

Tauranga 57 907
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Papanoa

Please note new address → RD7 Te Puke

Dear Bronwen,

Many thanks for the Newsletter and Minutes and also for the latest info. on our wage claim. You may or may not be aware that I have been working in a base hospital (Whakatane) as well as doing my Dom. work but by the time you receive this I will have left ^{the hospital.} (after 18 months.) I have 5 homebirths booked for Sept. and 3 for October but not much after this. I'm aiming at getting as many early discharges as I can to tide me over until some more births come up. There are a couple in the New Year that I am aware of, but the Tauranga Homebirth Support Group are advertising in the personal column each week in our local 'Rag' to try and drum up some more business for me.

Regarding the new fees mentioned in your latest letter - I hope that Dr. Phillips has notified all the local Dept. of Health people so that we can get this without any further hassles from our end, being as you and Jenny have taken the trouble to renegotiate on our behalves. Also my only comment on this matter and the further increase that you propose is that I'm with you all the way, whatever you decide.

I've only had 18 births in the two years that I have been doing it so the amount per ~~birth~~^{case} to make a reasonable standard of living doesn't really affect me as much as all the other D.M.'s. I'm also not sure if I'm up to date with my membership fee so I'm enclosing \$10 just in case.

While I think of it, is there any chance us getting an increase in mileage, especially now that petrol has gone up and is due to go

up again in the not too distant future? Have you any idea how many D.M.'s are supplied with sterile packs from their base hospitals? One of my G.P.'s brought this up with the Medical Superintendent at Tauranga Hospital who's answer was "we do not support private enterprise" and wouldn't listen to the Doc saying that I'm paid by the Dept of Health, and at the moment have two of my own packs autoclaved at a private hospital at \$4 a go! I'm just hoping that I have time between births to get them re-autoclaved.

Not much else news here. Have a great holiday in Oz and bring back lots of info. (which I'm sure you will). I'd love to come to a D.M. Meeting if one is to be arranged.

Regards
Gill Williams.
