

# Shepherdess

NĀ TE WAHINE, MŌ TE WHENUA. FROM THE WOMEN, FOR THE LAND.



Shepherdess NĀ TE WAHINE, MŌ TE WHENUA. FROM THE WOMEN, FOR THE LAND.

RAUMATI SUMMER 2024/25 | TWENTIETH EDITION



Our cover model, Jill McKenzie, 101, shares a moment with her two great-nieces, Bryony Steven (left) and Genevieve Northcote, at her home in Kaikōura. Genevieve wrote to *Shepherdess* to nominate Jill for a story, which led us to send a photographer, Nancy Zhou, and a writer, Anna Brankin (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Māmoe), to spend time with Jill to find out more. “We are so proud of her as a family. She’s incredibly strong, she’s incredibly generous – she just epitomises something so wholesome and real about rural women in New Zealand,” says Genevieve. “She works the land, she’s practical, she’s pragmatic. She’s had some tough things in her life and she just keeps on going and finds joy in everyday purpose. She gives her smile and her thoughtfulness so generously to others, and she just makes people feel really special – that’s why she’s got so many lovely friends and a family that just adores her. I think being with her we all come away feeling just super-grounded, and she puts an amazing perspective on things. We can get pretty caught up in the whirl of life – and here’s Jill at 101 out there planting her crop of tomatoes. Last March she was putting horse poo in her glasshouse because she was determined she was going to have a crop of tomatoes this summer.” Read about Jill’s remarkable life and her love of the land on page 46.

For this edition, *Shepherdess* traversed hills and valleys to wild coasts, sprawling stations and timber mills.



KAWERAU page 112

AWAKINO page 26

WHANGANUI page 22

RANGIWHAKAOMA CASTLEPOINT page 54

DARFIELD page 36

TARRAS page 84

TAIHAPE page 110

TORA page 28

KAIKŌURA page 46

SPRINGSTON page 24

WĀNAKA page 62