

DOWN THE TRACK *Magazine*

Access to adequate education is 'not social welfare'

'... but many Governments still see it as welfare, rather than a student's inherent right in our society', says ICPA Federal Life Member and former President Rory Treweek.

\$200,000 raised for Territory bush kids

A whopping \$200,000 was raised for the ICPA in an annual fundraiser that continues to support disadvantaged kids in the bush.

'Free' education costs rural families \$50,000+



Isolated Children's Parents' Association NORTHERN TERRITORY STATE COUNCIL Inc 2024 Positions

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PORTFOLIO POSITIONS		
- BOARDING AND ALLOWANCES	Kerrie Scott, Melissa Kerr, Bec Osmotherly, Catherine Atkins	- RURAL AND REMOTE SCHOOLS
- DISTANCE EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS	Amanda Murphy, Danyelle Haigh, Connie Woods	Melissa Kerr, Jacinta McInnerney
- TERTIARY AND TRAINING	Kiya Gill and Catherine Atkins	- EARLY CHILDHOOD
		Jacinta McInnerney, Julianne Vlach, Danyelle Haigh
		- SPECIAL NEEDS
		Jacinta McInnerney
		- MISCELLANEOUS
		Moirá Lanzarin



FROM THE PRESIDENT



The end of another school year – a combination of firsts, lasts and special every days. A single child working hard at their lessons at the kitchen table; a busy bush classroom of siblings; boarding schools in far flung places; long drives home or into contact distance ed events. The education experiences of our families are wide and varied and are as individually unique and beautiful as our Northern Territory landscapes.

This edition of Down the Track, is the FIRST for our new editor, but long time friend and supporter, Annie Hesse. Some of you will remember Annie from Conference in Alice Springs or Federal Conference in Sydney. Please make yourself known to Annie and keep the amazing stories, photos and snippets of information coming so that we can ensure that Down the Track is reflective of what you would like to see and hear. Feedback is always welcomed.

Grab yourself a cuppa and enjoy.

We hope that wherever you are, that your summer holidays are filled with fun, family, special times and good gentle rains, green grass and fresh water flows.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Moira xx

Moira Lanzarin

BACKING ISOLATED STUDENTS

JO HERSEY
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

One of my first meetings as the newly appointed Minister for Education and Training was with Northern Territory representatives of the ICPA.

I met numerous times with you as Opposition Education spokesperson and am now honoured to now be the Minister.

Being a Katherine local of 34 years, I have a great deal of respect for your organisation and its advocacy on issues affecting students and parents from some of the remotest parts of our vast country.

Since coming to office in August, the CLP Government has been committed to reducing crime, rebuilding the economy, and restoring the unique Territory lifestyle.

When I met with ICPA representatives in October, I heard firsthand the ICPA's views on programs such as the Student Assistance Schemes, the Back to School Payment Scheme, Internet Subsidy Scheme, and issues with the outcome data for Territory students at interstate boarding schools finding its way back to the NT system.

The revised Student Assistant Schemes have been running since March 2023. It is right and proper that those schemes be reviewed to ensure the changes made to them are hitting the mark and delivering the desired outcomes.

That work is occurring and is due for completion early next year. I look forward to discussing the findings of the review, together with the personal experiences of ICPA members, once we have all considered them.

We also need to ensure the Back to School Payment Scheme is delivering real benefits for the widest cross-

section of families possible.

I'm aware of the ICPA's views on the equity and fairness of the scheme only applying to students attending NT schools. We certainly need to consider the inclusions and exclusions under the scheme to ensure they are consistent between government and non-government schools.

The Department of Education and Training is consulting stakeholders to consider how we can make the Back to School Payment useful to the widest number of parents possible. Including those whose children attend boarding schools or participate in distance education.

ICPA parents will be glad to hear the Internet Subsidy scheme will now cover up to \$174 per month and be available to eligible Distance Education students and reduce the documentation requirements on parents.

One area where our views are particularly closely aligned is the data anomaly when it comes to NT students attending interstate boarding schools. Currently, if a Territory kid from a cattle station outside Katherine attends a boarding school in Brisbane, for funding and academic result purposes, they are counted in Queensland's education statistics not the Territory's.

As the Minister for Education and Training, I will always engage positively with the ICPA and appreciate their advocacy on behalf of students and parents living in rural and remotes areas.

Keep up the great work and see you at the next conference which I am pleased to see will be in Katherine.



"I have a great deal of respect for your organisation and its advocacy on issues affecting students and parents from some of the remotest parts of our vast country, (and) as the Minister for Education and Training, I ... appreciate (ICPA's) advocacy on behalf of students and parents living in rural and remotes areas."

JO HERSEY | MINISTER FOR EDUCATION



The E.J. Connellan Award *Outback Grants for Outback People*

The E.J. Connellan Award supports outback individuals to pursue education, research, or passion projects that might otherwise be out of their reach.

With up to \$20,000 available for applicants aged 16 and over, two awards may be granted: Junior and Senior.

Applications close 31 January 2025.

For more information and to apply, visit our website



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"Together with the ICPSA, we can continue to drive equitable access to education and create pathways for our students to learn from and inspire each other."

SUSAN BOWDEN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING



A TESTAMENT TO THE POTENTIAL OF OUR REMOTE STUDENTS

SUSAN BOWDEN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND TRAINING

As the new Chief Executive of the Department of Education and Training, I am honoured to introduce myself to the members of the Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) through Down the Track. I have worked in the Northern Territory for the last 21 years in various senior roles across the department. With the recent machinery of government changes the Adult Training portfolio has merged with Education. This includes supporting regional and remote adult Territorians having access to training and employment pathways to meet the needs of business, industry and major project workforce needs. The government has identified priorities for training include Agriculture, Gas, Mining, Tourism and Defence. This forms part of the new government's key priorities to Reduce Crime, Rebuild the Economy and Restore our Lifestyle.

As a former teacher and principal and now as a parent, I am deeply passionate about ensuring every child has access to a high-quality education, regardless of where they live. I welcome the opportunity to partner with the ICPA to ensure we meet the challenges of delivering education to every corner of the Territory's vast geographic footprint. I appreciate how very important digital technology and connectivity is for isolated children to receive a quality education no matter where they live.

It was a pleasure to meet a number of students enrolled in

distance learning on 14 November 2024. I had the privilege of attending the Northern Territory Learning Commission (NTLC) event. Among the 800 students from 51 schools across the Territory who participated, I was proud to welcome students from Alice Springs School of the Air, Katherine School of the Air and NT School of Distance Education. Their active involvement in analysing data trends, designing solutions to address challenges, and confidently pitching ideas to the Minister for Education and Training and myself was a testament to the incredible potential of our remote school of the air students.

For families living remote, I recognise that these events provide a rare and meaningful opportunity for isolated students to engage with one another and students from other schools across the Territory. I also believe that events such as these highlight that your children's voices are valued and their perspectives are heard within the broader education community.

I was pleased to meet with ICPA representatives recently to understand what is important to you. Some of the topics included subsidies and back to school vouchers as well as laptops for students. Together with the ICPA, we can continue to drive equitable access to education and create pathways for our students to learn from and inspire each other.



"The ICPA has continued to be a vibrant family organisation that (is) the vital link in representing to all educational providers the educational needs of geographically isolated children."

RORY TREWEEKE | ICPA LIFE MEMBER

ACCESS TO ADEQUATE EDUCATION IS NOT 'SOCIAL WELFARE'

ICPA NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SYDNEY

Hundreds of boots were dusted off for this year's biggest gathering of bush folk in the big smoke.

The annual Federal Conference of the Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA) kicked off in Sydney, with this year's theme 'Bridging the Divide', with delegates travelling from as far away Katherine in the Northern Territory and Mount Isa in northern Queensland.

In his opening speech Federal Life Member and former President Rory Treweek, who has been involved with the ICP for nearly 50 years, took aim at Governments that over the years have – and continue to – neglect those living in the bush.

