2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Rural, Regional , Remote Women's Network



RRR WOMEN

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President's report

It is a privilege to present the 2025-26 President's Report for the Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network.

This year has been one of growth, connection and increasing influence for RRR Women. As a volunteer-led organisation with a proud history dating back to 1993, our strength continues to come from the women who make up our network; women who live, work, lead businesses, raise families, volunteer, advocate and contribute to communities in every part of Queensland.

Our members are at the heart of everything we do. But our responsibility extends beyond our financial membership and our work reaches women across the state through our advocacy, research, events, leadership programs, communications, partnerships and community engagement. It's for this reason we are proud to have achieved charity status in 2026, to better reflect the work we do and the impact we make across the state.

This year, we have continued to build that reach and, importantly, to demonstrate the value of bringing the voices and lived experiences of rural, regional and remote women into the conversations that shape Queensland's future.

Our membership increased by more than 11% and a refreshed membership structure makes accessing membership simpler and higher valued. We welcomed new partners and sponsors, tripled our long lunch events calendar, delivered the leadership program for the second year and continued our research and advocacy for another year.

A stronger voice for rural, regional and remote women

Advocacy has remained central to our work.

Our 2026 Rural, Regional and Remote Women Report provides an important evidence base for this advocacy, capturing the experiences, challenges and opportunities Queensland women identify every day. This year our research highlights the strength and adaptability of our communities, while also identifying persistent challenges including access to essential services, digital connectivity, disaster impacts and the urban–rural divide.

Just as importantly, our members are increasingly telling us they want to be part of shaping the solutions. Women are contributing to conversations about investment, energy, economic participation and the future of their communities — and RRR Women is ensuring those voices are heard. We do this through direct in-person and written engagement, member delegations to state parliament, submissions, roundtables, events and appearing as witnesses to government inquiries. We want decision-makers in government to know who RRR Women are, what we do, and the impact of women across the state on wider Queensland communities, economies, and industries.

These activities capture the value of RRR Women. Our role is not simply to speak on behalf of women in regional Queensland. It is to create the opportunities, evidence and connections that enable women to speak for themselves and to ensure their experiences are part of the decisions being made about Queensland's future.

Building women's leadership and influence

Leadership development has remained another important pillar of our work.

In 2026, 27 women from rural, regional and remote Queensland participated in our 12-week Future Queensland Rural Women's Leadership Program. The program was designed for community leaders wanting to help shape Queensland's future energy mix, building the knowledge, confidence, connections and influence women need to contribute at local, regional, state and federal levels.

The program now has 54 alumni across its 2025 and 2026 cohorts. This growing network represents an important investment in the women who will lead conversations, organisations and communities across regional Queensland into the future.

Connection at the heart of our organisation

One of the greatest strengths of RRR Women is our ability to connect women across geography, industries and generations.

This year we have continued to bring women together in spaces that celebrate regional communities and the contribution women make within them. We have strengthened relationships with members, founding members, partners, sponsors, community organisations and our broader network.

Our events and activities have provided equally important opportunities for women to connect, learn and build confidence. From our Women and Wealth Long Lunch in Toowoomba, to Connected by Country in the South Burnett, our Brisbane and Rockhampton Long Lunches, we have expanded and diversified our events calendar.

We have also continued to work alongside organisations with shared purpose, recognising collaboration allows us to amplify our collective impact. Our partnerships across the rural, regional and remote sector are an important part of ensuring RRR Women remains connected, relevant and responsive.







A strong and committed Board

None of this happens without the commitment of our volunteer Board, committees, members and supporters. I would like to thank each member of the Board for their commitment, energy and belief in the importance of this organisation.

I also extend my thanks to our event committees, volunteers, members, sponsors, partners and supporters. Every event delivered, submission written, meeting attended, connection made and conversation started contributes to the strength of RRR Women.

And to our members: thank you for continuing to share your experiences, challenge us, contribute your ideas and show up for one another. Your stories and insights are what make our advocacy meaningful and our organisation relevant.

Looking forward

As we look to the year ahead, our opportunity is to continue building an organisation that is both deeply connected to its history and confident about its future.

The issues facing rural, regional and remote Queensland are increasingly complex. But our network is full of women who are already developing solutions and creating opportunities.

RRR Women's role is to connect these women, amplify their voices, build their capability and ensure their contribution is recognised.

We have a strong history. We have an increasingly powerful evidence base. We have a growing network of women, and we have demonstrated when rural, regional and remote women are given the opportunity to lead, connect and advocate, they can influence conversations well beyond their own communities.

I am proud of what we have achieved together this year and excited about what we can continue to achieve.

Thank you for being part of RRR Women.

Emma Clarke

President,
Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network



About RRR Women

The Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network (RRR Women) connects, empowers, and supports women living and working in rural, regional, and remote Queensland. Our purpose is to foster personal and professional growth, leadership, and community engagement among women, while advocating for issues that matter to them. Founded in 1993, we are an independent, charity membership organisation.

Our values:

- Bold - we are confident and courageous
- Inclusive - differences make us stronger
- Caring - we turn compassion into action
- Encouraging - we lead from the front

Our Board

Our team is 100% volunteer. We are from across the state, and come with skills, experience and passion from a wide range of sectors, including finance, marketing, membership, governance, farming, media, policy and sponsorship.

The 2026 RRR Women Board is:



Emma Clarke
President



Melissa Brooke
Vice President



Michelle McVeigh
Treasurer



Carmen O'Keefe
Secretary



Mary Lockton
Board Member



Jessica Miller
Board Member



Natasha Kocks
Board Member



Casey Alsop
Board Member



Rebecca McLellan
Board Member



Nerolee Conaghan
Board Member

Our Board is supported with volunteer event committees and we thank the countless members, individuals and businesses who have helped us achieve all that we have this year.

Membership and network value

Our members are at the heart of everything we do. We work to ensure we are delivering the best possible value to our members, and are responsive to their expectations. Our members are individuals, small businesses and corporates that reflect the diversity of Queensland and represent regions, demographics, industries and communities in every part of the state.

Together we:

- Bring local knowledge and lived experience to the decisions that shape Queensland, ensuring government, industry and decision-makers hear rural, regional and remote women voices.
- Have solutions to many of the headwinds facing our country, from disaster resilience, connectivity and access to services, to workforce participation, economic security and driving innovation.
- Are change-makers who create resilient, connected and vibrant communities across Queensland, strengthening the prosperity of our regions and the nation.
- Connect women across regions, industries and generations, creating opportunities to share knowledge, build relationships and support one another.
- Contribute significantly to Queensland's economy and communities, through our businesses, careers, volunteering, community leadership, advocacy and unpaid work.
- Champion opportunity for women, advocating for the economic security, participation, leadership and wellbeing of women living and working outside the major centres.
- Support one another through change and challenge, building the confidence, capability and connections women need to thrive.
- Know that regional Queensland is not one voice or one experience, and together represent the diversity of women, communities, industries and circumstances across the state.

