

# "Stories of Advance Practice Nursing in Rural New Zealand"

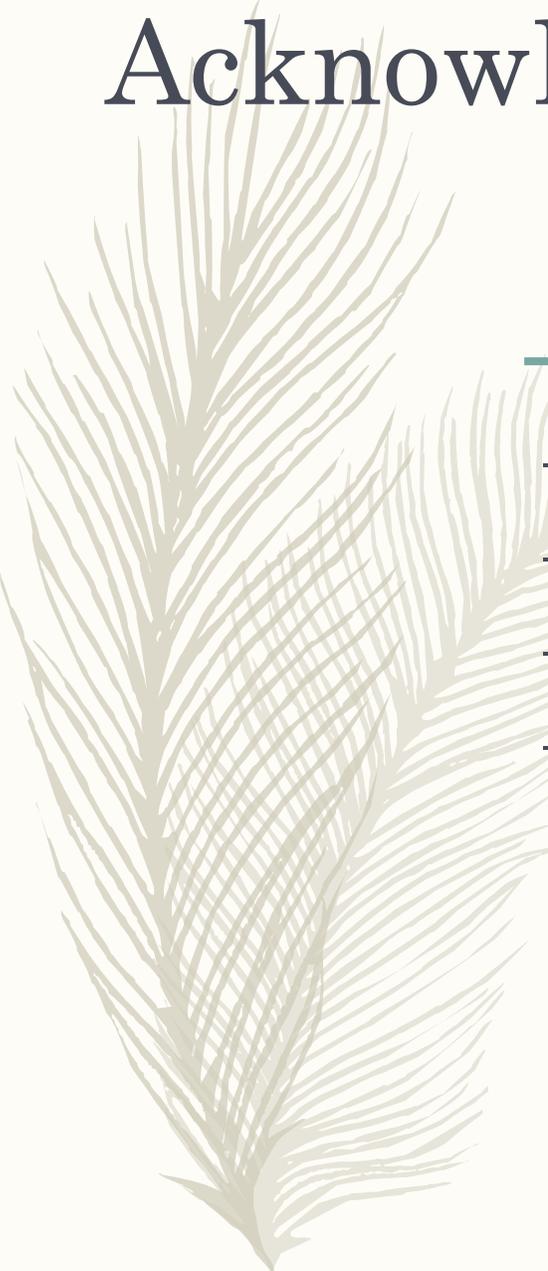
Jean Ross

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Associate Professor  
College of Health,  
Otago Polytechnic  
Dunedin, New Zealand



# Acknowledgments



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- Rural Nurse participants
- Josie Crawley, and Rachel Parmee for their involvement in this research project
- Otago Polytechnic, Contestable Funding 2016-2018
- Griffin Leonard, Research Assistant



# Objectives

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- Provide an overview of the research process through the lens of rural nurse stories,
- Discuss the rationale why rural nurses' practice has historically been and continues to be unique to the rural geographical, economic and professional isolated contexts,
- Demystify rural nurses' practice as misunderstood.





# Introduction

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- The rural population accounts for almost half of the total global population and these communities are confronted with reduced access to healthcare contributing to increased health disparities (National Health Committee, 2010).
- New Zealand health care system has been subject to major health care reforms over the past three decades, in a climate of economic and regularity change.
- Reforms influence the provision of health care, health care changed from national to local community governance.
- Rural areas often suffer more due to lack of access to healthcare related to lack of providers including specialists, travel and/or cost (Couper, et al., 2015).

# Context

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- Nurses play a critical role in reducing health disparities around the globe and are therefore placed in an opportune position to make a difference to health care (Ross, 2016).



# Rural Nurse Stories: A Research Project

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Project commenced 2016 including gaining ethical approval from Otago Polytechnic Ethics Committee

Participants and generating their stories who met criteria

Each nurse is the orchestrator of their own story, their story is in their own word and published in *Stories of Nursing in Rural Aotearoa: A Landscape of Care* (Ross & Crawley, 2018)

Thematic analysis of all rural nurse stories are shared in this presentation in alignment with Wang & Geale (2015).

