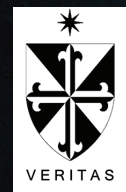


Memories of Elizabeth Mackie OP



Servite Domino in Laetitia
Died 18 February 2023



FAITH IN THE DIGNITY OF EVERY PERSON

JANE HIGGINS wrote about her relationship with Elizabeth when she worked in Christchurch.

WHEN I RETURNED to Ōtautahi Christchurch in 1989 after living in Dunedin during the 1980s, I was glad to connect once more with Elizabeth Mackie OP, whom I had met in the Dunedin Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace. Elizabeth died on 18 February this year. She will be remembered by *Tui Motu* readers as one of the founders and directors of the magazine as well as an assistant editor.

I'd like to celebrate some of the crosscurrents of Elizabeth's work, woven together during her more than 20 years in Ōtautahi. In this work she had an impact both nationally and across the globe.

When we reconnected in 1989, Elizabeth was working part-time for the Conference of Churches in Aotearoa New Zealand (the successor to the National Council of Churches) and for Christian World Service (CWS), an ecumenical aid and development agency. She invited me to join the International Programmes Working Group of CWS and I accepted, excited by the chance to work with her.

Elizabeth was grounded in the spirituality of the Incarnation and committed to promoting human dignity, social justice, and the transformation of structures that oppress, dehumanise and marginalise. She was also ecumenical to her core.

These commitments were then, and continue to be, countercultural in many ways. The Conference of Churches folded in 2005 as the mainstream Christian Churches turned inward to their own concerns. From 2008, a new National government revisited its funding to the NGO aid and development sector. It became more focused on "Brand NZ" and how our international aid funds could be spent to our own economic advantage rather than to support those struggling to change unjust economic and social structures.

Elizabeth did not waver in the face of these challenges.

She brought her faith in the dignity of every person, and her formidable intellect, to her work for CWS. Through that work, the aid and development relationships in CWS became partnerships rather than the more traditional transactional donor-recipient exchanges.

Her approach to development was strongly aligned with the principle voiced by the Latin American Catholic Bishops at Puebla in 1979 (and also stated in the *Catholic Catechism*): "The demands of justice should first be met, lest the giving of what is due in justice be represented as the offering of a charitable gift. Not only the effects but also the causes of various ills must be removed."

Through the relationships that Elizabeth helped to build, CWS partnered with both conventional and less conventional development projects. There was funding, for example, for rainwater tanks in drought-stricken areas of Africa and livelihood projects for families in the Pacific and South Asia. But the agency also partnered with movement-building organisations: these included those working with fisherfolk in India to pursue environmental justice, and those forming trade unions to support garment workers in the Free Trade Zones in Sri Lanka.

Always, Elizabeth respected partners' analyses of what was happening on the ground where they worked, and she ensured that her work was with them, not for them: solidarity not charity.

When Elizabeth died, even though it had been 17 years since she worked at CWS, tributes poured in from partners overseas, testimonies to the thousands of lives profoundly touched by this remarkable woman. *Moe mai ra, e hoa.*

Cross Currents published in *Tui Motu InterIslands Magazine*, Issue 280 April 2023: 29

Elizabeth, Dear Friend

JILL HAWKEY, who worked with Elizabeth at Christian World Service, gave this eulogy at Elizabeth Mackie's Requiem Eucharist 25 February 2023.

Tēnā koutou e huihui mai nei i tēnei rā.

IT IS AN HONOUR to be asked to share something of Elizabeth's life in Christchurch with you today. One of Elizabeth's enduring gifts was teaching us how to work collectively — listening to each other and together finding a way forward — and so this offering today brings together the collective voices of many of us who had the privilege to work with Elizabeth during her 26 years in Christchurch.

Elizabeth came to work as the Office Manager for Christian World Service in 1985 and before long was given the responsibility for managing the relationships with groups around the world. Her boss at the time, Brian Turner, was so impressed with her credentials that he told Elizabeth to apply for his job when he moved on. While Elizabeth wasn't keen on taking on this role, she none-the-less played a crucial leadership role in all of her years at CWS.

By the time I started working with her at the end of 1993, Elizabeth was working half-time managing all of partnership relationships and half-time for the Conference of Churches in Aotearoa New Zealand as the South Island fieldworker — and over the next 10 years, she became an important mentor for me professionally as well as a good friend.

