



Dear MIDIRS Member

WELCOME TO AN EXCITING INITIATIVE IN MIDWIFERY

In order to respond quickly and effectively to the challenges that face us, to contribute to obstetric debate, and to make childbirth a positive and growing experience for women, midwives need to be aware of the many different schools of thought on all issues. I believe that the future of midwifery and childbirth depends on how well we analyse developments and on how creatively we initiate our own.

Most professions are provided with a digest or abstracting service of relevant information because there is simply more material available than is possible for any one individual to read. MIDIRS aims to fill this role for midwives.

As midwives, we need to improve our knowledge and clinical skills all the time. To do this we must know what is happening in midwifery and obstetrics both in this country and abroad. What is happening to midwives in the UK is also happening in other parts of the world. Through an international exchange of information we will be better able to develop midwifery.

MIDIRS will bring you up to date information on midwifery and obstetric topics. From time to time older material will be included if it is still relevant and possibly missed by midwives in the past. In each pack topical issues will be highlighted. In this first pack, for example, we focus on episiotomy, and caesarean section, as well as giving you lots of clippings and information about the Wendy Savage hearing. We also include a few original articles.

On behalf of the profession throughout the world, I congratulate the MIDIRS staff and volunteers on this new birth in the history of midwifery.

I know it will help midwives to be more aware, more knowledgeable, stronger and more able to influence midwifery for the benefit of families everywhere.

Yours,

Caroline Flint

Caroline Flint
Chairperson, MIDIRS Management Committee,
5th March 1986

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