Refreshed membership

This year we refreshed the membership structure to create clearer choices and stronger value for members. Individual, Small Business and Corporate memberships each offer a distinct pathway into the RRR Women network.

All memberships carry one vote and include RRR Women member communications, member pricing and access to relevant training, services and opportunities made possible through funding, sponsorships and partnerships.

Small Business membership extends eligible benefits to up to three people and includes a website listing, an annual social media acknowledgement, a newsletter feature and Annual Report acknowledgement.

Corporate membership extends eligibility to all directors and employees and adds a digital badge, priority access to sponsorship opportunities and the opportunity to provide an approved exclusive offer to members.

Member inclusions

- Individual membership is for a woman joining in her own right.
- Small Business membership is for a small business that wants business visibility and access to member training and benefits for up to three people.
- Corporate Membership is for a business or organisation that wants broader staff access, greater recognition and a public way to demonstrate its support for rural women.

But we know membership is not for everybody who want to be part of RRR Women, and for this reason, our impact and value reach those RRR Women who aren't financial members, to ensure we're relevant and valuable to women across the state. This is achieved for example through our advocacy, communications and events.

What we offer rural, regional and remote women:

- Biennial leadership programs for professional and personal development.
- Biennial two-day conference with themes driven by member feedback.
- Networking events.
- Opportunity to influence our advocacy via surveys, working groups, reporting and parliamentary delegation.
- Access to personal and professional development with a bursary.
- Community organisation support and sponsorship.
- Webinars and relevant communications.

We increased our network to include membership in similar purpose-driven organisations, to combine our impact. We're members of:

- Volunteering Queensland
- National Rural Women's Coalition
- National Council of Women Queensland

Our impact

Economic security

Through our programs, designed to up skill and equip our women to well attended events, we contribute to the economic health of our communities, businesses and industries. Attendees and participants in these initiatives bring home to share with their families, communities and industries vital skills learned, with connections made and networks grown and enhanced.

Diversity and inclusion

Women with diverse backgrounds and experiences are included and celebrated within RRR Women from our members and in our Board. Together we strive to dissolve the inequalities all women face in the state by offering inclusion and empowering women.

A milestone for RRR Women: Registered charity status

In January 2026, RRR Women achieved registration as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), an important milestone in our organisation's history.

This recognition reflects our commitment to supporting and empowering rural, regional and remote Queensland women, and the broader community benefit of our work through advocacy, leadership development, education and connection.

ACNC registration strengthens our governance, transparency and accountability; it provides greater confidence for members, partners and supporters, and creates opportunities to access eligible charitable tax concessions.

As we continue to grow, our registered charity status provides a stronger foundation for partnerships, funding opportunities and expanding our impact across Queensland.

Government engagement

Member voices to government policy



Our history and credibility working with and for rural, regional and remote Queensland women drives our advocacy and government relations strategy.

We have strong working relationships with all parts of government and clear lines of engagement with key ministerial offices and departments. Government engagement is critical to secure advocacy outcomes and drive policy reform for rural, regional, and remote Queensland women.

Our government engagement strategy secures rural, regional and remote women front and centre of government policy and investment decision making and forms clear and open lines of communication between Queensland communities and government.

Our policy priorities:

- Digital inclusion and telecommunications
- Energy policy certainty and responsibly rolling out renewables
- Mental health and wellness
- Financial literacy and economic security
- Volunteering economy: The triple shift



The **Queensland State Budget FY27** was a key advocacy and government relations priority. It delivered several positive outcomes for rural, regional and remote women, including support for workforce re-entry, initiatives to improve economic security, investment in volunteering, and expanded mental health services. These measures, many responding directly to RRR Women's pre-Budget submission, provide important continuity and directly respond to member priorities.

The Budget responded to three of five policy priorities RRR Women advocated on in the lead up to the Budget delivery, including initiatives supporting women returning to the workforce, economic security, volunteering and mental health services. This pre-budget advocacy included a formal written submission, direct communications to nine MPs and Ministers, sitting and opposition, a live radio interview in Rockhampton, and in-person meetings with three MPs, also sitting and opposition.



On the Budget delivery day, RRR Women members were represented in person in State Parliament by Board Member Casey Alsop and member Petrea George, both at the lockup and the stakeholder briefing with Hon Fiona Simpson MP. Budget outcomes were communicated with members directly, with representation of how their insight and views were responded to both through our submission and in Budget outcomes.

While these investments are welcomed, gaps remain in digital inclusion, telecommunications, and energy policy, and RRR Women will continue advocating to ensure rural, regional and remote women remain visible, heard and supported.

The Queensland Government's **Women's Economic Security Strategy 2026** was another significant advocacy outcome. The strategy featured the stories of RRR Women members and incorporated strategic directions strongly aligned with recommendations we had advocated for on behalf of our network, through written submissions and the roundtable with our members and Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security The Hon Fiona Simpson MP in 2025.

These related to financial literacy and economic security, volunteering and mental health. Speaking to our members at our Brisbane Long Lunch, Minister Simpson described RRR Women's "fingerprints being all over the strategy", acknowledging the significant contribution our members and advocacy efforts had made to shaping its development.



These outcomes demonstrate the power of member-led advocacy. By elevating the lived experiences and priorities of rural, regional and remote women, RRR Women continues to ensure communities' voices are heard and translated into policy outcomes that improve opportunities across Queensland.

This year we made formal written submissions to:

- The Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia - Preparing for emerging industries across Northern Australia
- FY 27 State Budget submission, supported with in person meetings with Donna Kirkland MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, Families and Seniors and Central Queensland, Shannon Fentiman MP, Shadow Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Women, Jonty Bush MP, Assistant Shadow Treasurer, Shadow Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Women Shadow Minister for Women)
- Queensland Treasury Draft Code of Conduct for Renewable Energy Developers







RRR Women 2025 State Parliament Delegation

In November 2025, we led a delegation of members from across rural and regional Queensland to the heart of state decision-making at Queensland Parliament. Representing communities from Biloela, Gladstone, Barcaldine, Kingaroy, Bundaberg, Maryborough, Rockhampton, and beyond, our delegates advocated for the pressing issues facing rural, regional, and remote women.

The delegation spent two days engaging directly with MPs, including their local MPs, Ministers, and policymakers from all parts of government, discussing a range of critical issues that affect rural women.

