

20001 - 8 - 019

Midwife's Report.

May 1988 - May 1989

35 bookings.

29 home births.

Including one at Dennistown on the West Coast, born well and truly before the midwife's arrival (about 2 weeks!!) - but attended over the phone so it was all right. Caused a bit of a stink down there.

Two babies BBA. One in fifteen minutes after three contractions; the other m/w not called early enough. What do other people do about people who don't really want or value what we're doing but ask for it anyway. I hate being in that position - I'd rather not be involved at all. Comments?

Two fights with one GP over two primip women - both turned out to be really good at baby having. GP basically has his head buried up his bum!

One woman a total disaster - baby in hospital at six weeks with fractured femur, ribs and skull as well as failure to thrive from the word go.

Two previous LSCS.

One para 8.

One in Rotorua!

One 4th baby after 3rd died at 7½ weeks. Very interesting - mother took ages to 'connect with baby. Experienced sore, cracked, bleeding nipples for first time; lost milk through lack of stimulation and had to use breast pump and supplement feeding. Came right about 5 weeks with lots of input and energy and sheer perserverance.

Two in Golden Bay - one at Pakawau; one at Wainui inlet.

6 transfers.

3 primips. Long labours and all ended up with epidurals followed by normal births - delivered by DM in Nelson hospital!

3 multips.

One premature - 35 weeks. Normal birth - delivered by DM

One previous PPH; DM away on Coast when she went into labour and she went to hospital. Normal birth - delivered by DM

One 'stuck' baby - G2P1, 13 year gap, previous epidural and forceps; 3hrs 50 in 2nd stage but normal birth. (Not delivered by DM!)

2 Rh negatives!

7 primips.

2 births where women did not have doctors. One publicised which I have now decided was legal.

I've since done a birth where the woman did not have a doctor at all. And one birth where the doctor was totally unwilling to attend. I'm suprising myself by how unworried I am about all of this! I feel like I've stepped over the last barrier. And it's great.

Involved with trying to set up NZCOM in Nelson. Nelson midwives have passed a regional rule that they will not have consumers as members of their organisation. Have yet to realise that this means they can't call themselves a COM. Actively prevented one consumer from joining and sent another woman's cheque back telling her she could join Blenheim or Christchurch. So we - 4 midwives, 2 Dms, 2 hospital and 6 or so consumers have set up the Nelson COM ourselves. They're going to be really pissed off when they find out but too bad. I think they're hidden agenda is actually to remain as part of NZNA. O well, c'est la guerre!!

Nelson Home Birth Association is slowly dying - can't be bothered really, I've seen it all before.

Planning an extended holiday March 1990; it may turn into a year or so away. Africa? Mexico? South America? Who knows?

Have to be back by September 1991 - Riverside Community turns 50!

Had a wonderful 10 year celebration October 1988.

Have really enjoyed this last 12 months.

Bronwen.

Community Health Committee.  
Trouble with PPHN.  
- birth in Pictou.  
Sericaid.