Relationships with Partners

In those days, much of the work with overseas partners was quite transactional. Groups would write requesting funds, a small group would meet to make a decision, and the funds would be sent. But Elizabeth was not a simple transaction kind of person; she was curious to know how the project was going and what the group was learning and would therefore write again.

And this was the birth of a whole new way of understanding of what partnership meant; it wasn't about money but about relationship and standing together in solidarity with those working to change the world.

John Gould who, together with Trish Murray, worked in the Projects Team with Elizabeth summed her up so well in these words: "Elizabeth is almost certainly the wisest, kindest and most compassionate person I have



**“Rest in peace, sweet Elizabeth.
Thank you for all you did ...”**

ever known. It is hard to even begin to estimate how many lives Elizabeth's lifelong quest to work for the benefit of others must have touched. Her dedicated efforts, directly or indirectly improved the lives of millions, including many of the world's most vulnerable women and children. Most of those she has helped, be they earthquake victims in Haiti, refugees from Sudan, women fighting for justice in India or struggling to improve their family's livelihoods in the Pacific, will be unaware of Elizabeth's care for them. For Elizabeth, this didn't matter, she always gave the credit to the CWS partners on the ground who provided the assistance and saw her role as simply to support them.”

In her work with CWS's partners, Elizabeth was not just concerned about the improvement of livelihoods; she had a keen interest in movement building and the empowerment of people, particularly those most marginalised.

She recognised that such work was often not understood by development professionals because it wasn't as tangible as a water tank or a piggery. But it was in the building of movements, that people came to see their own potential, to realise their own humanity and were set free.

Elizabeth as a Friend

CWS's partners saw in Elizabeth a friend who was standing in solidarity with them; not a funder or a donor — but a true friend who cared deeply about the work they were doing and for their families and loved ones.

Gillian Southey, our colleague who remains working



at CWS, has been in contact with partners since Elizabeth's passing. Despite the fact that it is now 17 years since Elizabeth's retirement, the messages quickly came back...

Lopeti Senituli from Tonga writing: "Our indebtedness to Elizabeth for her tireless work at CWS in support of the Tonga Human Rights and Democracy Movement and the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement is immeasurable in human terms."

Damaris Albuquerque from a partner group in Nicaragua wrote: "Rest in peace, sweet Elizabeth. Thank you for all you did with CEPAD."

Jesu Rethinam from the Legal Aid to Women Trust in India said: "It is very heart-breaking to hear this message. We have lots of memorable moments with her. Her first visit, our visit to New Zealand, her sensitive understanding of the team and issues. She was a great inspiration to all of us."

Manohari Doss, from the Women Development Resource Centre which works with Tribal and Dalit women in India wrote: "She was really a booster to us in making the people to enjoy their rights, justice and gender justice...We pray for her eternal peace. Our hearts are filled with sorrow."

Elizabeth was loved and hugely respected with partners from around the world. She was instrumental in supporting the Roundtable Process in the Pacific, in Sri Lanka and for the Department of Service to the Palestinian Refugees amongst others, bringing together all of the groups supporting a particular partner or partners so that they could coordinate their efforts.

Queen of Packing

Elizabeth's packing for her overseas partner visits were testimony to her belief in simplicity. Her bag was always tiny, carrying the bare essentials for what she would need to get through her time away. She had no interest in acquiring possessions, but was pragmatic in recognising what people needed in order to be able to

live a full life.

Always a teacher at heart, Elizabeth took great delight in explaining to her colleagues how to wash yourself and then your clothes in just one bucket of water.

Advocate for Social Justice

As I am sure we all know, Elizabeth had an amazingly sharp intellect. She had a strong structural analysis of the causes of poverty and injustice. Another colleague, Mary Cavanagh, told me of first meeting Elizabeth in 1981 at the weekly meetings in the Moran Building, to plan the weekend activities during the Springbok Tour. She was in her Dominican habit then so stood out in the crowd, giving a very clear message of what commitment to a religious life meant to her.

