

20073-27-106

NELSON:

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

INVITATION:

Dear Friends,

Despite the differences of the past AGMs, we all retain a vital interest in the future of homebirth, and are all equally keen to work together for the same thing, though the form this takes obviously requires some modification. To this end, then, our 1985 conference in Nelson is a determined attempt to achieve consensus among all those involved in Homebirth in New Zealand. (Consensus does not mean unanimity but a viewpoint or decision arrived at through discussion involving some compromise along the way but resulting in agreement to promote or implement from everyone.)

In order to have the fullest representation possible, all groups and interested parties are warmly invited to participate in the coming conference. Here are some ways in which you can help achieve a new, strong group:

Reply to Nelson MHA by 25 February with ideas and suggestions for the conference.

Submit items for the agenda.

Submit remits for the AGM as soon as possible.

Discuss the issues involved fully with group members.

Come prepared for discussion and decision-making.

And finally, a special invitation for an important pre-conference discussion agreed on at the November half-yearly meeting. This will be held on the Friday before conference (10 May) from 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to this but there was general agreement that speaking rights should be limited to 2 delegates per group, in order that the session should not become unwieldy. An independent person will facilitate this discussion and it is important that people come to this with open minds as no constitutional changes can actually be implemented from it. Its aim is to clarify the issues and gain some kind of understanding of the needs and wishes of the group before we actually go into the AGM. Nelson is to write and will circulate before the conference a discussion paper to guide our thoughts, and conference programme will contain details of time and venue.

Travel Costs:

Now is the time for each group to investigate travel costs and choose delegates. If you feel you are unable to come because of travel costs PLEASE apply to our Treasurer, Lois Ollivier, 7 Chaytor Place, Palmerston North. Funds are available and will be allocated on an informal basis according to the number of applications.

See you in Nelson!

Angela Sellwood.

Angela Sellwood
Secretary.