"One thing is quite clear – access to the appropriate level of education is still viewed by many Governments as social welfare rather than a student's inherent right in our society since the 1800s to have equitable access to education facilities regardless of where they live," he said. "Together with 'access', choice of school is still a burning issue in many areas, and it shouldn't be."

Mr Treweek commended the ICPA on decades of fighting for a fair go for children from rural and remote areas.

Wendy Hicks and Margaret Brock travelled from Mount Isa to represent their Branch at the 2024 ICPA Conference.

"The ICPA has continued to be a vibrant family organisation that (is) the vital link in representing to all educational providers the educational needs of geographically isolated children," he said.

"Because of the work done by the ICPA over the past 50 plus years, the number of people with tertiary and trade qualifications is rising as a proportion of those living in the bush.

"We all know that the population in the bush has shrunk in the past 50 years, but the efficiency of our farmers has continued to improve and education has played a big part."

Among many other issues, as part of the 2024 Conference the ICPA is renewing its calls to the Government and telco providers to ensure all rural and remote students have adequate internet access to do their schooling.

Constance Wood, on behalf of the Katherine, NT, Branch, said geographically isolated children relied on the internet for their educational needs, but service reliability



Rory Treweeke at the ICPA Conference in Sydney.

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"... access to the appropriate level of education is still viewed by many Governments as social welfare rather than a student's inherent right ... regardless of where they live."

RORY TREWEEKE | ICPA LIFE MEMBER



Ms Wood moved a motion calling on Telstra to ensure it would meet its universal service guarantee of "providing quality, efficient and reliable voice services to rural and remote premises to access education, including fixed address pastoral leases, remote communities and remote roadhouses".







ICPA NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SYDNEY





A UNIQUE CHANCE TO REFLECT

**ROB MCARTHUR - DIRECTOR OF BOARDING
ST PHILIP'S COLLEGE, ALICE SPRINGS**

For those who don't know me, my name is Rob McArthur and I am the Director of Boarding at St Philip's College in Alice Springs. You may recognise or remember me from the various ICPA Conferences I have been lucky enough to attend over the last few years. Unfortunately, my time at the St Philip's Boarding House is rapidly coming to an end as I am

leaving Alice Springs. I have loved my time living here and would move back to Alice in a heartbeat if my family circumstances made it possible.

Coming to the end of such a period gives you a unique chance to reflect on what you have done and the place you have lived in over the years. I know Alice Springs raises eyebrows

among some NT ICPA members, who feel cautious about sending their child here to receive an education. To that, I would simply say that my family and I have always felt very comfortable and safe here. My 14-year-old daughter, who attends St Philip's College with her sisters, walks to work at the local cinema and has never felt unsafe.

Alice Springs, like all towns, has its challenges, but my family and I love it here, as do the Boarders, who are lucky enough to come to live at St Philip's College.

Over my time here, a lot has changed. We have re-engaged with the ICPA and are hoping to have the first group of ICPA members' children in some time attend Boarding at St Philip's College in 2026, all of whom as members are entitled to apply for the ICPA St Philip's College grant of \$2000.

St Philip's Boarding has been rejuvenated, is clean, modern and progressing steadily through its building redevelopment plan. We have brought in clear entry standards for prospective Boarders and have developed a close, kind, familiar and safe culture buttressed by high

expectations and high levels of support for all who are in residence. Most importantly, St Philip's Boarding now aligns completely with all six strands of the Australian Boarding Standard. In 2025, we plan to seek and achieve certification through the Australian Boarding Schools Association.

St Philip's College remains the Boarding School of choice in Central Australia providing Territorians with access to a world-class education for their children that is easily reached via the Stuart Highway. St Philip's Boarding House staff know every child as if they were their own and work closely with parents to ensure they have a crystal-clear understanding of their child's progress. Staff are entirely committed to the care of those with

whom they work and the values we hold dear at St Philip's Boarding. Working closely with pastoral and academic staff in the day school, we ensure that every child is 'seen' and no child falls through the cracks.

As mentioned, my time here is coming to an end. It has been an honour to serve as Director of Boarding at St Philip's College and I have felt privileged to have experienced all that this job has given me.

Kris Wheeler will be replacing me as Director of Boarding in 2025. Kris is a deeply experienced Boarding House leader and a former Head of Boys Boarding at St Philip's College (2010 to 2015).

Under Kris's leadership, your children will be in very safe hands indeed.





Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Australia Day Council Northern Territory invite you to take part in our Australia Day on the Station Initiative. We want to recognise all Australians and aim to shine a light on the unique lifestyle of living on a remote station.

**Australia Day Council NT invite you to take part in
Australia Day on the Station**

It's easy to get involved

We are inviting stations across the Territory to send your videos to:



Show case your
home and
community



Tell us how you
celebrate
Australia Day



Share your
unique lifestyle

The video will be edited and featured at "The Festival of Us" as part of Darwin's Australia Day celebrations.

**If you are interested please read through our
how to film guide and our media pack.**

This project is being run by an external agency please contact Hannah at hqconsultancy@outlook.com or 0417 370 488 for information

AUSTRALIA DAY ON THE STATION

Do you live on a cattle station in the Northern Territory? If so, the Australia Day Council NT would love to hear from you.

"We understand that for those living on remote stations, it's not always possible to attend organised community events but we would love you to be part of "The Festival of Us" this Australia Day," Australia Day Council NT CEO Anna McDonald said.

"Australia Day Council NT wants to recognise all Australians and shine a light on the unique lifestyle of living on a remote station.

"Be part of our video project and tell us how you spend your Australia Day on the Station."

For information on how to get involved, email Hannah.hqconsultancy@outlook.com.





JUNIOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

ANTHONY HAYES | ALICE SPRINGS

Dear ICPA Alice Springs.

At the end of 2022, I won the Junior Personal Development Grant to go Space School at the Adelaide Planetarium.

Space School only happens once or twice during the SA school holidays, so it took us a while to get there, as lots of the dates did not line up with what we were doing, for example, during mustering, during Inschool weeks, etc. In the last school holidays, I finally got to go there!

Space School started fairly early in the morning and began with some learning in the classroom about constellations. After that, we headed to the Planetarium to have a look at stars, find constellations, and have a look at the sun's movement patterns. I thought the domed roof with the universe projected on it was really awesome.

After a quick lunch break, we did some Virtual Reality where we got to go on a short spaceship ride around

the solar system, learning about the different planets and their moons. I got the captain's seat for our ride!

Next, we watched a short 20-minute movie about what happens to an astronaut's body in space. Then, we went back to the classroom to do some more work on constellations and moon stages and finished up with a quiz about everything we had learned for the day. I really liked attending Space School for the day, and I learnt a lot about space.

.It was a great opportunity and I'm so glad I got to attend it. Thank you!

Because we live so far from Adelaide, we locked in some other educational activities while there, that we can't do at home. These included visiting the South Australian Museum, visiting the Mortlock Wing of the SA Public Library, and attending a day of Circus School at Cirkidz.

At the SA Museum, I really liked looking at the giant squid exhibit and the mummies in the ancient Egypt section. The Mortlock Wing of the library was beautiful, and looked a bit like something out of a Harry Potter book. We also did some activities at the library and read a book while there, which was a great experience.

Circus school was a big day, with the school starting at 8:30am and not finishing until 4:00pm, with lots of busy and fun activity all day. At circus school, we got to have a go at trapezing, hammock tricks, jumping, falling, diving and more! My favourite part of circus school was the trapeze, as it was really fun to do. I learnt a lot of new skills and had a great time.

While the Museum and the Library were free to visit, Circus School cost money to attend, and the Grant from ICPA covered this as well. My younger sister Alice was able to attend all of these fun educational activities with me, so it wasn't just one kid that benefitted from this grant, it was two.

Thank you SO much for the generous grant that helped me attend these awesome educational activities. I'm really grateful to the Alice Springs ICPA for having this grant on offer, and for being able to do these things.