Service in Many Related Areas

In 1990, Elizabeth was active in the anti-racism movement, working with the Conference of Churches in Aotearoa New Zealand, the ecumenical body which brought all of the churches together, and its Māori counterpart Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga o Ngā Hahi o Aotearoa to promote Te Tino Rangatiratanga,

She was a critical thinker, an excellent listener and was very clear about standing with those who were marginalised by oppressive systems and structure.

Such commitment was also evident in her work with the Beneficiary Advisory Service. She gave strong support to this small, struggling community organisation, providing both the strategic guidance and the infrastructural support that they needed to keep going. She was also a key member of the national Restorative Justice Network team for a decade or more from 1990.

Elizabeth also served for many years on the Trade Aid Development Committee, bringing her understanding of partnership and commitment to small producer groups around the globe. Her ability to juggle all of her different commitments, and yet give full attention to each one of them was remarkable.

Elizabeth was elected by aid and development organisations in the NGO community to represent them on the VASS Committee — which was responsible for allocating Government funding for development initiatives. She was influential in building an understanding of partnership and her sense of justice and fairness came to the fore as she supported smaller organisations with their projects, enabling them to also be funded.

Elizabeth was also elected to the Government's Aid Advisory Committee in the late 1990s where politicians and government officials discovered that she could be a formidable opponent if obstacles were being put in the way of achieving social justice. She was incredibly articulate, took an educational approach and greatly influenced the thinking in the aid and development sector.

Elizabeth was an amazing communicator — and a legendary storyteller. Morning teas at CWS were much more enjoyable when Elizabeth was there! The Conference of Churches in Aotearoa New Zealand greatly benefited from the beautiful way in which she communicated and told stories. Elizabeth would travel throughout the South Island, meeting with ecumenical groups, leading powerful participatory bible-studies and encouraging people of faith to study together and to work together.

She was a critical thinker, an excellent listener and was very clear about standing with those who were marginalised by oppressive systems and structure.

Elizabeth wrote the most beautiful liturgies — which I am sure many of us have participated in. Often with her good friend and colleague Barbara Stephens, there were liturgies prepared for the Anniversary of the Suffrage Movement, for the World Council of Churches assembly in Sydney; for local ecumenical groups or the Christmas worship in the staff office. Irrespective of the occasion, each liturgy was reflective of her deep faith, her love of God, belief in community and the power that communities have when they come together to promote all that is just and good.

Throughout these years, Elizabeth lived with, and was supported by her dear friend Sister Margaret Quinn. Margaret was a good companion to Elizabeth. While they both had their individual work, Margaret active in the local women's refuge, a community house, the librarian for CWS, they shared the ups and downs of life together.

It was after the 2011 earthquakes that Margaret and Elizabeth made the decision to return to Dunedin, to be closer to more of the Dominican family and to share the next stage of their lives within a larger community.

Elizabeth was fun to be around — and people enjoyed being in her company. She had a way of making people

feel special. She could relate to anybody, which included engaging my teenage sons in great after-dinner conversations when she came for a week long holiday three or four years ago.

Family was so important to her. She often talked of her siblings, and was so proud of her nieces and nephews. This was clearly evident in that the person she was most concerned to say goodbye to was her beloved sister Anne.

While Elizabeth's passing has left a huge hole in so many lives, she also leaves behind an amazing legacy. Across the developing world there are empowered women, educated children and thriving families — and here in Aotearoa there are so many she has inspired and mentored who will carry on her life's work.

In finishing, I want to thank the Dominican Sisters for sharing Elizabeth with us. We were so privileged to have had Elizabeth, who was so integral in your community, as part of our lives and work — and to be invited here today to mourn her loss together. Elizabeth taught us about compassion, being human, humility, the integration of our faith into our daily commitment to social justice, true ecumenism, about community. We are so much the richer for having journeyed with her.

And to Elizabeth, dear friend. May you feel the love that surrounds you here, the gratitude for your companionship, the admiration for a life well lived. May you rest in peace in the hands of your loving God.



