

## **IPSHA Citation for Honorary State Life Fellow – Cath Halloran**

It is my pleasure to recommend Cath Halloran be awarded Honorary State Life Fellow to the IPSHA NSW Branch.

Cath Halloran has been a highly engaged member of the NSW Branch of IPSHA since her commencement in 2012 when she was appointed as Head of Junior School at Broughton Anglican College. Cath's appointment was unsurprising due to her strong leadership and professional reputation as Director of Junior Primary at St Peter's Anglican Primary School. As Head of Junior School, Cath oversaw significant growth in enrolments and the development of new facilities. Her passion for ongoing professional learning and growth was evident in her commitment to staff development, to the benefit of students. Recently, Cath also served the College as Acting Principal. She was a respected and valued leader within the Broughton Anglican College community as well as the IPSHA NSW Branch.

Having served in various roles, Cath's impact on the IPSHA NSW Branch has been far-reaching and transformative. In her initial years, she actively engaged with the IPSHA NSW Branch as the Debating Convenor, where her organisational skills and keen understanding of students' needs played a pivotal role in enhancing the Friday Afternoon Debating and Debating Gala Days. Cath also served as the Acting Liaison Head for the Languages Umbrella Group, contributing significantly to the promotion of language education and support of teachers working in diverse roles.

Cath became a member of the IPSHA NSW State Branch Executive in Term 4 of 2018, where she served as the Chair of Student and Teacher Services until her resignation in April, 2023. Her ongoing service and contributions through Umbrella Groups, Debating, Public Speaking, Performing Arts Festivals and Art Shows enriched the experiences of students and teachers involved. Notably, Cath's work in moving Umbrella Groups online during the Covid-19 pandemic enabled participants to engage collegially in networking and professional learning at a time when it was easy for people to feel disconnected and isolated. Cath was always keen to ensure maximum participation in the offerings of her portfolio and gave considerable thought to creating inclusive structures that would serve the needs of teachers and students in regional and metropolitan areas.

Cath made a significant contribution to the collegial atmosphere of the IPSHA NSW Branch. In addition to her attendance at State Executive Meetings and Branch Meetings, Cath consistently attended NSW Country Weekends and IPSHA Biennial Conferences. Her warmth, humour, sense of fun and compassion resonated with fellow members; she was always quick to welcome new members and help them build meaningful connections with others.

Cath will be missed in the IPSHA community as a colleague and friend. It is with great pleasure that I nominate her as an Honorary State Life Fellow.

Michele Benn

26 July 2023