

20073-27-109

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13-2-85.

Dear Brenda

Thankyou so much for the video and material you sent down to me. I have a few questions after having our meeting. How do we become members of the official body to receive National Newsletters? Our midwife (that was) is not going to practice anymore, even with our support. She said that she has to do 80 hours midwifery in a hospital every two years to keep up the contract. And this year she even got a letter to say that the Base Hospital in New Plymouth were not in agreement with Homebirths so she would have to do her hours outside of New Plymouth!! This does not sound right to me, what is the regulation — is it up to each area to

make their own requirements or is there a standard ~~re~~ for the whole of the country? Please let me know as we want to approach these people with sound knowledge. Have you a copy of the law regarding Home Births. As you said that there should be an option available for all women. I will pay you any money needed for this information. We really need to know what our rights are so that we can get them. Thankyou so much for all you have done and are doing to help us get going down here. You may reproduce the following in the National Newsletter about our first meeting.

Today seventeen interested mothers and mothers to be ~~met~~ met at my home. We had a cup of tea and shared why we were interested in Home Births. I relayed some of the

information that Brenda Hinton gave me and then we showed the Home Birth video. Jan a midwife that is interested in Home Births and has a contract out with the Health Department, but is not doing any homebirths was present. We asked her lots of questions, in an attempt to encourage her back into doing them. But she gave us so many reasons why she wouldn't. I guess we have to find somebody really keen to take a contract out in New Plymouth. The hospital is unsupportive, so I guess we have a lot of work ahead of us. We have decided to run antenatal classes as there were seven pregnant women at the meeting who said they would go to a class if run. We all felt the meeting was very successful and we have a lot in front of us.

Jouise James.