



New Zealand
College of Midwives
WELLINGTON REGION

PO Box 9600
Wellington

REGIONAL REPORT TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE FROM WELLINGTON
AUGUST 1996

Despite the frenetic activity of the past three months there does not seem to be a lot to report at National Committee level.

The focus of the last three months has definitely been on Section 51 with all its ramifications. Midwives throughout the area have met the new ruling with varied responses. Many midwives in the Wellington region, including the Kapiti Coast, have signed with Matpro. Many of these midwives work in a "share care" capacity with local G.P's. There continues to be concern over some issues in the Section 51 arrangement but it is hoped that these will be ironed out with time. The amount of work and the to-ing and fro-ing which has been the lot of the negotiating team has not gone unnoticed and is greatly appreciated.

It was a pity that Karen and Sally's visit to Wellington was met with such a poor turn out, those who were there found it useful to be able to enquire first hand about the negotiating process, especially the latest turn around of the NZMA.

Wairarapa midwives appear to be in turmoil.

Wellington and Hutt Valley midwives placed a moderately large advertisement into the Dominion and Evening Post newspapers, reassuring women that midwives would and could continue to provide a comprehensive maternity service, free of charge, to the women of the area.

Holding the monthly college meetings at different venues has been reasonably successful. It has certainly meant that midwives from areas such as the Kenepuru, Paraparaumu and Masterton have at least one meeting where they do not have to travel, but the numbers of midwives who make the effort to get to these meetings from Wellington and the Hutt is disappointingly small.

There have been two very successful Paediatric workshops for midwives which were well attended.

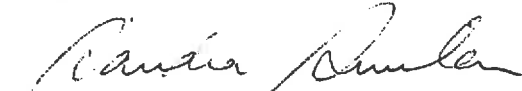
Wintergreen also gave a workshop which gave those midwives present much food for thought. It was a fun and provocative day. A Family Planning workshop is in the pipeline for October.

The Wellington contingent returned from Oslo with lights in

their eyes. They haven't stopped talking yet, and have shared their experience with other midwives. I have not yet seen the wonderful and apparently awesome "baby crawling up mother to breast" video, but I hope to soon.

Those of us going to the conference are already packing.

Regional Co-ordinator,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sandra Sinclair', written in dark ink.

Sandra Sinclair.