With thanks to the MPs who took the time to meet with us personally and discuss our policy priorities and those important in their local communities:

- Attorney-General Hon Deb Frecklington MP, Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity
- Hon Fiona Simpson MP Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism
- Jonty Bush MP, Assistant Shadow Treasurer and Assistant Shadow Minister for Women
- Hon Dale Last MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development
- Donna Kirkland MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, Families and Seniors and Central Queensland
- Bryson Head MP, Assistant Minister for Regional Development, Resources and Critical Minerals
- Tom Smith MP, Shadow Minister for Primary Industries, and Rural Development and Shadow Minister for Manufacturing
- John Barounis MP, Member for Maryborough
- Stephen Bennett MP, Member for Burnett
- Hon Cameron Dick MP, Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Planning and Regional Development and Deputy Leader of the Opposition
- Steven Miles MP, Leader of the Opposition
- Margie Nightingale MP, Member for Inala.

And with thanks especially to Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism Hon Fiona Simpson MP and Assistant Shadow Treasurer and Assistant Shadow Minister for Women Jonty Bush MP for hosting and meeting our 100 of our delegates, members and wider RRR Women network for a special luncheon at Parliament House. It was an important event for our members and wider rural, regional and remote women network to connect directly with Queensland's decision makers.



Our policy priority agenda:

- Telecommunications and digital infrastructure
- Energy policy certainty and responsibly rolling out renewables
- Mental health and wellness
- Financial literacy and economic participation
- Volunteering economy (skills/ insolvency and directors duties/ policy and economic challenges)

The policy priorities presented were shaped by decades of engagement with rural women and insights from the Rural, Regional, Remote Women Report. This important advocacy effort marks a major step in strengthening the voice of rural women at the state level and driving positive change for our regions - and a key founding value of RRR Women.

It's important policy and investment decision makers know rural, regional and remote Queensland women are leading these important policy conversations at the local level every day, and this delegation brought those to State Parliament.

Queensland Women's Economic Security Strategy Thought Leaders Roundtable

With thanks to Fiona Simpson MP for hosting a Queensland Women's Economic Security Strategy Thought Leaders Roundtable specifically with our delegates in Brisbane.

It was a timely opportunity for rural, regional and remote women's perspectives, ideas and recommendations on priority areas for advancing women's economic participation to be included in the Queensland Government's Economic Security Strategy.

Financial literacy and economic security are among our policy priorities and we welcome the Minister's genuine consultation and engagement with Queensland women on this important topic for us and our members.

Delegation highlights

- 10 meetings with 15 MPs, Ministers and policy makers from all parts of State Government
- 5 policy priorities discussed
- 100 + members, guests and MPs attend our State Parliament Luncheon
- 7 Queensland regions represented



Queensland Rural, Regional, Remote Women 2026 Report

The Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women Report has become one of our most important advocacy and member engagement initiatives. It is an opportunity for women across Queensland to share their experiences, identify emerging challenges and shape the conversations that influence policy, investment and community outcomes, as well as influence RRR Women's policy priorities.



Each year, the report captures a snapshot of life for women living and working across rural, regional and remote Queensland, while also tracking how those experiences are changing over time. By building a year-on-year evidence base, we can identify emerging trends, measure progress and ensure our members' and networks' voices are represented with credible, data-driven insights.

The findings directly inform RRR Women's advocacy priorities, policy submissions, partnerships and programs. They provide evidence to support engagement with local, state and federal governments, industry, community organisations and corporate partners, helping ensure decisions are informed by the lived experiences of rural, regional and remote women rather than assumptions.

In 2026, Queensland women described a snapshot of adaptable and optimistic Queensland communities navigating increasing and compounding complexity.

While women continue to demonstrate strong leadership and community commitment, they also report persistent challenges in accessing essential services, responding to disasters and managing the urban rural divide. Key data stories are:

- The evolving nature of multi-generational leadership and regional diversification
- The gap between digital reliance and digital access
- The hidden volunteer economy
- Persistent challenges in service accessibility
- Supply chain disruptions are the most common disaster impact
- Women are increasingly influencing policy and decision making in areas like investment and energy policy
- Value of social connectivity for support

Just as importantly, the report helps us better serve our members. It guides the development of events, leadership programs, training opportunities, communications and partnerships that respond to the issues women tell us matter most. The data ensures our work remains relevant, evidence-based and member-led.

Every response contributes to a bigger picture. Together, our members are creating one of Queensland's most comprehensive annual insights into the experiences of rural, regional and remote women. Their voices are helping shape policy, influence investment, strengthen communities and ensure the needs and aspirations of regional Queensland women are recognised by those making decisions today and into the future

2026 events and activities

Connected by Country in the South Burnett



In celebration of International Rural Women's Day in October, Connected by Country brought 60 women from across the South Burnett together for an evening of conversation, connection and celebration, sponsored by South Burnett Regional Council, Stanwell and Powelink.

The event was an opportunity for rural women to step away from the demands of everyday life, share experiences and stories, and build connections with others from across the region. A fireside-style panel featured a diverse group of South Burnett women, South Burnett Mayor Kathy Duff, Beck Cross and Lynda Lange, exploring rural life, the people and places that shape our communities, and the importance of connection and belonging.

Led by our members Kylea Hodgkinson-Jones, Red Dirt Socials and Melanie McNaughton, Ground & Grow with support from RRR Women, the evening highlighted the valuable contribution women make across the South Burnett.

RRR Women at Jandowae Races



The 2026 Jandowae Races in May was a valuable opportunity for RRR Women to strengthen connections across our network while engaging with the broader Jandowae and Western Downs community. Held in a relaxed and inclusive setting, the event welcomed members, guests, families, and friends, reinforcing our commitment to creating spaces where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

RRR Women was proud to partner with the Jandowae Race Club to host this event. Their support enabled us to deliver a memorable day that celebrated connection, community, and collaboration within the Queensland racing and regional business landscape.

Brisbane Long Lunch: Country to City



The RRR Women Brisbane Long Lunch returned in August 2026 as the organisation's longest-running signature event, bringing together 130 women from rural, regional, remote and metropolitan Queensland to celebrate connection, leadership and community on the opening weekend of the Ekka. Held at Blackbird Brisbane, the event featured a fireside chat between journalist and MC Andrea Crothers and keynote speaker Caitlin McConnel, a sixth-generation farmer, lawyer and business leader whose story highlighted leadership, succession, sustainability and the future of regional Australia. Supported by Gold Sponsor Aussie Helpers and Silver Sponsor Moore Australia, the event attracted strong support from members, partners and guests, alongside a highly successful raffle and silent auction showcasing donations from businesses across Queensland.

