

Dear all

It has been devastating to learn of Paddy's passing. I did not know him as well as all of you for whom this must have been even more of an awful blow, but just to say - the world has lost one of its best.

I called some of the Glebelands guys earlier this evening to let them know. They held Paddy in such high esteem. They knew he was one of the very few people who really cared about the community. Like Coral, Paddy was never afraid to go to Glebe, talk, listen and never stopped trying by all means to assist - he was on their side. Paddy was also the only person who, despite the danger, came to support those of us who testified at the Moerane Commission.

His regular messages of support and solidarity and suggestions meant such a lot as the guys often felt isolated and alone while I often felt like I was bellowing into a headwind. To them (and me) Paddy was truly one of the kindest, most humble, generous, inspirational, brave, decent, selfless, honourable human beings we have ever had the privilege to spend time with. His death is a huge loss to the seemingly ever-dwindling forces of good on this planet.

The guys will hold a special meeting tomorrow to inform the others who knew Paddy of the sad news. They would like to try and send representatives to attend the memorial service. ...

Much love, sympathy, sadness and respect.

Vanessa Burger

Paddy was a very good man and what we liked about him he was not pretending as others usually do and he was just down to earth. We lost one of our heroes but we believe his spirit will continue to fight for the marginalised people. Earth has lost one gentle soul and heaven has one angel more.

Resident at Glebelands Hostel