their fabulous achievements.

Sally Henery

Marla Oodnadatta Branch News

Hi Everyone

Well that six months went quick! Already its June, the school year is half way through, and I am still trying to catch up! Still no rain to speak of, a few showers here and there , and that's about it!

We had three members attend the State Conference in Port Augusta in May, great to see one of our new members Paulaine Vermeulen at her first conference, along with Kirsty Williams and myself.

Harvey Williams from Nilpin-na ran in the SAPSASA Cross Country Championships at Oakbank on Thursday, June 7th Chloe Nunn. Macumba Station has moved to Darwin for two years where she is studying her Masters in Psychology.

It's the season for social events! William Creek Gymkhana was held in April, and a good crowd attended. Logan Williams won the Under 10 Junior Horse events, and Justin Nunn took out the Adult Horse and Motorbike Champion.

Next we headed off for the Ood-

nadatta Races and Gymkhana which were held in May. Logan Williams was again successful as Champion Rider in the Under 10 Motorbike and Gymkhana divisions, and congratulations to the Nunn family's Macumba Syndicate who scooped the pool in the Oodnadatta race events.

The long weekend in June saw some heading to Marree for their event.

Oodnadatta Campdraft and Bronco Branding will be held on Friday, July 13th and Saturday, July 14th. With Coober Pedy races and William Creek Campdraft and Bronco Branding following in August.

Congratulations to BobbyLou and Tom Martin of Macumba Station who have welcomed Cameron Thomas Vass Martin to their family recently.

Kirsty Williams and I are looking forward to attending the Federal Conference in Canberra in August.

Not much else to report from this way so cheers until next time

Helen Williams



Logan Williams and OZ Minerals rep Alan Kane at William Creek



The Nunn family together with members of the Birchmore family after the running of the George Birchmore Memorial Oodnadatta Pastoral Cup

Marla Oodnadatta Branch News



Kirsty and Lucy Williams at Oodnadatta

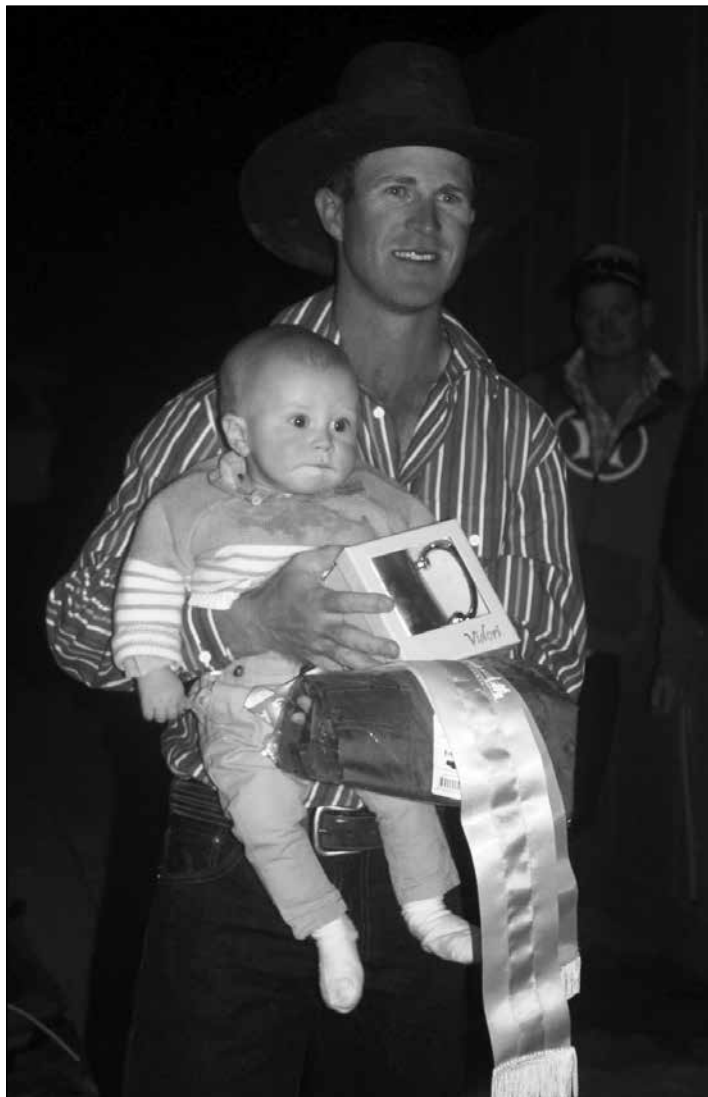


Cameron and George Williams at Oodnadatta Races



Kids Sack Race at Oodnadatta

Marla Oodnadatta Branch News



Above: Some of the action at William Creek

Left: Justin Nunn won Leading Horse and Motorbike Champion- pictured with son Roy

Below: ICPA Alice Springs member Amber Driver from Elkedra Station, travelled down to William Creek with the family and caught up with Chantelle Williams



Marree Air Branch News

I attended the state conference this year in Port Augusta. It was a great conference with a great mix of presentations and guest speakers. I was pleased to hear the results of the research done by Emeritus Professor John Halsey with his Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education, showing that there is a need for an increase in energy towards rural education as a whole. I am sure we have all long believed this, but it was good to see a non-biased study conducted that, hopefully, our policy makers can use to help rural and remote education. The Friday night was a great dinner and Adam Harvey was very entertaining! Congratulations to the Flinders Ranges Branch on a fantastic conference.

Cody had a great time at School experience week in May, with a

great range of activities and of course a great catch up with friends! I love seeing all the kids getting along and the older ones helping the younger ones, what a great community!

I have been listening to an audiobook called "A Tribe Called Bliss" by Lori Harder, which has been an amazing insight into female relationships. It has also helped me to improve my friendships, work and family relationships. I am also reading a book called "Think and Grow Rich" by Napoleon Hill. This is an amazing book that looks at mindset and the potential of all human beings – fascinating!

Jess Bell

North East Branch News

Greetings to all SA ICPA members and friends from the chilly North East pastoral district. The dust has finally been rinsed from the rain gauges with varying falls (nothing outstanding!) in the past month. We hope the green tinge is boosted by timely follow-up rains.

Well done to State Council on the May annual conference which again provided members the face-to-face opportunity to better understand issues and concerns and share experiences of their own endeavours to educate their children.

Representing the North East Branch were; first-time delegate Kristina Crawford (Weekeroo Stn), second-time delegate Leisa Breeding (Braemar Stn) as well as Jane Gloster (now of Roxby Downs) and Roslyn Breeding (Teetulpa Stn). Completing the 'local flavour' at our table were former North East Branch members Colleen Grove-Jones (representing sponsor Elders Rural Services) and the highly-regarded Bob and Lyn Baker (now of WA). Bob accepted Kerry Williams' invitation to chair the Election of Officers at the AGM and he spoke passionately about all that ICPA continues to do in pursuit of education opportunities for all remote and isolated stu-

dents in Australia. 'Our' Kerry Williams accepted re-election as State President with Leisa Breeding and Roslyn Breeding joining SA State Council. All motions passed with a varying degree of discussion and little debate.

The conference dinner was the usual enjoyable gathering - and 'well done' to convenor Belinda Hatcher for coercing country music legends Adam Harvey and the hilarious David Prior to entertain us (at reduced rates). The pair just happened to be overnighing in Pt Augusta on their way to a Ceduna gig! Adam and Dave performed individually and together, provid-

ing guests with a good ol' sing-along and many laughs. They told some ripper jokes; - none of which can be repeated here! Busy mum Leisa Breeding attended the conference whilst daughter Abby had attended the week-long SOTA School Experience Week. Leisa kindly offered her thoughts about her attendance at conference:

I was lucky enough to squeeze in around shearing to attend this year's SA ICPA conference in Port Augusta which coincided with the SOTA face to face school experience week. This was my second state conference so I was looking forward to it now that I had a grasp of

how everything worked. Our branch is quite small but we had four representatives on our table which was great to see. The SOTA kids came and sang the school song to open the morning which was great as they don't get much practice together and for the second time that week did a great job. Some great motions were put forward and it will be interesting to see the results of them. The catering was amazing again, and the venue is great. Once again it was good to put names to faces and catch up with people that I haven't seen for 12 months.

Ros Breeding



NE Branch members Colleen Grove-Jones, Jane Gloster, Ros Breeding, Kerry Williams, Leisa Breeding and Kristina Crawford

North East Branch News



Left: President Kerry Williams being interviewed by the Stock Journals reporter Elizabeth Anderson

Below: Conference was honoured by the attendance of Lyn and Bob Baker. Bob and Lyn were active members of ICPA whilst living at Kalabity Station from the mid 1970's into the 1980's. Bob was NE Branch President 1983-85 with Lyn serving as Branch Secretary 1885-86. They were extremely active members of ICPA on every level, with Bob also serving as Federal President. Bob was also elected as the inaugural Chairman of the SA Correspondence School Council in 1982.



