

Taskforce Update 5.9.89

Thankyou for the feedback re. last update, and as there is considerable support for a meeting I hope as many of you as possible will be able to make it. If you are unable to make it, please let me know of any issues etc. that you feel needs to be discussed at this time. The meeting will be on.....

\*\*\* Sunday September 17th at 2pm - 208 Ponsonby Rd, Ponsonby \*\*\*

Please give some thought to the agenda as we need to discuss our direction at this point and consolidate our position. DE is now creating a lot of interest and it is my feeling that all of a sudden there will be a scramble over the course, selection criteria, its content, and location as it becomes a trendy option to grab. We need to be prepared for such a development.

It is my hope that we will actually establish an active working party on Sunday to support Gill and Jilleen with their work on the curriculum since the in-depth stage now seems appropriate to develop.

For those of you who have contact with Technical Institutes, can you enquire as to whether the Tech. was requested to comment on the DE option as a part of their submission on the Nurses Act.

I would particularly appreciate feedback on this one, as Wellington midwives have been concerned about approaches made to Judith Christianson (HOD Wgtn.Tech.) from the Health Dept. requesting what initially sounded like a proposal about DE. As Judith is totally unsupportive of midwives and has no interest or knowledge of DE this sounded pretty disturbing. Apparantly Helen Clark wishes to consider DE training as a part of her consideration of the whole mwfry issue which sounds promising if not sabotaged as this early stage.

Kathy Kershaw was unavailable, but I did speak to Sue Scoby who is actually receiving the Nurses Act submissions and she reassured me that this request had gone across the board to Techs. to encourage some input from them on the DE issue and that Wellington Techs role was nothing special etc. At this stage there is some question as to whether this is indeed the case, so we need to be very clear as to what exactly is going on. Some sleuthing for you all to do!

So looking forward to seeing you on the 17th, or hearing your ideas and suggestions if you are unable to attend.... Judi

My contact address and ph. # at the present time are  
PO Box 69, Kaukapakapa (0880)5507

# Health pledge by Opposition

NZPA HERALD 24 6 89 Wellington

Listing what he called an "appalling record of decline" in health care under Labour, the Opposition health spokesman, Mr Don McKinnon, yesterday promised that a National government would revamp the system and deliver a better service at a better price.

"National is approaching health issues in the full knowledge that the heavily burdened taxpayer is not in a position to contribute more money," he said

"What is needed is a well-directed effort to convert hundreds of millions of dollars worth of waste and inefficiency in the current health system into improvements in service to the community.

"Not one dollar will be cut out of the public health budget until we know what the real problems are and we know that we can give New Zealanders a better service at a better price."

# KNOW YOURSELF SAYS MP

"Don't undersell yourselves" exhorted MP for Ashburton Jenny Shipley to delegates at the opening of the Parents Centre 1988 Conference.

"Look at yourself to know who you are."

"Women are multi-levelled decision-makers" she pointed out. Women must think for their husbands, their children and themselves -- this requires anticipation, counter strategies and considerable resourcefulness!

Mrs Shipley told delegates that the skills they gained through Parents Centre and other parenting activities are valuable and that they must be prepared to make others in the community recognise the validity of these skills.

Unfortunately these skills have been unfairly reflected by the traditional male oriented criteria for success such



as schooling, qualifications, occupation and job promotion, she said.

In addition, a woman with strong opinions has been regarded as over-assertive and aggressive whereas a man is strong and decisive.

She encouraged delegates to manage their time effectively, practise their skills, keep informed and take opportunities to make their opinions count.

Mrs Shipley is mother of Anna 10 and Ben 8 years. She farms in partnership with her husband, a 480 ha mixed sheep and cropping farm in Canterbury. Prior to becoming involved in politics, she had a wide involvement in community activities. She made a progression through her local activities from Playcentre to local government. She served on the Malvern County Council, the Selwyn Plantation Board and Lincoln College Committee.