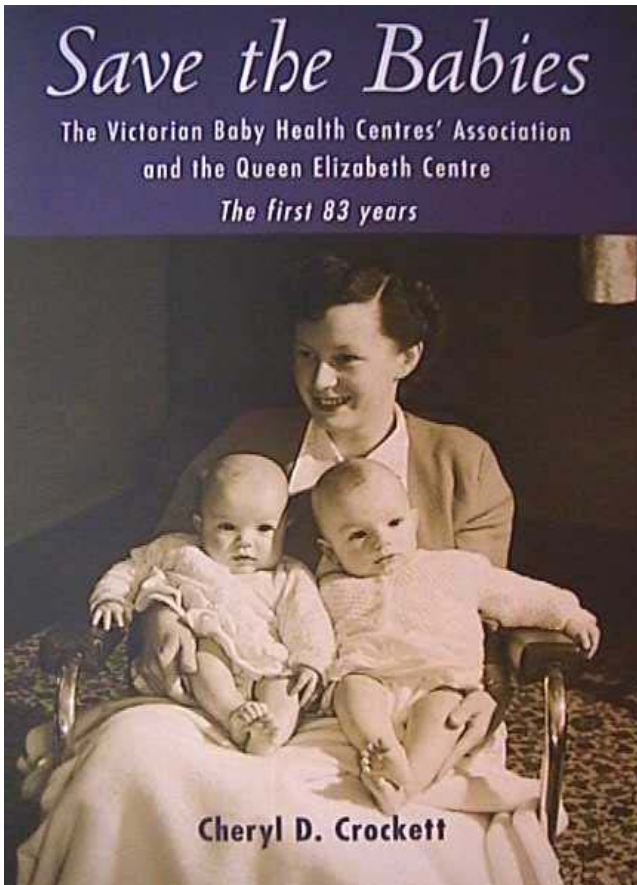


Save The Babies

The Victorian Baby Health Centres' Association
and The Queen Elizabeth Centre -The first 83 years



Save the Babies' – a catchcry that in 1917 accompanied the first tentative steps of the infant welfare movement in Victoria and inspired a new branch of nursing that was to reach out to every child in the State.

The difficulties surrounding motherhood at the time were not fully understood. Mothers struggled unaided against a burgeoning infant mortality rate.

Help was at hand, however, from a small and enthusiastic voluntary band of women who were dismayed by the high loss of infant life. This group decided to take matters into their own hands. The result was the birth of the Victorian Baby Health Centres' Association.

Cheryl Crockett traces the fascinating journey of the Association, its struggles during depression and war, through many setbacks and triumphs. The Association and its Hospital for Mothers and Babies & Infant Welfare Training School continued to be vibrant and innovative, training generations of nurses to care for young families. Always at the heart of

their work was the goal of 'keeping the well baby well'.

Today, The Queen Elizabeth Centre incorporates the ideals of its parent Association. In its new setting at Noble Park, QEC works with the modern family, addressing contemporary family concerns.



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