Annabelle Mahar, Pathologist and Member of our Society, died in late March after a short but valiant effort to overcome an aggressive ovarian carcinoma. Annabelle was a gentle quietly spoken pleasant person who was a sharp diagnostician supported by an excellent knowledge bank. She was the lead pathologist in Orthopaedics at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney and through our collaborative multidisciplinary group, was involved in the diagnosis of at least 90% of the primary bone tumours and the vast majority of soft tissue tumours in the state of New South Wales. She provided a regional and countrywide consultation service and was responsible for molecular diagnoses in the bone and soft tissue sarcoma service.

She taught at all levels of medical education, particularly to Pathology, Radiology, Radiation Oncology and Orthopaedic trainees. She did this so well that we now have a generation of pliable, consultative and appreciative clinicians and surgeons.

Her platform presentations at the Members Meeting on a yearly basis were a lesson in the perfect art of presentation with the correct mix of information coupled with flawless illustrations and the most up to date knowledge, all delivered clearly and succinctly with humility and grace at every turn.

She had eclectic interests and was an avid reader, always ready with recommendations of various genres targeted for each individual’s preferences. She loved film and theatre and indulged in these as often as she could. She was generous to a fault, in body and spirit, lending a kind and insightful ear, supportive and non- judging at every turn.

We are all of us woven from a variety of threads of varying length, size, colour, texture, flexibility and lustre. These are all woven into the fabric of our beings. Annabelle's fabric was a magnificent one, indeed the finest there can be. Her fabric created an exquisite tapestry which, like all beautiful works of art, is completely irreplaceable.

She remained the same beautiful person throughout her ordeal. She is a huge loss to our Society and to many of us at a personal and professional level.

She is survived by her partner Steve, her parents, siblings and a large extended family.

She was only 52.