Thank you very much
Aaron Hayes





MATARANKA SPORTS CAMP





MATARANKA SPORTS CAMP 2024

LAUREN HOARE | KATHERINE

Another year, and another fantastic ICPA Katherine Branch sports camp. Over two full days in October approximately 80 children along with their parents and home tutors, all travelled to Mataranka in the Northern Territory where they made new friends, caught up with old friends and joined in on all things sports.

This year the children all got to participate in Netball, Gymnastics, rugby, dodgeball, boxing, softball and soccer with the coaches

travelling from Darwin to run sessions.

Not only do the children get to participate in team sports, they learn about healthy nutrition and exercise and that it is great for mental and physical health.

The activities didn't just stop at that, with the hot weather and running around all day, we had a huge slip and slide that provided tons of fun for all ages alike. And on the final night the children all danced their hearts out at the disco, with some fantastic

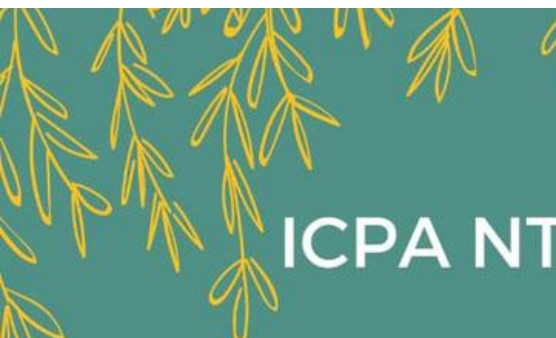
outfits and dance moves and even a pinata.

Once again, this event is only made possible from all our sponsors, major donator Nutrien Ag solutions, Santos, Plasson, Mataranka roadhouse, and Roper Gulf Council. Another brilliant event to enable geographically isolated children an opportunity to participate in and learn new sports skills, and to foster an interest in sports that distance education and small school students don't get the exposure too.



NUTRIEN BOARDING GRANT

Maggie Murphy was selected for the Under 16 South West Rugby League team to compete in the 15/16 Girls Queensland Championship and Selections in May, 2024. Initially chosen as a Shadow for the NQ side, she was called up by the South West Side to compete. Maggie played her heart out, was awarded Most Valuable Player for one game. An incredible experience and great achievement.



Save the Date

ICPA NT State Conference and AGM

Country Kids Count

Tuesday 4 March 2025

KATHERINE

www.icpa.com.au/nt





HEARTACHE, TEARS, FEAR

**REMOTE KIDS' BOARDING
SCHOOL DECISION IS NOT AN
'ELITIST' CHOICE BUT OFTEN
THE ONLY OPTION**

A young mother who has been forced to choose between sending her children away to boarding school or giving up the family home and business to move interstate, has publicly opened up about the "heartache" families in remote parts of the country have to endure.

Kerrie Scott, who lives at Mountain Valley Station, 200km east of Katherine in the Northern Territory, took to the stage at the annual Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA) conference which was held in Alice Springs this month, to shed some light on what boarding really means to families living in isolation.

Ms Scott, whose three children attend boarding school in Queensland, thousands of kilometers away from home, said most people considered boarding schools an "elitist" choice for children's schooling.

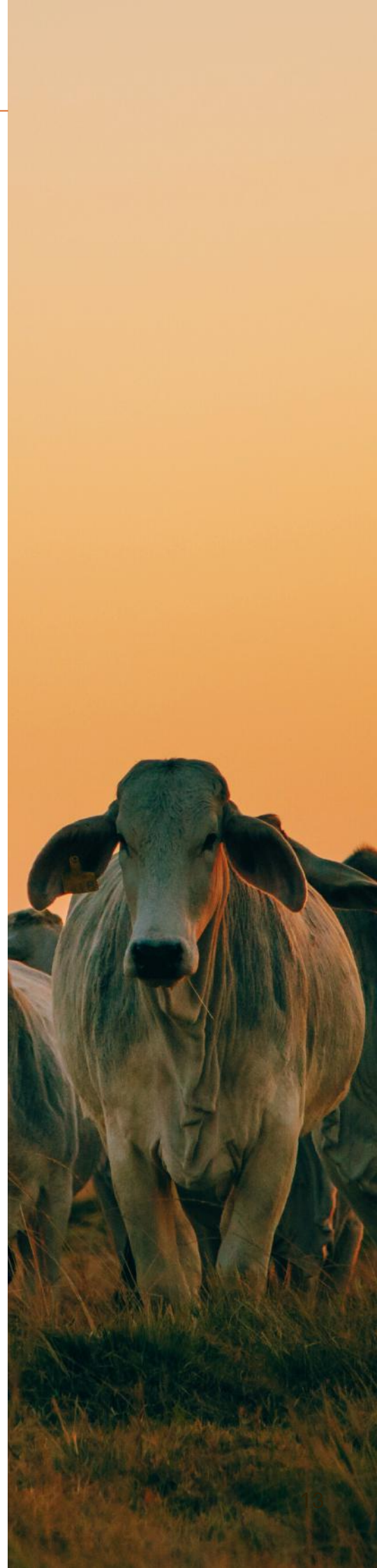
The misperception is perhaps that it is an easy choice or an elitist choice," she said.

"I'd prefer to have my kids with me - there are no winner or loser at the end of this - you're only praying every day that the path is leading your kids to have a balanced upbringing.

"Even on the smoothest day, there is the dark shadow of living every day without your kids, and the huge financial burden."

The ICPA committee member said she had to choose between sending her children to boarding school or giving up the family's life in the Northern Territory.

"Boarding is a whole family experience, and one of the biggest and hardest decisions you'll be forced to make as a family in the Territory living in isolation.



"However, my choice comes down to boarding, or we leave the Territory, our lives, our friends and our jobs and business to start again, and if we all leave - who will be left to run the businesses that keep our economy viable?"

Ms Scott said the decision came with "heartache, tears, excitement and fear, sadness and joy", creating an "emotional rollercoaster that is boarding".

"So why do we need my family, and the others (working in agriculture in the NT)? Bluntly, who else is coming to make a life here? It's hot, it's hard, it's plagued with social issues, it's got a lot going on.

"We need (families) to make their lives in the Territory - to make a better Territory."

"There's a sinking feeling in the pit of your stomach ... How will you ever afford this: boarding fees, tuition fees, travel, extra curricular activities."

The mother-of-three said whether a family had chosen to board within the Territory, or interstate, it was important that children and families were supported on their educational journey.

"Each (remote) kid is an individual, with their own personality, their own interests, their own capability to learn in a conventional teaching environment when the only thing they've ever known is a distance education classroom, to handle adversity, to cope with separation from their family, their animals, their universe," she said.

"Life as they knew it, turned upside down the day they left home for boarding. It did for all of us."

Ms Scott said for many families interstate boarding fees were a "deal-breaker".

"There's a sinking feeling in the pit of your stomach ... How will you ever afford this: boarding fees, tuition fees, travel, extra curricular activities, the list goes on.

"For a lot of people, that is the deal breaker right there when it's time to go to high school. (They) leave the Territory (because) it's too hard, and it's too expensive."





ICPA Member Kerrie Scott

Ms Scott said while she didn't want her own children to go to boarding school, she couldn't keep them at home – isolated from peers their age, robbed of opportunities to play team sports and have a social life among other children instead of only a small group of working adults on a station in the middle of nowhere.

She had to make the decision to send her youngest daughter boarding school when she started Year 6.

"She spent a year at home on her own with the oldest two siblings away. She was lonely, she was spending too much time with adults. I could not make her suffer because I didn't want to let her go. Distance Education had done all it could have done for my family."

Ms Scott said while the ICPA was integral in assisting families in their children's education needs, more help was urgently needed.

"The fees are still there, the airfares still rise," she said.

"This is where the Department of Education needs to continue to improve the financial assistance provided.

"I believe the Federal Government needs to also be stepping up with added allowances and subsidies to families, as we have very unique circumstances and problems here that other states just do not have to deal with. The travel expenses alone for most families is crippling. The assistance falls short, much the same as our options. We have very different needs and concerns around access to education than other states."

