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## An armful of babies



Charge midwife Mrs Cath Aitken has her hands full at the Nelson Maternity Unit. The lineup were celebrating International Midwives Day today.

It's the first time an international day has been held for midwives, but special midwives' days have been held in New Zealand before, maternity unit supervisor Miss Norma Affleck said.

The unit is holding an open day today and all babies born there will be given a T-shirt.

Midwives throughout the country will be doing all deliveries today, Miss Affleck said.

Staff will also be giving helium balloons to children in town today.

Mrs Aitken is pictured holding six-week-old Gregory Hill, left, and Shamus Maxted, seven weeks.

The five newborns in the foreground are, from left, Samantha Fenwick, Karen Vandenberg, Monique Solly, Julia Bellamy and Kathryn Ward.

● Photo: Marion van Dijk.