The Hon Fiona Simpson MP, Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism, and The Hon Shannon Fentiman MP, Shadow Treasurer and Shadow Minister for Women, also attended further highlighting the importance of rural, regional and remote women's leadership and economic participation across Queensland and demonstrating RRR Women's bipartisan government relations strategy.

Toowoomba Long Lunch: Women and Wealth



The RRR Women Toowoomba Long Lunch: Women and Wealth was a flagship professional and personal development event in May 2026, proudly supported by People First Bank and Braeside. Designed to strengthen the financial literacy, confidence, and long-term economic security of rural, regional, and remote Queensland women, the event delivered a high-quality program with in practical, evidence-based insights.

Held in the marquee gardens of Toowoomba's iconic Gips Restaurant, 130 guests enjoyed a two-course long lunch and extended networking opportunity in a welcoming and engaging environment. The event brought together members, professionals, and organisations, encouraging investment in team development while fostering meaningful connections across industries and communities. It was especially encouraging to welcome three past presidents on the day: Alison Mobbs, Julie Mayne OAM and Georgie Somerset AM.

A highlight of the day was an engaging panel discussion led by MC Caitlin Crowley, featuring respected experts Michelle McVeigh, Pollyana Saraiva, and Cathy Hunt AM. The conversation explored diverse perspectives on wealth, financial literacy, and economic security, providing attendees with practical strategies they could implement immediately.

Rockhampton Long Lunch: Together We Rise



The RRR Women Rockhampton Long Lunch: Together we rise brought more than 110 women from across the region together to celebrate connection, collaboration and community. Donna Kirkland, Member for Rockhampton, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, Families and Seniors and Central Queensland was a special guest and speaker.

Supported by Community Underwriting, Moah Creek Wind Farm, Moore Australia and Stanwell, the event built on the success of RRR Women's longest-running signature Long Lunch in Brisbane and our expanded 2026 events calendar.

Webinar: Backing yourself in rooms that weren't built for you

In partnership with The Connection Table, RRR Women hosted a virtual panel with more than 200 registrations, featuring rural Queensland leaders Fleur Anderson, April Cavanagh and Elisha Parker. The discussion explored the challenges and opportunities faced by women stepping into leadership roles where they are often underrepresented.

2026 Future Queensland Rural Women's Leadership Program

The 2026 Future Queensland Rural Women's Leadership Program continued to deliver on our commitment to building leadership capability, confidence and connections for women living in rural, regional and remote Queensland wanting to help shape the state's future energy mix.

Over 12 weeks, 27 women from communities across Queensland participated in a unique leadership development journey designed to strengthen their ability to lead within their communities, industries and organisations, at the local, state and federal level. Participants represented a diverse range of sectors and regions, from Gladstone and Biloela to Roma, Cunnamulla and surrounding communities.

The program combined immersive leadership retreats, expert-led workshops, industry site visits and online learning opportunities. Participants engaged with nationally recognised experts across community leadership, climate science, adaptive leadership, regional development and energy transition, providing valuable insights into the opportunities and challenges shaping Queensland's future.

A key innovation in 2026 was the introduction of Regional Working Groups, which enabled participants to collaborate on place-based projects addressing regional opportunities and challenges. The quality of project outcomes demonstrated the strength of participant engagement and the value of practical, collaborative learning.

The program concluded with a graduation retreat in Brisbane, where participants reflected on their leadership journeys, celebrated their achievements and strengthened the networks developed throughout the program.

Importantly, the program supports our commitment to developing informed and capable leaders who can contribute positively to discussions surrounding regional resilience, economic diversification and the responsible rollout of renewable energy projects in Queensland.

Our partnership with Energy Leadership Australia continued to be a significant strength, providing participants with access to nationally recognised facilitators, leadership specialists and subject matter experts.

2026 program highlights

- 27 participants from rural, regional and remote Queensland
- 12-week leadership development program
- Three-day opening retreat in Rockhampton
- Two-day graduation retreat in Brisbane
- Fortnightly online leadership workshops
- Industry site visits to renewable energy infrastructure projects
- Introduction of Regional Working Groups
- 54 program alumni across 2025 and 2026
- Program alum networking events held in Toowoomba, Gladstone, Longreach, Bundaberg, Maidenwell and Townsville in October to December 2027

Events and attendance

Thank you to our network organisations for including RRR Women in your activities this year.

- Rural Press Club Rural Women's Day lunch, as a guest of the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority
- Duchesne College Wise Winner Dinner panellist, alongside Federal Senator Susan McDonald, about rural diversity on Rural Women's Day
- Rockhampton Regional Council International Women's Day panel: give to gain
- Gladstone Women's Health Biloela International Women's Day event
- Queensland Women in Ag Leadership (QWAL) Program's final certificate ceremony, delivered by AgForce Training
- Attendance at Motherland Long Lunch in Rockhampton by board members Bec McLellan and Casey Alsop
- AgriFutures Rural Womens Award Announcement at Parliament House
- Lunch with rural leaders in Rockhampton with Jonty Bush MP and Hon Shannon Fentiman MP attended by Board Members Bec McLellan and Casey Alsop. With thanks to our wonderful members, leadership program cohort and alumni for taking the time out of your busy schedules to attend this important luncheon and share your valued insights to the conversations.
- QFF's annual Celebration of Queensland Agriculture event at Parliament House
- Queensland Ag Shows 2026 Ekka Networking event
- Queensland County Life Showgirl Awards Dinner
- Queensland Ag Shows Rural Amabassador Awards Dinner
- Rural Women's Network Central Queensland Network and Nibbles
- Re-Alliance Regional Leaders Summit 2026, Toowoomba
- Supported QCWA Eats and Treats Café at the Ekka for the second year

Engagement and sponsorship

We're proud to work with our peers and allies in rural, regional and remote Queensland to make an even bigger combined impact through sponsorship and partnerships:

- Lockyer District State High School Bronze sponsors for NRLW Tour 2026
- Gladstone Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Queensland Country Women's Association
- Thangool State School P&C fundraiser Disco Divas Silver sponsor for the second consecutive year
- Central Queensland Sub-Chamber Showgirl & Rural Ambassador Awards Silver Sponsor
- National Council of Women Queensland sponsor for the second year

Darla's travels

This year Darla has been all over the state, visiting our members and networks. Darla the RRR Women car, named after our founder the late Jan Darlington, is a key tool to increase RRR Women brand awareness, raise conversation and access our networks across Queensland



Treasurer's report

For the year ended 30 June 2026

It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report for the Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

The past year has been one of significant activity and growth for RRR Women. As outlined in the President's Report, our membership increased by more than 11%, our events calendar expanded, our leadership program continued for a second year, and our advocacy and engagement with government increased significantly. Achieving charity status in 2026 was also an important milestone for the organisation.

