

Nomination for Cheryl Bailey

Honorary State Life Member

Following an extensive teaching career where she had taught overseas in South America, as well as for some time with the NSW Department of Education as a Principal in a number of well-regarded schools, Cheryl Bailey became a member of IPSHA in 2009 when she assumed the role of Head of Junior School at Ravenswood School for Girls', one that she held until her retirement at the end of 2018, marking a decade of service in the independent sector.

Over that time, Cheryl was a valued member of the IPSHA (NSW) Executive for five years over 2014 – 2018 as our Principals' Australia Institute representative. Cheryl also represented IPSHA on the 2014 APPA Conference Committee in 2013 and in 2014 when preparations commenced alongside Narelle Barker where she was respected for her input and her manner. Cheryl was also an active participant in the IPSHA Biennial Conference in 2014 in Sydney.

As a school leader, Cheryl has been widely respected as both a learner and an innovator. Her broad and in depth knowledge of education and what it means to work in both the government sectors and independent sectors made her a valuable asset to IPSHA (NSW) where she was a quiet achiever. Cheryl showed a clear understanding that learning is ongoing and was always keen to professionally develop herself as well as always encouraging and supporting her staff in their professional development. Her peers and teachers who worked for her alike have noted that Cheryl led by example, was dedicated, hardworking, a person of great integrity, organised, efficient, and a humble, kind and caring listener. For these traits, Cheryl was highly respected by all at Ravenswood.

Cheryl was a valued coach within the IPSHA Federal Coaching program where she proved to be a highly trusted and knowledgeable guide, who greatly aided those whom she coached to focus on their goals and how to achieve them. She demonstrated a great gift for listening those that she coached and for asking challenging questions. A hallmark of Cheryl's style is the manner in which she focuses on the successes we experience and the way we can make a positive difference in our schools. Colleagues always felt at home in her office and left with a new spring in their step thanks to her consistent reassurance, guidance and support.

Cheryl is both personally philanthropic as well as strongly encouraging philanthropy in young people at her school and beyond. She has been a guest speaker at SchoolAid's Kids Ambassador Team meetings, inspiring young philanthropists in the KAT group.

On a broader scale, Cheryl and her husband have been involved in philanthropic projects, mostly in South America (especially in Brazil and Colombia) since 1982. She generously gives of her time, expertise and charity to impoverished children without adequate education and has been involved in supporting an orphanage, digging a well for a village community of over two thousand people, supporting the education of students so they could progress through to university, paying for a life-saving operation for a person who could not afford to, supporting over 30 children with education and life needs, and supplying trolleys of groceries for families. They were part of a group that purchased a home for girls in Brazil and a shelter for little children.

Cheryl has consistently attended PAI meetings, APPA Conferences, State Executive and Branch Meetings and Country Weekends where her warmth, intelligence and insight and companionship have been warmly received and appreciated by all.

Cheryl Bailey is a friendly, kind and wise colleague who has made a notable contribution to IPSHA and it is with great pleasure that I nominate her as an Honorary State Life Member.

The assistance of Narelle Barker and Jodie Hoenig in compiling this nomination is gratefully acknowledged.

Will Wallace
President (2018 – 2020)
IPSHA Ltd – NSW Branch