SOTA Tea Towels \$ 15

If you would like to pre-order a 2018 DES Fundraiser tea towel created by School of the Air Students, please contact Kristy Harding at the Port Augusta School of the Air front office on (08) 86 422 077



North West Branch Report

Hello all and welcome to the first article from me for 2018! I was clever enough this time around to take notes during the first 6 months so when Lynly rang to say 'Pipeline is due!' I was able to remember where to start. Of course, with a governess now firmly part of our family, you would think I had plenty of time to be jotting down a few lines each week, in between the daytime movie of course, but still the hours in the day aren't suffice for my list of jobs. But I am one of many, so I take comfort in knowing we are all in the same boat with our 'lists' and our chores.

In December 2017 our branch held their AGM at Yudnapinna Station, where James & Joanna Gibson graciously hosted the North West ICPA Christmas Party. Before frivolities we held our meeting where all executives were re-elected and remain the same for the next twelve months. Currently we have 11 financial members in our branch, and 18 school age children. Congratulations to Molly Gibson from Yudnapinna who graduated in 2017 from Scotch College in Adelaide.

Of course recently six members of our branch attended the very successful 47th State Conference held in Port Augusta on May the 18th. Flinders Ranges pulled out all the stops and the day was a wonderful chance to showcase that beautiful part of the world. We were treated to amazing raffle prizes, all kindly donated from local Flinders Ranges businesses, fabulous food

from Epicurean Tuckerbox and a range of guest speakers open to discussion from the attendees at conference. This was certainly my highlight because it's when the red tape comes down and guards are lowered to enable regular Joe's, like us all, to ask questions that have been in the back of our minds for some time. And with big name companies like Telstra and NBN, it's not always easy to contact them and receive answers over the phone like it is in a face to face situation. Mark Bolton (Telstra) always answers questions to the very best of his ability and takes everyone's suggestions, opinions and thoughts on board. Lala McKenzie was part of the communication panel also and she oozes passion for remote people (living on a small island herself) and their livelihood. It was her that suggested we push for our states kindy kids to be included in the accessibility to the Education Port, for these children also need the internet to do their online kindy lessons. Professor John Halsey from the IRRRE (Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education) gave a detailed account of what he is trying to achieve with this review and some alarming statistics about our rural schools. He received an amazing amount of written submissions for the review so it's great to hear that people are willing to take the time to help this project. A boarding panel was also open to comments and questions as they took to the stage detailing the advantages of boarding and some of the

challenges faced by our remote and isolated children coming into this stage of their education (which is all too close for my daughter who will be in high school in two and a half short years). As for the motions on the day, South Australia came forward with 15 all up and these will be acted on and discussed at length when members from State Council meet with the relevant ministers during delegation in Adelaide.

The day ended with people rushing off for outfit changes, ready to enjoy the company of Adam Harvey at the Port Augusta Golf Club. I of course, was one of those people trying to rush to the house, say a brief hello to the kids and enquire about their day at school (with my left ear listening and my right being fixed with a new pair of earrings) while trying to remember which outfit I had packed for the conference dinner. I must confess, I was trying awfully hard to look my best for a singer I had possibly heard one song sung from his lips but boy am I glad I did. He was a fantastic entertainer, a towering man of dark good looks and a welcoming personality. I also had the pleasure of watching my gorgeous governess become a giggling mess when posing for a photo beside the man who casually draped his arm over her shoulder, at least 4 foot below him. She was also very pleased that she accidentally (or so she claims) locked herself out of the room when she visited the ladies room and happened to be rescued by a gentlemanly Adam Harvey, who also called her



The North West Branch celebrated their 2017 'Christmas Tree' at Yudnapinna Station.

North West Branch Report

'darl'. A moment she will never forget.

Our North West Branch held a meeting on the 26th of May to discuss upcoming events and happenings in our area. Of course we have Federal Conference in Canberra in August, with Jill Greenfield, Jo Gibson, our wonderful President and editor of Pipeline Lynly heading along to the political capital of Australia. Jo Drennan has raised her hand half way about the possibility of going to bear witness to how motivational and inspirational the two days are. Lynly, now on the convening committee for Federal Conference 2019, has decided she better attend her first Federal before she works her interior designing magic in Adelaide, just to understand the enormity of what the conference involves. She couldn't be going to Canberra with a more experienced and knowledgeable crew so don't spend too much time trying to get Malcolm Turnbull's autograph Lynly, watch our leaders at work (and by that I mean our ICPA leaders, not the political ones). We also have a Variety Bash coming through North Well Station on the 16th of August and if anyone can recall, this was the same crew who purchased the home-made quilt for a whopping \$5300 last time they came through. My mum and Nanna are hard at work creating another masterpiece to auction off for our branch on the night so watch this space!

I think that sums up our active little branch for the last 6 months with the next article due around Christmas! Oh I dread the thought of summer, becoming broke again and buying enough presents to supply a small village. Until then...

Petie Rankin



Molly Gibson speaking about life in the boarding house



Joanna, Molly, James and Charlie Gibson attending the boarders' high tea at Scotch College



Getting up close and personal with Adam at the conference dinner!

Port Augusta Branch News



The crowd gathers for the Nonning Outback Ball great yabby race!



Payton Lord and Bonnie Morris on Cuddles, ready for competition

Although our branch never really has a set meeting at this time of the year, we are always gathering around each other in some way. Getting together to help in the community at local events or even just getting behind each other by helping to support someone over the phone when it comes to our families needs.

Our branch has a very diverse range of parents and children all with different needs that we bring to the table as far as ICPA is concerned. Our families are doing school of the air, boarding school, living in two homes; one in town, one on the station. Driving plenty of km's to and from the bus stop and studying university degrees via correspondence. All of this so our kids can be educated just like any other mainstream student and really we are just wanting the best for them, like everyone else does.

One mum has a child in boarding school and a child that she ferries to the local school for the week. Feeling torn about staying home to cook for shearers, taking her child to a face to face school so they can get as much help as possible while also trying to support the child in Adelaide during their first year of boarding. All the while wanting the best for her children. Juggling 2 different homes, how do you choose where your time is best spent??? The reality is that financial commitments come to the forefront of most of our decisions while living out in the sticks, what is affordable, and unfortunately compromises have to be made when you are torn in so many different directions.

So when we get together we dissect all of the things that are working, and aren't working, and try to help each other along with an encouraging word to get us through the next step of having kids in the bush that no one ever tells you about.

By giving support over the phone while you have 2 very different children at boarding school, one who just gets on with it and doesn't off load until they are in the safety of their own home or car, the other that rings up and off loads everything over the phone including battles with this and that person and 'why the hell are you

Port Augusta Branch News

making me do this'. This leaves you feeling so utterly far away and useless and wondering what the hell you are doing right or wrong. Your husband walking in just as you have a crying fit, and considering doing an about face and heading back out to the paddock so they don't have to deal with an emotionally charged wife. Offloading to a poor old friend that just happened to ring up, and trying to work out a million different plans on how to help your child, only to ring them up at the end of the day to see how they are going, for them to say that they had an absolutely awesome day, and realising that they are just offloading their worries on to you and moving on. We are so lucky we can support each other in these times.

Our community came together for the local gymkhana at Nonning recently with everyone pulling on the gloves to give a hand, including the ones that were babies not so long ago, helping in the kitchen and doing the announcing. It is great to see. We had an excellent crowd considering there was just so much on that weekend, including the state ICPA conference and RFDS 90th birthday ball. It is always so great to see so many kids participating in the gymkhana and coming from all over South Australia to have a go.

In February we also had our annual Outback Ball to help celebrate and raise funds for the RFDS, with a record number of attendees; it was a wonderful night of dancing, yabby races and showing our appreciation for the RFDS 90th birthday.

These outback events are really what make our communities, and are a great showcase of community spirit, in good and bad times.

Katrina Morris



Madison Morris, Michelle Lord and Cody Morris help out in the kitchen during the gymkhana



Gawler Ranges Progress Association gave a generous donation to the RFDS. Pictured are Tony Vaughn, David O'Connor and Bob Napier.

SA ICPA 47th Annual State Conference

1. Keith Slade opening this year's conference.

2. School of the Air sing their school song to commence the day.

3. Blowing the cobwebs out mid conference, attendees enjoy a PT session with trainer Joy McClymont via video.

4. State President Kerry Williams delivers her President's report.

5. Jodie Keogh and Michelle Hilder.





1. Hosts Flinders Ranges Branch members Michelle Hilder, Emilee Warnest, Lisa Slade and Belinda Hatcher.

2. Ros Breeding, Colleen Grove-Jones, Lynly Kerin and Leisa Breeding

3. Fiona Loudon-Shand with Amanda Michael

4. Sharon McInnis getting into the spirit with Adam Harvey





1. DES Governesses selling their gift card fundraiser during conference. Karri Butterworth , Alice Brister, Mia Ackland and Tamlyn Symonds.
2. Helen Williams, Kirsty Williams and Paulaine Vermeulen.
3. SA ICPA State Council executives Jill Greenfield, Lisa Slade, Kerry Williams, Belinda Hatcher, Frances Frahn and Mija Reynolds.
4. Federal executives enjoying the company of State Life Member Bob Baker who took the chair for AGM elections.
5. Federal MP Rowan Ramsey attended the day and was happy to give an update on the RICE funding announcement.
6. Representatives from secondary and tertiary boarding colleges and ABSA hold a Q&A panel. Darin Betro Westminster, Dr Paul Tosch Lincoln College, Libby Twigden Pembroke and Richard Stokes Australian Boarding Schools Assoc.
7. Communications Q&A Panel, from NBN was Lalla Mackenzie, IN2IT Mike Hayes and Mark Bolton from Telstra
8. Immediate Past President Lisa Slade, Federal Councillor Di Skene, Professor John Halsey, Federal Vice President Sally Sullivan, SA State President Kerry Williams.
9. Stefanie Roeske, Jess Bell & Teresa Ramsey.