At the 2024 ICPA conference, members called on the NT and the Federal Governments to look into current student assistance schemes and "ensure the scheme subsidies and assistance is appropriate to the needs of isolated students".

The Katherine Branch also called on the Government to extend the Back to School Voucher scheme to all NT students that are required to board interstate to complete their compulsory schooling.

"Geographically isolated children fall through the gap," Ms Scott said. They cannot access financial support for back-to-school items in the state they are being educated in. These kids are still NT residents, their parents still contribute to the NT economy, and they are slipping through the net of support by way of exclusion (from being able to access NT Back to School vouchers)."

ICT GRANT

EMMA KERR

Thank you very much to ICPA Katherine Branch and Nutrien for the ICT grant I applied for.

I purchased a my very first laptop for my university studies this year. I have been able to attend online classes, prepare lecture and tutorial notes, and sit exams for Veterinary Technology on my new laptop.

The ICT grant was a big help to me, as there were a lot of expenses in moving to the University of Queensland and starting my degree.

I appreciate that ICPA advocates for us geographically isolated kids to ensure we all have the opportunity to further our education at our choice of school or university.

Emma Kerr



ICPA NT HOME TUTOR AWARD

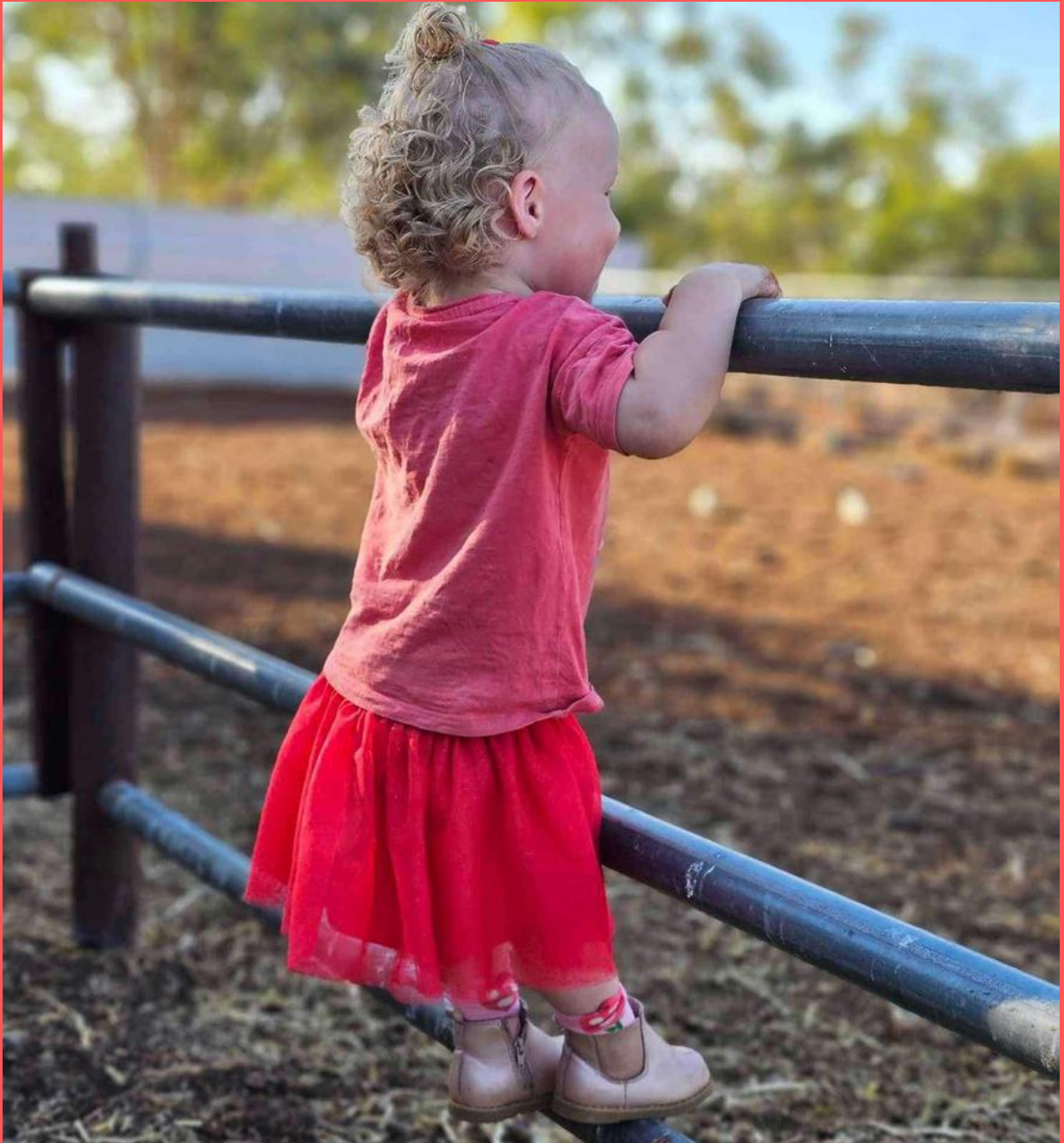
This Certificate is Awarded to

Steph Mackenzie

Thank you for your dedication as a Home Tutor at Katherine School of the Air. Your organisation skills and passion for teaching is recognised by the KSA Community and the Isolated Childrens Association Northern Territory

12 December, 2024

Amanda Murphy
Publicity Officer



WEAR RRED

RURAL & REMOTE EDUCATION DAY



Wearing red in support of the Isolated Children's Parents Association launch of **Rural and Remote Education Day (RREd Day)**. It's a dedicated awareness day to shine a spotlight on the unique challenges faced by students and families in rural and remote areas of Australia. The theme for this inaugural event was "**Wear Red for Rural and Remote Education**," encouraging ICPA members, schools, and supporters to wear red.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

HARRISON NAGLE

I have had a passion for riding bikes ever since I could walk. My dad used to be a downhill racer and a cross country rider, when I was little I used to watch him race and looked up to him. He has taught me so much. I love to ride MTB trails and love going over jumps and doing tricks. When I am out on the trails, I feel there are no limits. I can do whatever I want. With this MTB gear I will be able to do jumps and tricks without the worry of falling off and hurting myself.

One day I would like to ride in a competition called Red Bull Hard Line and maybe even bring home gold for Australia. I would also like to one day build my very own mountain bike park.

With the gloves they will protect my hands from getting blisters. I already have a full-face helmet, but I have had the problem of getting mud and dust in my eyes for a very long time, so I would like to get smith loam MTB slate goggles. I would like to get long MTB pants to protect my legs from rocks and sticks.

I would lastly like to get a MTB shirt which will make me not as hot and sweaty. Altogether this is all worth \$400.

Thank you for considering my application.





NUTRIEN BOARDING GRANTS

KERR KIDS

Thank you to ICPA Katherine Branch for our Nutrien boarding and tertiary grants we received to assist with our boarding school fees.

Boarding school has allowed us to experience classes, cultural activities, and sports that we would not be able to do from living at home in the NT. The best part of boarding school is making lots of new friends and playing heaps of team sports.

Emma – I was Sacristan in year 12 at St Margarets Anglican Girls school in Brisbane last year and am studying Veterinary Technology at the University of Queensland this year.

Jack – I completed year 9 at The Southport School at the Gold Coast last year. I competed at the Queensland State Rowing Titles in Bundaberg in September, winning silver in the Quads.

Nick – I completed my first year at boarding school in year 7 at The Southport School at the Gold Coast last year. I was dux of all year 7 boarding houses.

We appreciate the work that ICPA Katherine Branch and Nutrien do to raise funds at the Katherine Show so they can help support geographically isolated kids like us go to boarding school and be able to challenge ourselves both academically and on the sporting fields.



