

Meet our Connectors

Last month we were delighted to welcome our two Connectors to Rural Women New Zealand. These two freelance roles provide additional resources for our regional groups including marketing and communication support. They both have a wonderful range of skills and expertise to offer and are looking forward to helping spread the word about Rural Women New Zealand and all that we do.

Kylie Bensemenn



North Island Connector

Kia ora!

I'm Kylie, a communications professional and social media expert with a background in sales and business studies. Experienced in leading teams; developing, implementing and driving successful campaigns and telling great stories that celebrate and engage community.

I work as a volunteer of a number of projects in the community each year, most recently I am supporting our local school with their events marketing and the local surf club with their media relations, junior surf leadership and supporting Tararua Search & Rescue with comms support.

I'm currently studying He Papa Tikanga remotely so I can gain a deeper insight into the Māori worldview and learn about Māori traditions, concepts, values and protocols. I strongly believe in ethical content and making decisions based on values - it is always about the people and the culture.

“He aha te mea nui o te ao, he tangata, he tangata, he tangata.”

What is the most important thing in the world, it is the people, the people, the people.”



Marianne Korten



South Island Connector

Kia ora koutou,

My name is Marianne Korten and I am RWNZ's South Island Connector.

I have lived in Oamaru in North Otago since 2018 together with my partner after we left Australia in 2017. Although I am Dutch originally, I have always worked for international, Australian and New Zealand organisations throughout my career, also in big cities but I feel more at home in rural communities where my roots are.

My background is in marketing, communications and membership primarily for nonprofits in health, education, conferences and community development sectors. Many of my contracts were new roles that I helped shape while working from home.

In my free time I love reading, exploring beautiful Aotearoa and kayaking.

I am looking forward to supporting the activities of RWNZ's national and regional teams and the volunteers of this invaluable organisation together with my North Island counterpart.





Editorial



Kia ora koutou

I hope you have all had a chance to enjoy the summer and are appreciating the beginning of Autumn. The leaves are just starting to get a hint of colour here in Central Otago, with a promise of so much more to come!

With Omicron now well and truly among us, I trust that you are keeping in touch with family, friends and neighbours to offer support if they find themselves having to isolate, or ask for help yourselves if you are in the same situation. It's times like these that our local networks can become invaluable.

What a busy start to the year we have had. Let's start with congratulations to Gloria McHutchon and Irene Mosley on being awarded Queen's Service Medals in the New Year's Honours list – both awards are richly deserved.

It's great to have Sandra Matthews on the Board, she will be a real asset to the team and organisation in her role as National Chair.

Our Regional Leaders and their teams continue to work to promote RWNZ and support their communities through difficult times. The online auction being brought to us by the Waikato team on 3 April, and Triple F Challenge coming up at the end of April in Te Anau are two major events that will promote RWNZ while supporting others. The support for flood victims around the country which

has continued over recent months is another great example of RWNZ Members supporting their communities. Our sincere thanks to Members involved with those efforts.

We have clusters of new Members in the Murchison and Manawātū areas which is very exciting. Keep up the good work in recruiting and spreading the word!!

The Black Heels and Tractor Wheels podcasts continue to build presence and raise the RWNZ profile. These thought provoking interviews are so worth listening to as there are gems in each and every one.

We have also completed the grant process for the Scotlands Te Kiteroa and various Education Bursary funding rounds recently.

On an international front, thank you to everyone who donated to the Tongan Relief Fund which has now been forwarded to ACWW South Pacific Area for distribution. RWNZ is again participating in the United Nations CSW66 virtual platform. RWNZ will have taken part in an ACWW run event by the time you receive this Express.

Our policy work continues across many focus areas and we have received great media pick up on technology issues.

As you can see, there is plenty happening here at Rural Women New Zealand, so there is plenty to read about in this first edition of the Express Magazine for 2022.

Take care, ka kite ano,

Gill

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Dates for the Diary

Friday, 29 April / Saturday, 30 April / Sunday, 1 May: Triple F Challenge, Te Anau

Friday, 29 April: ACWW Women Walk the World Day

Tuesday, 14 and Wednesday, 15 June: Rural Connectivity Symposium, Hamilton

Tuesday, 14 and Wednesday, 15 June: Region 3 Conference and AGM, Murchison

Friday, 17 - Sunday, 19 June: Region 4 Conference and AGM, Martinborough

Tuesday, 21 and Wednesday, 22 June: E Tipu 2022 - the Boma Agri Summit, Christchurch and Virtual

Tuesday, 28 and Wednesday, 29 June: Region 1 Conference, Mosgiel

Wednesday, 6 and Thursday, 7 July: Primary Industries Summit and Awards, Auckland

Wednesday, 27 July: Region 2 Conference and AGM, Ashburton

Friday, 18 November: RWNZ Annual General Meeting and NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards, Wellington



E TIPU

Set for 21-22 June in Ōtautahi Christchurch, E Tipu 2022: The Boma Agri Summit features two days of talks from global and local leaders in food and fibre, plus interactive workshops, expert panels and special Q&As, innovative exhibits, valuable cross-sector networking and more.

Designed for changemakers from across the food and fibre sector, the summit tackles major questions around how we can be more innovative, collaborative, sustainable and profitable — now and into the future.

E Tipu 2022 is a truly hybrid event — offering an in-person summit at Christchurch Town Hall and a virtual experience for attendees from around the world.

In-Person and Virtual Early Bird tickets are on sale at etipu.boma.global, with special rates available for farmers, not-for-profits, start-ups, groups and youth.