1. Jo Ridsdale and Emma Wake



2. Kristina Crawford, Candice Brown, Leisa Breeding and Edwina Bowie.



3. Col Greenfield, Mike Hayes and Daniel Hatcher.



4. 2018 State Councillors Mija Reynolds Publicity Officer, Kirsty Williams, Jill Greenfield Treasurer, Sonya Fels, Lisa Slade, Lynly Kerin, Frances Frahn acting Secretary, Kerry Williams President, Belinda Hatcher Vice President, Petie Rankin, Lisa Hunt, Helen Williams and Jodie Keogh (picture courtesy of the Stock Journal).



5. Kate Greenfield and REVISE Manager Trish Ellin (Photo courtesy of the Stock Journal)

The SA ICPA State Council and the Flinders Ranges Branch would like to acknowledge and thank the following businesses and people for their kind sponsorship of the 47th Annual State Conference.

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President's Conference Report

As always, the main events on the State Council calendar are the State and Federal conferences and our annual delegation to Adelaide. State Councillors were also kept busy throughout the year collecting case studies and writing a submission to the Independent Review into Rural, Regional and Remote Education (IRRRRE), attending meetings as representatives on various committees, following up from delegation, attending to portfolios and portfolio meetings, navigating the new online payments system, submitting grants, conducting interviews with media, updating the website and forward planning. It's been another busy year!

SA had a very positive start to the year with the announcement by the SA Minister for Education and Children's Development, Hon Susan Close, to extend the State Education Allowance to include more of our families. This year, families receiving Centrelink's AIC Second Home Allowance also receive the State Education Allowance for children in secondary school. This decision was on the back of a substantial increase to the payment the previous year. We are very grateful for the support of former Education Minister Susan Close on this issue and for her genuine interest in rural and remote families during her time in office.

Delegation

The State Education Allowance was one of many issues taken to delegation in September last year. Four state councillors attended in Adelaide: myself, Lisa Slade, Kylie Morton and Jill Greenfield. It was a very successful two days and we were kept busy at meetings with Karen Humphries from the Department for Education and Child Development, Open Access College Principal Julie Taylor, the then Education Minister Susan Close, Shadow Minister John Gardner and the Hon John Dawkins. Delegates were once again treated to dinner at Parliament House with member for Stuart Dan van Holst Pellekaan and his wife Rebecca.

The main issues and topics discussed were:

- The State Education Allowance
- Private Car Allowance rate
- Support to encourage the Federal govt to extend the working holiday maker visa from 6 to 12 months
- Continued funding assurance for RICE services
- Identification and intervention for learning difficulties
- Learning technology support
- Daymap, Moodle, feedback and work returns at SOTA
- Attracting and retaining quality teaching staff

Delegation is the most effective way to ensure the motions from conference are delivered to those who are best placed to act on them and we are grateful for the continued relationships we have formed with these stakeholders over the years. Particular thanks to Dan VHP who provides continued advocacy and support, including helping to organise our delegation meetings.

2017 Federal Conference Alice Springs

Eight South Australians travelled to Alice Springs for the 2017 Federal Conference. 11 motions were presented and carried from SA State Council and branches. These included motions on Assistance for Isolated Children, removing the Fringe Benefit Tax for employers who help with education expenses of their remote and isolated employees, Skymuster faults repair processes, the introduction of a Distance Education Tutor Allowance, funding assurances during child care reform, Working Holiday Maker Visa extensions for home supervisors and educators, concessional airfares for students accessing education, early identification and intervention for learning difficulties, financial assistance for undergraduate tertiary students relocating for work placements, and that SA host the Federal Conference

in 2019. Over the year, Federal Council have worked hard on our behalf and we have appreciated their updates via email and portfolio meetings. I hope many of you are able to attend the upcoming conference in Canberra.

Congratulations to our Immediate Past President, Lisa Slade, who accepted the role of ICPA Federal Treasurer at the Alice Springs conference. It was exciting for us to know that SA would continue its active involvement at federal level after the excellent work of Joanna Gibson, who stepped down last year. Despite taking on this substantial role, Lisa continues to be an active contributor on State Council. Newsletters

In September 2017 SA ICPA introduced a State Council Update, emailed via Mailchimp directly to all members, to keep them up to date with State Council news and other relevant information. We hope this will improve communication to all members without relying on the forwarded email chain of the past.

Our printed newsletter, The Pipeline, has been reduced to two issues per year, post state and federal conferences, as we move towards more instant online information via email updates and Facebook. Lynly Kerin took over the Editor's role with continued support from our Publicity Officer and graphic designer Mija Reynolds. Both editions under Lynly's lead were excellent and jam packed with articles. Federal/State Councils Face to Face

In February I joined State and Federal ICPA Presidents and Secretaries for two days of meetings in Sydney. Day one was held at the NBN building, where we were hosted by Lalla MacKenzie, the Senior National Stakeholder Relations Manager and also met with NBN General Manager, Rocco Nuzzo. Although the technology showcased at the NBN Discovery Centre seemed a world away from the experience of outback towns and stations, it was reassuring to hear their genuine interest and understanding of the needs of rural and remote families, including the many issues around internet services over the years and currently. It was apparent that Federal Council have done a great job keeping NBN Co informed of the needs of our members. During our two days of meetings, each state had the opportunity to share what they have been up to and answer questions. It was an excellent opportunity to network, solve problems and generate ideas – I definitely came away feeling re-motivated.

2019 Federal Conference

SA will host the Federal Conference in Adelaide in 2019. Katrina Morris has offered to be convenor with an enthusiastic committee already on board. We are confident that Katrina and her team will do a great job! To reduce workload in a Federal Conference hosting year, SA is intending to trial an online state conference next year. During the year we have been investigating how to make it happen, including speaking with NT Council, who have previously had a web conference.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the Outback Communities Authority who have offered us an annual grant of \$5000 for executive support. As well as supporting conference costs, it is hoped that this funding will enable us to outsource some of our more arduous tasks and will be used to purchase software and equipment if necessary. We are also well supported by the Minister for Education and Child Development with an operational grant, which enables us to meet face to face, and pay any costs associated with running the organisation.

We were also successful in obtaining a grant from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR). The 2018 FRRR Back to School Program provided SA ICPA with 64 x \$50 target vouchers that were distributed to our members with school age children and used for costs associated with school uniforms and materials. Thanks to Jill Greenfield for administering and distributing the vouchers.

Continued on page 22

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Thank you to our many conference sponsors for enabling us to run this day with minimal cost to our families. Despite all this support, ICPA could not run without the many, many hours of time donated by our volunteers, all of whom are busy with a multitude of other tasks! Congratulations and thank you to our Vice-President Belinda Hatcher and the Flinders Ranges Branch for convening the conference this year and bringing the Ranges to us here today.

There are so many people to thank for their contribution, but I'd like to especially thank Frances Frahn for agreeing to go on last year as our very organised and competent Secretary, it has been a pleasure working with you Frances. Lisa Slade for upholding her promise last year of being "the most supportive Past President ever". Jill Greenfield for persevering through the many changes this year as Treasurer and taking on several other jobs outside of her role. Thanks also Lisa Hunt for coming back to us as Webmaster and revamping our website, our now very experienced Publicity Officer Mija Reynolds and Pipeline Editor Lynly Kerin – great job! Special mention to Petie Rankin who is always the first asked to throw an article together. Thank you to all state councillors for attending meetings, managing portfolios and for your many contributions throughout the year.

Finally, thank you to the many volunteers who give up their valuable time to keep the cogs of ICPA turning and continue advocating for the best education we can get for our rural and remote children, from pre-school to tertiary. We are all juggling multiple other commitments, running businesses, working, raising families and keeping our communities going with various other voluntary roles. Whatever role you take at branch, state or within other committees in your local community, your contribution makes an enormous difference and lightens the load for those around you!

Kerry Williams

State Conference Motions

Fourteen motions were presented at conference and these will form the work of SAICPA going forward. In the Boarding Schools and Hostels Portfolio, we had three motions, including thanking the former Minister for Education for extending the State Education Allowance to recipients of the AIC Second Home Allowance, as well as requests to improve the way the allowance is administered and delivered in future. A Communications motion requested that pre-school students studying e-Kindy have access to the NBN Skymuster Education Port. Two motions asking that Port Augusta SOTA be reinstated as stand-alone school attracted a lot of discussion and media interest on the day. Increased funding for SOTA camps and face to face events, concessional student airfares and travel allowances were also raised by members, as well as travel costs for families seeking allied health services such as Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy. Concerns around the new funding arrangements for RICE services was also raised, and although Federal Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey, allayed fears on the day with the announcement of a continued funding assurance, we are yet to see how the new model will be played out on the ground over the coming months. Finally, a motion highlighting the need for post-secondary agricultural training, targeting the Pastoral areas of SA was also carried. State Council will be kept very busy acting on these motions throughout the year and we look forward to updating members on our progress. Thank you to all the branches who submitted motions for this year's conference.

