



ANGEL NEWS

August 2007

Better Health in a Holistic Way

Everything has come together like it was meant to be for Robin's business Zheng Qi Acupuncture. Years of training, a passion for her work and a warm personality meant Robin was ready and excited to be taking this step into full time business. Robin's holistic health venture offers acupuncture and flower essence therapies.

For the past four years Robin has been studying at the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Christchurch. Before that she had spent years training and practising as a counsellor, worked in the drug and alcohol field and earlier still trained and worked in general and obstetric nursing.

Robin applied for, and was successful in receiving an Enterprise Allowance to support her business in its early stages. She came to the Angel Fund for a loan for a heat lamp and health reference books. "The lamp is great" said Robin, "It's often used 3-4 times a day – great for post childbirth care warming back and belly."

When she was in her twenties Robin had to deal with her own personal health issues and whilst in Australia came in contact with, and became interested in, alternative medicine and acupuncture which she found to be effective. She had



started researching flower essences and their uses in the healing process. Robin was travelling at the time and so couldn't commit to training to fully explore her interest in this area.

Robin returned to New Zealand and is now settled in Lyttelton with her partner and children. She decided it was now "time to do something for me and the family" and she began her training in Traditional Chinese Medicine.

While completing the training Robin has been able to work out of the student clinic and with other practitioners. Robin has found her practice has built up with people referring other people.

The work is always interesting. "Each person who walks in the door is an enigma". With holistic medicine, people will likely have to come several times maybe over two to three months. Robin said that the best feedback is having people completing their treatment. "I've only had one person come once only and not want to continue, and that was because they left the South Island." People can come to Robin at the same time as they are receiving other treatments. "It is hard working with conditions like cancer where there is a lot of fear and the intervention (like chemotherapy) is traumatic."

"Being a mother and being in business is

a challenge” says Robin. Robin works some days at the clinic and some days from home. “You can end up working a nine hour day and you need to remember to schedule in breaks.”

Robin says “It all starts with your vision. You need to be clear how you want your personal life to go.” With a view of the estuary and the sun streaming into the clinic room that she shares with another health practitioner, Robin surely has the perfect location to promote good health and healing. Contact Robin at robin.kerr@zhengqi.co.nz.

A WAHM

Maria introduced me to this expression when I asked her to help me write something about starting out in network marketing - “it’s a new category - a Working At Home Mum”.

Maria didn’t want to put her child in care right away but needed to generate some income while at home. “I went looking on the internet and came up with home sales. I’m passionate about organics and related things like working towards zero waste and so when I found this product I thought it was perfect for me”. As a network takes time to build, Maria’s strategy is to develop several other different sources of income which taken together can provide a living.

Maria has a website www.nature2u.mionegroup.com where people can order products and she is also going to be looking at different ways to find customers interested in the organic products. In future newsletters Maria is happy to pass on what she has learnt and what has worked for her.

How to contact Koa at Angel Fund:
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Another WAHM

Aleesha also has a small child. She has recently completed a Diploma in Beauty Therapy and like Maria can see the benefits of working from home. Aleesha used her loan to get some equipment for



her home beauty business “Quafyour”. Initially the business will be small but Aleesha plans to do further training in Nail Techniques, so that in the future, she is well placed to grow her business income. If you live in Shirley and want to treat yourself to a

facial, manicure or pedicure, contact Aleesha at aleesha_green@hotmail.com.

Music Release

Congratulations to Vanissa who released her EP - 'Journey to Soul' at the Harbour Light in Lyttleton on Queens Birthday weekend.

Savings Scheme Extension

The first personal loans have been made to Angels who have made regular savings.

We still have money to lend

to women on low incomes for small business, education, transition to work.

The Angel Fund gratefully acknowledges the support of:

The Canterbury Community Trust,
COGS, Lion Foundation, Dove Trust,
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