Welcome to New Members

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Rosie Fell | Heike Lorenz | Becky Nicholson | Yvonne van Baarle |
| Juliette Allen | Nora Eason | Karen Walker | Andrea Brown |
| Janella Munns | Maree Crowley | Ariana Mere Kotahi | Laura Shaw |
| Anna Martyn | Kate Steadman | Walker | Eleanor Linscott |
| Rae Newth | Sue Verhaegh | Mary Archer | Lauren Parsons |
| Kathryn Pickett | Katrina Stephenson | Lynley Hayes | Wendy McPhail |
| Jenny Benoit | Debbie Pritchard-Jones | Michelle Pye | Angela Johnston |
| Toni Sullivan | Celia Devenish | Genevieve Steven | Lee Astridge |
| Kay Pridmore | Amy Grundy | Bridget Joicey | Kim Sluys |
| Paula Siddle | Bridgette Haldane | Di Roadley | Sara Field |
| Cushla Murphy | Eileen McWilliam | Deborah Rhodes | Maggie Stewart |
| Elizabeth Hill | Victoria Butterick | Leigh-Anne Peake | Johanna Scott |
| Sophia Clark | Jan Scherp | Jeannie Scott | Kelly Lewis |
| Sara Murray | Elizabeth Mamanu | Diane Milne | Alison Le Heux |



National Office Report

As daylight saving ends and the autumn colours emerge, it seems a lot longer than three months ago that we were all taking a well-earned rest and enjoying some long summer evenings. The National Office Team started the year hopeful of less disruption but also well prepared for ongoing change and well-practised in resetting when plans have had to change. That's been fortunate given the dynamic situation during the Omicron outbreak. We continue to adapt with the team currently working in two bubbles between the office and home to minimize the impact of COVID related disruption.

As always the first quarter of the year has been a busy one. Our online remits session was the first one in the history of the organisation and it was great to see that online approaches can work when we need them for these important discussions.

We have also been supporting the Scotlands Te Kiteroa Grant and the RWNZ Bursary Committees who had difficult decisions to make with significant interest in these grants and a high volume of applications.

This quarter also saw the recruitment and appointment, and now induction, of our two Connectors who started with us in mid-March. They are enjoying learning about our organisation and have hit the ground running providing support to Region 6 Greater Waikato and Region 1 for events planned in April.

In addition, we have worked to support the Board in preparing for the roll out of the Contestable Fund initiative and in its Strategic Planning work.

Progress on our policy focus areas has continued over this time with active involvement in the creation of the Women's Employment Action Plan, ongoing participation in several important groups including the collective of organisations focussed on rural health (RHAANZ), the nation-wide social inclusion work where we are represented by Board Member, Sharron Davies-Martin and the Rural Crime Prevention Partnership.

We also endeavour to keep Members up to date with opportunities to learn about proposed legislative or regulatory changes. By the time you read this Express, we

will have had our webinar with Taumata Arowai, the new water regulator, and will also be in the midst of consultation regarding the proposed changes regarding Afforestation.

One of the highlights of the past few months has been seeing the growth in interest in our "Black Heels and Tractor Wheels" podcast. We were delighted to receive this feedback from one listener.

"Coming across your podcast has been so refreshing to listen to while I've been in the tractor seat for hours on end. A good variety of women that are inspiring, honest and driven."

If you haven't had the chance to listen – take a moment to do so, we think you will agree!

Notes from the Board

Kia ora koutou katoa

It is a pleasure to write this first update as your National Board Chair. It was great to meet some Members online during the remits session in March. Running the remits online was not only a first for me but also a first for the organisation, and it was pleasing to see the level of interaction and involvement from those attending. The results of the remit session are included with this Express.

Your Board has hit the ground running in 2022 with significant work now completed on a refocused strategic plan. We introduced this to the Regional Leadership Team last week and will be sharing more information with Members on our strategic focus over the coming weeks.

Finally, thank you to Members who have taken the time to contact me and introduce themselves. I have been warmly welcomed by the Board, staff and Members and look forward to meeting more of you over the coming year.

Ngā mihi,
Sandra

Contestable Fund

At the AGM held in November, the Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) Board announced the creation of the Contestable Fund totalling \$90,000 to be dispersed over a three-year period.

The purpose of this Fund is to fulfil RWNZ's strategic intent of strengthening, supporting and connecting people and communities by encouraging and supporting initiatives and projects that will grow RWNZ's membership.

The fund is intended to support Members who wish to undertake new projects and initiatives that offer positive experiences for current and potential Members of RWNZ and build the profile of RWNZ as a vibrant, relevant progressive organisation.

Applications can be made by a Member; a Branch or Group; a Provincial or a Region. The Leadership team of the relevant Region will be part of the discussions and consultation regarding the application.

As part of the application process, applicants will be asked to provide details of their project including a project plan and their goals for the project.

Applications to the fund open on 19 April (post Easter). The application form which includes the criteria and supporting documentation will be available on the Members only section of the RWNZ website or on request from the National Office from that date.

Applications will be considered when received and contact will be made with the applicant to discuss the timeframe for a response.

We look forward to receiving applications with a range of wonderful ideas.

Grants & Bursaries

The Scotlands Te Kiteroa Grant Committee took great delight in awarding grants to the following organisations in the 2021 round of funding:

- Whakipiti Youth Trust - youth services and programmes (Region One)
- Children 1st Charitable Trust - resilience programmes for children (Region Six Greater Waikato)
- Kids in Need - care packs for foster children (Region Six Greater Waikato)
- Matatoki School - sensory garden for neuro-diverse children (Region Five)
- Life Education Trust - 'magical mobile classroom' support (Region Seven)
- Parentline - fuel vouchers to enable programme participation (Region Four)
- Te Whakaora Tangata - Family Restoration course graduation (Region Seven)
- West Coast Penguin Trust - Education Ranger funding (Region Three)
- Central Kids Kindergarten - purchase of fridge for school lunches (Region Five).

The RWNZ Bursary Committee had a very busy time working through the large number of applications received for the 1 March round of bursaries. The following grants have been awarded to some very deserving recipients:

- Diamond Jubilee Agricultural Bursary - Emma Noble-Campbell (Region Six Greater Waikato)
- Education Fund - Lisa Butcher (Region Three)
- Tertiary Bursary - Chloe Beazley (Region Seven), and Henry Bartrum (Region Two)
- Textbook Resource Grants - Sara Edzes (Region Two), Eden Florence (Region Five), Talmage Lawrence (Region One), Keighley Fielding-Woodmass (Region Four) and Brooke Flower (Region Four).

Upcoming bursaries open for applications are the Education Fund and the Miss Harris Tertiary Nursing Bursary, both of which close on 1 July 2022.





NZI RURAL WOMEN BUSINESS AWARDS

Promoting resilience and economic diversity in our rural communities by supporting and promoting entrepreneurial rural women has been part of RWNZ's work since 1925. We are pleased to be able to encourage and celebrate women who own and operate rural businesses through two projects this year.

NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards 2022

Undoubtedly, one of the highlights of our calendar is the annual NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards. The bar has been set very high for this year's Awards following the record number and the incredible calibre of the entries in 2021.

And that's before we even get to the Awards Ceremony. Last year's Covid-19 impacted event was a huge success with three regional ceremonies linked together by livestream.

This year's Awards will launch in April and this is our first call for entrants for 2022. If you know a remarkable rural businesswoman who deserves to be recognised for her achievements and sheer hard work in reaching for her goals, then tell her about the NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards. For more information, please don't hesitate to contact Lisa at the National Office on 0800 256 467 or by email at lisa.thompson@ruralwomennz.nz



Do you know a rural woman with a fantastic business idea and we can help turn that great idea into reality?

Rural Women New Zealand and the Ministry of Primary Industries are pleased to announce the return of our Activator programme. Activator offers the opportunity for rurally-based women to have an intensive, mentor-led session on how to bring their brilliant entrepreneurial ideas to fruition and is designed to help budding entrepreneurs, innovators and their businesses. Participants will have the opportunity to pitch what they are working on to our fantastic panel of experts who will provide them with focussed feedback and support to take the next steps on their entrepreneurial journey.

The upheaval of the last year has seen an unprecedented number of rural women follow their entrepreneurial dreams. Are you, or is someone you know, ready to take the next step and are not quite sure how? Or perhaps you are ready to scale up your business and need some advice? Or maybe you want some ideas on how to overcome something that is holding you back...

Then Activator can help.

This is our first call for entrepreneurs to take part in this year's Activator programme. Places are limited for this year's sessions. Please contact Lisa at Rural Women NZ to find out more on 0800 256 467 or lisa.thompson@ruralwomennz.nz

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

Following requests from Members regarding how we can support Ukraine, we contacted ACWW to seek understanding of the best way to support rural women in Ukraine. It is a very difficult situation, as ACWW has no mandate or practical ability to do emergency aid work.

ACWW has issued a statement and is approaching the crisis in the ways they are able. Here is further comment about this from Nick Newland, Policy and Communication Manager for ACWW.

ACWW has been lobbying for action with the UK government and at the UN.

The frustration and concern in only being able to offer a statement is palpable and no one feels that statements are enough, however they are what ACWW has within its power to offer.

At the United Nations, there are moves under way to challenge the Russian Federation's right to sit on the Security Council, and thus hold a veto vote in deliberations. Whilst it has always been widely understood that the Russian Federation inherited the seat on the SC from the USSR, this was never formally codified and therefore there is nothing in the UN Charter that provides the Russian Federation with a seat on the Security Council. This move, if successful, would have significant impact on the situation:

- Russia would no longer be able to veto decisions at the Security Council including decisions regarding deployment of peacekeepers or other initiatives.
- Removing Russia from other mechanisms, such as the Human Rights Council, requires a motion from the Security Council to the General Assembly – if Russia cannot veto this at the SC then there is a greater chance of such a motion making it to the GA.
- It would be a massive loss of status, and have long-lasting implications for President Putin's regime.

There are also significant pressures being applied in diplomatic circles to isolate Russia from human rights mechanisms such as the Commission on the Status of Women, as it is blocking civil society access. This would potentially have long-lasting positive implications; if Russia is unable to block progress and unable to add regressive language into human rights (and specifically women's rights) processes at the UN, then those treaties become stronger and have greater potential for legal enforcement (depending on the status of the treaty).

This might sound like a lot of talk and not much action, however it can and will have an impact on both the Russian government and hopefully a positive one on the peoples of both Russia and Ukraine. In October 2021, I met with the Russian Minister for Rural Affairs (along with ACWW Executive Director Tish Collins, and World President Magdie de Kock). I asked him whether he participated in the production of reports for CEDAW (the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women), as Article 14 is centred on the rights of rural women. His response was a simple "no". Having challenged him on the implications of this, ACWW was also then able to inform our members in Russia who started to pursue this through their own legal channels. It is not a fast process, and it is not comprehensive, but ACWW does whatever it is able to do to help its members, and to hold governments to account.

We suggest that members donate to Red Cross, UNICEF and other recognised charities able to provide practical support to those in need in Ukraine.



The Triple F Challenge 2022 Programme

Te Anau: 29 April / 30 April / 1 May 2022

The Triple F Challenge 2022 carries on a proud heritage of Triple F events held throughout Region One since 2007. Although each location brings its own flavour to the Triple F Challenge, the three cornerstones remain the same: **Fun, Fitness and Friendship**. A Triple F experience provides a wonderful opportunity for connection while supporting RWNZ's charitable aims.



This year's programme offers a number of fixed events and the opportunity for participants to design their own itinerary to explore beautiful Te Anau and its surroundings. Here's how it will work:

DAY ONE: FRIDAY 29 APRIL 2022

6.00pm: Join us at the Black Dog Bar where platters of nibbles will be supplied and drinks will be available for purchase.

7.00pm: Movie night at Fiordland Cinema (next door to The Black Dog) featuring two short films: Ata Whenua - Shadowland and Deer Wars, approx. 30 min each.

DAY TWO: SATURDAY 30 APRIL 2022

Carpe Diem! Seize the day and create your own adventure from the range of options available during the day before coming together for the evening programme. Please refer to the Day of Choices table to make your selections, then make your reservations directly with the named provider.

Evening Programme

6.30pm: Dinner at the Te Anau Club, Cnr Pop Andrew & Jackson Streets followed by guest speakers:

- **Harriet Bremner** - RWNZ Member, NZI Rural Women NZ Business Award Rural Champion and speaker, author and health and safety advocate on farms
- **Kylie Krippner** - The first New Zealand woman to make it to South Pole on skis and now flies a float plane.

Auction: RealNZ have donated one of their signature 1 day experiences for auction on the night.

DAY THREE: SUNDAY 1 MAY 2022

11.00am: Champagne Brunch at Highlights at the Distinction Luxmore Hotel with guest speakers:

- **Rod Hall Jones** - a chopper pilot who will recall adventures up in the sky and on the high seas
- **Jane Maxwell** - hear about her overseas travels on a bike as borders were closing due to Covid-19 and her work with kea.