Kerry Williams

Important information from RICE regarding the new childcare Package.

Samantha Mundy, Operations Manager Remote & Isolated Children's Exercise

From 2nd of July 2018 there will be a new child care package. As RICE has never been involved in the childcare benefit or rebate scheme this comes as a very new process for us. The package will help parents with children aged 0-13 years old work, train, study and volunteer. This in itself could be quite tricky for our RICE families. Three things will determine a family's level of childcare subsidy.

(1) Combined family income.

A family's annual adjusted taxable income will determine the percentage of subsidy they are eligible for.

(2) Activity level of parents.

The number of hours of subsidised care families can access will be determined by an activity test. The higher the level of activity, the more hours of subsidised care families can access, up to a maximum of 100 hours per fortnight. These recognised activities include: paid work (including leave, such as maternity leave). Study and training. Unpaid work in family business. Looking for work. Volunteering. Self-employment. Other activities on a case by case basis.

There will be exemptions for parents who legitimately cannot meet the activity test requirements, as well as to support children's participation in preschool.

The parents with the lowest hours of activity per fortnight will determine the hours of subsidised care. The hours of subsidy are per child.

(3) Type of child care service.

This includes centre-based day care \$11.77 per hour

Family day care \$10.90 per hour

Outside school hours care \$10.29 per hour

In Home care \$25.48 per hour (per family)

It is extremely important that families understand that the type of care RICE offers is extremely different to the care outlined above. Hawker and Orroroo creche will be charged at \$55.25 per day (\$8.50 per hour).

In home care which will now be called outback childcare and will be charged at \$12 per hour per child.

Transitioning to the new child care subsidy is not an automatic roll over from the two current payments. You must provide some new information and confirm your current details using your Centrelink online account through myGov.

You will be asked to provide the following:

- Your combined family income estimate for the 2018-2019 financial year
- The hours of recognised activity including work, training, study and volunteering
- The type of child care your family uses.

For more information on this process, visit education.gov.au/childcare

If you should have any questions, need a hand in identifying the steps you need to take, please do not hesitate to contact myself at the RICE office.



ROWAN RAMSEY MP

Federal Member for Grey



Media Release

Increased Funding for RICE Announced in CCCF Package

Mr Ramsey said he is pleased to see the Remote and Isolated Children's Exercise (RICE) has received increased funding announced today through the Community Child Care Funding package.

"There was some negativity around ongoing funding for RICE, but as I assured the group there was no question funding would be made available, it was just a question of how," he said.

"I have taken Education Minister Simon Birmingham to remote schools and the school of the air and he was committed to ensuring funding continued and in fact it has been increased.

"Many families across regional and remote South Australia and Indigenous communities are set for more support to access early childhood education and care as part of sweeping reforms from the Federal Government.

"The CCCF will provide support for 36 childcare facilities across Grey to help break down barriers to early childhood education and care.

"These childcare and early learning services have now been given additional support from the Government for the work they do to break down barriers for children and families.

"The new targeted CCCF is a key part of the Coalition's early learning and child care overhaul to ensure those services are more affordable and accessible for families who need them most."

The CCCF will deliver \$115 million to more than 700 outside school hours care, centre-based day care and family day care services eligible for the competitive round of funding for the next five years, and \$156 million for 151 mainly Budget Based Funded (BBF) child care services and Non-Formula Funded Occasional Care Services as part of the non-competitive round of funding.

Mr Ramsey said the switchover to the Turnbull Government's new child care and early learning system starts on 2 July 2018, but urged families not to wait to the last minute to take action.

Visit www.education.gov.au/childcare, estimate your new subsidy, and complete the [myGov](#) Child Care Subsidy Assessment to start the switchover to the new child care and early learning system," he said.

Mr Ramsey said more assistance for families accessing childcare will also be available when the new Child Care Subsidy (CCS) system comes into effect from 2 July 2018.

"This will replace the current arrangements and makes it easier for families to access childcare. To help Australian families, the government is injecting another \$600 million a year to make childcare more affordable, accessible and flexible.

"Many families will see their out of pocket childcare fees fall between \$20 – \$30 per week under this new system."

Media Contact Leonie Lloyd-Smith 8633 1744

May 2 2018

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Better outcomes, more opportunities for regional, rural and remote students

Joint media release with Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, Minister Bridget McKenzie, Minister Dan Tehan and Minister John McVeigh

The Coalition Government has accepted all 11 recommendations of the Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education (IRRRRE), committing to a whole of government approach in response.

Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack said the Review led by Emeritus Professor John Halsey considered the key issues, challenges and barriers that have an impact on the educational outcomes of students living in regional, rural and remote communities.

“We believe in Australia your post code should not determine your potential. No matter where you go to school, we believe everyone deserves the opportunity to pursue their passions and get a quality education,” Deputy Prime Minister McCormack said.

“By accepting all of Professor Halsey’s recommendations, the Government is putting the education needs of the almost 400,000 students from regional, rural and remote communities’ front and centre.

“The Liberal and National Parties are the only ones which can be trusted to deliver for regional Australia. This landmark review will inform decisions on education policy for years to come.”

Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham said the Halsey Review had an important place in the push to drive excellence across Australia’s education system.

“Professor Halsey’s review highlighted the number of people with a degree decreases as you get further from our capital cities,” Minister Birmingham said.

“There’s clearly a gap between the city and the bush in the level of study or qualifications students achieve. That’s why we’re creating an extra 500 sub-bachelor places at regionally based higher education institutions, and an additional 500 Commonwealth supported bachelor places for students at the Regional Study Hubs we’re establishing and maintaining.

“I’ve also asked Australia’s higher education leaders to increase the transpar-

ency of the student accommodation options they offer and to guarantee places for regional, rural and remote students.

“The findings from Professor Halsey’s report have been considered as part of the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools and they’ll inform our negotiations with states and territories on a new school funding and reform agreement starting in 2019.

“One of the most important commitments we’ve made is to ensure the findings of the Halsey Review are fed into conversations with states and territories, who have a central role in delivering policy and programs across schools in regional, rural and remote Australia.”

Minister for Social Services Dan Tehan said the Turnbull Government was also making much needed changes to Youth Allowance.

“Professor Halsey’s findings highlight the hurdles regional, rural and remote students can face,” Minister Tehan said.

“We’re lifting the parental income cut-off for the ‘workforce participation’ independence criterion for regional students from \$150,000 to \$160,000, and by a further \$10,000 for each additional child in the family. This will mean for a two child family the cut-off will be \$170,000 so that students with both parents earning around \$80,000 each from their jobs won’t miss out.”

Deputy Leader of the Nationals Bridget McKenzie said the Coalition Government is committed to ensuring existing programs will continue to meet the needs of students in the regions.

“As a former teacher I understand the challenges many families face when accessing high quality and reliable education in the regions,” Minister McKenzie said.

“Education needs in rural Australia are different from those in the cities, so the Coalition has prioritised the rollout of the National Broadband Network and Sky Muster services into regional Australia to address challenges those students face.

“We want to ensure every student can

take advantage of remote learning opportunities that will suit their needs and NBN Co’s trial of multicast services in schools across the Northern Territory highlights our focus on enhancing online learning for live in remote areas.

“State and territory governments are key in supporting students and school communities in regional, rural and remote Australia.”

Minister for Regional Development John McVeigh said addressing issues which are shared by rural, regional and remote schools and those in metropolitan areas is as important as fixing uniquely rural challenges.

“Professor Halsey’s report represents a significant amount of work, involving more than 20 consultations and community meetings around the country and some 340 submissions from the public, government, education experts and industry groups, as well as charities and private sector organisations,” Dr McVeigh said.

“Now, our whole Government will work with the Education Council and the Industry and Skills Council to build a strong evidence base for what works in supporting regional, rural and remote education and training.

“The Government will report annually through the Regional Ministerial Budget Statement on progress in delivering improved access, outcomes and opportunities for regional, rural and remote students in education, training and employment.

“Governments at all levels must work together to respond effectively to this Review and make a real and lasting difference to the education outcomes and opportunities for regional, rural and remote students.”



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https://acu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cPmcA4i4bXwoMex

This research project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at Australian Catholic University.

A day in the life of... A RICE in-home carer

An average day for me starts off with the alarm going off at 7AM in the morning. I get up, grab my large bag full of clothes and head to my first stop. Maccas. I have started my own tradition that whenever I am heading out to a station, I stop by Maccas first on my way to the office. Coffee in one hand and hash brown in the other, I rush into the office because I'm running late (as usual I have underestimated how many people will be at the Port Augusta Maccas). I grab the keys to the RICE car full of toys, ideas and possibilities of endless fun.

