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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Outstanding Service Heralds Life Membership

Recently, St Michaels celebrated the achievements of three longstanding Members of the Association by awarding Life Membership for their outstanding dedication and commitment. COVID-19 may have delayed the celebrations, but they were not going to be stopped.

Jill Cooper for over 40 years, has rendered long, distinguished and voluntary service to the Association. During this time Jill has contributed in many capacities, extending to her involvement in the former St Michaels School. She was a member and former Vice President of the Parents and Friends Association, where she tirelessly volunteered at many events. Jill has been a valued and active Board Member. She has recently retired from the Board, however, her input over the years has been greatly appreciated.

Brian Dunham has provided a long, eminent, and valued voluntary service to the Association, which has spanned for almost 40 years. Brian recalls his initial introduction to St Michaels as a guest at a meeting of the Board, this was sometime around 1978. His son Paul has also been a part of the St Michaels family for over 30 years. Brian has volunteered at many important events of the Association and has been part of the Executive Committee as Treasurer for many years. He has also served tirelessly for at least 30 years as a Board Member of the Association. His commitment to St Michaels has been highly valued and commendable.

Donald Richards has also had an extraordinarily long career at St Michaels. Donald has been a loyal and driven employee of the Association. He has also provided voluntary service for many St Michaels participants, friends, and their families for over 45 years. To express their appreciation and gratitude, the Board recommended that Donald be awarded Life Membership. In 2011, Donald was the recipient of a lifetime achievement award from the National Disability Services Tasmania. His dedication to participants is unwavering, evident in him travelling from Legana to St Michaels' Devonport Campus and beyond daily to provide valued support to participants. Donald has been fundamental in growing the Devonport arm of St Michaels, offering his insight and knowledge to get the best outcomes. A highly valued member of St Michaels Association.

St Michaels Association is truly blessed and grateful to have the dedication of people like Jill, Brian and Donald supporting people with a disability in Tasmania.

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