Afterwards: Visit Ivon Wilson Park on Lake Henry with its dazzling Autumn colouring and mirror reflections for fabulous photo opportunities

REGISTRATION

Included in the Triple F Challenge Registration Fee of \$125 per person are:

- **Day One:** Friday evening programme;
- **Day Two:** Saturday evening programme;
- **Day Three:** Sunday Brunch event.

Extra guests are welcome to join Triple F for the Day Two Evening Programme (\$40pp) and/or the Day Three Champagne Brunch (\$35pp)

Copies of the Triple F Challenge 2022 Programme and Registration Form are available on the RWNZ website or call the National Office for copies to be posted or emailed to you.

ENQUIRIES

If you have any enquiries about the Triple F Challenge Programme, registration, places to stay and eat or any other general enquiries, please don't hesitate to contact one of the Triple F Challenge 2022 Organising Committee:

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021 211 5553
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Save the Date

Given the ongoing uncertainty in our ability to make plans and hold events as we continue to combat COVID-19, the Board and the National Conference Organising Committee have agreed that the postponed 2021 National Conference will not be held in Christchurch this year.

We anticipate holding a conference in 2023 and will keep Members updated as we finalise plans.

As a result, the National Board has decided that this year's Annual General Meeting and NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards will be held in Wellington. The new date for both events will be Friday, 18 November. At the time of writing, the format will be similar to our 2020 gathering with the AGM during the day and the Awards in the evening.

Should COVID-19 foil our plans to meet in person or limit the numbers of people that can meet together, an alternative plan using online or hybrid options will be implemented. We continue to remain nimble and responsive to our changing circumstances.

Please save **Friday, 18 November** in your diaries. More information will be forthcoming as details become available.

Women's Employment Action Plan

As part of our contribution to the Government's Women's Employment Action Plan, RWNZ developed and conducted a Nature of Work survey. We are currently analysing the results and combined with earlier research for the Quality of Life Report and the future workforce survey, we will have a comprehensive report with a list of recommendations for the Government.

One of the recommendations will be that we need further research especially given that rural women, their work and issues impacting them has not been studied since 1989.

Many thanks to those of you who have shared your lived experience with us to inform this work. We will share the report when it is completed.

RWNZ National Board Elections 2022

Pursuant to the Rules and Bylaws of Rural Women New Zealand Incorporated, this is formal notification that elections will be held for the following Board positions this year:

- National President
- National Finance Chair
- North Island Board Representative x 1
- South Island Board Representative x 1

The timetable for the election process will be confirmed at the April Board Meeting.

National Project Update



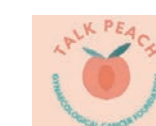
O is for...

Unfortunately, our ongoing response to the pandemic affected a number of events during the year including several that were part of our **O is for National Project**.

As a result, the National Board has extended the end date for **O is for** until the end of June 2022. This gives us time to reschedule those postponed events and ties in nicely with our end of year reporting.

By the time you have received this issue of the Express, Region 6 Greater Waikato will have held its massive online auction held on Sunday, 3 April to raise funds for the **O is for** Project. Congratulations to Bronwyn, Fiona, Liz, the Greater Waikato Area Committee and Board Member Claire Williamson for all your hard work on this.

At the end of last year we have received messages from Jane (**Cure Our Ovarian Cancer**), Tash (**Talk Peach**) and Pauline (**K9MD**) thanking RWNZ for our support throughout 2021. So, put your thinking caps on, and let's bring it home for these three exceptional charities this year.



Remits 2021

Many thanks to those of you who attended the Remit Sessions on Thursday 3 March. Here is an update on how the remits fared. Those that were passed will be included in our public policy work and the Board will consider those which impact the organisation internally. We will update you on progress throughout the year.

Successful remits

Internal Remit 2: United Nations High Level Political Forums

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc. includes relevant UN Economic and Social Committee Statements of Declaration from High Level Political Forums to inform RWNZ's policy position, particularly those that pertain to rural women and girls.

Moved: Fiona Gower / Seconded: Gill Naylor

Amended Internal Remit 3: Rebalancing of Funding to Area Committees

THAT the RWNZ Board gives serious consideration to adopting a mechanism that ensures that all Area Committees receive the same annual amount of funding.

Moved: Bev Sanford / Seconded: Margaret Scrimgeour

External Remit 1: Third Party Insurance

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc. requests that third party insurance becomes mandatory as a part of the registration process of private vehicles.

Moved: Mary McTavish / Seconded: Isabel Weenink

External Remit 2: Decentralisation of Emergency Services

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc urges the Government to de-centralise the emergency services and the emergency services communication system to ensure more streamlined and timely medical outcomes for rural communities.

Moved: Melva Robb / Seconded: Penny Mudford

Amended External Remit 3: Fees on Rural Vehicles Amendment

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc. seeks deferral from the Government of fees on petrol and diesel vehicles for rural and REGIONAL New Zealanders where a practical (to be defined) electric vehicle alternative is not available in New Zealand.

Moved: Rachael Dean / Seconded: Diane Payton

External Remit 4: Immigration Quotas

THAT RWNZ seek urgent action by the Government to significantly extend immigration quotas and associated conditions for skilled workers who are essential to the primary production sector.

Moved: Jo Gravitt / Seconded: Margaret Scrimgeour

External Remit 5: Rural Connectivity

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc seek an urgent review of policies, regulations and the RBI2 programme whereby enabling better and more effective solutions to rural connectivity across rural and regional NZ.

Moved: Leanne Schmidt / Seconded: Diane Payton

External Remit 6: Maternity Services Review

THAT RWNZ requests that the Minister of Health further reviews the conditions of work and funding regulations for maternity services to ensure that women have access to reliable midwife support wherever they live in New Zealand.

Moved: Wendy McGowan / Seconded: Sue Vowell

Late External Remit 7: Improved Visibility for Road Users

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc request that it be made mandatory for all road users (except registered vehicles) to wear high visibility clothing and to use other appropriate apparel or equipment to ensure visibility in all road conditions.

