

Honorary State Life Membership Citation: Chris Prance

Chris Prance joined IPSHA (Formerly JHSAA) in 2000, when he was appointed to the position of Head of Junior School at Pedare Christian College from 2000 to 2003. Chris continued his involvement with IPSHA as College Principal of St Peter's Woodland Grammar School from 2004 to 2020. Chris recalls very fond memories of joining IPSHA and fellow heads such as Chris Lange, David Woolnough, Keith Grundy and Wally Armitage.

Chris has been a dynamic and significant contributor to the SA Branch of IPSHA in his 20 years as a Member. He was Project Office from 2004 – 2006, President-Elect of the Branch from 2006 – 2007, Branch President from 2008 – 2010 and Immediate Past President from 2010 – 2012, a total of 8 years as an official member of the State Branch Executive. Chris led the Branch with distinction in his time as President and was a valued and highly respected Member of the Federal Board as the State Representative during that time.

Chris has always been a regular attendee at SA Branch retreats, Branch meeting and Annual dinners where he remembers with great fondness the wonderful laughter, good food and great wines. He participated and supported Branch Hub groups, particularly the Musical Teachers and Receptions Teachers hubs, and provided support in organising many of the Adelaide Town Hall Music Festivals, which as President was part of the decision to discontinue this event.

Chris has attended a number of national IPSHA conferences in Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth. During the Adelaide conference Chris joined the organising committee and hosted the Chapel service at Saint Peter's Woodlands. He has also attended a number of Tri-State Seminars with colleagues from SA, Tasmania and Victoria in such places as Hobart, Hahndorf, Barossa Valley, Mildura, Hall's Gap, Sorrento and Launceston. As a Principal of an IB school, Chris has participated in numerous IB conferences and completed a number of IB workshops.

Chris has mentored colleagues, offered wise counsel, and also encouraged his own staff to take up leadership opportunities in a distributed leadership model and at other schools, thus showing that leadership inspires leadership actions and aspirations in others. He has always been an encourager of professional learning amongst Principals in branch meetings and in each other's schools. He has willingly undertaken the mentoring of less experienced school leaders, giving of his time generously.

Deeply respected by his peers, Chris has provided energetic and exceptional service to the SA Branch of IPSHA. He is firmly committed to the goals of the Association and has represented IPSHA in all forums in a professional and dedicated manner.

We have appreciated Chris's wise counsel and his vibrancy as a committed Member of IPSHA and as a Branch we are unanimous in our view that Chris Prance is a most worthy recipient of the award of Honorary State Life Membership, for his sustained and outstanding contribution to IPSHA, both nationally and locally. Through Chris's association with IPSHA he has made lifelong friendships, had lots of laughter, tremendous learning and support, and shared that his membership provided an exceptional opportunity to grow in your role, in a safe environment, with the support from trusted colleagues.

Chris has lived the core understandings of IPSHA and has been a servant leader to the association and his colleagues. IPSHA has been all the richer for his membership and his care and desire to be a life-long learner.

Randall Pearce