

MESSAGE FROM PADDY MESKIN

I started working with Paddy over 30 years ago through our work with Diakonia and WCRP. Over the years, we shared many extraordinary experiences together and became much more than colleagues: he was a dear and valued friend.

Paddy was a most amazing gentleman, who was totally committed to the pursuit of justice and human rights, and trying to make the world a better place. Over the past 30 years, the work that Paddy did has left an indelible mark in the world, as well as in the hearts of all those who met him. He encouraged so many of us to do more for others, as he had devoted so much of his life to helping others. As with everything, he led by example.

He certainly helped me to become involved in numerous activities; one of the first projects we did together was helping to assist conscientious objectors to the conscription policies of apartheid, so our history is very long and storied. For me, from working with the TRC, to supporting the work at Mavela, and particularly in my work in the interfaith community, he was always willing to lend a helping hand and an encouraging word. In a quiet and unassuming way, he was an exceptional human being and a true servant of God.

I shall miss Paddy deeply; even though I am no longer able to participate as much as I would like in the many activities that he and I were part of, he has often been in my thoughts and prayers. The world is a sadder and poorer place for his loss.

My prayers and thoughts are with his whole extended family, and I pray that he will rest in the peace that he fought for every day of his life.

May God send His peace to all who mourn and comfort to the sorrowing among us, Amen.

Paddy Meskin