

July 2020

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Joan Scriven

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1996 – 2020**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Joan Scriven to Lutheran education over the past 24 years. During this time she has served as Personal Assistant to three Executive Directors of Lutheran Education Australia (LEA).

Joan is a person who consistently carries out her professional duties with a high level of skill and capability together with integrity, loyalty and intelligence. She comes from an era when shorthand existed, efficient and proper minute taking was learnt and practised, and so has brought to the LEA team and wider LCA Churchwide Office a high level of professional skills, conduct and a highly sought resource of administrative advice.

This is not to say that Joan sat quietly in the LEA corner; while this may have been the case some of the time, Joan also possessed the unique ability and diplomatic approach to come forward when she saw the need and sensed the timing. When history needed correcting, when processes were flawed and when injustice, exclusion, or insensitivity threatened, Joan would be one of the first to speak up – just ask any former bishops or LEA directors! In particular, when the LCA's or Lutheran education's people, needs, or plans were unfairly criticised, she has always spoken up to support the church's and board's decisions and directions – and done so politely, assertively and appropriately. Joan's highly developed sense of fairness, justice and the need to care for others are obvious to see. She has been a blessing to many others, most often considering their needs before her own.

While some may have seen Joan as the Lutheran education's 'fount of knowledge' as well as a highly skilled and focused executive secretary and leader, there is also a keen sense of humour within her daily LEA contributions. While this important aspect of Joan's service won't be outlined in this citation, this, together with her highly developed attributes of deep reflection, strong analytics and a sense of wisdom have made her a significant person in the life, success and history of LEA and Lutheran education over the past decades.

An example of the high esteem in which she is held is the recognition people across Lutheran education, particularly Lutheran school secretaries, principals' PA's and office receptionists give to her, without most having ever met her face to face. When the LEA executive directors have visited Lutheran schools over the years, within a very short time they would invariably be asked, 'How is Joan? Are you looking after Joan? It's good Joan is organising us all'. Thank you Joan for supporting so many so effectively.

Joan exhibits her strong Christian faith in her daily life in her interactions with others. She conducts herself with discretion and decorum. She shines brightly. Thank you Joan for shining on and serving many others.

God has blessed us with Joan Scriven. May God continue to bless and keep her in her life's journey.

**Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

ACN 143 905 373

197 Archer Street
North Adelaide SA 5006
T 61 8 8267 7318
F 61 8 8267 7320
E lea@lutheran.edu.au
www.lutheran.edu.au