

# Rural Wrap-Up #11

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\*\* Rural Wrap-Up #11

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\*\* Members Advisory • 3 April 2024

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I hope you all had a lovely Easter.

I'm excited to share that we have opened applications for our new Associate Board Member role.

The role is designed to develop the next generation of rural leaders and support the movement for more women on Boards generally. As an organisation, it also supports our succession planning and helps us achieve a broader balance of skills and diversity.

The position is aimed at candidates who do not have Board-level experience but could succeed in leadership and governance roles if given the opportunity to prove themselves.

The role is appointed, not elected by RWNZ members, and does not hold voting rights. However, the successful candidate will play a full role in Board and Committee meetings, helping to shape strategic planning and decision-making for the organisation.

The successful candidate will be appointed for a one-year term. While the role is not remunerated, they will be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

More information on the role responsibilities, personal attributes, time commitments and desired knowledge and experience is available on the Rural

Women NZ website by clicking this link.

(<https://www.ruralwomennz.nz/associate-board-role>)

Applications close at 5pm on 10 May.

The successful candidate is expected to be announced in mid-June, ahead of starting on the Board at the beginning of July.

\*\* New look member zone

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I'm also excited to share that we have made some improvements to the member zone of our website where you can find member-only content and resources.

Check it out by clicking this link.

(<https://ruralwomen.gecco.co.nz/rwnzmemberszone/>)

We've also had queries from regions about how best to share these Rural Wrap-Ups with members who do not have or use email. To aid with this, we have added plain text versions of these Rural Wrap-Ups in the member zone 'news' section for regional and branch leaders to print and distribute.

\*\* Last chance to complete 2024 Communication Survey

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Today is your last chance to complete our 2024 Communications Survey. The survey helps us continuously improve how National Office communicates with you.

The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. Please note that a hard copy will be sent to members who do not receive email communications with the Express Magazine mailout in April. You can take the survey by clicking this link. (<https://ruralwomennz.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cd2e8501ce39fd2252af611e6&id=493d877a4e&e=cf71d60398>)

Ngā mihi

Gabrielle O'Brien and the National Office team (Janet, Felicity, Lisa and Mia)

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\*\* Government advocacy update  
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\*\* Submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement (GPS) on land transport  
2024  
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We have lodged our submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement on land transport.

The statement is the Government's strategy for investing in the land transport system and focusses on achieving four key strategic priorities: economic growth and productivity; increased maintenance and resilience; safety; and value for money.

Our submission agrees with the strategic priorities set out in the GPS but reminds Government that rural New Zealanders and the primary sector are significant contributors to economic growth and productivity.

As a result, we advocate that local and rural roads need to be invested in to ensure they are fit for purpose and maintained to a reliable standard due to their importance in connecting communities and businesses to key routes.

Our submission also notes the importance of ensuring resilience of the roading network as rural roads and bridges (on state highways and local roads) are in most instances critical lifelines connecting rural communities with each other and with the rest of New Zealand. You can read the draft GPS by clicking this link. (<https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/government-policy-statement-on-land-transport-2024/>)

You can find a copy of our submission on our website by clicking this link. (<https://www.ruralwomennz.nz/advocacy>)

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\*\* Funds and Grants  
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\*\* Applications closing soon for two RWNZ community grant programmes

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Applications close at the end of April for two of our grant programmes.

The Scotlands Te Kiteroa Charitable Grant of up to \$1500 aims to assist rural individuals, groups and organisations for projects and activities in the areas of children, care, elderly, community, conservation, counselling and education. You can find more information and download the application form by clicking this link. (<https://www.ruralwomennz.nz/our-funds-and-grants/blog-post-title-one-k9dzg-xf6zj-5nec2>)

The second is the Cynthia Collier Grant. This grant of \$5000 is intended to support projects and activities focussed on children, the elderly, community, conservation, counselling and education. It is made possible thanks to the generosity of the family of Cynthia Collier. Cynthia grew up in rural New Zealand, firstly as a child in the Rangitikei/Manawatu Area and spent her adult life on Wakarua Station near Taihape. Cynthia was a passionate supporter of her community and the work of Rural Women New Zealand. You can find more information and download the application form by clicking this link. (<https://www.ruralwomennz.nz/our-funds-and-grants/blog-post-title-one-k9dzg-xf6zj-5nec2-fwrj9>)

\*\* News

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Take part in Cinta Insights Autumn Omnibus

Our friends at Cinta Insights are looking for members to take part in their Autumn Omnibus questionnaire. It will involve 5 closed questions, as well as demographics (age, gender, farm, farm size and region). If you are interested in taking part, please email [george@cinta.co.nz](mailto:george@cinta.co.nz). (<mailto:george@cinta.co.nz?subject=&body=>)

\*\* Regional Spotlight: Region 3 Conference (Top of the South) in Golden Bay

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Top of the South (Region 3) recently held their annual conference in Golden Bay. The conference resulted in an article in Stuff featuring the work of two

members Donna Wells and Jenny Cooper. You can read the article by clicking this link. (<https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350220216/women-speakers-share-their-industry-perspectives>)

\*\* DORA visits Gore!

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The Otago Daily Times recently ran an article about DORA, the old bus converted into a mobile learning centre visiting Gore to help people access their health records online, as well as offering general digital technology help.

Rural Women is a partner to get the bus to visit 13 locations in Southland.

You can read the article by clicking this link.  
(<https://www.odt.co.nz/southland/the-ensign/visit-offers-online-assistance>)

\*\* Castle Downs (Dipton) Wetlands restoration project

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The Rural Women Castle Downs Wetlands project team had a productive day in mid-March.

The day trip involved planting 24 trees, cutting weeds and trapping, with a haul of one hedgehog, one possum, one ferret, one rat, one mouse and three possum traps sprung!

The next visit is scheduled for Sunday 21 April with planting and spraying planned. If you are interested in taking part, please contact [ann.irving@outlook.co.nz](mailto:ann.irving@outlook.co.nz) (<mailto:ann.irving@outlook.co.nz?subject=&body=>)

\*\* Upcoming Events

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\*\* Register now for April's Triple F Challenge in Cromwell

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Registrations close on 12 April for the Triple F Challenge in Cromwell taking

place on 26 and 27 April.

Triple F stands for Fun, Fitness and Friendship and provides our members with a great chance to connect with each other.

You can check out the programme information sheet here.

(<https://www.ruralwomennz.nz/events/triple-f>)

Register ([https://mcusercontent.com/cd2e8501ce39fd2252af611e6/files/1fa3f684-13a9-eeed-d826-fcf538e0fb2e/3.0\\_Rego\\_form.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/cd2e8501ce39fd2252af611e6/files/1fa3f684-13a9-eeed-d826-fcf538e0fb2e/3.0_Rego_form.pdf))

\*\* ACWW Women Walk the World

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29 April marks ACWW Women Walk the World Day. The international day is designed to celebrate ACWW's international network and raise awareness and funds for their work.

You can find information and resources on the ACWW website by clicking the button below.

Find out more (<https://acww.org.uk/fundraise-for-acww>)

\*\* ACWW South Pacific Area Conference

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The Associated Country Women of the World, which RWNZ is affiliated to, is holding its South Pacific Area Conference in Griffith, Australia on 9-12 September.

Our President Gill Naylor will be attending and would love to have company from other members with an interest in ACWW!

You can find out more information about the conference and register your attendance by clicking the button below.

More information (<https://acww.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6b21bce6f6526dbf7583fb2aa&id=07930b556d&e=0d74fde763>)

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