Signing the RICE car out, I deposit the now empty coffee cup into the bin and check myself out. I turn the spot tracker and satellite phone on and start the 650km journey to a station out on the Birdsville Track. Driving on the track for an hour and I'm already wishing for the shelter of trees and eye-catching rocks that are on offer in the Gawler Ranges, but there really is no denying that the Birdsville Track, with its large and dusty road, is a beauty in itself. The track is big. It's vast and there is nothing as far as the eye can see. Up ahead I can see thick, dark clouds rolling in that probably hold absolutely no rain but still, it paints a pretty backdrop against the orange road. The track is rocky and corrugated in some areas and the toys in the back bump and move around. For a split second I think someone has come along with me and has been hiding in the back the whole time, but when I turn down Cher's 'If I could Turn Back Time' I realise it's just a tractor toy that is talking in Spanish.

It's hit 3 o'clock in the afternoon and I'm almost there. The closer I get, the more excited I become. Ideas from Pinterest (because let's face it, when isn't Pinterest full of great ideas?) are swirling around in my head and I can't wait to make them come to life with the kids. Arriving to the homestead brings on an abundance of hugs (with kids peeking around my legs to peer into the toy-filled car) and the air is filled with anticipation and excitement for what the coming two weeks will bring.

For as long as I am at RICE, it will never cease to amaze me how these families take me in and make me feel so welcome and at



Above and below: Niamh at work.

home. I never expected to make close friendships with people who live hundreds of kilometres away and yet here I am, getting Facebook friend requests left right and centre! But in all seriousness, I adore my job, the experiences and the people. I love that these mothers and families in isolation look forward to seeing the dust from the approaching RICE car and feel an immediate sense of relief for the temporary rest I can give them. It's so gratifying that I can help these people by simply playing with their children because I get such joy out of doing just that. The families don't realise that I get as much out of this as they do. I enjoy the moments, after the kids are settled in bed, where we share a cup of tea and I lend a listening ear to someone who just wants a chat with another female. I love being so warmly invited into the lives of the most hospitable, and yet totally remote, people I've ever met. I relish in knowing, after a first visit with a new family, that they ask to get me again, and again, because they say that the kids just loved the time we spent together.

Now you must excuse me, I have kids that are awaiting the countdown of a vinegar and bi carb filled rocket....

Niamh McKay





1. Mareike Best, Reception SOTA



Country
Calf's to keep
On a horse all the time
UN beatable country
Nothing to look at but dirt
To many sheep
Riding the motorbikes
Yelling out there's a snake constantly



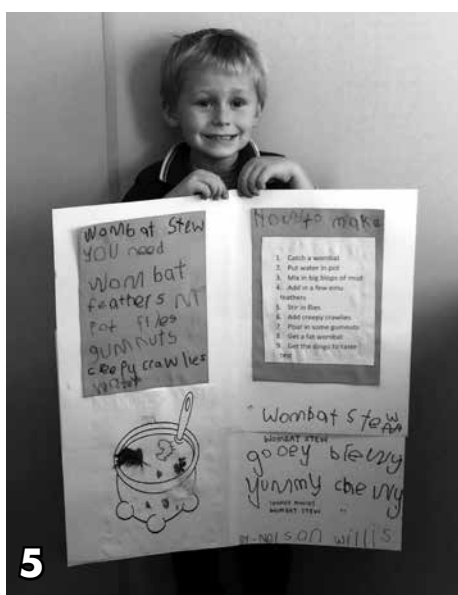
2 & 3. Corey Hilder, Year 6 SOTA "BULL PAINTING", Impressionism. The task was to cut a painting in ½ and paint the other ½ by yourself.

"BULL IN LEATHER JACKET", Drawn bull Portrait. Produce a piece with an animal wearing clothes.

4. Elke Kerin, Year 4 SOTA

5. Nelson Willis, Reception SOTA

6. Ruby's School Room Rules, Year 2 SOTA



Todd and Stella Frahn, Holowiliena Station invented this great dice game to help with their maths strategies.

You need:

3 x regular dice

2 x 12-sided dice

A whiteboard and marker each, or scrap paper and pencils

To play:

Roll the 12 sided dice and multiply to find the total. Write it on your whiteboard/paper and put a big circle around it.

Roll the regular dice. You have to use these three numbers to try and make the total in the circle.

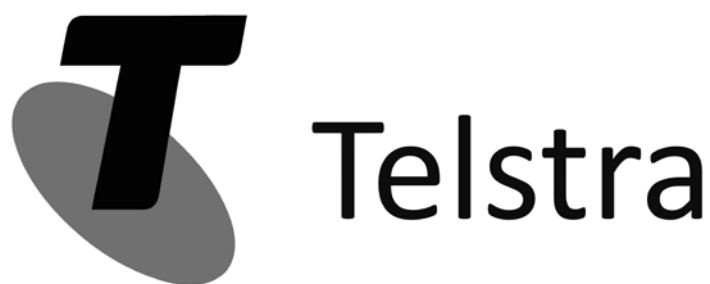
Eg; you roll a 3 and a 10, so you write 30 in the circle.

You then roll a 5, a 2 and a 4. Your answer might look like this:

$$(5 \times 2) \times (5 - 2) = 30 \text{ OR } (5 \times 4) + (5 \times 2) = 30 \text{ OR}$$

$$5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 = 30$$

You can play this at the dinner table too!



New Product Offerings

Telstra Go Repeater is our new mobile network repeater device and will be available for sale in May. Telstra Go Repeater has been developed to boost voice quality and increase data speeds on our 3G and 4G networks. Available as a stationary version for buildings and a portable version for travelling vehicles, the device is suitable for vehicles that travel between coverage areas or for offices or residences where an improved signal is required. The devices will cost \$720 for the mobile or car based model, and \$648 for the fixed in home unit. For Telstra customers, the cost of the device can be paid in monthly instalments on their Telstra bill. Unlike many alternative and illegal repeaters, the Telstra Go Repeater is specially designed to work with our network to avoid interference to other users. The device will be available through our Telstra Stores (<https://www.telstra.com.au/telstra-store>), or over the phone on 13 22 00.)

We are also pleased to provide ICPA members with a discount for Telstra Go Repeater. ICPA members can access this offer by calling 132200 and placing order. Once you have placed the order, you will get a follow up call, where you will need to proactively identify yourself as an ICPA member and provide an email copy of their Annual Membership receipt as proof of membership in order to receive the discount. There is a \$50 discount for ICPA members on Cell Fi Go purchases (car product)

NGWL: Next G Wireless Link

Next G Wireless Link (NGWL) uses the Telstra Next G® Network to give customers access to a voice, fax and internet service. It's offered to selected customers as an alternative to a standard fixed line service, in certain circumstances.

Telstra is inviting NGWL customers to get in contact to discuss their current NGWL plans including options for accessing the current range of Home Line plans (<https://www.telstra.com.au/home-phone/plans-rates>). There are also options for NGWL customers with an existing broadband plan to move onto a 25GB BigPond Mobile Broadband plan for 12 or 24 months with a \$70 monthly credit (data for use in Australia). Customers, if interested, can call our dedicated team on 1800 696 495 (1800-MY-NGWL) option3 (sales, accounts and payments) to find out more.

For other offers and information please see below;

Telstra Home Phone plans - including the latest offers <https://onesource.in.telstra.com.au/infocenter/index?page=content&id=OVR1049>

BigPond Mobile Broadband plans – our grandfathered plans are compatible with NGWL <https://onesource.in.telstra.com.au/infocenter/index?page=content&id=PRC1283>

Building Mental Fitness through mindfulness and letting go.

*By Carol-Ann Stanborough Mental Health Nurse,
RFDS Port Augusta
Primary Health Care Service*

What is Mindfulness?

Mindfulness is a practical way to notice thoughts, physical sensations, sights, sounds, and smells that we do not normally notice. It means “.....paying attention in a particular way; on purpose; in the present moment; non judgementally” (Jon Kabat Zinn)

The actual skills are simple, but because it is so different to how our minds normally behave, it needs regular practice! Just like the skills we learn to build our physical fitness eg playing a sport, we need to start with beginning skills, then practice, practice and practice. Gradually we build fitness around the strategies and ‘moves’ until we can more easily ‘play the game’.

Sometimes worries or negative thoughts can overwhelm us and we become stressed trying to control them, answer them back or suppress them. This can undermine our mental fitness and lead to stress, depression or anxiety.

Our evolution as human beings means our mind is programmed to seek out danger and look for the things that might go wrong. This was essential to our survival in days gone by where we needed to survive possible attacks by wild beast, extreme weather without shelter etc.

Nowadays, this previously essential skill, can be the source of a constant flow of negative thinking and worry. Mindfulness is one way of skilfully ‘letting go’ of negative thinking.

Practicing mindfulness is a way of choosing what our brain pays attention to, what it focusses on and learning to notice things that are in the here and now.

Every time we practise being mindful, we are exercising our attention “muscle” and building mental fitness.