Moved: Carolyn McLellan / Seconded: Barbara McKay

Unsuccessful remits

Internal Remit 1

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc. changes the end of financial year to 31 December, so AGM can be held earlier in the year.

Moved Joyce Wylie / Seconded: Melva Robb

Internal Remit 4: Privacy Information Release Option

THAT Rural Women New Zealand Inc. endorse that there be a drop down tab to give the option of Members details to be shared in their area to all Rural Women Members.

Moved: Marie Appleton / Seconded: Leanne Schmidt

Call for Submissions

Pursuant to RWNZ policy, the RWNZ National Board is calling for the submission of proposed remits which must be sent to the National Office by Monday, 18 July 2022.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

The Terms of Reference for establishing the Centennial Committee were finalised at the Board Meeting held in September 2021. The Board called for Expressions of Interest from RWNZ Members to join the Committee in a Members Advisory on 28 October and in the December Expresso.

The Terms of Reference provide that membership of the Committee will be formed with a representative from each Region, a National Board member and a representative from the National Office team.

It is with much pleasure that we can announce members of the Committee are:

- Pat Macaulay, Region 1
- Bev Bagrie, Region 2
- Emma Higgins, Region 3
- Julie Perkins Region 4
- Bronwyn Main, Region 6 Greater Waikato
- Margaret Vickers, Region 6 Taranaki
- Gill Naylor, Chair and Board representative
- Lisa Thompson, National Office representative

The Archives Project

In December 2021, RWNZ's volunteer Summer Research Scholar Gyle Bascon joined us in the National Office to further the devised work plan for the RWNZ Archives Project. Gyle's study majors in both History and Information Management Systems made her the perfect candidate for this section of the project.

Gyle's main responsibilities involved researching and designing an Information Management System (IMS) which would appraise, organise, document, reference and preserve RWNZ's existing archival materials. The outcome of which would ensure that RWNZ's archives could be accessible to Members for both ongoing and general research purposes and also for the approaching Centennial Celebrations in 2025.

The first steps of this work involved creating multiple, project specific, business process models from which to design a pathway for managing the existing archives. These models were a broad overview of how RWNZ's archival material could be appraised, organised, documented, referenced and searched. Based on these defined models, a clear information management system could be produced.

Gyle then began to research 2 different IMS options: One was a prototype based on pre-existing open source



The Committee will be meeting via Zoom in the upcoming weeks to get on with the business of overseeing planning for epic centennial celebrations for 2025. The substantive role of the Committee is to establish a timeline and milestone dates for consultation with Members and the development and implementation of Centennial projects and events.

The first phase of the Committee's work is seeking your ideas for potential projects, events, commemorations, memorabilia and celebrations for our centennial year. You are warmly encouraged to share your thoughts and ideas for local, regional and national celebrations with the Committee members directly or by calling or emailing Lisa at the National Office. Once the Committee has all your suggestions, it can start to plan out what our centennial year might look like and how we might bring those great ideas to fruition.



software which could be further developed and refined to suit the specific needs of RWNZ. The second option was based on the use of a system utilising Excel spreadsheet software which had a similar template model to that of a discontinued "community Archives" software a resource once available – but no longer - through Archives NZ.

The final step of this phase of the Project involved investigating how RWNZ's archives could be preserved. Gyle investigated various offsite storage facilities for physical items, and identified potential archival software that RWNZ may be able to use in the future.

Control the QUAD roll. Protect what matters most.

Fairlie farmer Andrew Hurst purchased a crush protection device (CPD) for his quad bike more than a decade ago and it's saved him twice from serious injury. Once with a bull that charged his bike whilst chasing his dog in a completely flat paddock, and again when he rolled it in a swamp. "It was like someone pushing firmly on my back with both hands, I look up and here's the bike back on its wheels again." CPDs were deemed a personal choice by Worksafe in 2014, but a thorough review of the research led them to take a firmer stance. Along with Safer Farms and ACC, they now "strongly recommend" the use of professionally designed and manufactured CPDs on the back of quad bikes. CPDs create a gap between the bike and the ground that could aid survival during a roll over. Safer Farms Chairperson Lindy Nelson highlights "if farmers find themselves in a situation they did not intend to be in, roll over protection could make all the difference."

"As a wife, I want to know my husband is going to come back safely. As an employer, I want to know we have done everything we can, practically, to look after the people on our farm."

Lindy Nelson, Safer Farms Chairperson

ACC crush protection device cash back offer now available to farmers.

\$180+GST cash back on up to two devices.



To find out more visit
acc.co.nz/cpdcashback



Country of Study 2022/23

Aotearoa New Zealand - Know your local community

The National Board has decided on a new approach to the Country of Study this year. We will be turning our attention to the wonderful diversity of our beautiful country.

In order to better align this project with our end of year reporting, *Aotearoa New Zealand – Know your local community* will be our Country of Study until June 2023.

This project will also add to our centennial preparations in 2025 by highlighting the changes in our rural communities since our inception in 1925.

RWNZ already does great work in welcoming people and by studying our own backyard, Members will have opportunities to learn more about the different cultures present in our local communities.

Here's how it might work:

Local members could spend time and meet with people from different cultures within their communities and provide opportunities for them to share their culture and what is important to them. This could include language, day to day life, beliefs, customs or food.

Members will be asked to share what they have learned and send information to National Office where these stories and experiences will be drawn together. Regular updates could be published in the Express.

At the conclusion of the project, all information collected could be collated into one document as a national record of the people and cultures who make up our rural communities in the 21st Century.

National Office will be preparing resources to assist Members in this project. Your ideas and contributions are warmly welcomed. Please contact Lisa at National Office to share your ideas.

