



Jane Milburn *B Ag Sc, Grad Cert (Aust Rural Leadership), GAICD*

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Overview

Jane Milburn is an accomplished media advisor and communicator with a proven record of effective advocacy for rural, health and professional groups. Jane's extensive business, media and creative networks provide excellent linkages and outcomes for clients and contacts. Jane is an agricultural scientist, a fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, and recently completed postgraduate leadership study at James Cook University. In 1999, Jane helped reactivate the Rural Press Club of Queensland as a leading agribusiness network and was awarded life membership in 2009.

Jane is the founder of Textile Beat, an innovative enterprise that taps into growing interest in ethical and sustainable ways to reduce our clothing footprint. As with the rising interest in home cooking and food growing for health and wellbeing, Jane believes there is a pressing need to rethink our approach to textiles and fashion. In 2016, Jane is leading The Slow Clothing Project to gather stories and garments that use handmade, natural and local processes. This follows the Sew it Again project which bridged Jane's childhood, expertise, networks and a love of nature with a desire to raise clothing consciousness. During 2015, Jane presented 42 workshops and 22 talks on slow clothing to various groups in eastern Australia. Jane values authenticity, individuality and purpose. She demonstrates flexible, innovative thinking, as well as enthusiasm and commitment to all tasks she undertakes.

Career highlights

Recognised leadership

- eight years in executive roles at the Rural Press Club, including as president 2006-2008
- graduate of Australian Rural Leadership Program on Fairfax Agricultural Media scholarship
- developed and implemented the award-winning Sew it Again project in 2014

Effective advocacy

- led the media advocacy campaign for dentists to achieve water fluoridation in Queensland
- led the public awareness campaign to highlight risks of Philippines' banana imports
- developed Health Media Club concept and 612 ABC Swap It campaign for preventive health

Quality writing

- published lead paper in the Home Economics Journal of Australia (Vol 22, No1, 2015)
- published in magazines such as The Walkley Magazine, OUTBACK and Smart Farmer
- developed sustainable food blog Food Farming Australia in 2010

Key skills

Strategic communications
Public speaking
Project planning and implementation
Writing and editing
Social media practitioner
Community engagement

Awards and recognition

2015 – Excellence in Rural Journalism Awards, Social Media category winner, Sew it Again project
2010 – RIRDC Rural Women’s Award, Queensland runner-up
2010 – Mort Johnston Professional Development Scholarship
2009 – Fairfax Agricultural Media open scholarship for the Australian Rural Leadership Program
2007 – Queensland Media Awards, Excellence in Rural Reporting, finalist
2005 – Queensland Primary Industries Awards Media Award, winner
2005 – Queensland Primary Industries Awards Industry Communication Award, finalist

Education

- Graduate Certificate of Australian Rural Leadership at James Cook University 2013
- Fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation 2010
- Australian Institute of Company Directors - full course, exam and assignment 2012
- Australian Institute of Company Directors - foundations course 2010
- Bachelor of Agricultural Science, University of Queensland (nee Lindy Jane Capon) 1979

Affiliations

- Fashion Revolution Day Australia and New Zealand – committee member
- Australian Textile Art and Surface Design Association – Queensland workshop coordinator
- Rural Press Club of Queensland – life member
- Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance – member
- Australian Institute of Company Directors – non-financial member

Career summary

Board roles

2011-current **International House Board** honorary secretary
2009-2010 **Australian Council of Agricultural Journalists** vice-president
2006-2008 **Rural Press Club of Queensland Inc** president
2000-2005 **Rural Press Club of Queensland Inc** vice president/secretary
2004-2005 **Primary Industries Week Inc** treasurer

Work roles

2013-present founder **Textile Beat**, upcycler and natural fibre champion
2010-2012 communications manager **Diabetes Queensland**
2007-2010 communications manager **AgForce Queensland**
2002-present principal consultant **Milburn Media and Marketing**
prior to 2001 media advisor, ABC rural reporter, print journalism, public relations