

# The New Zealand Home Birth Association

The New Zealand Home Birth Association,  
P.O. Box 7093, Wellesley St., Auckland, 1.

Affiliated with NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for PARENTS and  
PROFESSIONALS for SAFE ALTERNATIVE CHILDBIRTH, U.S.A.

Ms L. McLean,  
57 Queens Drive,  
Lyall Bay,  
WELLINGTON

3rd September 1981

Dear Lyn,

Joan has asked me to look into the status of the N.Z. Domiciliary Midwives Association. I understand that the Nurses Association is an incorporated association. Their rules would set out the necessary status of groups wishing to affiliate with them. However I feel sure that this is not what you are planning.

In relation to incorporation - I don't think this is necessary. It has the benefits of protecting the name of the society, members have no legal liability for what the society does and it can be useful where the society wants to sue or own land. The aims, rules and statutory constraints seem too rigid for a society of at most 20 members throughout N.Z.

Most unions are registered under the Industrial Relations Act.  
The registrar's consent is required to register under this Act a union with less than 15 members. An application to register must be made in writing to the Registrar stating the name of the proposed union, signed by two or more officers of the society, accompanied by a list of the members and officers and three copies of the rules. In addition a copy of the resolution in favour of registration must be filed, passed by a majority of members at a general meeting.

I think that whatever you decide to do in terms of finding backing from other groups, you will need to draw up some objects, rules, hold regular elections for all the usual officers, keep lists of

members who are financial and find a time accountant to audit the books.

Please let me know any ideas you have so I can look more fully into aspects which are relevant. Our ex treasurer up here is also a lawyer & I feel sure will help to draft out any documents, objects etc that you require.

Let us know too if there is anything that the Auckland committee can do to help with national duties. We have an enthusiastic committee of about 30 who regularly attend meetings and will do anything needed. If the newsletters are too much of a burden to Henrette and other helpers, maybe Auckland could do one of them and take the pressure of Wellington.

Another question, really for Henrette, have you had any posters made for Home Birth Week. We are organising tee shirts and are still messing about on the poster question.

Yours sincerely,



Barbara Macfarlane.