Messages Sent in Response to the News of Elizabeth's Death

What sad news to hear today. I remember so well the communication re *Tui Motu* in 1997 — being in Provincial Leadership at the time and contacting the Dominicans to see how we could support the initiative and the rest is history as they say. That was how I came to know Elizabeth's quiet vision. With you all in prayer. Moya is away at the moment and Christina is at CLANZ but I'm sure they'll send a message on behalf of the Josephites.
Katrina Brill, Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau

From Directors of the Independent Catholic Magazine Ltd Board

Thank you for letting us know that Elizabeth has died. Your words about her were perfect. Her fierce intelligence never got in the way of her wonderful sense of fun and self deprecating humour. I leaned heavily on her knowledge and wisdom when I took on chairing the *Tui Motu* Board. Some of my abiding memories will be the times together we promoted *Tui Motu* in parishes the day after the Board meeting. She was irresistible, her enthusiasm for the magazine and its mission had people lining up to buy a copy.

Philip Casey, Wellington/Te Whanganui a Tara

Thank you Ann & Ann for this article on Elizabeth Mackie. It was such a shock to me to hear of her death. I suppose others in Dunedin were expecting it, but it signalled to me something important and creative and foundational sailing away from us and perhaps beyond our reach. I'll miss her substantial moral and intellectual presence among us especially in *Tui Motu*.

Neil Darragh, Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau

As Chair of the Board of *Tui Motu*, I was grateful to have Elizabeth's warm support and encouragement as I found my feet. She was a great role model and "wise-woman" to me with her sharp mind and ability to articulate so clearly an issue and then discern an appropriate course of action. I learnt so much from her.

After I left the Board I still called in to *Tui Motu* to visit both her and Kevin Toomey. There was always a warm welcome, a cuppa and a brainstorm of ideas for stories or people to interview. Elizabeth was a great listener and we had many good conversations about all manner of things. She was a great encourager so I always felt good after being in her company.

Katie O'Connor, Gore/Māruawai

During my numerous years on the *Tui Motu* Board, and in the years following, I always deeply appreciated my encounters with Elizabeth. Her sharp insights, crisp wisdom, heart of compassion and sparkling wit meant every occasion in her company was edifying and affirmative. She somehow engaged from her head and heart at the same time, such that her presence had a solar-powered quality. It was pure blessing to have

known her.

Robin Kearns, Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau

Thank you for the update on Elizabeth. I had not known that she was ill. It is really sad to hear of her death. I knew her when I taught in Bluff many years ago and as a Board member of *Tui Motu*. One year we held the board meeting at our house in Glenorchy. She was a very special person and Aunt to Bridget Thompson whom I taught at St Theresa's Invercargill. Loved her intelligence and humour.

Paul Ferris, Glenorchy/Tahuna

I knew Elizabeth as a wonderful teacher in my early years of teaching but I didn't really know her until I joined the *Tui Motu* Board. She was this humble humourist who had an amazing ability to cut to the essence of a debate and provide a way forward. She was often the glue in the group and she lead from within rather than the front. As a follower of Dominic, she followed the rule, but she walked a humble journey without a map and she allowed others to follow.

Paul Ferris, Glenorchy/Tahuna

My memory of Elizabeth is someone who knew her worth. She actively encouraged me in bringing a sometimes different perspective to the *Tui Motu* Board. She was warm, welcoming and friendly.

Susan Brebner, Hamilton/Kirikiriroa

Elizabeth was an amazing woman. From the outset, I admired her. I knew her only through my connection with the magazine, a quietly spoken woman with a beautiful smile. Always so welcoming of Board members as we gathered for meetings, no airs and graces. I learned early on though, that what I saw was only the tip of a wealth of richness, experience and knowledge that Elizabeth quietly shared with all. In the early years, Elizabeth was a rudder of the ship, the stable presence. She had the vision, saw the possibilities, kept all on target. As each new Board Chair stepped up, Elizabeth was the rock on whom they relied. She held not only the vision for *Tui Motu*, but the vision of a church that was all encompassing. Elizabeth, a woman, a visionary, one who loved.

Rita Cahill, Matata

I was so sorry to get your email and hear about Elizabeth's death. What an inspiration she was. Thank you for the wonderful words you wrote about her. We remembered Elizabeth at our "Be The Change" Eucharist yesterday.