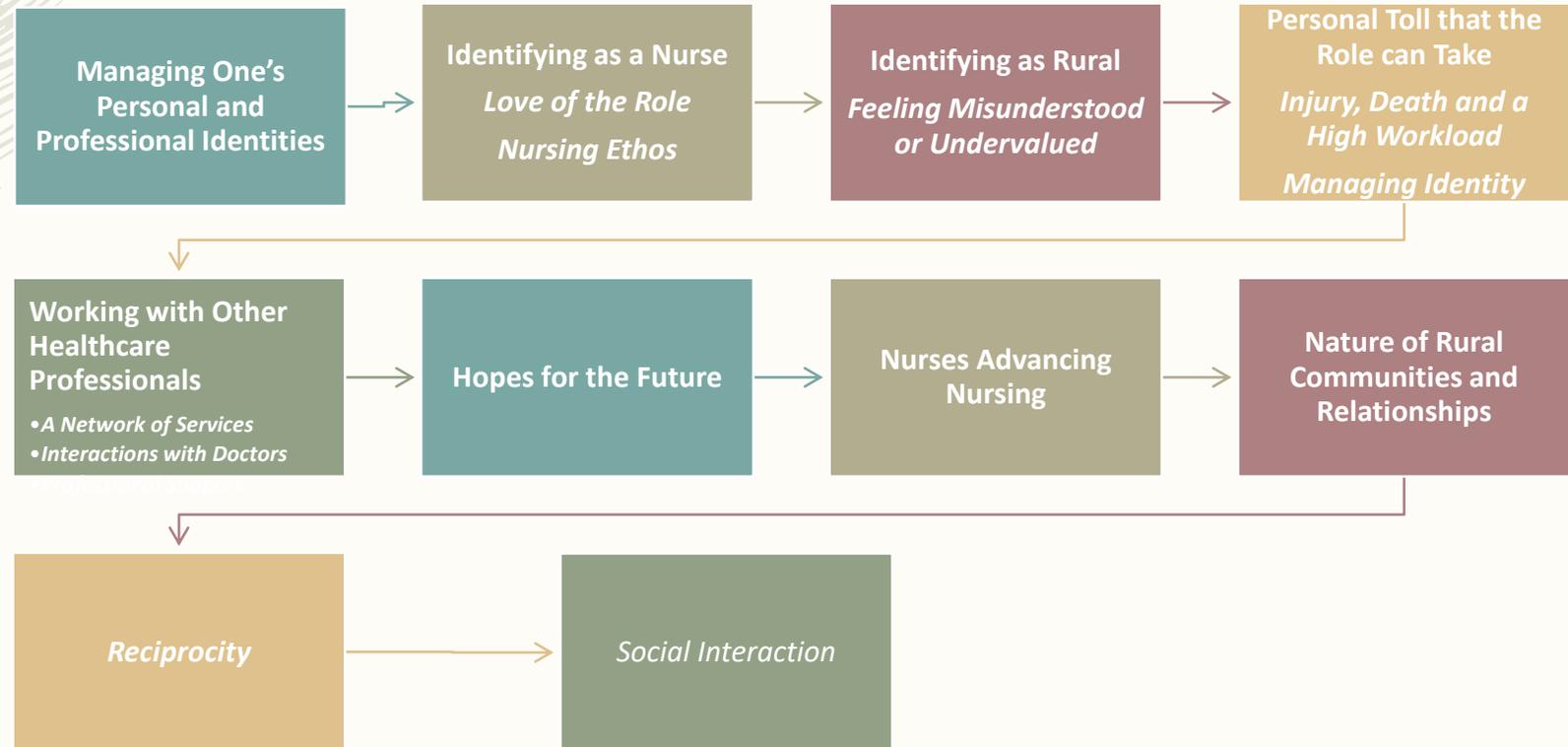


# Narrative Framework- Themes

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- **Interaction** – *Personal and Social*
- **Continuity** – *Past/Present and Future*
- **Situation & Place**

