

2018 - 2019 Chairman's Report to the AGM of the PPSA on Sunday 25 August 2019

There has not been a lot of activity around the PPSA over the last 6 months. Now that systems are in place things seem to be ticking over nicely. PPSA's main role in my mind is to oversee the use of the Suzuki name in the PPSA region and be the link between our region and the ISA. To that end I have continued to update the PPSA Website with statements and news and information releases from the ISA and also circulated these to all the Associations within our region. We have also forwarded photos from our region for inclusion on the ISA Facebook page and the ISA website.

I have tried to keep the calendar on the PPSA website up to date as people notify me of information. There doesn't seem to be a great demand from the Associations to have things included on this calendar which is fine but it is good to have it there just in case people end up there looking for information. I have also dealt with a few correspondences regarding PPSA from various sources.

I have been a bit frustrated with the lack of progress we have made with the aligning of all the Teacher Training across the PPSA region. This is an important and ultimately necessary task but not a particularly urgent one. Unfortunately I just have not had the time, energy nor motivation to move things along. I set up a Google Group in the hope that it might stimulate some dialogue but to no avail. I am really determined to resist any face to face meeting taking place until there is some really concrete proposal on the table. I do not feel that PPSA should be spending money on this when it can be done electronically with little to no cost. This process would have been much easier if there had not been such a disparity amongst the Australian Associations for so long. Under ISA rules the PPSA is really supposed to be operating as a Region with Country Associations as its members (eg. Australia and NZ). We have a way to go to reach consensus in this area but it may be forced along if in the future another country wishes to join the PPSA.

We are well on the way to getting the Sheila Warby Memorial Fund set up but need to finalize a Term Deposit. Donations can be made into the PPSA bank account but please clearly indicate that it is a donation to this fund. It is still not decided whether this will be a contestable fund or distributed to each association on a rotating basis as there was very mixed feedback on this from the Associations.

The annual ISA Board meeting is taking place in Madrid, Spain 14-15-16 October this year immediately following the International Teachers Conference which is at the same venue. We are currently in the process of gathering the PPSA statistics to present to this meeting.

The PPSA annual face to face meeting was held in Sydney on 27 January 2019. Thanks to Jennifer Goto and the NSW Board for hosting us at their office again. Our next PPSA face-to-face meeting will be held 26 January 2020 in Brisbane.

Thank you to the PPSA Board Members for giving up their time and attention to serve on the Board. Your volunteer time is much appreciated. Thanks to Julia Breen for keeping us on task and keeping an accurate record of our meetings. Thanks to Jennifer Goto for taking care of the treasurer tasks and to Kathryn Bond for continuing in her important role as part-time administrator.

Simon Griffiths
PPSA Board Chairman
August 2019