

## **Lets celebrate the Homebirth Midwife**

by Andrea Herrick

When we have our babies at home, we don't just settle for any old midwife, we turn to the best of them all; the home birth midwife. Home birth midwives are a rare and special breed, related too yet different from the standard.

In addition to the skills of the basic midwife, the homebirth midwife has evolved in such a way as to develop a new range of behaviours perfectly suited to the home and family environment.

Homebirth midwives are fully housetrained and able to be welcomed into any home regardless of its size and condition. This removes the need for pregnant women to travel to far flung places and visits become social occasions sometimes complete with tea and baking. As homebirth midwives are also child friendly, you can be assured that any older children in your family will be quite safe and free to share your special time with you.

The homebirth midwife has excellent flexibility and is able to adapt with ease to any wish, whim, need, aversion, fancy, desire or obsession that arises before, during and after birth. No conveyor belt birthing here! Be it water birth, lotus birth, homeopathy, aromatherapy, massage, scan, no scan, cord clamp, cord ties, silence, singing, moaning or mooing, the homebirth midwife's aim is to fit into your family, and support you to have the birth you want.

Birth only happens a few times in our lives. When we choose to birth at home with our family and friends we need midwives who are confident in our ability to give birth and in their ability to give us the support we need.

In the jungle of life there are many midwives, but only a few Homebirth Midwives. Midwives day is the perfect time for us to show our gratitude to those women who support and celebrate our choice to birth at home.