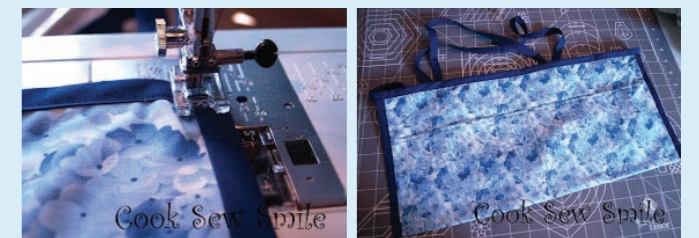
A new idea for crafty Members

For many years, RWNZ Members have made comfort cushions and delivered them to local hospitals for use by women recovering from breast cancer surgery. These cushions have brought relief to women going through dark days in the most practical of ways. This message was sent to us in August 2019 by the recipient of one of the breast comfort cushions:

"Hello there, I've received one of the breast pillows post-mastectomy this week that your organisation has produced and want to thank you for this gift. The physical comfort from this pillow was immediate post-op but the psychological comfort was unexpected. Leaving the hospital with this lovely heart-shaped cushion under my arm and over where my breast had been removed enabled a greater feeling of physical wholeness that enabled me to feel a little less disfigured. Thank you so much for this gift as it has enabled me to feel a little more whole in these initial days. Many thanks to those involved in providing this initiative."

Recently, we received some information from Rachael Dean (Region 4) who is involved with an American organisation called Sweet Marigolds whose members also make breast comfort cushions. Recently, Rachael passed on the details about another product that the Sweet Marigolds make - aprons that can accommodate post mastectomy drains. The apron helps hold the drains in place and decreases pulling on the surgical sites while the patient recovers.

If you would like to know more about drain aprons and read the information on how to make them, you can find out more at: <https://cooksewsmile.blogspot.com/2012/04/leslies-lap-buddy-sew-along.html>



Branch News

KAURU HILL

Members of the Kauru Hill Branch have found a fabulous way to promote RWNZ while they are busy in the kitchen fundraising. These creative women made their own aprons and then branded them with iron-on transfers of the RWNZ logo. We think you'll agree that the results are fabulous.

The ladies wore their newly branded aprons while catering at a wedding in January. Although the wedding had to be downsized due to COVID-19 restrictions, the ladies raised \$400, half of which has been donated to Heartkids Timaru Branch.

Due to the downsizing of the wedding, the ladies at Kauru Hill Branch have some of the iron on transfers left over. Contact Kerry Shields on spinnernz@hotmail.com if you are interested in acquiring them.

Here are some of the team standing behind what we have been assured is the most delicious cake ever.



RWNZ Brooch

Have you seen our stunning RWNZ brooch? It is the perfect gift for your favourite RWNZ Member or a special treat for yourself.

This little beauty draws its inspiration from the RWNZ squiggle logo and is made from sterling silver. It looks

fabulous on a dress, on the lapel of a blazer, on a scarf, even on a beanie.

The cost per brooch is \$120 + delivery and there are only a limited number available. Call National Office and ask for Lisa if you would like to purchase one.



Richly deserved recognition

Two RWNZ Members from Region 1 were recognised for their work in the New Year's Honours list. Gloria McHutchon and Irene Mosley were awarded Queen's Service Medals for services to the community.

Gloria McHutchon

Gloria has been a Vice Chairperson and Chairperson of Moa Flat Branch of Rural Women New Zealand for many years and was presented with Life Membership at the Branch's 90th celebration last year. She has also served as the Chairperson of both the Otago Linking Committee and West Otago Provincial and on the Region One Area Committee. Many of us have been hugely entertained by Gloria's participation in the Tarrant Bell Speech Competition which she has won twice.

Gloria has been a true champion in her service to her rural Tapanui community. In addition to running adult English language classes after noticing the increasing numbers of migrant workers in her region, Gloria belongs to a church group that welcomes and supports these workers by providing supplies of home necessities and baking.

Gloria has been a member of the Heriot Plunket Society for more than 40 years. She has served as Chair and was awarded with a life membership in recognition of her contributions. She is a founding member of Step Sisters Leisure Marching Team and organises the annual Heriot School craft week.



Irene Mosley

Irene Mosley of Mosgiel has also been awarded a Queen's Service Medal for her services to Otago and Southland communities during the past 40 years.

Irene been a Member of RWNZ for over 34 years and has held positions in the Inch Clutha Branch and at a regional level.

Irene has given thousands of voluntary hours as an adviser, project manager and strategic planner to projects across health, church, musical theatre, agriculture, and the wider community.

Irene represented rural families on the Queen Mary maternity services advisory committee from 1993 to 1998 and has been a Shelter Box New Zealand board member, a Chat Bus Otago chairwoman, a Mosgiel Rotary Club director, a life member of both Balclutha Toy Library and the Toy Library Federation of New Zealand, and a major driver of Positively Clutha Women in the 1990s.

These two remarkable women embody Service Simply Give. Congratulations Gloria and Irene on the recognition you both truly deserve.



Rural Women New Zealand would like to thank:

Premier Partner:

Partners:

Supporters:

Tributes

In Memory Of Ailsa Lovett

National Member of Honour,
National Life Member,
Provincial Life Member

6 June 1929 – 18 January
2022 (aged 93 years)

Lynnford Rural Women has sadly lost one of its long serving and most active members, Ailsa Lovett passed away on 18th January 2022 in Ashburton.

Ailsa's links to Rural Women goes way back to 1950 when she first joined the Flemington Branch of Women's Division of Federated Farmers later becoming Vice President in 1954 and a Delegate to the Mid Canterbury Executive in the same year. Whilst at Flemington Ailsa held numerous positions such as Treasurer, Branch Secretary and became President in 1959, representing Flemington at the Dominion Conference in Wellington. Her rapid rise in positions showed her dedication to our local organisation.

Ailsa went on to become Vice President for the Mid Canterbury Provincial in 1973 and was a representative at the Dominion Conference in Tauranga 1974. Her work for Rural Women was tireless. In 1977 Ailsa became the Provincial President followed in 1979 with her election on to the Dominion Council as the South Island Vice President. This was a very proud moment for her and she was awarded Provincial Life Membership in 1982 followed by Dominion National Life Membership in 1987. When the Flemington Branch went into recess Ailsa transferred to the Lynnford Rural Women's Division.

An address from the world president of The Association of Country Women of the World [ACWW] inspired Ailsa to take the aims of this organisation back to her Flemington branch and to dedicate time and effort in helping improve the conditions and life chances for women throughout the world. Ailsa's work with ACWW remained close to her heart taking her around the world to numerous conferences and conventions.

In her later years Ailsa continued to attend as many meetings as possible with the Lynnford Branch often meeting at her Rosebank rest home. Her dedication to the work of the Rural Women NZ was tireless and her knowledge and experience will be greatly missed.



