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Twin babies brighten New Year

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adding, "he just slipped out" and was lying on her abdomen when paramedics arrived.

She said there was no time to panic because they had to "focus on the task at hand," and credits her husband for calmly calling for help and caring for their daughter while she gave birth on the floor.

"The paramedics were there so quickly there was no time for me to worry or panic, because the help was right there."

Although policy calls for crews to stay put when a woman is in labour, paramedics said it became evident the second baby was not going to born soon, so the mother and baby were transferred, in separate ambulances, to hospital in Georgetown, and then Brampton, where Henry was born almost three hours later.

Dad Tom Burt, an environmental engineer and owner of Acton-based TankTek Environmental Services Ltd., said Owen "just popped out," adding things had been "pretty calm" until the baby actually arrived.

"He let out a little cry and Sylvie was doing quite well and luckily the paramedics — six of them — were right at the door. It was a good thing happened so fast — we didn't have time to panic," Burt said.

The story of twins' birth was too much for one grandparent to believe, at first.

"I had to pass the phone over to put my wife before my mum would believe what had happened," Burt said.



PARAMEDIC ASSIST: Joe D'Etienne, left, and David Extance were among six paramedics who assist Sylvie Gagne in the birth of twin boys on Sunday. When they arrived at the Knox Ave. home the first twin had been born in the laundry room. D'Etienne is from Cambridge while Extance comes from Beamsville.



DOUBLE HAPPINESS: Twin boys Owen and Henry arrived before their January 21 due date and Henry's the heavyweight at 7 pounds, 2 ounces. First born Owen weighed in at 4 pounds, 14 ounces. — Ted Tyler photo.

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