

OBITUARY

Eunice Beveridge, Aquila Entreprises

It was with great sadness that the NZALT community learnt of the passing of Eunice Beveridge. Eunice was known to almost all NZ language teachers through her efforts to set up a NZ owned languages-specific bookshop: Aquila Books just for us. From early beginnings Eunice, later joined by husband Peter, was a familiar sight at every meeting, Langsem or Conference where language teachers gathered, dispensing advice, giving recommendations or just saying I can get that for you in her quiet unassuming way. Few people know that Eunice's love of languages was kindled later in life, having first trained as analytical Chemist (M.Sc. London) It was during a stint teaching English in Japan that the love affair with languages blossomed leading to a BA in Japanese from Auckland University, to which she later added the study of French and then, latterly, the study of Maori. A dedicated wife and mother, Eunice found time to support son Matt in his schooling when he encountered learning difficulties, seeing Matt right through to finish his degree, a great personal achievement. She even let Peter take up horse riding at that dangerous mid-life age but got very fed up with being called out regularly to pick him up after falling off his horse!



Eunice was diagnosed with cancer in 2002 but that did not stop her. She lived life to the full. Still did her French and Japanese, went out and about and was interested in everything right to the last minute. There are many forms of courage but Eunice possessed the greatest kind, that of having an illness from which she knew she would never recover but facing it with courage and equanimity. We will all miss her very much.

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