In Memory Of Dorothy (Dot) Taylor

Dot joined WDFP/ RWNZ as a young bride and by the time her twins were toddling around, she was Branch President and often had the boys sat either side of her at the President's table. She became a Branch representative at Franklin Provincial meetings and then was appointed Provincial Treasurer - a position she held for at least 14 years. It was an onerous duty, marshalling at least 10 branches and all their Annual records, balance sheets etc. to go to Head Office in Wellington. At that time we also had an Emergency Housekeeping scheme and Dot assisted the Housekeeping Secretary with PAYE and tax returns.

Dot was a regular delegate at National Conferences and became well known in other Provincials. Dot was honoured with the presentation of Provincial Life Membership in recognition of her work for WDFP. We always enjoyed having Dot at our meetings and even in the last couple of years when she couldn't attend, she was always interested in what was happening. One of our younger members said how much she cherished the memory of Dot joining us in a wheelchair to march in the Suffrage 125 Anniversary Parade. Dot loved that so many she hadn't seen for quite a while came up to say hello. She will be missed.

Words by Marie Appleton, Franklin Districts Branch.

In Memory Of Nyla Chubb

Branch Life Member

Midhirst Branch Life Member, Nyla Chubb, passed away after a period of ill health and a subsequent move into assisted living.

Nyla joined the Branch in 1983 and over the years held the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer at various times and had been our current Secretary up until July. She was awarded a Branch Bar of Honour in 2001 and Branch Life Membership in 2006 in recognition of her many years of service at the 'top table.'



In Memory Of Patricia (Pat) McLauchlan

29th December 1927 -
2nd November 2021

Rural Women New Zealand sadly have lost a long standing member in Pat McLauchlan who died on 2nd November 2021, aged 94.

Pat joined the Lynnford Branch of Women's Division of Federated Farmers in 1943 as a junior member. She became involved with all the competitions, catering functions and many other projects. She held numerous offices from treasurer, acting secretary and president. Pat was also a delegate to the Provincial. It's true to say that Pat never shied away from doing her share and more!

She is notably remembered for her catering skills at the Hinds Young Farmers Ploughing Matches which was no mean feat as it was always held at a different farmer's paddock, often in the face of strong NorWesterlies, which left the tent in another paddock on at least two occasions.

In 1976 Pat was awarded Life Membership of Lynnford Women's Division of Federated Farmers in recognition of her dedication and support for our work.

At Lynnford's 85th birthday celebrations in May 2021 it was a privilege to have Pat cut our celebration cake with her dear friend and also Life Member Joan Moore.

Pat will particularly be remembered for her floral art. She spent many an hour arranging floral tributes for members and their families. We have lost a fun loving and loyal member who will be long remembered.



In Memory Of Muriel Ussher

Muriel Ussher joined the Lumsden Branch of WDFP in the early 1970's. In 1976 Muriel took on the role as secretary for the next 2 years and sometimes helping the Treasurer as well, then in 1979 was elected to junior vice chairperson. She held the role of Chair in the early 1980's and again in the 1990's.

Muriel's ability to oversee our WDFP work in the community was inspirational. She put her heart and soul into every task including door to door collecting for the Blind Foundation, cake stalls, catering at the Castlerock sale yards and meals-on-wheels as a driver and also baking/ making the meals at the Maternity Home in Lumsden.

In 1999 Muriel received a Life Membership, an honour that she well and truly deserved.

If you were feeling a little down and you met Muriel, her smile and chuckle soon made you think life was not so bad after all – she just had a way of making people feel relaxed, welcomed and worth something.

Our WDFP/RWNZ motto says "Service Simply Given" and this was Muriel, a community lady always putting others first.

Words by Cheryl Clearwater, Lumsden Rural Women.



Farewell to Old Friends

- Nyla Chubb – Midhirst Branch BLM
- Muriel Ussher – Lumsden Branch BLM
- Irene Thompson – Lumsden Branch
- Marlene McLauchlan – Anama Branch
- Barbara Busch – Winchmore Branch
- Dorothy Taylor – Franklin Branch – BLM and PLM
- Joan Downes – of Upper Hutt - Region 4
- Eleanor Davidson – Pukearuhe-Waitoito Branch
- Mary Corker – of Whangarei – BLM
- Pat McLauchlan – Lynnford Branch - BLM
- Ailsa Lovett – Lynnford Branch - NMH
- Betty Ferguson – Franklin Branch - BLM

ADVERSE EVENTS RELIEF FUND

The Rural Women New Zealand Adverse Events Relief Fund (AERF) was established to provide assistance to individuals, groups and communities in need after adverse events and natural disasters.

To help grow this fund, we are selling RWNZ's pure wool, New Zealand-made **Aftersocks**, the proceeds of which go directly to the AERF. These are available online at www.aftersocks.nz or from the National Office.

Alternatively, donations can be made directly into the Adverse Events Relief Fund by bank deposit to the following account:

Account Name: Rural Women New Zealand
Bank Account: 06-0501-0778590-00
Ref: AERF



MEMBER GIVEAWAY

Well-known author and Kenepuru Branch Member Marion Day has published a new book and has kindly provided a copy for us to giveaway to one lucky Member.

Marion writes across several genres including biography, short story, children's picture books and educational books; many of our readers will have seen her beautiful coffee table book, *Passion*.

