NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES
WELLINGTON REGION - NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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Last Meeting

The last COM was again well attended. Three women from CYPS came and talked about adoption and the roles and responsibilities of both mothers and fathers, adoptive parents and placement social workers. It seems the earlier as possible that first contacts are made for anyone considering adoption the better the outcome for all. There are no ties until everything is formalised after the birth of the baby. Over the last year there has been 4 adoptions in the Wellington region with 88 enquiries.

Valmaye Dawson a representative from HSWS Health Care came and discussed their medical/hospital insurance scheme. This has been designed by people in the health care sector exclusively for health care employees and their families at competitive prices. If you are interested in looking into this type of insurance then it should be well worth while giving them a call. Valmaye can be contacted at 04 589 5974 or 0800 268 3763.

Next and Last Meeting of the year

The next meeting is going to be a little different. It is to be held on the 11.11.97 at 11am. There will be a shared lunch with everyone bringing delicious morsels and Cheryl Benn will be coming to speak on How to Keep Ourselves Safe. This will be a great opportunity for midwives to gather for the last meeting of the year and look at an issue that is becoming increasingly important for all of us.

DATE	11:11:97
TIME	11am (finishing about 2.30)
VENUE	Rose Garden Lounge, Pilmuir House, Hutt Hospital.

The first meeting for 1998 will be held in Masterton. Details in January newsletter.

Media

Recently a local midwife has not only begun a trial by media but she has also by the media been found guilty. She was singled out and publicly named by the Health and Disability Commissioner before a complaint was even forwarded to the Nursing Council.

This midwife has had her name put into print often enough over the last 3 weeks and I'm not going to put it here. For those of you who know her your support and encouragement won't go astray. For those of you who don't, your support and encouragement is still needed. This issue has an effect on every midwife who is out there whether you are independent, self-employed, employed, hospital based, on leave or thinking of retuning to work within the midwifery profession. Letters are currently being written to the Minister of Health (Bill English) and the Privacy Commissioner with regards to the way this case has been handled and the release by the Health and Disability Commissioner of this persons name to the media. You are encouraged to do the same.

Home birth Conference

It was a great home birth conference and as usual always great to catch up with midwives and consumers with similar interests and agendas. The Wellington COM are really looking

forward to a written report from all the student midwives who attended with the support of the COM. Anyone else who would like to submit a written report on part or all of this conference for publication in the next newsletter is more that welcome. At these sort of events, everyone gets something different from what they attended and each aspect is very important.

A message from Rae Clarke who, on behalf of the organising committee, would like to thank all the local midwives, students and consumers who attended and supported this conference.

HBL Requirements!

HBL now requires a clear record of 24 hour, 5day & final baby check prior to transfer to well Child Carer. Also important to have recorded departure time after birth. Keep a photocopy of records and/or do carbon copy of Heath & Development book.