Against this backdrop, the organisation recorded a deficit of $28,715 for the year, compared with a surplus of $58,868 in the previous financial year. Total revenue and other income was $167,016, compared with $334,048 in 2025. Sponsorship income reduced from $128,808 to $40,500, while grant income reduced from $80,882 to $23,000.

Other key sources of income included:

- Administration fee income of $33,667
- Event income of $37,283
- Membership fees of $14,420
- Raffle proceeds of $11,188
- Sponsorship income of $40,500
- Grant income of $23,000

While sponsorship and grant income were lower than the previous year, the organisation continued to deliver an extensive program of activities across Queensland. As a 100% volunteer-led organisation, we are fortunate to benefit from the significant contribution of Board members, committees, volunteers, members and supporters.
The main areas of expenditure included catering costs of $40,506, travel and accommodation costs of $34,650, administration fees of $33,785, and other event and project expenses of $25,141. Travel and accommodation increased from $9,262 in the previous year.

The increase in travel costs reflects the significant increase in advocacy work undertaken by Board members during the year. This work is an important part of representing our members and ensuring the voices and experiences of rural, regional and remote women are heard by government and other decision-makers. While this work remains important to our organisation and members, the Board recognises the need to manage the associated costs carefully. We are therefore investigating opportunities to minimise travel where practical and exploring sponsorship opportunities to help offset these costs.

At 30 June 2026, the organisation remained in a sound financial position with:

- Cash and cash equivalents of $181,852
- Total assets of $250,858
- Total liabilities of $5,192
- Net assets of $245,666

Treasurer's report

Cash decreased by $22,948 during the year, including net cash used in operating activities of $14,139 and purchases of property, plant and equipment of $8,809.

Despite the deficit for the year, RRR Women continues to have a strong balance sheet and substantial cash reserves relative to its liabilities. The Board is conscious, however, that our expanding activities and advocacy need to be supported by sustainable sources of income. Looking forward, an important financial priority will be strengthening and diversifying our income sources, particularly through sponsorship, partnerships, membership and other funding opportunities. At the same time, we will continue to carefully manage expenditure and protect the organisation's reserves so that RRR Women can continue investing in advocacy, leadership, connection and opportunities for rural, regional and remote women across Queensland.

The independent auditor issued an unmodified audit opinion, concluding that the financial report gives a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position and performance and complies with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards and Australian charities legislation.

I would like to acknowledge the considerable volunteer contribution of our Board and committees and thank our members, sponsors, partners and supporters. Their contribution, whether financial or through their time and expertise, enables RRR Women to continue its work across Queensland. I recommend that the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 be received and adopted.

Michelle McVeigh

Treasurer
Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network








QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.

ABN: 82 236 858 320

Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2026

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.

ABN: 82 236 858 320

Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2026

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QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

President: Emma Clarke
Vice President: Melissa Brooke
Treasurer: Michelle McVeigh
Secretary: Carmen O'Keefe
Committee Member: Mary Lockton
Committee Member: Jessica Miller
Committee Member: Casey Alsop
Committee Member: Tash Kocks
Committee Member: Rebecca McLellan
Committee Member: Nerolee Conaghan

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:
-to develop the capacity of rural, regional and remote women through education to overcome adversity, develop leadership and participate in decision-making.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The deficit for the financial year amounted to $28,715. (2025: Surplus $58,868)
Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

Dated this day of 2026

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
Revenue	2	160,058	330,634
Other income	2	6,958	3,414
Administration fees		(33,785)	(56,467)
Audit and bookkeeping fees		(14,225)	(18,273)
Bank charges		(452)	(266)
Board expenses		(4,661)	(4,575)
Catering expenses		(40,506)	(30,584)
Computer, IT and website expenses		(5,369)	(11,077)
Consultants		-	(1,750)
Depreciation		(9,061)	(9,102)
Insurance		(2,681)	(2,471)
Media and communications		(9,402)	-
Memberships and subscriptions		(4,415)	(1,021)
Motor vehicle expenses		(11,056)	(4,385)
Other event & project expenses		(25,141)	(125,578)
Printing and stationery		(91)	(128)
Telephone expenses		(236)	(241)
Travel and accommodationexpenses		(34,650)	(9,262)
Current year surplus / (deficit) before income tax		(28,715)	58,868
Income tax expense		-	-
Net current year surplus / (deficit)		(28,715)	58,868
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:		-	-
Other comprehensive income		(28,715)	58,868
Total other comprehensive income for the year			
Total comprehensive income / (losses) for the year		(28,715)	58,868
Totalcomprehensive / (losses)attributabletomembersofthe association			

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cashequivalents	3	181,852	204,800
Accounts receivable and other debtors	4	3,047	21,365
Other currentassets	5	7,045	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		191,945	226,165
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	58,913	59,165
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		58,913	59,165
TOTAL ASSETS		250,858	285,330
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payableandotherpayables	7	4,192	4,484
Incomein advance	8	1,000	6,465
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,192	10,948
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES		5,192	10,948
NET ASSETS		245,666	274,382
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		274,382	215,514
Current yearprofit/(loss)		(28,715)	58,868
TOTAL EQUITY		245,666	274,382

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	Retained Surplus	Total
		$	$
Balance at 1 July 2024		215,514	215,514
Comprehensive income			
Net surplus for the year		58,868	58,868
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association for the year		58,868	58,868
Balance at 30 June 2025		274,382	274,382
Balance as at 1 July 2025		274,382	274,382
Comprehensive income			
Net surplus for the year		(28,715)	(28,715)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association for the year		(28,715)	(28,715)
Balance at 30 June 2026		245,666	245,666

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from grants		16,535	77,312
Receipts from donations, bequests and raffles		160,519	234,953
Payments to suppliers and employees		(191,686)	(267,400)
Interest received		493	2,214
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	12	(14,139)	47,079
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase ofproperty,plant and equipment		(8,809)	(68,267)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(8,809)	(68,267)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Net cashprovidedby/(used in) financingactivities		-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(22,948)	(21,188)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		204,800	225,988
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	3	181,852	204,800

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements cover Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc. as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc. is a company limited by guarantee. Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc. is also a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Note 1 Summary of Material Accounting Policy Information

Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The entity is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Accounting Policies

(a) Income Tax

Noprovisionforincome tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment

Plantandequipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(c) for details of impairment).

The cost of fixed assets constructed by the Association includes the cost of materials, direct labour, borrowing costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the association and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is available for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing net proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the item is derecognised.

(c) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Association reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in profit or loss.