Automatic Pilot

Driving a car is a complex skill but we can often find ourselves driving for long periods on “automatic pilot”, without really being aware of what we are doing or of our internal or external surroundings. In the same way, our thoughts may also be on “automatic pilot” in our day

to day life, replaying old negative thinking and worry patterns, causing us distress.

Also when we are on “automatic pilot” in our lives, we are more likely to have our “buttons pushed”: Events occurring around us may trigger past unhelpful thoughts, feelings and sensations (of which we may not be aware) and lead us to react and act before we have had a chance to review what our response could be.

Building mental fitness through mindfulness means becoming more aware of our thoughts, feelings and body sensations, from moment to moment. This gives us the possibility of choosing how we respond to these internal and external events rather than falling into old thinking/ behaving ‘ruts’ that may have caused us problems in the past.

Building Mental Fitness through Mindful Activity

When taking a shower each day we might tend to be ‘in our heads’:- thinking about what we have to do in the day ahead, what happened earlier in the day or yesterday, worrying about something in the future, or having regretful thoughts about something in the past.

Children can teach us about being mindful:- watch how they might get into the shower/ bath and be excited about the water, the temperature, the sound, how it feels on their skin, perhaps bubbles in the water, what toy they can play with, a song they may like to sing, splashing the water around. They are truly in the present moment.

Next time you are taking a shower, bring your mind to the present moment and notice: - the temperature, the feel of the water on your skin, the pressure of water you like, the smell of the shower gel, water running through your toes....each time your mind wanders off (and it will!!!) gently bring it back and focus on the sensations, sounds and thoughts right now. You are building your mental fitness. Practice, practice, practice.

Walking is something most of us do some time during our day. Whilst this helps build our physical fitness we can also use the time to make this ‘mindful walking’ and build our mental fitness. Rather than be “in your head” as you walk, look around and notice what you see,

Building Mental Fitness through mindfulness and letting go.

hear, sense, taste and smell. Notice the colours in your surroundings (even if it's inside!), the textures of the furnishings, or the outside environment, notice how your body feels with each step...is that hip playing up....notice it....then return to the here and now sounds, sights and sensations.

Noticing your breathing. Can you breathe more deeply, more shallowly....try them both. When your mind wanders again to look out for danger, focus on that past hurt or that future worry, notice those thoughts, and then gently bring your focus back to the present. What you can see, hear, sense, feel and touch right now. Each time you do this you are exercising your attention "muscle" and building your mental fitness.

Past thoughts, future worries etc will continue to snatch your attention but you now have a practical idea of how you can build your mental fitness, by letting go of old habit thinking and take back control of what your mind focusses on in the here and now. The important thing to remember is that building mental fitness, just like learning any new skill, takes time and regular practice.

So enjoy your practice!
Support Network

• If you or someone you know

needs more information about mental health go to www.beyond-blue.org.au

• If you want to talk with someone about feeling under pressure with the stresses of everyday life call Lifeline (24/7) on 131 114

• If you need medical assistance call Royal Flying Doctor Service (24/7) on 1800 RFDS SA (1800 733 772) and ask to speak with the on-call RFDS Doctor

• If you need emergency mental health assistance the Rural & Remote Emergency Mental Health Service (24/7) on 131 465

• Regional Access is a free 24/7 professional telephone counselling service to help people who are feeling the pressures and stresses of everyday life on 1300 032 186

• 1800 RESPECT is a national sexual assault, domestic and family violence counselling service on 1300 224 636

• Suicide Call Back Service is a 24/7 telephone and online counselling service for anyone impacted by suicide on 1300 659 467

• Kid's Helpline to listen and access 24/7 care and support on 1800 551 800

• MensLine Australia for 24/7 telephone support, information and referral service for men with family and relationship concerns on 1300 789 978

Life Members

Federal Life Members

Julia Materne

Jane Gloster

State Life Members

Bob Baker

Lorraine Balharry

Glennis Crawford

Jane Gloster

Julia Materne

Lynn Nagel

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Sharon Nutt

Port Augusta

Lynn Nagel

Don Nicholson

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Flinders Ranges

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Sally Henery

Marla Oodnadatta

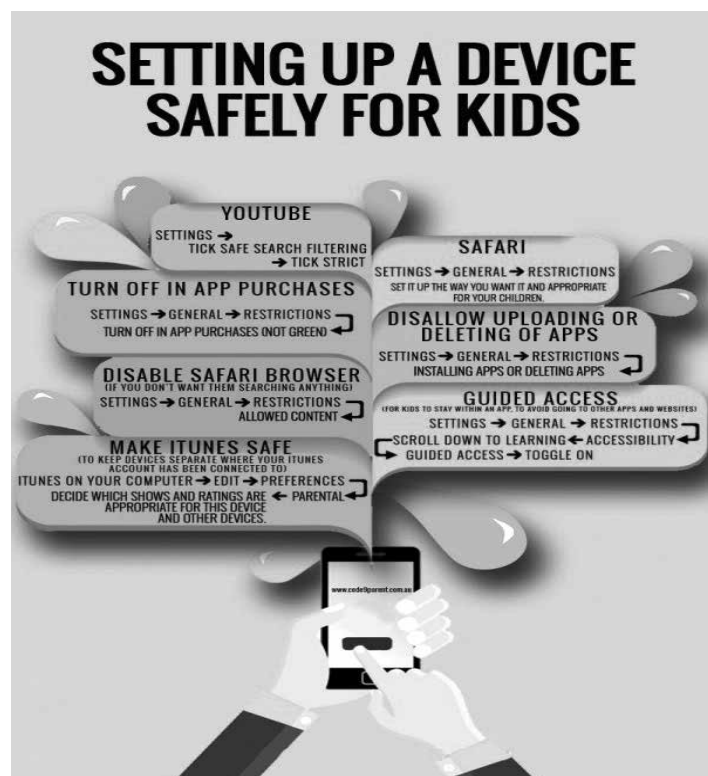
Digby and Bernadette Giles

Helen Williams

North West Branch

Joanna Gibson

Jill Greenfield



Setting up a device safely for kids info sheet sourced from;
<http://www.hillborough.org/parents/school-news/setting-up-a-device-safely-for-children>

How boarding affects me – the mum!

Well, I'm not sure which bit of how it affects me to start with. It could well be the near horrors of worry experienced hoping that I am not sending my kids out into an alien and hostile environment. The hope that the other kids won't enact 'Lord of the Flies' like behavior. The maelstrom of preparing beforehand. Nerves, both his and mine. The realisation that it wasn't much like Lord of the Flies. The realisation that it is a huge journey and you leave them at the gate. The drive home that feels like your heart is breaking and you gut isn't sure that you have made the right choice and it physically feels like you are being tugged back toward your child. Who said women don't have a good sense of direction? My gut seemed to sense exactly where my child was and was drawing me in that very direction. It was my mind though that was my savior. It held me together, sometimes better than others, gently reminding me that

although this was a huge leap it was the one where my child got the chance to experience a world beyond the one he'd known, filled with opportunities and experiences of even greater value than the school and boarding fees.

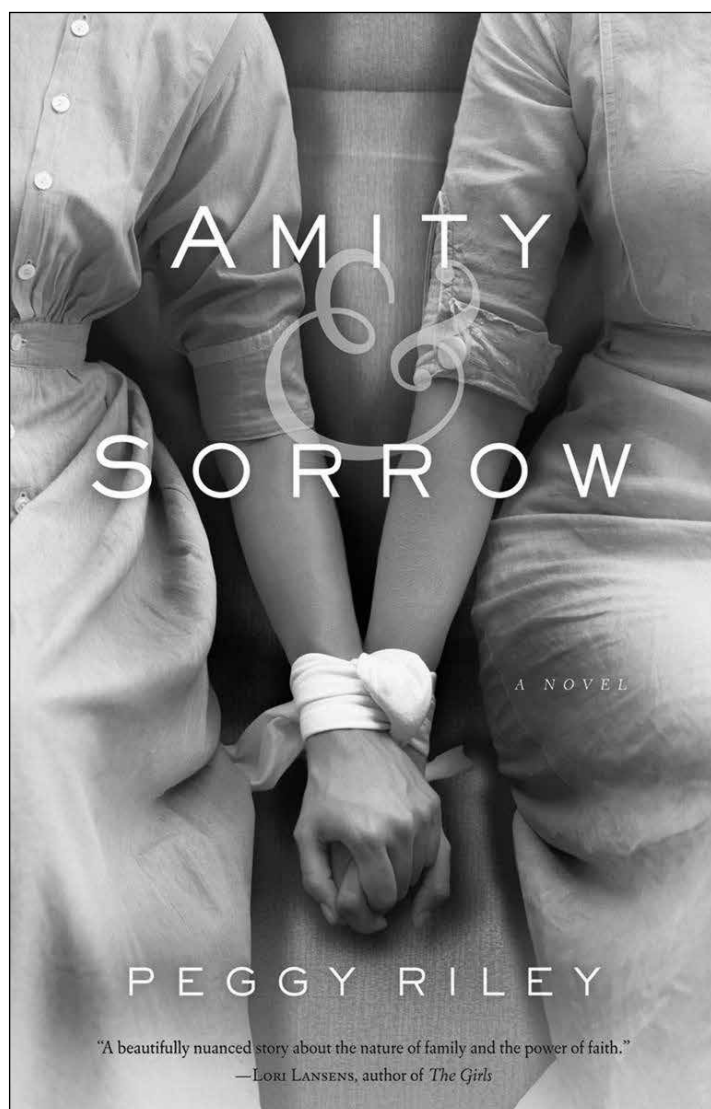
That's how it was in the beginning and as Nic has reminded me from his point of view about boarding 'each year gets easier, but it's never easy'. That's exactly how it is too. Four years in and yes, each time I leave them it is easier, and that one time when the teen hormones were really raging it was dead easy – like a relief for a few days!

