

NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES WELLINGTON REGION

JULY NEWSLETTER

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Not a very long newsletter I'm afraid. Not much seems to be going on. Section 51 and the hassles that is causing the women, the midwives etc... seems to be rather time consuming. Since returning from Norway, life seems very dull to say the least.

The ICM conference was fabulous. Well done to the midwives who organised it. Everything appeared to run very smoothly. Days were divided into topics, reproductive health, psych aspects of childbirth, physiological aspects of childbirth, midwifery education and cultural aspects of childbirth. As well as speakers and lectures, there were poster displays, workshops and trade displays. It was full on the whole time. 2500 midwives from all countries were in attendance.

The Norwegian Night provided us with music, singing and dancing as well as Norwegian food. No reindeer that night only seafood, seafood and strawberry sandwiches.

Oslo is a wonderful city. The people are very friendly, most speak perfect English as well as Norwegian and often another language as well. It is rather expensive however, A Big Mac Combo will set you back NZ \$ 15 and a gin and two beers about \$40.

However it is definitely worth a visit. The sun was setting at midnight and rising again at 3 am. We know because we saw it. (Not you though Liz!)

The next ICM conference is in the Philippines (May 1999). If you can't make it there ,after that it's Austria. (2002!!!!)

By the Philippines at least, lets hope some new NZ midwives are presenting papers about aspects of NZ midwifery practice.

Congratulations to **Gill Burke** (midwife HVH) on the birth of her baby, Josie.

PAFT: Chris G attended the launch of the Porirua PAFT programme. Her comments were that it was great.

AUSTRALIAN HOMEBIRTH CONFERENCE: To be held in Hobart, 1 - 3 Nov.
Anyone interested in attending contact Sandra.

WINTERGREEN PELVIC DISCOVERY WORKSHOP. Just a reminder, this workshop is being held Saturday 3rd August. There are still a few places left, again contact Sandra if you're interested.

NZCOMi CONSENSUS STATEMENTS: We have decided to provide practitioners with a copy of these documents. Their aim is "to provide women, midwives and the maternity services with the profession's position on any given situation. The guidelines are designed to educate and support best practice."

Please contact Sue if you would like a set of statements forwarded to you.

Emergency Contraceptive: Unfortunately no representative of the Wellington Region was able to attend a meeting discussing making this an OTC drug. It is discussed in the July 1996 edition of Prescriber Update. It was felt by the Core Group that midwives should have an understanding of this contraceptive and its uses and side effects.

MP's

The NZCOMi Wellington have decided to write to all local MP's. In line with changes that have occurred to section 51 and all the publicity especially from the medical profession it was felt that it was a good time to let MP's know that midwives will not be backing out of care. The theme will be in line with the advert, i.e. we could not say that midwives in Wellington support s51 as many midwives are actually involved with the WIPA negotiations. So it will be that we are a safe option and care will be provided.

MASTERTON

At the moment from what we understand it, GP's have dropped out of maternity care. The independent midwives are unable to pick up this extra work. So there are women here who may not be receiving care.

We are hoping to receive an update at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 13TH AUGUST @ 7.30 PM.

VENUE: PARAPARAUMU, Go to maternity unit, Instructions from there.

TOPIC: Review of infant resus (hopefully) and update on midwifery in Paraparaumu.



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