

Nomination for Graeme Feeney

Honorary State Life Membership

Graeme Feeney became a member of IPSHA (formerly JSHAA) in 2000, when he became Head of Primary at Scone Grammar School. During his 18 years of devoted leadership of the Junior School, Graeme has been an exemplary leader with responsibilities across the K – 12 environment of the school.

Graeme has always been an active and supportive IPSHA member. His contribution to the Association has been loyal and exemplary, filling a number of diverse and important roles both within the NSW Branch, as well as federally. Scone Grammar School is located in the Upper Hunter Valley, and despite the tyranny of distance Graeme has been a regular attendee at all Branch events. As well as his attendance at Branch General Meetings and Executive Meetings, Graeme has also consistently attended IPSHA Biennial Conferences and NSW Country Weekends over his time as a member.

In 2006, Graeme joined the NSW Branch Executive as the Chair of the Social Issues Committee and has remained in roles on the Executive until the end of Term 1, 2018 when he stepped down from his role at Scone Grammar School. He has always been a reliable, contributing member of the Executive.

As Chair of the Social Issue Committee, Graeme was instrumental in the development of the IPSHA Student Social Issues Expo, coordinating the event in 2007 and 2009. He also initiated the Social Issues Commendation program, which began in 2007. Graeme assisted in; writing the JSHAA National Reconciliation Statement (2004); organising the Student Leaders' Discussion Days (2004 and 2006); and writing JSHAA/IPSHA Social Issues Discussion papers that were distributed to members.

Graeme served on the NSW Branch Executive as President Elect (Membership Secretary) 2008 – 2010, President 2010 – 2012 and Immediate Past President 2012 – 2014. During his tenure as President, he served on the IPSHA Federal Board Committee. In 2013, Graeme became the IPSHA NSW Branch APPA NEC/NAC (National Executive/Advisory Council) Representative, a position he relinquished only on stepping down from Scone this year. He was also the IPSHA Federal appointment to the APPA Secretariat/Board between 2014 – 2018.

It is testament to the high regard Graeme is held by our association that he has been awarded both an IPSHA Fellowship in 2014 and the John Laing Award in 2016.

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Graeme has generously and warmly extended collegial support and friendship to members of IPSHA NSW through hosting two NSW Branch Country Weekends in Scone in 2003 and again in 2017. He has also attended all NSW Branch Country Weekends and Biennial Conferences since joining the Association. He was also a member of the IPSHA Biennial Conference Planning Committee for the 2014 conference hosted by the NSW Branch in Sydney.

Graeme has always looked to provide opportunities for the students and staff within his school to engage with the broader community as well as seek interaction and activity with other IPSHA schools and colleagues. Whilst being over 3 hours from Sydney, under Graeme's leadership, students from the School have participated in IPSHA Performing Arts Festivals (2005, 2007, 2009, 2014, 2015 and 2017), Gala IPSHA Gala Debating Days (2001, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2017) the IPSHA Travelling Art Exhibition and the IPSHA Social Issues/Action Expo.

Graeme has always embraced his role with great dedication and skill. He is calm, optimistic and firmly focussed on student learning and staff well-being. He is an effective school leader who has successfully managed the challenges of a rural independent school in a school that has undergone significant change throughout his time as leader of the Junior School.

At every opportunity, Graeme has unreservedly promoted the goals and objectives of the Association. Always friendly and encouraging, Graeme has welcomed and supported new members, modelled professional behaviour and has been a valued and respected colleague.

Graeme Feeney has made an outstanding and sustained contribution to IPSHA, both at a State and Federal level. It is with great pleasure that I nominate him for Honorary State Life Membership of IPSHA Ltd.

Martin Lubrano
President
IPSHA Ltd – NSW Branch