Emma, Jack and Nick Kerr



ART AWARDS





ICPA KATHERINE ART AWARDS 2024

SALLY DYER | ICPA KATHERINE BRANCH SECRETARY

Each year ICPA Katherine Branch has held the Art Awards. This year with a few changes to the Katherine School of the Air contact events. The opportunity to make the event bigger and better presented itself. So, with that, the branch hired the popular Buntine Pavillion and made an evening of it. With categories ranging from Lego, Painted Pictures, Photography, Welded Horseshoe Art and Silhouette Cut outs, there was a record of entries and plenty of prize money to win.

After the kids, parents, govies and teachers all got to view the art on display and hold the presentation, we were treated to the Kids Auction. Raising money for the Katherine School of the Air playground.

The kids did a great job presenting items for auction and auctioning them off. They even made it on the NT Country Hour.

There is so much talent hidden in amongst the children who participated. Great to see them complementing each other's efforts

and be rewarded in front of their peers. They were also treated to delicious pizzas and hotdogs from Tomino's Pizza. Cold meat and salads from our amazing events coordinator Meg Watters and the team of Mum's and Govies that helped out and made it all look delicious. There were live animals from the Barnyard Petting Zoo and entertainment by the KSA DJ. The awesome team (Jo & Sophie) and their children from KICS made an extra effort to ensure the littlies were entertained and did a great job of

finding all the lost property after the event.

This event is made possible by the team at Nutrien Katherine Branch who hold the Nutrien Auction at the Katherine Show, our branches major fundraising event each year. We'd also like to thank Kennards Hire, Dragon Fly Catering, Katherine Town Council, Woolworths, Car Parts NT and Katherine School of the Air for the assistance, services and sponsorship given to make the event happen successfully. Thank you.

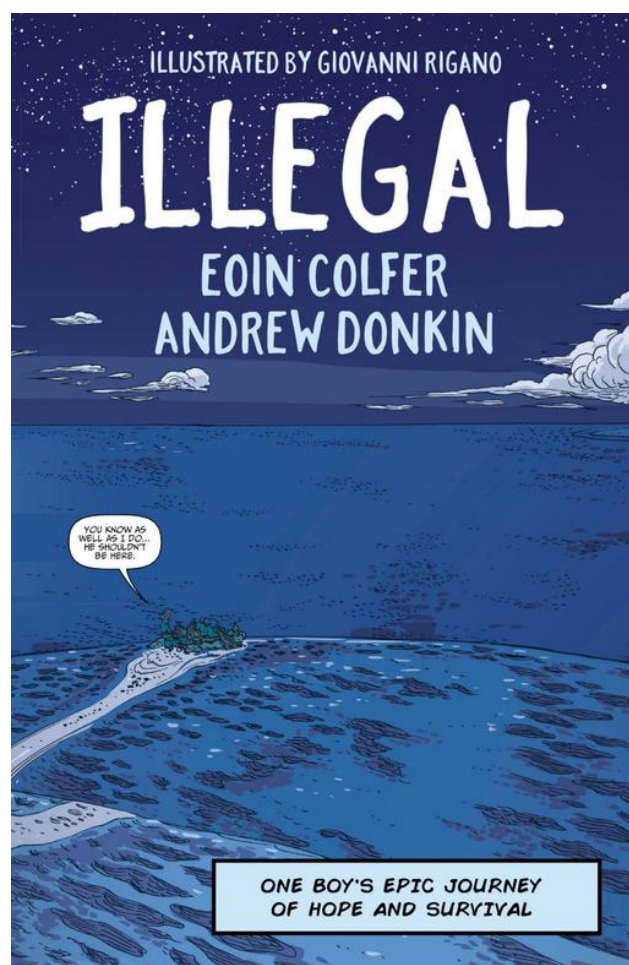
We will certainly be holding this event again next year. I think a few kids are saving up their horseshoes already, ready to weld and be in it to win it.





ART AWARDS





HOW HOPE GUIDES REFUGEES AGAINST ALL ODDS

BY ANTON LANZARIN

YEAR 9 BOARDER, BLACKHEATH THORNBROUGH COLLEGE,
CHARTERS TOWERS
COODARDIE STATION, MATARANKA NT

"ONE TRULY INSPIRING AWARD WINNING FILM AND
ANOTHER CLASSIC ADVENTURE NOVEL BOTH
RE-TELLING THEIR STORIES."

AN INSPIRING STORY OF OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Imagine being 6 yrs old and in a city you've never been, no one can speak your language, lost, no friends, no family, no food. The award winning film, *Lion*, directed by Garth Davis, recounts Saroo's life after being displaced from his family and being adopted into a new culture and country. It discusses the tremendous journey Saroo faces. Likewise, Eoin Colfer's motivational graphic novel, *Illegal*, conveys the dramatic journey Ebo goes through in search for his family. Both literary masterpieces convey how the power of hope sustains the human spirit.

Hope is how we stay connected to each other. In *Lion*, Saroo's mother is a beacon of hope. She demonstrates hope when she refuses to leave the village, ever hopeful that Saroo will return home. This is the strongest example of hope throughout both texts. Similarly, Ebo displays hope throughout the entire narrative, motivated to reunite with his family in a safer world. He never gave up. He always pushes forward, even though he is faced with many challenges. Every day, children caught up in the refugee crisis demonstrate this remarkable quality. Forever fighting for their future.

Every one who faces tough challenges, holds on to hope to bring them through. "The world is full of lost things, but there's always hope," this is highlighted by Saroo, a child refugee going through traumatic experiences daily. He faces immense troubles just to survive. Hope is like a guiding light that turns obstacles into opportunities. It is evident that Saroo continues to hold on to hope for a better future as he overcomes these adversity. Hope is a characteristic that all people facing and overcoming adversity display. It is clear that without hope, the 80 000 people caught up each year in India's refugee crisis, would never overcome the challenges they face.

In both the movie '*Lion*' and the text '*Illegal*' hope was vital for both of the main characters to draw on as a source of strength. Hope is the feeling of expectation and desire for something to happen, Ebo and Saroo demonstrated hope throughout their journeys. Hope is shown throughout the text by how positive Ebo stays in the darkest of situations. When Ebo is traveling through a whole ocean on a little boat and then the engine breaks he doesn't give up. He still stays positive and hopeful although not

many people would behave the same way in this situation. However, one person who did have similar dedication and hopefulness is Saroo. "I'm not going to stop until I find my way back home." Saroo never gave up on his family and dedicated 3 years of his life on Google Earth to find his family.

Hope undoubtedly carries these people through their stories, and without such an essential characteristic, their outcomes would likely be different. This demonstrates how hope can be so important to our own lives and really can make a difference like it did to Ebo and Saroo. Hope motivates us, challenges us to create goals and guides us towards the future. Just as hope was crucial for Ebo and Saroo in navigating their difficult journeys, it also plays a vital role for children who are missing or living in poverty. Their hope helps them persevere, search for their identity, and strive for a better future despite the hardships they face.

Each and every day children go missing and face extreme poverty. They demonstrate these characteristics as they search for their identity.



BACK IN THE SCHOOL ROOM



SAVE THE DATE

FEDERAL ICPA CONFERENCE

Adelaide
30 & 31 July 2025

BACK IN THE SCHOOL ROOM

DANYELLE HAIGH | ALICE SPRINGS

Term 4 started off with a bang for the Haigh family where mum was thrown back into the school room after six years out of it. So much has changed since I first taught the kids through Alice Springs School of the Air.

We use Zoom now instead of react, I have two kids in the school room now, we have reliable internet and up to date resources/electronics not like when we first started we were all paper based and mailed out. It was fantastic to see how much has changed and improved with the all the new technology and different ways of teaching and learning. It certainly made it easier on me trying

to get my head around it all and transition back in to the classroom.

I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching my two boys this term and how they have thrived with having mum as their teacher. Watching them learn and grasp concepts made my cup fuller everyday.

I've realised since being thrown back in to the school room this term that it is very important for the parent to be actively aware and learning the new and up to date ropes of the schooling system. However since its not physically possible for me to teach my kids fulltime, as running two businesses and volunteering on

multiple committees and community events consumes most of my time, I will be spending at least one day or more a week in the school room for the foreseeable future. Not only did I enjoy my time in there this term and watching them learn but the kids did too. It's also a good way to make sure the kids are at the level they need to be for their ages and if all work is being completed etc. As we embark on a new adventure in 2025 we are so excited for what lies ahead with my eldest in his last year of primary school and my youngest about to start his journey in primary school.





