

Birthing Centre changes

Our Birthing Centre Manager Charm Torraine has retired from this role on 1 April 2012. I would like to recognise the tremendous contribution Charm has made to the establishment and growth of this important community facility that is now widely acclaimed as the best in NZ. Charm has been involved from the start – 22 years ago, and for more than half of that time she has been its Manager. Her inspirational leadership combined with a firm and friendly management style has ensured best practise and top facilities are available to our mothers and our rural community. Charm, a huge thank you from us all. The good news is that Charm will not be leaving us as she continues to manage the Health Trust. Phew!

Michelle Nasey has taken over as our new Manager. She has many years of midwifery experience, up to date qualifications and has in recent years been the Clinical Manager for the Birthing Centre. This broadens her role to both Clinical and general management responsibilities. Congratulations Michelle.



Matt Hampton, President of the Lions Club, presents Charm with a \$5000 fundraising cheque.

Lion's Club fundraising

The successful fundraising by the Helensville Lions Club from its well supported annual event of the Running of the Roses resulted in the handover of a \$5000 cheque for the St John Ambulance ramp. Thank you Matt and your wonderful team who have worked hard for us on this. The new ambulance ramp is operating but awaits the installation of our Jeff Thomson screens which are now well underway.

Defibrillator donated

Doctors Adrian and Maryanne Gane have very generously donated a sophisticated piece of equipment to the Health Trust. The defibrillator is one of the most up to date models available. It is being made available to the Kaipara Medical Centre to house and use. This will provide access to an excellent life support service to our community that otherwise is only available via our emergency services. On behalf of the Helensville community we would like to thank them both for this wonderful donation.

Healthy Helensville

Finally, can I refer you to our website www.helensvillehealth.co.nz for an update on the way forward for our organic and sustainable gardening venture with Peacemakers Trust. There are so many good things happening locally that it is hard to report on it all. Please call Angie our Secretary on 420 7878 if you would like to be added to our database to receive these special updates.

Helensville Women & Family Centre – Children's day out

The Helensville Women & Family Centre hosted their 5th Children's Day Out event on Sunday 4th March 2012. This year we had a great turnout of parents and their children, including extended family members all participating in many forms of interactive play throughout the three hour event. The free play-dough, rock painting, cookie decorating, nail art, arts and crafts, Mainly Music, Zumba and two bouncy castles brought lots of smiles and fun to the children's and adults' faces.

Pauline Mee from the Helensville Art Centre coordinated an art activity using handprints in bright colours which outlined the shape of a butterfly. The art piece is proudly hanging in one of our counselling rooms at the Centre. Our free raffle was also a big hit with a pool of 40 prizes, as well as countless lollipops! For the first time the HWFC had Polaroid cameras which proved popular as children and their families were able to take a photo away with them at no cost. The idea behind this was that they would have a little keepsake to treasure from a fun filled day.

The team at the HWFC extend a



Mihi Te Aroha Kapea of Helensville after painting a butterfly. She won the prize for the dressed girl.

big thank you of appreciation to local businesses, community organisations, preschools, schools and families who supported the event this year, and we look forward to seeing you all again next year.

The Helensville Woman and Family Centre Trust have a vacancy on their Trust Board. If you are interested in being involved in your community and would like to volunteer to be part of this long established Trust then please send a letter expressing your interest to Angie at awright@helensvillehealth.co.nz. We look forward to hearing from you.