Louise Shanly, Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau

From Trustees of the Tui Motu Foundation

Sister Elizabeth made a huge contribution not only to founding *Tui Motu*, but to the Board since its

establishment in 1997 and to the Tui Motu Foundation. My closest collaboration with her has been on the Tui Motu Foundation where her contribution as a Trustee since it started has been inestimable. She understood the importance and purpose of the Foundation for the sustainability of the magazine into the future. I could rely on Sister Elizabeth to have the magazine's mandate by heart. Elisabeth Helm kept the administration of the Foundation going and Sister Elizabeth was her go-to person once she had moved back to Dunedin. She was a valued representative of the Dominican Sisters on the Foundation. Elizabeth's death is a loss to us. We'll miss her sharp mind and ready humour and her commitment to all aspects of *Tui Motu*.

John Gallaher, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Elizabeth appeared okay at the last meeting of the Tui Motu Foundation although she seemed a little tired. Her death came unexpectedly and she died just a few days before our next meeting. She is in my prayers.

Malcolm Farry, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Thank you for the beautiful profile of Sister Elizabeth. I was so very privileged to have known her on the Tui Motu Foundation.

Jackie Wood, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

From Volunteers in Dunedin

Oh Ann and Ann, thank you for such a loving and lovely farewell to dear Elizabeth. We will all miss her so much, but keep her in our hearts.

Kathy Mayo, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Thank you Ann & Ann that completes what I knew of her. I heard of Elizabeth's death yesterday afternoon and was sad but knew she would be at peace. Vale indeed.

Shirley Curran, Dunedin Ōtepoti

Such a beautiful article. Thank you. I heard the news at the 11am Mass at St Pat's yesterday during the Prayers of the Faithful. Such a shock. I was very tearful from then on. With much love,

Maureen Smith, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

From Tui Motu Subscribers

Thank you for letting us know and we send our condolences about Elizabeth's death. We will pray for the repose of her soul during the Intercessory Prayers at Mass this coming weekend. Every Blessing.

Elaine Hurley, St Patricks Parish, Ōamaru

Aroha Ann & Ann and Whānau *Tui Motu*.

Phil and Pete Healy (Phil Cody) SM, Ōtaki

Oh Ann and Ann I am so sorry. Elizabeth was a beautiful human being. God rest her soul.

Josephine van Montfort, Christchurch/Ōtautahi

Very sad about this. Sister Elizabeth taught me Latin at St Dominics. I was a 4th former. I loved her serenity. Later on when I'd grown up and come back to Dunedin I saw her when my dad died and she came to our home. After that, as an MP I saw her at protests and rallies for important causes. She came to visit me when I camped

in the Octagon in the middle of winter for five nights protesting the lack of affordable housing for vulnerable women. She was a beautiful soul.

Clare Curran, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

I was saddened but not surprised to hear of Elizabeth's death on Saturday. I had a friendship with her for more than 40 years where she was always a positive force through good times and bad. Her participation as an active member of the Restorative Justice Network's national team for nearly 20 years was something I valued very much, as her wisdom made things so much easier for the movement to advance and promote its ideas. I could say heaps more, but suffice to know that I valued her as a very special friend and source of wise guidance and will miss her. Blessings on you and the *TM* team as they mourn the passing of one of the "greats" of our time and Church.

Jim Consedine, Christchurch/Ōtautahi

Thank you Ann & Ann. Beautifully expressed. Thank you so much. I'm sad for the team for the loss.

Sue Thompson, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Dear Team, How beautiful to be able to share Sister Elizabeth's story, such a talented and sincere lady and our privilege to know her. May she rest in the love and peace of God's eternal kingdom. Rangimarie

Barbara Harford, Nelson/Whakatū

I'm so sorry to hear of Elizabeth's death. My prayers for Elizabeth and my sympathy for you and the rest of the *Tui Motu* family.

Lynne Toomey, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Thank you. What lovely, grace-filled people touch our lives.

Jill Heenan, Whangārei

My thoughts and prayers are with you and all at *Tui Motu* at this very sad time. You are having a really hard time losing so many of your committed contributors. Aroha.

Marie Skidmore, Whanganui

Elizabeth's legacy is long-lasting. May she now rest in peace. Prayerful sympathy to all her friends at *Tui Motu*.

Marie White, Sydney

Thank you for sharing with us about Sr Elizabeth. I was taught by Elizabeth at St Dominics College in West Auckland where she was also Principal for a time. I had great admiration for her and didn't realize she was involved with *Tui Motu*. May she RIP.