"There will always be a need for ICPA. We cannot change the geography or the distance, and nor would we want to. Australia needs families in the bush."

MOIRA LANZARIN | PRESIDENT ICPA NT



WORKING TOGETHER – FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THE FUTURE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY CONFERENCE

In a heartfelt address at the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Conference, Moira Lanzarin, ICPA NT President, delivered a powerful speech urging for greater focus on supporting families in rural and remote areas of the Northern Territory. Speaking to a room filled with local government representatives, Mrs Lanzarin called on attendees to prioritise the needs of families to ensure the sustainability of communities and businesses across the Territory.

Mrs Lanzarin spoke of her deep connection to ICPA, shaped by her upbringing and her family's legacy of advocacy. "I am a direct result of my ancestors before me and the environment my family and extended family created around me. Family, business, community – all helping and working together," she said. "I am a result of the advocacy and opportunities created because of ICPA by the generations before me – by the amazing work of my mother and many other ICPA legends and everyday people – some of whom are in the room today."

Mrs Lanzarin also paid tribute to her mother, Clair O'Brien, a trailblazer in the region and the inaugural Deputy Mayor of Roper Gulf Council. "On that note, I pay our respect and condolences to Mayor Jack, his family, friends, and staff of Roper Gulf Council during this time of mourning."

In her address, Mrs Lanzarin underscored the importance of families to the sustainability of the Northern Territory. "To attract, keep and retain families in the bush, they need to be able to have safe places to live and adequately educate their children," she said. "They need reliable and affordable communications, timely and accessible health and childcare, and safe roads. When these needs are met, the Northern Territory can sustainably flourish."

She linked the well-being of families to the success of industries and services. "Local Government, Agriculture, Tourism, Transport, Police, Health, National Parks, Communities and more – all are more sustainable, more pleasant, and more productive when their families are by their side," she said.



LGANT Conference in Alice Springs.

She emphasised that reliance on temporary solutions, such as fly-in, fly-out arrangements, would not suffice. "Fly-in, fly-out doesn't cut it for any long-term solutions," she stated.

Mrs Lanzarin explained the work of ICPA, highlighting its role as a voluntary organisation dedicated to ensuring equity of access to education for rural and remote students. She noted that ICPA represents students from a diverse range of educational backgrounds, including distance education, small rural schools, and boarding schools, and operates branches in Alice Springs, Katherine, and Territory-wide.

"By the very nature of our charter – working for geographically isolated children and families – there will always be a need for ICPA," she said. "We cannot change the geography or the distance, and nor would we want to. Australia needs families in the bush."

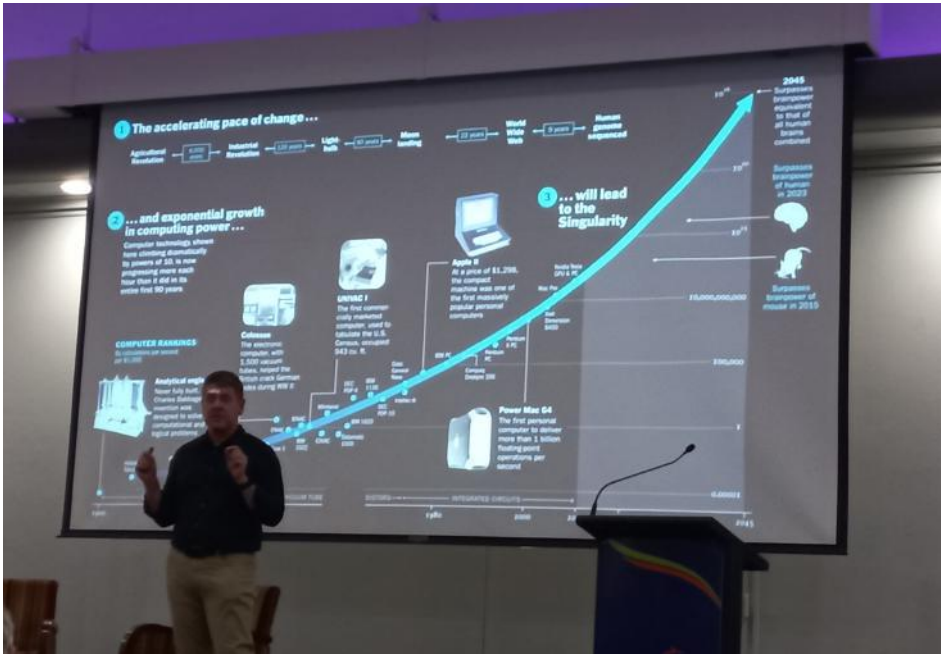
Mrs Lanzarin outlined five key priorities for the NT State Council: improved student assistance schemes for geographically isolated families, funding for mobile playgroups, early identification and management of special learning needs, better access to affordable

technology, and a home-supervisor allowance for families managing distance education. "Were you aware that this essential role is a cost fully borne by the family?" she asked, highlighting the financial challenges faced by remote families.

She also touched on the creative ways businesses are supporting families through fundraising initiatives and the obstacles posed by current Federal Taxation laws, such as the imposition of fringe benefits tax on employer contributions to boarding fees. Despite these challenges, she celebrated the achievements of ICPA and its role in advocating for policies and programs that support rural education.

Mrs Lanzarin called on local government representatives to collaborate with ICPA and prioritise families in their decision-making processes. "Collectively, we can make a difference," she said. "By working collaboratively and with shared values and common vision, we can create a today and tomorrow we wish to be a part of."

In closing, Mrs Lanzarin left the audience with a clear message: the sustainability of the Northern Territory depends on families thriving in the bush. "For a sustainable Northern Territory, there must be families happily living and working in the bush and small centres," she said. "Where families are supported, businesses and communities will prosper with far greater resilience and sustainability."





University of
Southern
Queensland



Griffith
UNIVERSITY
QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA



Australian
National
University

HELP US TEST A NEW DIGITAL PROGRAM FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT ANXIETY!



Does your child or
teen have difficulty
with anxiety?

Do you live in a
regional, rural, or
remote area
of Australia?

Are they aged
7-17 years?

If you answered “Yes” to all three questions, you’re invited to help our research team, led by University of Southern Queensland, provide better services for regional and rural Australian families by testing a free, online program for child and adolescent anxiety. We are interested in finding what type of support works best for families in regional areas, and how you would like to receive it.

Eligible families will get access to a free online treatment program and receive a **\$30 gift card** each time they complete a follow-up survey and interview.



Scan the QR code to get started

or for more information, visit our website:

www.momentumhub.org.au/research/

Email: Momentum.Regional@unisq.edu.au

UniSQ HREC Project ID: ETH2024-0775





NUTRIEN BOARDING GRANT

Georgie Murphy settled into her first year of boarding school at Blackheath and Thornburgh College, Charters Towers for 2024.

"It was hard at the start to work out where you were going around a new school and being away from home. But I just kept busy and did every activity that was offered and made sure I went to bed tired everynight. I miss Mums cooking, but I like doing the sport and being with my friends."

BOARDING KIDS

Maggie Murphy, Charlie Murphy, Georgie Murphy and Betty Bethel boarders at Blackheath and Thornburgh College, Charters Towers, Queensland.







