

Joanna Mary Little RIP

Jo Little, born in Jersey 22nd August 1949, lost the long battle with cancer, and died peacefully on Wednesday 29th January 2020 in Laverstock Care Home.

Jo was among the first people I met when I arrived in Salisbury in 1994. I moved with my new wife to work for the Bridge Project. Jo became one of the first volunteers with the Bridge, helping organise the administrative side of things for me. But Jo, I learned, was also active in the ecumenical life of Salisbury, with Alabaré Care, and with the Alabaré community.

Later, Jo volunteered with the Credit Union in Salisbury, and was active in her church. As my wife and I started sorting through her effects, we were continually surprised by the different minutes and paperwork from many faith-based and voluntary sector committees she had served on, often as secretary.

Professionally, Jo worked as a secretary in Jersey, in the Board of Education. She moved to Salisbury in the early 1990s, and started working in Church House, Salisbury, initially in the Board of Education as PA to the Director, and then moved to the Board of Finance. Jo was a popular member of staff, often called in to help out during busy periods after she retired.

Jo maintained a wide group of friends in Salisbury and Jersey, and wider afield too. One of her pleasures in life was travelling to visit family and friends around the world. We found her an invaluable friend: she would house sit for us, look after our dogs when we were out, baby-sit our children when they were small and I was out doing youth work and Pip working nights as a nurse.

But we were not alone in this: there are many families Jo cared for in similar ways. Jo became part of our extended family, celebrating Christmas with us every year, and becoming Godmother to one of our daughters. Our lives, and the lives of many others, have been deeply enriched by her.

Jo lived her life well, with care and love for so many people; one of her many gifts was serving people - patient and kind, generous and gracious. Jo made a huge contribution to our lives in so many ways - too many to list here right now.

Jo Little: rest in peace, and may you rise in glory!

John Baxter-Brown