

MANAWATU HOMEBIRTH REPORT 1988-89

We are pleased to be able to report that we have had an action packed year, what with four midwives working in our region. Ruth Martis and JanStovanovich gaining registration.

Ruth, Ellen & Carole have been attending homebirths in Wanganui and so far have attended 5 births and negotiated the use of the Wanganui Area Health Boards equipment etc for the births.

Manawatu Midwives attended 40 births, 7 resulted in transfer to hospital:-

3 Pre labour

4 in labour

1 post partum for retained placenta

2 babies were also transferred to the neonatal unit

1 A.B.O. incompatibility

1 with grunting resps

Fiona has semi-retired from homebirth and has a new baby son born in April. Ruth Martis is taking leave from June and is due to give birth in August, leaving Carole & Ellen not having babies.

We have an enthusiastic new committee who with the assistance of the midwives are running:

stretching classes for our association

A/N video evenings once a month and are in the process

of getting our own antenatal education classes up and running.

We have also an increase in general attendance at our monthly meetings and in the less busy months, we have a theme for each meeting e.g. homopathy, baby massage. This has been well received and has necessitated us having a separate business meeting just to cope with all the work to be done.

Well that's all from those who have tirelessly and enthusiastically worked at homebirth in the Manawatu.