Estelle Henrys, Wellington/Te Whanganui a Tara

I am sorry to hear of Sister Elizabeth's passing and having read the article about her can see she was first a contributor and then a great supporter to the team at *Tui Motu*. Every blessing and thanks for her wonderful life.

Kevin Shore NZCEO, Wellington/Te Whanganui a Tara

I have warm memories of Sr Elizabeth who was always

approachable & smiling. I had the task of asking her if she would be interested in leading one of the Retreat days for Catholic Women's Movement a few years ago. Elizabeth declined saying she was now looking after her Sisters in her order who needed her care. I remember attending days, years ago in Christchurch, which she facilitated at. Farewell Gracious Woman. Love & blessings.

Helen Warren, Christchurch/Ōtautahi

Another great lady in heaven! Thanks for letting me know.

Sheila McCreanor, Adelaide

A wonderful woman from whom I have a personal letter that I treasure. At peace. Thank you.

Pat Hick, Cambridge/Kemureti

Deepest sympathy to all at *Tui Motu*. What a lovely tribute. Blessings,

Anne-Marie Pike, Christchurch/Ōtautahi

Dear Ann & Ann, truly the death of a valiant woman, and what a wonderful contribution she has meant over the years for so many of us. You will be sad, God bless and love.

Susan Smith, Onerahi, Northland

Thank you Ann & Ann for such a great tribute to an exceptional woman. All of us who knew Elizabeth mourn her but it must be so much harder for all of you who met with her often. Kia kaha & console each other with rich memories of shared laughter and companionship.

Sue O'Connor, Arrowtown/Kā Muriwai

Rest in peace, Sister Elizabeth. Thank you for instilling in me a love of Latin and language.

Helen Sligo, Wellington/ Te Whanganui a Tara

I had so much admiration for Elizabeth. Great to have worked with her at CWS and to have interviewed her too about her life and her commitment to social justice.

Ruth Greenaway

A fine human! An utter delight to share life with you Lizzie. Thank you. My love & care to the Doms.

Ann Maree Thompson, Sydney

This is such sad news to all of us. She was super talented, super humble and super effective in all that she did. She was also a tireless worker for justice and peace everywhere she went. RIP dear Elizabeth.

Kevin Clements, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Elizabeth taught me so much about theology, about structural analysis and about living justly in this land. She preached at my first Eucharist as an Anglican priest at St Mary's Merivale, Christchurch in 1990, and I am grateful to have known her.

Jenny Dawson, Wellington/ Te Whanganui a Tara

I was not well at the time of Sr Elizabeth's death,

but I would like to join now with those who have registered appreciation for her many contributions, in many areas of ecumenical and inter-church activity. I first heard of Elizabeth in Greek I classes in 1961, when Professor Manton was still talking about the very able Dominican sister who had been advised to go to Oxford where her abilities would have, in his opinion, better scope for development. Marion and I later enjoyed meeting Elizabeth in both Christian World Service and later in Dunedin as a friend, and an encouraging editor at *Tui Motu*. I have kept several of the cards she wrote acknowledging quite modest contributions; they were always kind, generous and so evidently sincere. I knew her also in the attempted development of a more inclusive ecumenical movement in Aotearoa. We will miss her friendly presence among us, and remember \\\her always.

Simon Rae, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

So sorry to hear about the passing of Elizabeth. A delightful woman, so committed to improving the world. I had a bit to do with her when she was helping Kevin Toomey. She was always such a lovely, warm-hearted person to talk with.

Mike Fitzsimons, Wellington/Te Whanganui a Tara

A wonderfully ecumenical spirit committed to justice.

Kerry Enright, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Rest in peace. A special sister and lady.

Martina Kelly

Rest in peace Elizabeth.

Michael Smith, Rotorua

After a life of loving service may she rest in peace.

Janet Crawford, Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau

A great inspirational and wise woman. Well done good and faithful person.

Mary Wood, Wellington/Te Whanganui a Tara

We love you Sr Elizabeth.

Brenton-Erolia Eteuati Rooney

What a great write-up about a beautiful lady.

Gerri Boylan, Victoria Australia

My condolences to you all. We always miss those who were precious to us! God bless,

Judy Hann, Christchurch/Ōtautahi

My dear Elizabeth.

