A kauri tree was planted at CUE Haven on 30 July 2013
in loving memory of their dear friend
Trish Wartski
by Dawn & Peter McEniery

My **COLOURFUL TRISH**
A Tribute by Michele Perch

**I think of Trish in colour**..... every colour under the sun
I forgive her for being an **All-Black** because she was so vibrant and full of fun.
I met her in the 80’s when we were still socialising in style.
It was the Durban July; The Gold Cup and even her walk down the aisle....
For her outfit selections I’d be called on to assist...
Special times with Trish that I’m so glad I never missed.
She’d combine **red** with **olive** or **turquoise** with **brown**
Then she’d haul out accessories that compared with jewels in a crown.
Her shoes, bags and shawls would be sorted in batches
And of course her **earrings** would be arranged as ‘mis-matches’.

In every outfit she’d look divine
And I’d marvel at her creativity between sips of wine.
We’d chat ourselves into complete oblivion
But eventually we’d arrive at a ‘**final outfit**’ decision.

Trish’s **hairstyles** were her trademark...she and Brendan were way ahead
Long before books by E.L. James, they’d produced ‘**50 Shades of Red**!’

Caiti, my daughter, adored Trish as her God-mother
And Brandon, my son, adopted her as his second mother
She supported them and believed in them and spoilt them rotten

Their’s was a special bond never to be forgotten.
The kids treasured their visits with Trish to the Mall
Where they’d lunch and tell jokes and ignore my call
To resist spending money in every conceivable shop
They would enjoy their meal and then shop till they dropped!

Trish was recycling before the world was thinking **green**
Her **brown paper** wrapped gifts were visions to be seen
She’d decorate them with **raffia** and **berries** and **twigs**
I could never get over how she thought of such things?
Her Christmas decorations were a sight to behold

Hers would be ‘**African and Authentic**’
When everyone else was doing ‘**red** and **gold**’

She made me the most gorgeous Christmas serviette rings
These are still amongst my most treasured things.
She gave me a new decoration each year
So Christmas is when I will feel her presence most near.

Trish taught me to eat healthily long before it was in fashion
I started eating artichokes and brussel sprouts
Because she’d describe them with such passion!
For Ray she’d disguise veggies into delicious soups
Then after dinner she’d reward him with ice cream scoops!
She loved entertaining and her tables were great fun
She’d mix different coloured place settings and serviettes for everyone.
Her meals were always colourful…a feast for the eyes
Healthy and Hearty, followed by a sweet surprise.
She loved her garden….it was her greatest delight
One month it would be all purple, then the next month it was pure white.
She knew the names of all her shrubs, herbs and flowers
And when I’d arrive for tea she’d have been pampering them for hours.
And so my gorgeous, glamorous Trish…I’ve painted this picture of you.
I want you to know that you’ve coloured my life in every possible hue.
We love you to bits and we always will do
And Ray, you are so special, and we love you too!

(When things got rough you’d always say: ‘Take a few Rescues, they’ll help you cope’
Well I took plenty today, my treasured friend….you’ll agree they’ve worked, I hope?)

They say you can’t choose your family but you can choose your friends…..well we decidedly differently…My parents, Cathy and Terry, my children and I made Trish an honorary member of our family many years ago….and that’s what she always will be to us all.