Where the assets are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash inflows – that is, they are specialised assets held for continuing use of their service capacity – the recoverable amounts are expected to be materially the same as fair value.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued individual asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

(d) Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

(e) Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from customers for

goods sold in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Refer to Note 1(e) for further discussion on the determination of impairment losses.

(f) Revenue and Other Income

The Association is firstrequired to determine whether amounts received are accounted for as Revenue per AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers or Income per AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities.

Funding arrangements which are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised as revenue under AASB 15. Otherwise, such arrangements are accounted for under AASB 1058, where upon initial recognition of an asset, the Association is required to consider whether any other financial statement elements should be recognised (for example, financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

Revenue

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the Association receives operating grant funding, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards;
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

Other Income

CapitalGrant

When the Association receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The Association recognises income in profit or loss when or as the Association satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(h) Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Where the Association retrospectively applies an accounting policy, makes a retrospective restatement or reclassifies items in its financial statements, a third statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period is presented in addition to the minimum comparative financial statements.

(i) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The committee evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the association.

Note 2 Revenue and Other Income

	2026 $	2025 $
Revenue		
— Administration Fees Income	33,667	56,467
— Event Income	37,283	45,247
— Membership Fees	14,420	13,762
— Raffle Proceeds	11,188	5,468
— Grant Income	23,000	80,882
— Sponsorships	40,500	128,808
Total revenue	160,058	330,634
Other income		
— Interest Received	493	2,214
— Other Income	6,465	1,200
Total other income	6,958	3,414
Total revenue and other income	167,016	334,048

Note 3 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2026 $	2025 $
Westpac General	54,665	33,248
Westpac Conference	15	15
Westpac High Interest	120,316	169,823
Barambah General	-	-
Prepaid Everyday Mastercard	567	-
Paypal Account	6,269	1,630
Strip Account	19	83
	181,852	204,800

Note 4 Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

	2026 $	2025 $
CURRENT		
Accounts Receivable	-	15,997
GST Receivable	3,047	5,368
Total current accounts receivable and other	3,047	21,365

Note 5 Other Current Assets

	2026 $	2025 $
CURRENT		
Prepayments	7,045	-
	7,045	-

Note 6 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2026 $	2025 $
Plant and equipment:		
At cost	77,076	68,267
Accumulated depreciation	(18,163)	(9,102)
Total property, plant and equipment	58,913	59,165

Movements in carrying amounts

Movementincarryingamountsforeach class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Plant and Equipment $	Total $
Balance at 1 July 2024	-	-
Additions	68,267	68,267
Depreciation expense	(9,102)	(9,102)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	59,165	59,165
Additions	8,809	8,809
Depreciation expense	(9,061)	(9,061)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2026	58,913	58,913

Note 7 Accounts Payable and Other Payables

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
CURRENT			
Accounts payable		4,192	4,484
		4,192	4,484

Note 8 Income in Advance

	2026 $	2025 $
CURRENT		
Unexpended Grant Funding	-	6,465
Sponsorship Received in Advance	1,000	-
	1,000	6,465

Note 9 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

There are no contingent liabilities or contingent assets at 30 June 2026.

Note 10 Events after the Reporting Period

The committee is not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

Note 11 Related Party Transactions

a. OtherRelated Parties

Other related parties include close family members of key management personnel and entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by those key management personnel, individually or collectively with their close family members.

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Note 12 Association Details

The registered office of the association is:
Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc.
178-198 Drayton Street
Dalby, QLD, 4405

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc., the committee of the Entity declare that, in the committee's opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2 to 9, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
   (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards applicable to the Registered Entity; and
   (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Registered Entity as at 30 June 2026 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.

Signed:

Dated:

Signed:

Dated:

QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.
ABN: 82 236 858 320
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
QUEENSLAND RURAL REGIONAL AND REMOTE WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Queensland Rural Regional And Remote Women's Network Inc. (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of material accounting policy information, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the registered entity is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (the ACNC Act), including:

i. giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.

Basis forOpinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Committee forthe Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities forthe Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Auditor's name and signature: 

Diana Taylor, Registered Company Auditor No 552283

Name of firm: ***sps audit***

Address: The Hive
Tower 2, Level 1, Kon-Tiki Business Centre
55 Plaza Parade, Maroochydore QLD 4558

Dated this 30th day of October 2026

Out and about

























SOUTHERN
CROSS


















RRR WOMEN








RRR WOME


RRR WOMEN




RRR WOME






WOMEN


International
Women's






WOMEN






NCWQ










NCWQ
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF QUEENSLAND








PARLIAMENTARY ANNEXE








Ensuring women and
girls in Queensland
have the tools,
opportunities and








PARLIAMENTARY ANNEX


EVERY
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AND
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Women's As












MOTHERLAND











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RRR Women in the news



TOWN & COUNTRY

Julieanne Dore, Kingaroy, with Tahnee Odorico, Toowoomba, and Casey Alsop, Biloela.

NETWORK'S LONG LUNCH

Fiona Simpson was one of the guests at the CIRRAWN long lunch held in conjunction with the Ekka, speaking to the 70 women gathered at the riverside Blackbird Bar for an afternoon of fine dining, great conversations and networking.

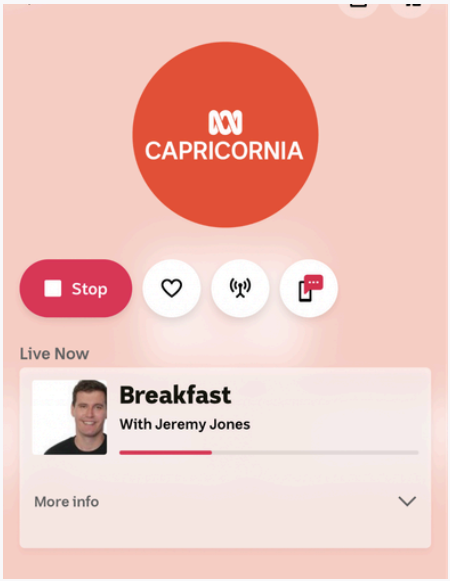
Rebecca Martin, Barney View, Michelle Peden, Boonah, and Sally Coggiola, Sydney are all smiles.

Cindy Kelleher, Brisbane, shared a table with Tara Frost, Emerald. Pictures by Sally Gall

Lunch guest speaker Caitlin McConnal, centre, with Helen Jorrard, Redland, and Beth Keddie, Toowong.

Long-term buddies Kerrie Richards, Brisbane, and Jenny Underwood, Blantyre, having a rare catch-up.

Rebecca Klump, down from Biloela, with Brisbane's Fiona Maxwell.