DARWIN DELEGATION

**AMANDA BROWN
ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH MEMBER
GUEST TO NT STATE COUNCIL DELEGATION**

Late October, I was lucky enough to be included in the 2024 State Delegation trip to Darwin and it was nothing short of enlightening. I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the lovely, intelligent and welcoming woman that were involved in the trip, it was so heartening to see strong and motivated woman championing the needs of our geographically isolated families. I was pleasantly surprised to see how many open doors and welcoming faces there was when we started our

with many stakeholders and decision makers in the NT, some of the meeting rounds, I found that everyone was eager to hear our stories, challenges, potential solutions and desired outcomes, it created a real sense of hope within me and hopefully it did for the other ladies in attendance. There was a large number of meetings that were held, at times with all of us and at times we would split into small groups, taking a divide and conquer approach. We were able to sit down

meetings included NT Farmers, NT Police, NTCA, CDU, Haileybury Rendall School, NT COGSGO, Senator McCarthy's office, Department of Education, Minister for Education - Jo Hersey, Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro and many more. Overall it was an exceptional trip that really fostered a sense of excitement and optimism for the future of our geographically isolated families, it's so good to know that there are many wonderful people fighting for our cause.

ALICE SPRINGS SCHOOL OF THE AIR: RECOUNT ON LIFE/WORK IN THE 1850S

Henley (Year 3) from Jervois Station does school through Alice Springs School of the Air and has just completed a story. It had to be a recount on life/work in the 1850s.



December 20th 1874

Dear diary, in the morning, I woke up, got dressed quickly, dashed down to the cows and milked them so I could have my breakfast. After breakfast, I washed my bowl until it was sparkling, then I went to work. My job is to clean people's old, dusty chimneys, they are always very dirty from the smoke! It made me feel excited because I got money for my family and bought food that we needed from the market for our dinner.

After work, I went straight home and I had to cook a delicious lunch for me, my mum, dad and my sister, we had pumpkin soup. After lunch, I did this week's washing and fed our 2 dairy cows. The hay was bright yellow, it was scratching my hand and it hurt a lot.

When I was walking back to the house, I found a long, brown piece of rope in the dirt, I picked it up and walked over to a very thick gumtree with massive branches. I played on the swing for 10 minutes, then I had to wash the stained, dirty dishes from lunch. I could hear the plates slap each other, I could smell the soup on the metal bowls, it smelt strongly of pumpkin.

Later, me and Dad went and got water from the murky river so that I could have a wash, the water was very nice and warm because we heated it above the burning fire. I could see the steam floating in the air, it looked like grey flames flying around the room. I could smell the soap, it smelt like animal fat and lavender.

Once I was dry, I got dressed in my pyjamas and ready for dinner. Mum made carrots and potatoes, I was really lucky that got to have sweet bread for dessert.

After dinner, I got ready for bed. I washed my face, combed my hair and I got under my sheets. The room was very hot, I wish I had more windows. I could smell the rotting floorboards under my bed, it made me feel sick but I still had a very good day.





\$200,000

RAISED FOR OUR

BUSH KIDS

BY ANNIE HESSE | PHOTO BY JESSICA CORONES

A whopping \$200,000 was raised in just one evening in the annual Nutrien Ag Solutions Katherine Show fundraiser which supports the Katherine Branch of the Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA).

Branch President Constance Wood said she was "absolutely overwhelmed" by the generosity of the Katherine community and "incredibly grateful" for the hard work of the Nutrien team that organises the annual fundraising event.

"The Katherine Show auction was a record breaker this year, raising in excess of \$200,000," Ms Wood said. "This money will be put to good use, and enables us to gain so much toward our bush kids achieving equity with regard to their education - a task that is a long term ongoing concern."

"Thanks to the funds raised, we are able to advocate on behalf of our geographically isolated families to

"Bush families everywhere are grateful and so appreciative." - Moira Lanzarin

local, state and federal government levels on a wide range of issues that impact our kids' access to quality schooling.

"We are able to send branch delegates to state and federal conferences and to give a voice "straight from the horse's mouth" across across the country.

"We are also able to offer a number of bursaries and scholarships and support local sporting events such as gymkhanas and our annual sports camp at Mataranka."

Ms Wood said on behalf of the Katherine branch she would like to

sincerely thank the Katherine Nutrien team for organising and facilitating the auction, as well as give thanks from the bottom of her heart for the generosity shown by the wider Katherine community and businesses "in producing such an amazing result".

ICPA Northern Territory President Moira Lanzarin joined the sentiment.

"The continued success of the Nutrien Katherine Branch ICPA Auction is testament that supporting bush families is good business," she said. "Bush families everywhere are grateful and so appreciative."



NUTRIEN BOARDING GRANT

Charlie Murphy, boarder at Blackheath and Thornburgh College, Charters Towers captained the Under 15 Boys Rugby League team for 2025.

The team competes against other schools in Charters Towers and Townsville.





FAMILIES

FORCED TO FORK OUT MORE THAN

\$50,000

FOR 'FREE' EDUCATION

BY ANNIE HESSE

'Free' public education is not free for kids living in the bush.

School students in Australia have the right to free public education, but families living in remote and regional areas forced to educate their children via distance education have to fork out tens of thousands of dollars for their kids' schooling.

Distance education was among the number one topics discussed at this year's Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA) Federal Conference in Sydney, with parents sharing their despair at the untenable situation.

Many families living in the bush – hundreds of kilometers from the nearest town or school – have no other choice than to educate their children via the School of the Air.

As part of the obligation with distance education centres, at least one adult must be present in the classroom with children while they are learning. The adult – either a parent who can't undertake their own job during this time, or a paid tutor – is required to commit six to eight hours a day to the classroom, often to deliver some of the students' curriculum.

Speaking on behalf of the ICPA's Julia Creek, Queensland, Branch, Megan Burke said the role required "dedication and commitment" for up to seven years of a child's schooling.

"While distance education tutors spend the same time as teachers in a face-to-face school, preparing daily

lessons, teaching, and supervising their students, they receive no remuneration for their work.

"For geographically isolated families, the role of the home tutor usually falls on the mother.

"This means they are unable to fully participate (in) work (...) often foregoing their own careers and earning capabilities."

While an Assistance for Isolated Children distance education allowance can be accessed by parents of geographically isolated children, it doesn't cover expenses of employing a home tutor.

Ms Burke said families who chose to employ a tutor or governess did so "at a considerable cost", or had to





forgo hundreds of thousands of dollars if a family member was educating the child instead of working in the family business.

Amber Driver, who lives with her family on a cattle station in the Northern Territory, said the situation placed enormous pressure on families – either by "stripping them off a second income" or by forcing them to pay a home tutor up to \$50,000 per year.

"On top of the wage the home tutor is paid, in many cases they are also living with the family and have all food, board and other sundry expenses, such as internet, paid by the family."

Mrs Driver said families were effectively paying award wages for a child to receive a public education.

Wendy Hick, speaking on behalf of the Mount Isa, Queensland, Branch of the ICPA said having a home tutor or to take a parent out of the workforce was "not without financial impact".

"In Australia all children are said to be able to access free public education," she said.

"For remote students and families studying video public distance education this is not true."

ICPA Western Australia State Council representative Kym Ross echoed the sentiment.

"This issue goes to the heart of equitable access to education, which is every child's right," she said.

Ms Ross said some families had to make the hard and costly decision to send their young children to boarding school for their primary school year education, or families would leave their rural and remote homes and workplaces to relocate to a town where the child could access mainstream schooling.

The ICPA is calling for all education ministers, federal, state and territory, to come together and provide a distance education supervisor's allowance that adequately covers the cost of a full-time position.

BOARDING SCHOOL GRANT

CALEB LANZARIN
COODARDIE STATION
MATARANKA NT

I started Grade 10 at Tec-NQ in Townsville at the beginning of this year. I went to boarding school at the beginning of grade 8 but it wasn't for me at the time. I went back home and did KSA and then registered Home Schooling.

My experience at Tec-NQ Boarding house I am really enjoying it. It's got great food, made by an amazing chef. The boarding house allows me to go to Tec-NQ which is a trade school and all about getting you a trade and a job. The boarding house is secure and it has good supervisors.

There are not that many kids – only 26 boys at the moment. You get a good quality room with great facilities. The place is strict but also laid back. Tec-NQ Campus It is a good school.

It is just Grade 10, 11 and 12. You only have 5 subjects plus trade and hospitality in grade 10 you have one subject for a full day then you have trade weeks where the week is entirely trade related. You also have hospitality weeks where you are learning how to get your hospitality certificate.