Maria Noonan, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

What a loss. But what a rich life. Elizabeth was always there for us.

Peter Matheson, Dunedin/Ōtepoti

Beautiful, beautiful Elizabeth... wise, loving, witty, kind... we will all miss her.

Pat Neuwelt, Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau

Remembering dear Sister Elizabeth Mackie, Assistant Editor from 2010-2016



Elizabeth Mackie OP, Michael Hill IC, Frances Skelton, Judith McGinley OP, founders and first editorial team of *Tui Motu* magazine. Taken at the 20-year celebration of *Tui Motu*, 10 November 2017.

Our loved and gracious Elizabeth Mackie OP, former Assistant Editor of *Tui Motu* magazine, died of cancer on Saturday 18 February 2023.

ELIZABETH RELOCATED FROM Christchurch to Dunedin in 2010 after the Christchurch earthquakes and became the Assistant Editor of *Tui Motu* with Kevin Toomey OP, the newly appointed Editor. Elizabeth was no stranger to the magazine. She helped found it in 1997 and served on the Board for many years, retiring as a director only in 2016. She continued to promote the magazine each month at Holy Name Church, Dunedin — effectively and with humour, we heard.

In my first month of editing *Tui Motu* magazine Elizabeth and Susie set off for the Dominican Sisters' Chapter where Elizabeth was elected their new Congregational Leader. Good news for the Dominicans but less so for us!

Her new role meant that Elizabeth needed to scale back her involvement in the magazine but as always she was generous in sharing her wisdom and editorial and administrative skills. She inducted Paul Armstrong as our administrator and she focused on editing.

In her early years after entering the Dominicans, Elizabeth became a teacher and studied Latin at Oxford University and taught at Otago University. She taught also at Dominican secondary schools in the South Island and in Auckland. Before returning to Dunedin and to her role in *Tui Motu*, Elizabeth had lived in Christchurch where she worked with the Christian World Service in promoting

development programmes in poor regions of the world.

Over the last few years since leaving her ministry in *Tui Motu* magazine, Elizabeth has been our “treat” visitor. She’d call in after morning Eucharist for a catch up, to give us encouragement and a good laugh. Some of these visits extended to morning tea time and beyond. *Tui Motu* was always close to her heart. She remained a Trustee of the *Tui Motu* Foundation until her death.

Elizabeth joined us for the last time in December last year for our annual volunteer thanksgiving dinner at our *Tui Motu* office. At this time she had come through surgery for cancer and we thought that we would have her among us for much longer. But that was not the case and on Saturday Elizabeth made her last journey into death and the great mystery of Love beyond.

We can only give thanks for the time we had with Elizabeth — our exceptional, generous, affirming, faithfilled, interested and interesting, funny woman. We are saddened by her death but know that love continues forever. Rest in love dear Elizabeth.

Notice sent to *Tui Motu* Subscribers by Ann Gilroy and Ann Hassan, 19 February 2023

We can only give thanks for the time we had with Elizabeth — our exceptional, generous, affirming, faithfilled, interested and interesting, funny woman.



Elizabeth at the December 2022 Tui Motu thanksgiving dinner.



Elizabeth at Tui Motu morning tea on the occasion of the visit of the Sisters of St Joseph Regional Leadership Team, May 2021.

Kevin Toomey, Elizabeth and Michael Hill
January 2015.



First issue of the magazine for the changeover of editor — from Kevin to Ann and Elizabeth — arrives from printer, 30 January 2015.



Elizabeth with Paul Armstrong, the new administrator for Tui Motu, holding the June 2015 issue.



Elizabeth and Kathleen Currie at the Tui Motu Murder Mystery Dinner, December 2015.





Elizabeth being thanked at her last Board Meeting, May 2016.



Susie Logan and Elizabeth leaving Tui Motu for their Dominican Sisters Chapter January 2015.



Elizabeth at a birthday celebration August 2018.



Elizabeth at her last Tui Motu Board meeting, May 2016.



Elizabeth at Greg Hings's birthday at Tui Motu June 2019.



Elizabeth with Lynne Toomey and Kathleen Currie beginning the packing process for the July 2016 issue.

We'll miss your substantial moral and intellectual presence among us especially in Tui Motu.