22 QUEENSLAND COUNTRY LIFE Thursday November 20, 2025 queenslandcountrylife.com.au

OPINION

VIEW FROM THE PADDOCK

Tight-knit village mindset trumps city ease

WHEN I think of a rural area, the first thing that comes to my mind is community.

Some might say we are bonded together by geographic remoteness and limited resources.

But regardless of the cause, our community helps us overcome these challenges.

Community helps us fit in, share ideas, increase the resources available to each other, and promote collaborative thinking.

But why is it so big in the regions?

Since I began working as a midwife in rural towns, I have experienced firsthand how much this shines through from well-supported local events to how healthcare is run.

In rural healthcare, practitioners from all over the region, across many different positions, meet frequently to collaborate and discuss the issues facing their tight-knit, even if geographically diverse, community.

We share ideas, experiences, and together build our health care system as a collaborative community.

In my experience, this is not the case in more urban areas, where there are enough midwives to fill a meeting room in a single hospital.

These wider meetings are less frequent, and the diversity of ideas is limited. Urban areas are known for technological advancements, development, and being fast-paced.

When you live in the city, you are spoilt for choice for everything you could ever need or want – information, education, healthcare, retail.

If you don't like the school your child is attending, that's okay, as there are probably three more in a 15-minute radius. In a rural town, however, you don't have these opportunities.

Instead of moving your child to the next school down the road, you join the P and F committee in hopes of making a change and improving the school that your child is going to.

If there are no events on for young people in your town, you seek out your local race committee to help out with the biggest event of the year.

Sometimes, not being spoilt for choice is a positive.

We are forced to step outside our comfort zone, create our own opportunities, and build our own village.

Perhaps this is why there is such a disconnect between the sense of community felt in a rural area and an urban one.

Shanaya Tepper – 2025 Queensland Country Life Showgirl's Choice

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We need a common sense approach to speed limits

Your article "Readers support call to raise speed limit" (*Queensland Country Life*, November 6) suggested that country road speed limits could be raised to 130km/h. Many respondents were in favour of this.

Recently, federal Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen suggested we should reduce country roads speed limits to 80km/h, as an energy saving and carbon dioxide emission reduction measure. We all know that idling (as in heavy traffic), slowdowns, revving up, braking, gear changes etc are what put consumption up.

I usually use 7.1 litres to 100km in the city where I live – about 14km/L for the country.

I think it would be better to:

1) improve roads – especially in urban areas where most people live;

2) reduce urban speed limits to 50km/h everywhere (cut out all the 30kms, 0s, 40s, and 60s that are unnecessary, confusing and increase consumption);

3) ask city dwellers to drive steadily according to traffic/road conditions; and

4) raise all non-urban roads to 110km/h, according to conditions. This would save time, which we know means money.

– Vince Carroll, Toowoomba

Rural women to advocate for local communities at State Parliament

This month, a delegation of rural women from across Queensland will head to Parliament House to share our policy priorities for the future, and we are determined to see outcomes.

At Rural, Regional and Remote Women, we are so proud to lead this group of passionate women from Gladstone, Hughenden, Biloela, Kingaroy, Barcaldine, Bundaberg, Maryborough, and Rockhampton. Together, our aim is to drive a stronger, more connected state for all Queenslanders.

Over two days, a group of delegates will meet with members of Parliament, ministers and policy and investment decision makers to speak about the issues they face and offer solutions, grounded in our lived experiences and backed by years of community engagement. We want to ensure the voices of women living in rural, regional, and remote areas are heard, understood, and acted on.

Our agenda is focused on tangible, positive priorities. From improving telecommunications and digital infrastructure to ensuring that, as renewable energy is rolled out, communities see tangible benefits, boosting financial literacy and counting the benefits of the state's volunteer economy: the triple shift. These are the issues that matter most to rural women. We are asking for policies that can help bridge the gaps between urban and rural Queensland.

For example, women are running small businesses in rural towns and we still don't have fast and reliable internet. With the digital economy increasing every year, rural women need more access to customers across the country and the globe equally to their peers in urban centres.

Our delegates are leaders, innovators, and advocates for their communities, and they are eager to work with all parts of government to create meaningful change. By engaging directly with policymakers, we aim to build policies that are responsive to the unique needs of rural women, ultimately improving life for all Queenslanders.

I am confident that together we can achieve real progress. Rural women are at the heart of our communities, and their voices will be heard. We're here to shape a future where every Queensland woman, no matter where she lives, has equal opportunity.

– Emma Clarke, president, RRR Women

Time to consider splitting the state – and the LNP

It is probably time to split the state and indeed the LNP. The needs and priorities of regional and urban Australia can be very different; let the Nationals run their own agenda and the Liberals (who should re-name themselves the Conservatives because it isn't a liberal party) run their agenda and they can form a Coalition when they go to the polls and achieve Government (while protecting or fighting for the interests of their respective constituents – just like Labor and the Greens).

Indeed, to better serve the interests of constituents in the state, it is perhaps timely to declare a state of Greater Brisbane from the Sunshine Coast to the Gold Coast and NSW border, with the BCC becoming its state government, representing predominantly urban and suburban interests.

The rest of the state could remain Queensland, predominantly provincial, with the most economically significant city declared the capital, outside of a new state of Greater Brisbane.

Down in Victoria, debt is out of control and the state sold off most of its valuable utilities in the early 1990s, which could have been used to trade out of debt today.

Probably, the next government will have to impose an annual – if not half yearly – levy or tax on property owning Victorians for some years to trade itself out of debt; though possibly it might be helped by staging the Olympics in 2032 that it already has the infrastructure for, and let Queensland and Greater Brisbane concentrate on managing its water.

– Johu Dobinson, Brisbane

Penalties are failing to stop mobile use in cars

It is clear that the current penalties and detection methods for mobile phone use while driving are not effective. It is common to see drivers using their mobile phones while driving and when stopped at traffic lights.

It's time that technology was introduced into cars to disable mobile phones, thus relieving their users of the seemingly impossible burden of voluntarily disconnecting from their phones.

– David Wilson, Chapman, ACT

OUR ADVICE

Be wary of specific gifts in Wills

In *Mann v Mann and Ors* [2024] QSC 50, the Court was asked to consider the construction of a clause in the Will of the late Geoffrey Mann to ascertain the deceased's intention in relation to a gift of farm property.

The Queensland Government resumed about 40 per cent of the family's cane farm (Mill Road farm) in December 2010 (being lots two, three, five and six) and paid partial compensation.

Because of the resumption, the Mill Road farm consisted of lots one and four, and Mr Mann devised the Mill Road farm as lots one and four in his Will, signed in October 2015.

