

20001-21-020

Domiciliary Midwives Society of New Zealand.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12TH MAY, 1989.

34 midwives present(1)

Sian Burgess facilitated.

Bronwen Pelvin secretaried.

Secretary's report read and accepted.

Matters arising: Letter to NZ College of Midwives authorising use of word 'Midwives' in their title.

Agreed that the Domiciliary Midwives Society affiliate to the New Zealand College of Midwives.

Midwives' reports:

Sian Burgess, Auckland: Good year, has organised a collective practice with 2 other midwives.

Veronika Miller, Auckland: Has had 6 months off. Good to be part off collective and have time off and not worry; running antenatal classes with other midwives in collective, charge \$10/person/class. Midwives meet weekly before classes, do claim forms then.

Jenny Johnston, Wellington: Good year; has lost woman GP who's been doing homebirths for 10 years. Acknowledges "my need to be with people"; finds it hard to give up cases and have time out/off.

Jan Klausen, Rotorua: Started last October but doctor pulled out at last minute from supporting first case in Taupo; Has had 2 primips since; Support from Anne Sharplin at Papanoa; lack of confidence re blood loss and managing breastfeeding. Has organised for hospital aids to do home help for 2hours/day for home birth mums and a nappy service as well! Paid for by Area Health Board.

Kali Judd, Ravens: Lay midwife practising for 6 years in response to women in area staying at home either not acceptable for home birth or not wanting established midwives. DMs in area restricted to 10km radius around hospital. MOH mounted witch hunt this year; threatened to prosecute; now not going to. Would do direct entry training if available.

Felia Barnett, Whangarei: "10 months of being somewhere between centre channel and shore on a swift outgoing tide." Withstood complaint to Nursing Council; felt most violated as person and midwife with Nursing Council procedure - complainant not known; statutory bodies are now subject to Official Information Act but weren't at the time. So grateful for all support - can't express. Nursing Council hears complaint only - does not resolve. Chief Nurse accepted no responsibility for her staff member; Principal Nurse facilitated meeting between Felia and complainant - Felia was "not careful for a few minutes" asked for and received written apology. Otherwise okay; 28 births and 8 transfers.

Lynley MacFarland, Whangarei: Part-time covering for Felia. Felia gained tremendous respect in the system through her ordeal.

Ruth Pouly, Ravens: 3 homebirths in area; only attended one. No work at Ravens hospital - no on call, no domino option.

Jenny Woodley, Auckland: 25 deliveries; 4 supportive GPs; student midwives following through cases.

Jane Sykes, Masterton: Parent Centre is support group; bookings have increased 250% on last year; 6 supportive GPs; no problems with transfers; now working part-time at hospital; mums get nappy service; is paid for transfers. Marion Griffiths now contracted for back-up; telepager a big plus. One cot death; extending area.

Christie Sygrove, Kaitiaki: Lots of negative comments from staff at Kaitiaki.

Elizabeth Carlaw, Hamilton: Now set up for practice.

Jan Stojanovic, Otaki: Working part-time in Levin. One booking; 6 supportive GPs Home birth group.

Mary Garner, Wellington: Prof Hatton declared "no home births on the Kapiti Coast" ; Intense politics this year; now 6 supportive GPs.

Anne Sharplin, Tauranga: 100% increase. Had to transfer very flat baby with meconium inhalation and mother with retained placenta. Has done 130 early discharges/PN care. Te Ruke has closed. 3 supportive GPs. One used prostin pessaries at home. Has C₂ and flow meter. Back-up and cover from elen Parsons. Home birth group strong; paid home help; free linen pack.

- Mary Hammond, Auckland: Clear about leave and cover - learning to "let go". "Standing tall" in hospital. Dealing with all problems not just 'failure to progress'. Surveyed doctors, held meeting - GPs indicated support. Colin Wattell said no need to educate re homebirths for Dip Obs. Talked to him about it and Jenny Woodley asked to speak.
- Anne Brown, New Plymouth: had a year off, otherwise 12 births. Doctors a problem; small hospitals closing. No legal cover for one birth - covered by Social Security Regulations.
- Jane Marshall, Hastings: Stable interest, growing in Napier. Mucking around with contract. Vit K being pushed.
- Elizabeth Walker, Dannevirke: Contract through, has attended one birth.
- Ruth Morris, Palmerston North: Wanganui now has Home Birth Association and 1 GP. One birth in Pahiataua. Palmerston North carries on as usual.
- Jan Gergen, New Plymouth: 3 home births; one domino.
- Maria Ware, Christchurch: Independent Midwives Service doing early discharge service. Closing Burwood - want a chair of Anaesthesiology at ChCh Women's.
- Jean Donley, Auckland: 14 midwives attended 308 births in 1988 - 45% of homebirths for year. New DMS registering; increased case-loads from early discharge work; Pilot DMSRC up and running - three DMS already reviewed. Growing requests for water births; taking midwifery students out; new midwifery course is home birth oriented. Q. Quarterly meeting with home birth doctors.
- Bronwen Felvin, Nelson: 23 homebirths, 6 transfers, all except one delivered by IM in hospital. 9 Rh negatives / 2 births without Drs prepared to cover - one had a doctor who wouldn't be involved; the other no doctor at all. Celebrated 10 years as IM.
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Agenda:

- Lay Midwifery: Lay midwives able to be open about what they're doing with DMS. We're only group that support. Being outside law gives them some freedoms that DMS don't have.
- Negotiations: Agreed to raise subscription to \$50 to cover costs of employing Kelly Grovehills and Allison Livingstone as our negotiators with Department of Health. Offer them 60 hours work at \$37.50/hour; will increase if our rate goes up. Concern not to price IM care out of market at \$37.50/hour. DMS contract should specify homebirths. Will we be contracted to Area Health Boards? Kelly to shepherd us through changes in system - protect interest already gained. DONLED contracts.
- DMS: Domiciliary midwives = home birth midwives. Need to promote DMS and ensure all DMS belong.
- DMSRC: Pilot scheme up and running in Auckland; important to get set up elsewhere especially larger centres; will have some weight negotiating contracts with AHBs and prevent us from being under Obstetric Standards Review Committee.
- Legalities: Doctors responsibilities not spelled out anywhere - they make them men whatever they want. If woman attending doctor and he has accepted for M care then he is responsible according to Social Security regulations - can't just sidle out of it. Women without Doctors at all - just attend them, what can anyone do about it.
- Statistics: Would like to be more detailed to include information on eclampsia, Vit K, Hep B, discharge weight, transfer outcomes, labour starts, labour established.
- Ultrasound: Overdiagnosis of IUGR discussed.
- Marijuana: Concern over pregnant women smoking. Depletes body of manganese, affects testosterone levels in male foetus; self-regulating dose.
- Bleeding: Piece of placenta in mouth. Vit E effective anti-coagulant, people should stop taking it before due date. Placenta stops post-natal depression - put it in fridge and the thought of eating it stops you getting depressed !! (courtesy Jenny Woodley!)

Next years conference in Whangarei. Contact: Andrea Milburn
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STILL NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR TALKING !! MID-YEAR MEETING SOMEWHERE SUGGESTED.