# Interactions - Personal & Social





# *Love of the Role*

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- *I think nursing made me grow up, in I have a high standard and expect that of others. I think nursing made me grow up, in a heck of a hurry. It made me more respectful and thoughtful of other people. It shaped me into a person that I might never have become. If those three girls hadn't of talked me into going nursing, I don't know where I would have been. It just gave me a whole different perspective on life, really, and how important life is, and how we should live each day to the best of our ability, because you don't know when that's going to end. – Rural Nurse Story 11, Lines 294-299.*
- *If you put the patient at the top of the list and make sure that they're the ones that you're looking after, you usually can't go wrong. –Rural Nurse Story 5, Lines 168-169.*



# *Rural Nursing Ethos*

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- *... how we should live each day to the best of our ability, because you don't know when that's going to end. – Rural Nurse Story 4 Lines 294-299.*
- *If you put the patient at the top of the list and make sure that they're the ones that you're looking after, you usually can't go wrong. – Rural Nurse Story 5, Lines 168-169*

- *If those three girls hadn't of talked me into going nursing, I don't know where I would have been. It just gave me a whole different perspective on life, really, and how important life is, and how we should live each day to the best of our ability, because you don't know when that's going to end. – Rural Nurse Story 4, Lines 294-299.*

# Continuity- Present/Future





# *Changing Rural Communities*

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- It was predominately sheep country, now there are cows everywhere, many sheep and beef farms have been converted to dairy. That has brought whole new range of people to the area and with them a lot of migrant workers. Many traditional established sheep farmers moved on. It was very obvious when working in Public health especially in the school situations as the migrant workers brought with them their own social issues previously not seen in the established communities. – Rural Nurse story 23, Lines 41-46.*

# Situation & Place



# *A Sense of Place*

- *I think this is paradise myself that's why I wanted to come back, I love the hills, I love the seasons yeah, it's perfect being here I will always stay here. – Rural Nurse Story 8 Lines 165-166.*



- *The bird life on [place name removed] is just unbelievable. And I love birds. I sit there and I look at the Tuis and the kaka and bellbirds - you just can't take that for granted either - you don't see that everywhere. I Have Kiwi in my Garden at times and also whitetail deer. – Rural Nurse Story 5, Lines 233-235.*



# *The Rural Way*

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- *I was always interested in why people choose to live on islands but unfortunately there is very little literature internationally that I have ever been able to discover... The islanders are amazingly resilient. Whether it be because of the weather or their low incomes they have learned to carve out a sustainable lifestyle. Obviously they're also independent and hardy. But once someone is considered an 'insider' they respond quickly to each other's needs. An example being if a boat breaks its mooring in a storm, they're all there helping secure it. I presume that's not only an island characteristic, but perhaps a rural one as well. Certainly the people on this island embody these traits. – Rural Nurse story 11, Lines 231-241.*

# *The Rural Way*

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- *They've got a 'can do' attitude. They care about their neighbours. They're "greenies" in their own right, so they love the environment they live in and they look after it (believe it or not). They're known for their number 8 wire approach and their ability to diversify when the need arises. West Coast people like the peace and serenity their environment brings. – Rural Nurse Story 4, Lines 160-164.*





# Future



## Interaction

*Love of the Role*  
*Rural Nursing Ethos*  
*Reciprocity*

## Continuity

*Pioneering Spirit*  
*Changing rural communities*  
*Increased responsibility/decreased autonomy*  
*Increased technology*

## Situation & Place

*A Sense of Place*  
*The Rural Way*



# References:

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## GLOBAL RURAL NURSING EXCHANGE NETWORK

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*A learning network focused on rural nursing practice, education and research*

## Invitation to join Global Rural Nursing Exchange Network (GRNEN)

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- The Global Rural Nursing Exchange Network (GRNEN) is a collaboration of the Rural Nursing Organization (RNO), the MHCH Foundation, Sanford Health and various university around the globe.
- GRNEN has been created to provide a forum to connect rural nurses, nurse practitioners, educators, researchers and students who share a passion for improving the health of rural communities and an appreciation for the role nurses play in serving these communities. We are driven by the belief that by uniting our community and providing a platform for meaningful conversation we will encourage global diversity and engage multiple perspectives to improve decision making and progress on issues that matter most to rural nurses and rural communities around the globe.
- Please Get in Touch: [info@grnen.org](mailto:info@grnen.org)