In July 2016 (before Mr Mann signed his Will), the Cairns Regional Council (Council) gave notice of its intention to resume part of lot one of the Mill Road farm. The resumption was implemented in January 2018, and full compensation, paid in October 2017 after Mr Mann's death in February 2018, the Queensland Government revoked its resumption and returned the resumed land.

Under section 17 of the Acquisitions of Land Act 1981 (Qld), this meant the resumption was void from the beginning. Mr Mann's Will left his half share of the Mill Road farm and two other family farms to his adult children, and the residue of his estate to his wife.

At the time he made his Will, Mr Mann referred to lots one and four as he believed the Queensland Government resumption had reduced the size of the Mill Road farm and that further compensation would be paid. He did not anticipate later events. After Mr Mann's death, the Court was asked to determine whether the land returned by the Queensland Government and the Council compensation payment should form part of the specific gift to the children or form part of the residue estate for Mrs Mann. The Court found that the Will excluded lots two, three, five and six and those lots were therefore excluded from the specific gift to Mr Mann's children. Although you cannot always predict a change of circumstances, you should be cautious about including specific gifts in your Will as the description of the assets may change over time.

Kylie Wilson – Partner, Spark Helmore

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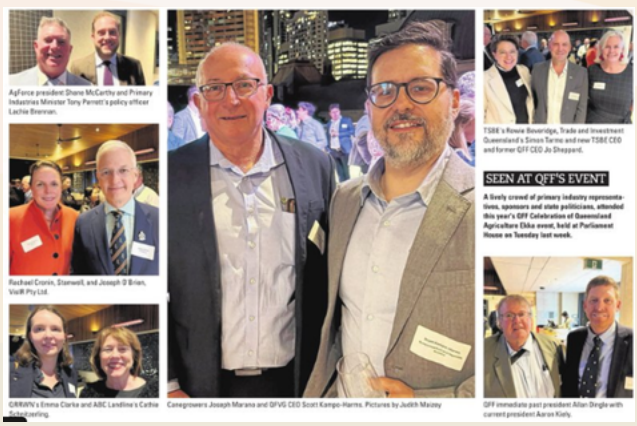
GUIDELINES: Readers' opinions should be concise and no more than 250 words. Occasionally, longer letters will be published at the discretion of the Editor. Writers should include their full name, address and phone number for confirmation of letters. Letters and web comments may be edited for length, clarity or for legal concerns.







Rural women driving policy

OUTCOMES in energy policy, mental health, telecommunications, the volunteering economy and financial literacy were the focus when a delegation of rural, regional and remote Queensland women travelled to Brisbane last week for the 2025 Queensland Rural, Regional, Remote Women's Network (RRR Women) State Parliament Delegation.

Women from Gladstone, Biloela, Kingaroy, Barcaldine, Bundaberg, Maryborough and Rockhampton met with MPs, ministers and senior decision-makers to progress policy changes that will deliver tangible improvements for communities outside metropolitan centres.

Across two days, including a state parliament luncheon attended by more than 100 members, guests and MPs, and a Queensland Women's Economic Security Strategy Thought Leaders

Via a roundtable hosted by Member for Maroochydore Fiona Simpson, the delegation worked to secure commitments, shape upcoming reform, and strengthen long-term investment in regional Queensland.

The delegation's goal is to ensure the priorities of rural, regional and remote women directly inform government decision-making and translate into practical outcomes on the ground, stronger services, fairer access and more sustainable community and economic development.

RRR Women president Emma Clarke said the delegation was designed to convert lived experience into policy outcomes.

"Our delegates bring diverse perspectives and deep local knowledge, and they are focused on outcomes that strengthen the social and economic fabric of regional Queensland," Ms Clarke said.

"By presenting unified, evidence-based priorities, we aim to advance equity and inclusion and ensure the issues affecting rural women are not only heard but acted upon.

"These women lead policy conversations in their communities every day, bringing those insights to Parliament accelerates real change."

The delegation's discussions centred on RRR Women's priority areas:

- Stronger telecommunications and digital infrastructure, ensuring communities gain reliable connectivity that supports safety, education, disaster recovery and business growth.
- Greater energy policy certainty and responsible renewable rollout, delivering long-term security and community benefit.
- Improved financial literacy and increased economic participation, enabling women to build economic resilience and access emerging opportunities.
- Recognition and support for the volunteering economy, the "triple shift", ensuring volunteers' contributions are valued and sustainably supported.
- Enhanced mental health access and outcomes for rural and remote communities.

These priorities reflect decades of engagement with rural, regional and remote women, backed by insights from the Rural, Regional, Remote Women Report.

Biloela grazier Casey Alsop, said building working relationships with local MPs would have long term and positive outcomes for women in the bush.

"We met face to face with MPs and policy makers and we felt that our voices were heard, understood and respected."



RRR Women vice president, Melissa Brooke, Bundaberg, and Member for Algester Leeanne Enoch.



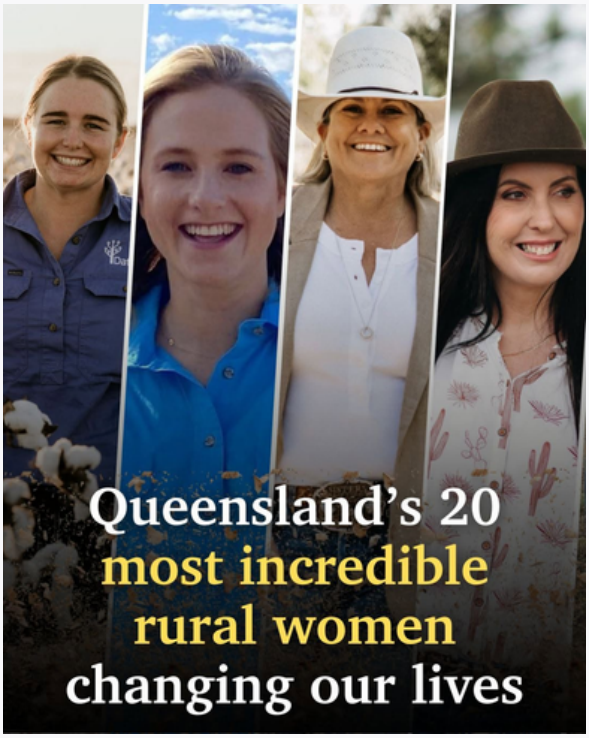
Tash Kocks, Michelle McVeigh, Casey Alsop, Emma Clarke, Hon Fiona Simpson MP, Melissa Brooke, Jonty Bush, Mary Lockton



Wendy Henning, Queensland ICPA president.



Mary Lockton, RRR Women board member.





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Rural Queensland Women's Survey: conditions, wants and needs

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