The worries become different worries as to how they are navigating their schooling, sport, mates, interactions with others, interactions with the web without you there daily eyeballing each other and offering generous doses of gentle guidance and stink eye as necessary. Currently we're going through a

very traumatic time, one seems to have lost their phone and it's now that I realise that it is not just crucial for a teen to have a phone or the world might end but it is crucial for a teen at boarding school to have a phone so their mum can still have seamless contact with them.

Whilst still in technology land, John has his own Youtube channel greeny_302 .He loves making videos and says it keeps him sane at boarding school. He presented at the Boarder's Assembly Week during term and used one of his videos to help his fellow students get a feel for what is involved in shearing. He captured everything from mustering, droving, yard work, shed work, shearing, back lining and a trip back to the paddock in the truck. All set to some of his favourite music at the moment.

Kate Greenfield - Port Augusta branch.



BOOK REVIEW

BY NIAMH MACKAY

AMITY AND SORROW BY PEGGY RILEY

A novel about a self-appointed messiah and his polygamous cult may not seem like an overly tempting book to have by your bedside, but let me assure you, it kept me hooked. The story begins with a car accident. Amaranth is fleeing her husband's (Zacharia) polygamous cult and 50 wives. She has packed her two girls, 12-year-old Amity and older sister Sorrow, into the car to escape and give them a better life. They find themselves in a dusty town in Oklahoma where they rely on the kindness of Bradley, a farmer who takes them and shows them the society they have cut themselves off from.

The longer she spends away from her controlling and manipulating husband, the more she realises that the faith she believed was doing more harm than good to herself and more importantly, her daughters. In complete naivety and innocence, Amity thinks to herself that "family couldn't hurt you, no matter what they did." She believes the 'secret prayer' that she sees her sister and father doing is one of a natural process and will help bring them closer to what they have all been searching for.

Written by Peggy Riley, *Amity and Sorrow* starts off with more questions than answers. It leaves you dog-eared the page and turning out the light to sleep... But then turning the light back on to continue reading because you have your predictions, but you just don't want to believe them. If you're a woman with a curious mind for the unknown world of polygamy and cults, then this book is for you.

Podcast suggestions

I am an avid podcaster! Somebody showed me how to listen to podcasts and I have never looked back. I have then in turn showed a few people and one of the funniest things was the next time I saw them they said 'Jodie, Podcasts have changed my life!' I still laugh about this because it is the same for me!

News / Current Affairs

The Signal - by ABC Radio

15 minutes each morning of stories that are in the news, going a little deeper than the headlines.

Is It On - by BuzzFeed

A not so serious look into sitting weeks of parliament.

Out of the Loop - Do you feel like you are constantly missing the big stories and you are out of The Loop? Well this podcast catches you up with what you've missed this week.

Tell Me It's Going to be Ok - Mamamia network

All things Donald Trump in a way that we can understand with Mia Freedman.

True Crime

Unravel True Crime - by ABC

Looking into the case of the suspicious death of a 17 year old whose body was found on the railway lines outside Tamworth in 1986.

Case file True Crime - delves into prominent and not so prominent true crime stories with an Aussie narrator who is anonymous.

The Teacher's Pet - A star footballer, his school girl lover, a wife who vanishes - a cold case which is being reinvestigated.

Light Entertainment

Chat 10 Looks 3 - by Leigh Sales and Annabel Crabb
A light hearted podcast by 2 friends chatting about the books, shows, food and anything else they like.

Fierce Girls - Awesome stories of all these wonderful women told by well known people.

Hamish & Andy - just like their radio show but weekly!

No Filter - Mamamia

Mia Freedman interviews a wide range of people in a way that opens up and let their guard down.

Ladies We Need to Talk - Tricky Topics that women think about but don't always feel comfortable talking about.

Long Distance Call - Eliza Harvey

Mother and Daughter, Geraldine Doogue and Eliza Harvey call each other every week - both are journalists, one lives in Australia, one in Indonesia, both are mothers but one is a Baby Boomer and one is a millennial and they just chat!

Lost in Larrimah - a fictional account of a missing person in a small remote town in NT - storytelling at it's best

One Fat Lady and One Thin Lady - Jessica Rowe and Denise Drysdale - chatting about anything - very funny!

Kids & Parenting

This Glorious Mess - Holly Wainwright and Andrew Daddo - Not the place for perfect parents - weekly podcast about parenting the way it really is - confusing, inspiring and lots of fun

Imagine This - for kids with inquisitive minds who like to ask questions about lots of things!

Here are a few suggestions from another enthusiastic podcast listener;

Conversations with Richard Fiedler

Rich Roll

The Quote of the Day Show with Sean Croxton

Australian Hiker

The Long Way Home

Big Ideas

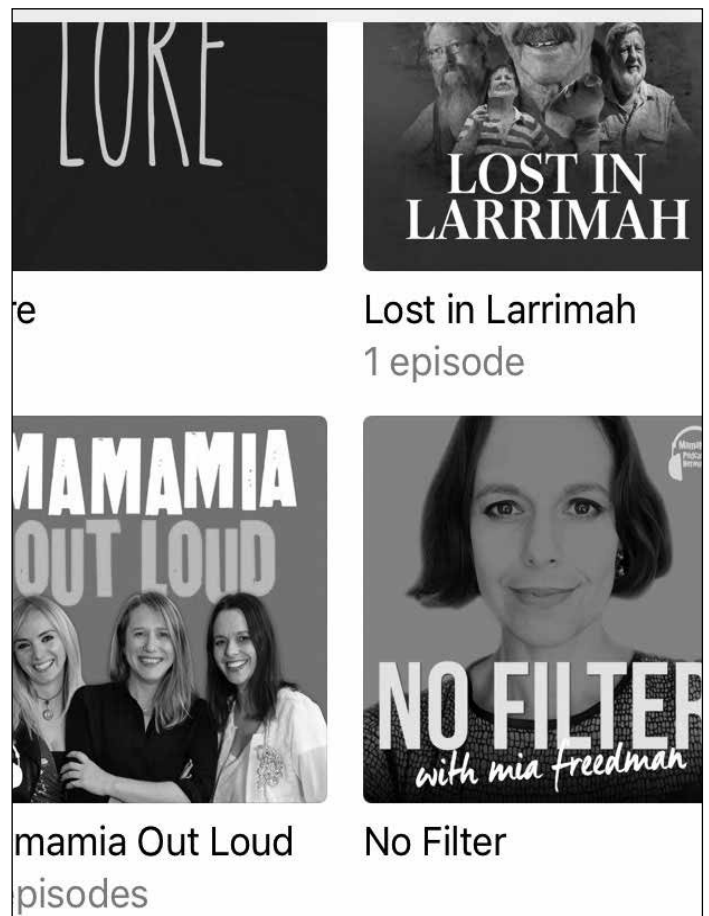
Mamamia Book Club

No Filter

Lore

Rum, Rebels and Ratbags

Jodie Keogh, Marree Air Branch



What's on in your community?

Oodnadatta Campdraft : Friday July 13th

Oodnadatta Bronco Branding : Saturday July 14th

Blinman Motokhana : Saturday July 21

ICPA Federal Conference, Canberra : Wednesday August 1st & Thursday August 2nd

Copley Gymkhana Saturday : August 4th

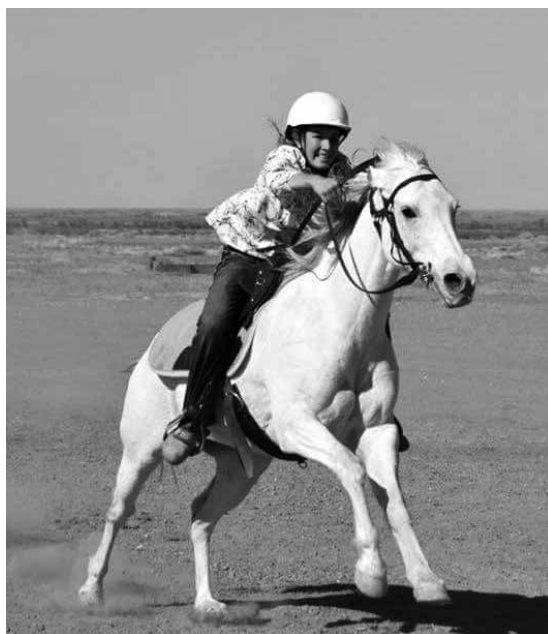
Coober Pedy Races and Gymkhana : Friday Evening August 10th and Saturday, August 11th

William Creek Campdraft and Bronco Branding : Saturday August 18th
(Cricket Match and Meet and Greet on Friday afternoon : August 17th)

Gawler Ranges NRM Comedy Night : Friday 31st August at Port Augusta

Thurlga Cricket match, Gawler Ranges Progress Association : Sunday September 30th

KAPRC Glendambo Gymkhana and Family Fun Day : Saturday October 13th



COMEDY NIGHT

The Gawler Ranges NRM Group invites you to take a break from your place and share a laugh with friends.

