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**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 government 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.

Jane is principal of [Milburn Media and Marketing](http://www.milburnmedia.com) and currently developing [Textile Beat](http://www.textilebeat.com), an innovative enterprise focused on slow fashion and reducing our clothing footprint on the world. As with the rising interest in home cooking and food growing for health and wellbeing, there is a pressing need to rethink our approach to textiles and fashion. Jane believes home sewing is a life-skill akin to home cooking. Through Textile Beat and its 365-day [Sew it Again](http://www.sewitagain.com) project, Jane is following her heart on a journey of creativity, empowerment, thrift, sustainability, ecological health and wellbeing. This bridges memories of childhood, professional expertise, agribusiness networks and a love of nature with a desire to raise awareness about our unsustainable rate of textile consumption. Jane values authenticity, individuality and purpose. She demonstrates flexible, innovative thinking, as well as enthusiasm and commitment to all tasks she undertakes. Jane was instrumental in reactivating the Rural Press Club of Queensland and awarded life membership in 2009.

## Career highlights

### Recognised leadership

- developed and implemented the 365-day Sew it Again upcycling project in 2014
- graduate of Australian Rural Leadership Program on Fairfax Agricultural Media scholarship
- eight years in executive roles at the Rural Press Club, including as president 2006-2008

### Effective advocacy

- developed the Health Media Club and 612 ABC Swap It campaign for preventive health
- 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

### Quality writing

- published in magazines such as The Walkley Magazine, OUTBACK and Smart Farmer
- writing and editing industry publications, including Australian Bananas and Diabetes iQ
- developed sustainable food blog as 2010 RIRDC Rural Women's Award Qld runner-up

# 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

- Rural Press Club of Queensland – life member
- Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance – member
- Australian Institute of Company Directors – non-financial member
- Women on Boards – 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

**2013-present** founder **Textile Beat**, upcycler, natural fibre champion

- Advocating thoughtful fashion via the 365-day Sew it Again project [www.sewitagain.com](http://www.sewitagain.com)
- Sharing skills and knowledge through creative upcycling workshops [www.textilebeat.com](http://www.textilebeat.com)
- Shifting society’s thinking about clothing through talks and a slow fashion manifesto

**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