SUNRSE

Over the Drakensberg

I really wonder why I do obstetrics when the mothers are in labour; is it going to come out or isn't it? And when it does, I wonder why I don't do more.

This morning at 4.30 am it was a baby girl. I've never attended a normal vaginal delivery, everyone is unique: so this morning's was another unique vaginal delivery.

Everyone tired, relieved and excited all at once.

As I drove out of the hospital gates the most perfect sunrise was lighting up the Drakensberg, a salmon pink colour.

What a wonderful start to the day.

By Chris Ellis

Note: This poem is reprinted from Ruminations from Rural Practice, by Chris Ellis, with illustrations by Louis Hiemstra. Published by Academy Publications, 1994. For your copy please post a cheque for R50.00 made out to S A Family Practice, to: P O Box 3172, Cramerview, 2060