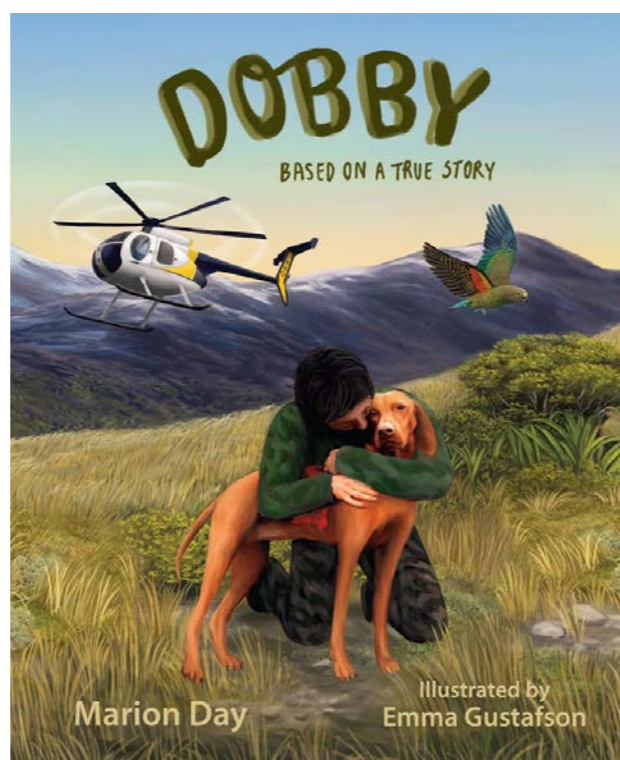
Her new children's book *Dobby* is based on a true story of remarkable survival in the Southern Alps / Kā Tiritiri o te Moana. While hunting with his master in the mountains, *Dobby* is trapped and unable to free himself. With the help of two kea, *Dobby* finds the strength to survive until he is rescued seven days later.

Dobby is Marion's eighth creative non-fiction children's picture book and it is beautifully illustrated by New Zealand artist Emma Gustafson. *Dobby* is ideal for 5-7 year old readers.

We have a copy of Dobby to give away this month!

To enter, please email your name and address to competitions@ruralwomennz.nz or phone National Office on 0800 256 6336.

The recommended retail price for this lovely book is \$24.99 including GST. However, Marion would like to offer RWNZ Members the opportunity to purchase copies of *Dobby* from her website at a discounted price. If you would like to take advantage of this wonderful offer, send Marion an email at www.marionday.nz for information on the membership discount price.



REGIONAL LEADERS & REGIONAL COMMITTEES

Region 1 Lower South Island	Position	Contact Email
Raewyn van Vugt	Regional Leader	whitegold@rivernet.co.nz
Judy Kingan	Regional Committee Chair	jaydeekgn@gmail.com
Lynley White		whyte.5@farmside.co.nz
Eunice Roberts		ebroberts51@gmail.com
Alison McLeary-Moore		mooreterritory2017@gmail.com
Jean Hamilton		jeansh@yrless.nz
Margaret Jones		mjomakau@gmail.com
Pat Macaulay	Minute Secretary	pat.macaulay@outlook.com

Region 2 Canterbury	Position	Contact Email
Sandra Curd	Regional Leader	curd@xtra.co.nz
Beverley Forrester		forrester@amuri.net
Mary Watson	Vice Chair	mmf.wats@gmail.com
Frances Beeston		francesbeeston@gmail.com
Margaret Chapman	Regional Committee Chair	mgchapman@xtra.co.nz
Margaret Chapman [Hook]		royandmargchapman@hotmail.com
Elsa Hydes		esurya@hotmail.com
Cheyenne Wilson		ctkwilson@hotmail.co.nz
Lyn Zuppich		goathills@amuri.net

Region 3 Top of the South	Position	Contact Email
Dot Dixon	Regional Leader	dotsf9@gmail.com
Melva Robb	Regional Committee Chair	melva@soundsreflection.co.nz
Diane Higgins	Secretary and secondary contact	dmhiggins@xtra.co.nz
Margaret Faulkner		NO EMAIL
Jennifer Wiese		NO EMAIL
Carolyn McLellan		balmac@xtra.co.nz
Carol Wells		NO EMAIL
Margaret Milne		margarwpt@kinect.co.nz

Region 4 Lower North Island	Position	Contact Email
Pauline Masters	Regional Committee Chair	paulinemasters@xtra.co.nz
Jean Coleman	Secretary	ngaios@farmside.co.nz
Joan Black	Treasurer	joanblack@inspire.net.nz
PJ Banks		ipjbanks@gmail.com
Leonora Spark		ljnajsark@gmail.com
Janice Mills		white.rock@farmside.co.nz
Caroline Ross		cross@wise.net.nz
Helen Clark		trevorandhelen25@gmail.com
Shona Field		mtwilliam@inspire.net.nz

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Sue Vowell	Deputy Chair	tepudeer@xtra.co.nz
Chris Paterson		chrisjam@xtra.co.nz
Jo Gravit	Secretary	pandjgravit@xtra.co.nz
Lyn Staples		urwinfarms@xtra.co.nz
Wendy McGowan		rusty_wendy@xtra.co.nz
Maureen Champion		sparkysark@kinect.co.nz

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Liz Morgan	Regional Committee Chair & Treasurer	lizziemorgan36@gmail.com
Karen Attwood		theattwoods@actrix.co.nz
Eileen Barker	Secretary	efbarker74@gmail.com
Jenni Torrens		torrensfarms@xtra.co.nz
Fiona Gower		fionagower@hotmail.com

Region 6 Taranaki	Position	Contact Email
Shirley Read	Acting Regional Leader & Committee Chair	sdread@xtra.co.nz
Joyce Lawrence	Treasurer	niaruo@inspire.net.nz
Margaret Vickers		r.m.vickers@xtra.co.nz
Jennie Purdon		chrisjen1@orcon.net.nz
Helen Bayliss	Secretary	harrybayliss@xtra.co.nz
Vivienne (Viv) Grigg		evgrigg@hotmail.com

Region 7 Top of the North	Position	Contact Email
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Noelene Price-Quedley	Secretary & Newsletter	noeleneq@hotmail.com
Christine Pikett	Treasurer	c/o mary_p@xtra.co.nz
Marie Alpe		mariealpe60@gmail.com
Margaret Smiley		margaretsmiley@gmail.com



REGIONAL LEADERS

Region	Name	Contact Phone	Mobile	Contact Email
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3	Dot Dixon		022 639 7175	dotsf9@gmail.co.nz
4	POSITION VACANT			
5	Mary McTavish	07 543 2521	021 141 6432	jhmemcts@gmail.com
6	Shirley Read (Taranaki)	06 752 3698	027 665 9047	sdread@xtra.co.nz
6	Bronwyn Main	07 825 4727		bronwynmain45@gmail.com
7	Heather Sorensen	09 401 6176	0274 724 485	heathersorensen55@gmail.com

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