

Welcome to Issue 40 of the Network for Women in Forestry (NWIF) newsletter. If you would like to subscribe to receive the newsletter directly please email sonya@blackburnegroup.co.nz. **This newsletter is for you, Women in Forestry, and we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future content.**

Northland mums mean business

By Christine Allen

Not many people can say they have a 4-month-old general manager but one Onerahi mum who runs her business from home says she wouldn't have it any other way. Christine Allen talks to Philippa Mannagh, founder of business networking group Northland Mums in Business.

Little Willow-Mae Mannagh sits on her blue bumbo on the kitchen table. She is chewing a soft toy and giggling at the shenanigans of Boots the schnauzer and Vespa the cat while her mother takes a call from a client and finishes an email on her laptop. This is a regular scene at the Mannaghs' Onerahi household as self-employed "mumtrepreneur" Philippa juggles being a wife, primary caregiver for three children and businesswoman.

Mothers running a business from home is not a new phenomenon but Philippa is part of a group of Northland mums who meet once a month to inspire, encourage and share business leads.

Aside from running the network event, Ms Mannagh runs Liked Media, a company that combines her work as a freelance writer, web content guru and social media coach for businesses.

Up to 20 mums met at Philippa's Onerahi home last week, to network with and support each other. Each gives a gold coin donation towards the monthly event, which features guest speakers, tips and business leads for the photographers, engineers, butchers, beauticians, personal trainers and health practitioners who attend.

"I started this networking group so mums could support mums. The challenges we face are unique to us," she says.

Philippa's mums in business tips:

1. Get help. You're not Wonder Woman, you're human. We can't do it all and something will give. Hire a regular cleaner or a childminder in the holidays to take some of the load. Outsourcing certain areas in your life is necessary to make things work.
2. Set boundaries. Take lunch breaks and have a "close-of-business" time.
3. Stay motivated. Get up and into work mode when you are juggling work and children's schedules. Jump in the shower, put on some work clothes and makeup, even if you are working from home all day.
4. Diary everything. Include your time and aim to work ahead. There are always bumps in the road and they catch us out when we least expect them, so anything you can tick off in advance makes the drive more enjoyable.
5. Designate a space. Have some that is just for your office/work.
6. Be realistic. Often it's about making things work so you can be flexible around your children so stick to that aim and if you need a sick day or to go to a sports event, take it.

Source: Northern Advocate, 11 Mar 2015

March 2015, Issue 40

Forward Foundation empowers young women through sport

Forward Foundation is set to empower young women and increase leadership and development opportunities through sport with the launch of its first nationwide initiative.

On March 8 – International Women’s Day – female high school students throughout New Zealand were able to apply for the Forward Foundation Ambassador Programme.

Forward Foundation founder and trustee, Maddy Surie, says the programme will encourage more active sporting leadership involvement from young females, where there is currently an imbalance compared to men.

“Our goal is to see young Kiwi women achieve in both sport and leadership, and in the long run, have a stronger female voice in sporting governance in New Zealand,” Surie says.

The Foundation will select 20 applicants to become Forward Foundation Ambassadors, who will receive an ‘ambassador pack’ of goods donated from business sponsors.

Ambassadors will occupy an active role in school or community sport, initiating projects and growth opportunities to assist both personal and sporting development.

The Foundation also hopes this programme will assist its growth and contribute to reaching a long term goal – establishing a tertiary education scholarship for promising young leaders in sport.

Source: www.scoop.co.nz/stories, 6 Mar 2015

This is a newsletter for you - the Women in forestry. Please email us and let us know what you want to see and read about in the next newsletter.

GDP figures show growth in all NZ regions

Economic Development Minister Steven Joyce welcomed the latest regional gross domestic product (GDP) data release, which shows that all regional economies in New Zealand have grown in the last 12 months.

The GDP figures for 15 regions for the year ended March 2014 were released by Statistics New Zealand on 11 March 2015, revealing a national increase of 6.7 per cent.

“Today’s nominal GDP data, combined with the Household Labour Force data last month showing employment growth of 80,000 jobs in the last year, paints a strong picture of a broad-based economic recovery,” Mr Joyce says.

“Strong sustainable economic growth is the only way to create more jobs and increase incomes.”

Several regions grew strongly above the national average, including Southland (11.0 percent), Canterbury (10.6 percent), Marlborough (10.3 percent), Waikato (10.1 percent) and Northland (7.8 percent).

The Auckland and Wellington regions had the smallest increases of 5.1 percent and 4.4 percent respectively.

“Overall, the South Island has experienced stronger growth than the North Island over the last five years. The South has grown 27 per cent while the North has grown 21 per cent in five years. That’s another signal, alongside lower unemployment rates, that there are significant job opportunities in the South Island.”

New Zealand’s total GDP was \$229.7 billion for the year ended March 2014. The North Island contributed 76.6 percent to total GDP, compared with 23.4 percent from the South Island.

Source: www.beehive.govt.nz/release, 11 Mar 2015