Port Augusta 31 August 2018

Free performers from the Adelaide Comedy festival

Free childcare

Louise Gavin
louise.gavin@sa.gov.au
8648 5376

Kate Greenfield
paulkate@activ8.net.au
86438967



Recipes

JO'S SALSA DIP

Jo Drennan, North West Branch

Be warned this dip is very more-ish! Once you start you can't stop, and with generous layers of vegies, surely it is healthy

INGREDIENTS:

- 1x 250g tub Light Spreadable Cream Cheese
- 1x Red Onion
- 1x large Tomato (2 if on the smaller side)
- 1x large Avocado
- Sweet Chilli Sauce
- 1x pkt Cheese Supreme Corn Chips (Doritos) or Jatz biscuits

METHOD:

1. Spread cream cheese over a shallow bowl or serving platter.
2. Finely dice onion, tomato and avocado. Evenly sprinkle over cream cheese.
3. Generously pour Sweet Chilli sauce over the top.
4. Use corn chips to dip (or scoop) into mix. Enjoy!

This recipe is super easy to adapt by using other ingredients in the vegie layer, such as capsicum, kidney beans, etc. I find if I am entertaining a group, I will easily double this recipe, as it quickly disappears.

TIP:- This dip is much nicer served freshly prepared. It is super quick to put together so take the ingredients to the event and assemble as ready to serve. If you need to assemble early, leave pouring Sweet Chilli sauce over until serving. Toss the diced avocado in a little lemon juice first to prevent the avocado browning.

PAN ROASTED LEMON CHICKEN – MY FAVOURITE RECIPE

Sourced from <https://damndelicious.net/>

Jess Bell, Marree Air Branch

These chicken thighs are amazingly crisp and flavourful, and you won't believe how easy this is to make!

YIELD: 8 SERVINGS

PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES

COOK TIME: 35 MINUTES

TOTAL TIME: 45 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/4 cups chicken stock
- 1/4 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

FOR THE LEMON RUB

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon whole grain mustard
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 8 bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 180 Degrees C.
2. To make the lemon rub, combine olive oil, mustard, lemon zest, oregano, thyme and salt in a small bowl. Using your fingers or a brush, work the lemon rub onto both sides of the chicken.
3. In a large bowl, whisk together chicken stock, lemon juice and lemon zest; set aside.
4. Heat olive oil in a large oven-proof skillet over medium high heat. Add chicken, skin-side down, and sear both sides until golden brown, about 2-3 minutes per side. Add chicken stock mixture.
5. Place into oven and roast until completely cooked through
6. Serve immediately.

Gardening thoughts during a dry winter.

We had all hoped for a great season and to date we're still hoping. That is as far as it has gotten as I write this. Hopefully things have turned around by the time you read this.

I started my article for the Pipeline by deciding it should be about sprouts. I have these cool little sprout growing trays. I have seen them dozens of times in Big W and I've seen them in Cheap As Chips too. They've got multiple little trays and if you can measure out a tablespoon of seed and pour water over the top regularly you are good to go, (says she). I was going to do an expose on sprout growing (I know, racy) complete with photos but I left it all to soak too long and well, let's just say it didn't turn out so good.

Sprouts are a fabulous thing to do in winter. I often do them on the kitchen window sill, they are a great gardening activity that can be indulged in whilst getting tea or washing the dishes and you don't need to go out and brave the cold or see that the dog has chewed something you'd been tenderly nurturing for eons! There is so much more to sprouts though; it is a great vector for getting kids involved in the wonder of growing things and these babies are nutritious. Like

times tables they multiply the value. This is important, especially in winter during the colds and flu season. Adding nutrient dense foods like sprouts could help you and the family stay healthy.

So expose I won't, but if you want to have a crack at an indoor gardening project that can be achieved within a few days and are a great addition to your diet, then have a look at the great how to's available on the web.

Now, the other thing I wanted to talk to you about is approaching gardening when the season isn't so flash. Much can still be done, just stay away from the whipping pole and avoid planting out a heap of needy plants. Take this as an opportunity to go on cow paddy picking picnics (that stuff is seriously good for the soil and I've never witnessed a gardener having too much of it). You can store it in a heap out the back until you want it. You can spruce up the place by moving the pots you've got, get into creating garden art or a rock wall. There are some really amazing rock art installations on the web these days. The other thing you could do is go and admire those resilient plants that are toughing it out. These soldiers are the ones that might be the army of plants you need. You just might need to do a bit more recruiting – once it rains of course.

Kate Greenfield – Port Augusta branch

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	\$0,615 per year, made up of 2 components: \$8,249 - basic \$2,366 - additional subject to parental income and actual boarding costs
Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance Education Allowance 	Geographically isolated and undertaking schooling via Distance Education	\$4,124 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.	\$6,265 per year paid in fortnightly instalments, for up to three students.
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.

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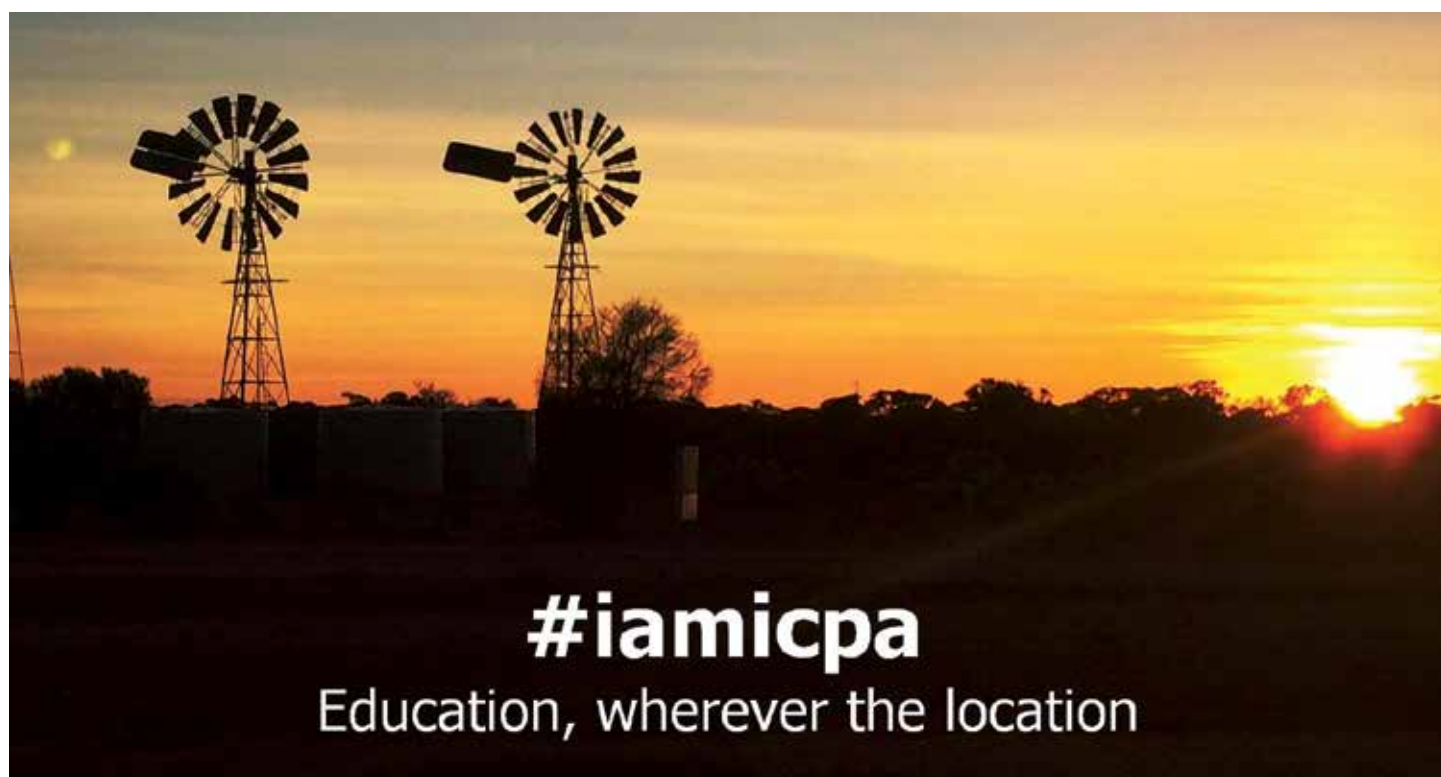
Next deadline - 3rd DECEMBER 2018

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REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST

PRINT POST APPROVED

100002577

PRINTED BY SA ICPA STATE COUNCIL

EDITION 93

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

THE PIPELINE JULY 2018

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