There is work weeks where you get to work in the trade you are going for.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

NATHAN RICHTER

Hi I'm Nathan Richter from VRD Station in the NT.

I go to Toowoomba Grammar School as a boarder and am in year 10.

I am applying for the personal development grant so that I can buy a kayak to use while I'm at boarding school. I often go out on weekend leave with a day family and borrow their kayak.

We go fishing at Lake Crest Brook, Perseverance and Cooby Dam all about half an hour from the school. The family have two kayaks and two children so when I join them, we have to share the two kayaks between the three of us. If I was to have my own kayak we would all be able to fish at the same time without somebody having to

sit out. The local BCF store not far from school, stocks a huge range of kayaks, there is a good size one for \$450.

If I was successful in securing the grant I would add some of my saving money to purchase a kayak.

As a boarder so far from home, the opportunity to go out on leave and get out on the water for some fishing is like going to heaven.

Thank you ICPA Katherine Branch for all the support you provide for our education.



Introducing the New Team Overseeing the ICPA Website Development

We are thrilled to announce the formation of a dedicated team tasked with overseeing the operation and continuous development of the ICPA website. This team comprises individuals with diverse expertise and a shared commitment to enhancing the digital presence of the organisation. Allow us to introduce the members:

1. Nikki Macqueen (Federal Webmaster)
2. Kate Thompson (TAS Webmaster)
3. Judy Newton (ICPA Database)
4. Tammie Irons (QLD Webmaster)
5. Kym Ross (WA Webmaster)

Each member brings unique skills and perspectives to the table, ensuring a comprehensive approach to website management. To streamline operations, the team has divided responsibilities into specific areas, with two members assigned to each domain. This structure promotes efficiency and accountability, allowing for focused attention on key aspects of website development.

Moreover, the team recognizes the importance of maintaining a high level of security and accessibility for the website. To this end, appropriate access levels have been established for the Tech Team, ensuring that each member can fulfil their responsibilities effectively while safeguarding sensitive information. In line with our commitment to continuous improvement, efforts are

MEET THE TECH TEAM

Authentication (2FA) has been implemented for all admin-level users. This proactive measure enhances the security of our website, underway to enhance knowledge across all areas of website management. This initiative is driven by a desire to empower team members and optimise workload distribution, ultimately leading to a more robust and dynamic online platform for ICPA members.

Website Development Initiatives

Under the capable stewardship of Mark Howell from Enrega, our website and database upgrades are progressing smoothly. Mark's expertise ensures that we remain at the forefront of technological advancements, with recent efforts focused on transitioning to Drupal 10. This upgrade is essential for maintaining website security and unlocking new features that will enhance user experience.

Additionally, attention is being directed towards optimising email communication through Mailchimp. As we transition to a new membership process in 2024, effective email correspondence will play a pivotal role in engaging members.

Enhanced Security Measures

Recognising the importance of cybersecurity, Two Factor

mitigating the risk of unauthorised access and data breaches. By embracing 2FA as the new standard, we reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding the interests of our members.

Leadership in Membership Upgrades

As a majority of ongoing upgrades pertain to membership and database management, Judy Newton has assumed a leadership role in guiding the team through these transitions. Monthly reporting will continue, ensuring transparency and accountability throughout the upgrade process.

Engagement Opportunities

Members of the Tech Team eagerly anticipate their participation at the upcoming ICPA (Aust) Federal Conference in Sydney in July. This event presents a valuable opportunity to connect with councillors and members, fostering collaboration and soliciting feedback to inform future website developments.

In conclusion, the formation of this dedicated team marks a significant milestone in our journey towards digital excellence. With a shared vision and a commitment to innovation, we are poised to elevate the ICPA website to new heights, ensuring that it remains a valuable resource for members across Australia.

OUR ICPA TECH TEAM!



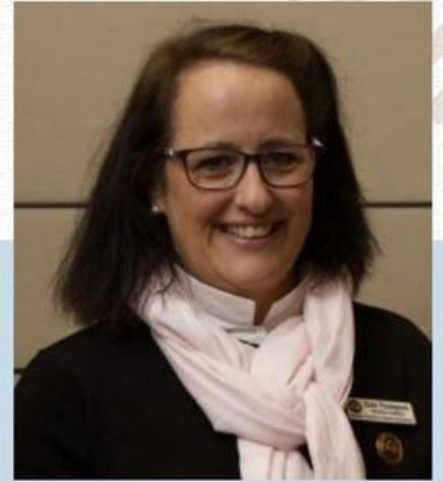
NIKKI MACQUEEN

Responsible for:
Website
Conference Website



JUDY NEWTON

Responsible for:
Database



KATE THOMPSON

Responsible for:
Emails
Database



TAMMIE IRONS

Responsible for:
Website
Conference Website
Emails
Mailchimp



KYM ROSS

Responsible for:
Website
Conference Website
Mailchimp

NUTRIEN BOARDING GRANT

My name is Ruby Osmotherly, I am a boarder in Year 12 at Downlands College in Toowoomba. I have been going to Downlands for almost 3 years. This year my school took a group of girls to New Zealand for Rugby 7s and Netball. I was lucky enough to get picked for the Rugby 7s team. We went over to the South Island for 10 days, touring around and playing against different schools. I have enjoyed my years at school with lots of opportunities to play different sports and do subjects I wouldn't have been able to do. I enjoy playing AFL and Rugby 7s and this year I even played Volleyball. The part I probably I have enjoyed most about boarding is the friends I have made over the years and all the different things I have done. Thanks, ICPA for supporting me with a Nutrien Boarding Grant.



ALICE SPRINGS BRANCH	TERRITORY WIDE BRANCH	KATHERINE BRANCH
PRESIDENT Danyelle Haigh Athelle Outback Hideaway PO Box 8 - Alice Springs NT 0871 0405 001 825 President.as.icpa@gmail.com	TERRITORY WIDE MEMBER OFFICER Jacinta McInnerney PO Box 1920 Humpty Doo NT 0836 0408 836 066 jacintamcinnerney@hotmail.com	PRESIDENT Connie Wood Wave Hill Station PMB 35 - Katherine NT 0852 (08) 8975 0787 icpa.cwood@outlook.com.au
VICE PRESIDENT Amanda Kimpton PO Box 3737 Alice Springs NT 0871 0422 941 266 vicepresident.as.icpa@gmail.com	ICPA NT TERRITORY WIDE MEMBERS This is a group who wish to be informed of ICPA issues, but do not wish to belong to a 'branch' as such. Anyone who lives anywhere can be a Territory Wide Member.	VICE PRESIDENT Rebecca Mohr Bell Mathison Station PO Box 259 - Katherine NT 0850 (08) 8977 0134 rebecca@argyllconsulting.com.au
SECRETARY Katy Hayes Arckaringa Station PMB 4 - Coober Pedy SA 5723 secretaryasicpa@gmail.com	Territory Wide members do not hold meetings, they are coordinated by email and receive the same benefits as other branch members, including the ability to present motions to both State and Federal Conference, where they hold votes in the same way other branches do.	SECRETARY Sally Dyer Hayfield Station PMB 168 - Katherine NT 0852 08 8975 9920 katherine@icpa.com.au
TREASURER Grianne Martin Mount Denison Station PMB 166 - Alice Springs NT 0872 0475 272 994 treasurer.alicesprings.icpa@gmail.com PUBLIC OFFICER Kiya Gill Jervois Station PMB 36 - Alice Springs NT 0872 (08) 8956 6307 steve.kiya@gmail.com	Join Territory Wide today, by contacting our Territory Wide Member Officer above. 	TREASURER / BURSARY OFFICER Amanda Murphy Eleanor Pool Station PMB 77 - Katherine NT 0852 (08) 8975 9784 amanda.murphy.icpa@gmail.com ASSISTANT TREASURER Johanna Blokland Ban Ban Springs Station PO Box 29 - Adelaide River NT 0846 0428 791 136 tbhcontracting@bigpond.com
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