

PUKEMIRO STATION

CADETSHIP

Training the Next Generation of Farmers

Information Booklet

2024/2025



Station Details

The ADB Williams Trust comprises of:

- The original Pukemiro Station Block (1000ha)
- The Ottawa Farm (740ha)

Pukemiro Station

Pukemiro (930ha effective) is a mixed breeding and finishing property which is typically summer dry. The hills are home to 5500 Romney breeding ewes & hogget's and 100 Hereford/Friesian cows. The flats and rolling country are utilised to finish all lambs and calves bred at Pukemiro and Ottawa. Additional cattle and trade lambs are purchased as the seasons allow and utilise a variety of forage crops grown on the property. The majority of the stock work is completed using farm vehicles however, horses are used for mustering at times and provide recreational opportunities for both staff and cadets in weekends and after hours.

Ottawa Farm

Ottawa is located in the summer safe district of Coonoor. It is home to 3500 Romney breeding ewes & hogget's and 200 Angus breeding cows and replacement heifers. The majority of lambs and calves bred at Ottawa are sent to Pukemiro for finishing. Ottawa's steeper contour provides excellent mustering opportunities for the second-year cadets who assist the Ottawa manager on a rotational basis.

Governance/Management

Pukemiro Station/Ottawa Staff

Farm staff will work alongside and coach the cadets during the course of the normal work day. Farm staff consist of

- Operations Manager
- Ottawa Manager
- Maintenance Manager
- Stock Manager

Other Staff

- Academic Tutor (part time, off farm)
- Pastoral Care Co-ordinator
- HR Marketing

Governance

- 4 Trustees of ADB Williams Trust

Infrastructure/Accommodation

Student Accommodation

The cadets have a bedroom each in the cadet's cottage along with a communal kitchen, lounge, dining room, 2 bathrooms, 3 toilets and a laundry.

Teaching Facilities

All theory course work will be delivered in the fully functional cadet classroom and will be available outside of course hours for study if requested.

Student Training

The majority of the cadets time will be spent working on the farm with 'on the job' training provided by farm staff and supported by access to specialist training in the following areas:

- Vehicle maintenance and safety
- Chainsaw work and safety
- Shearing
- Fencing
- Crop and pasture agronomy
- Ram and Bull buying
- Financial and budgeting
- Career guidance, CV and employment advice
- Public speaking

On the job training provided by staff includes:

Livestock handling and husbandry, dagging, crutching, vaccinating, drenching, docking, killing sheep, butchery, horse handling and riding, mustering, cattle handling, livestock weighing and drafting.

Farm maintenance – water system extension and maintenance, electric and conventional fencing and maintenance.

Environmental enhancements – erosion control through pole planting, riparian fencing and planting.

Cadets will also have the opportunity to engage with our business stakeholders – livestock reps, fertiliser reps, seed and spray reps, Ag contractors, wool buyers, farm merchandise suppliers and financiers.

Theory training will be delivered in the classroom on farm one day per week. Theory training is delivered by out theory tutor and supported by external specialists and the wider industry with certain topics.

Pukemiro Infrastructure

As well as the accommodation and teaching facilities already mentioned above, we have

- 3 Staff Houses
- Shearers Quarters
- 5 stand Woolshed and Covered Yards
- Cattle Yards
- Satellite Sheep Yards
- Storage and Hay sheds throughout the farm

Application Process

The Application

To apply for the Pukemiro Station Cadetship the following must be received

- A copy of your current Driver's License, Passport or Birth Certificate.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two references and referees
- Hand written introductory Cover Letter
- Completed application Form

Application Deadline

Full application documentation is due by the 31st July.

Applications can be submitted by email to applications@pukemiro.co.nz

or by posting to

Pukemiro Station
854 Otope Rd, RD 5
Dannevirke, 4975

Interviews

Interviews will be held between August and September and the applicants will be given at least one week's notice if shortlisted.

We recommend that parents/caregivers attend the interview to be shown the farm and facilities.

Commencement of Cadetship

The successful applicants will be required to begin the cadetship in mid-January.

Allowance

The successful applicants will receive the following

- Wet weather gear.
- Food, accommodation and course fees provided.
- A contribution towards the purchase of a huntaway dog in the 2nd year of cadetship.
- Occasional paid weekend work when require and if on duty.
- Weekly allowance.

Training/Qualifications

Training

Cadet will receive the following

- Practical on-farm training in all day-to-day operations of Pukemiro Station including stockmanship, fencing, animal husbandry, feed management, and farm technology to name a few.
- Personal training and growth such as cooking, leadership, goal setting, time management and domestic chores/house-keeping.

Qualifications

The theory/academic side of the cadetship is delivered by an on-farm tutor and outsourced by EIT. Cadets will be enrolled with EIT at the stations expense. During the cadetship the following courses will be studied

- New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture - Vehicles, Machinery and Infrastructure Level 3
- New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture - Farming Systems Level 3
- New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture – Breeding Livestock Farming Level 4

Cadetship Information

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria

- Be over 16 years of age prior to the 1st of January in the year cadetship commences.
- Have completed NCEA Level 1
- Be a New Zealand Resident
- Agree to abide by all the rules and conditions set out by Pukemiro Station
- Maintain Pukemiros' smoke free policy

Selection Process

- Applications open mid-June
- Applications close July 31st
- Shortlisted applicants will be notified for interviews.
- Interviews will commence August/September.
- Successful applicants will be notified at the conclusion of the interview process.
- All enrolment and required personal information completed by mid-November.
- Cadetship commences mid-January.

Terms of Cadetship

- Enrolment of Cadetship is 2 years
- Successful cadets must complete a medical check-up and provide documentation of up-to-date tetanus injections.
- 2nd year cadets are to play a mentor role to 1st year cadets.
- Cadets must agree to abide by all rule specified throughout enrolment.
- Cadets must abide by all health and safety regulations at Pukemiro Station
- Cadets must complete theory work in line with EIT course requirements

If repetition of negligence to Pukemiro Stations terms of cadetship and/or rules occur, a written warning will be issued. If this continues after a written warning, Pukemiro Station has the right to terminate an individual's cadetship.

ADB WILLIAMS TRUST

History of the Trust

Mr Allen Donald Buchanan (Don) Williams formed ADB Williams Trust, a charitable Trust in 1983. The object of the Trust included the training and education of persons in farming within New Zealand.

Before Mr Williams passed away in late 1883, he gifted his property, Pukemiro Trust at Otope, Dannevirke, to the Trust.

In 1985 three Dannevirke students were the first beneficiaries of the Trust. Each was granted a full university fees bursary for each of the three years to help them in their studies.

The Trust continued to grant various tertiary bursaries until 2018 when Pukemiro Cadetship scheme was commenced.

Since 1985 many community organisations have benefited significantly from the charitable trust's contributions, particularly in the Tararua District.

Pukemiro Station and the adjoining Awakeri initially were part of the Otawhao Block. Pukemiro was inherited by Donald Williams' mother (from whom he subsequently inherited it) and his aunt inherited Awakeri. Awakeri was later sold by her family.

The Trust purchased a 420 hectare, summer safe property in Coonoor in 2002. It has added to this with the purchase of the 318 hectare adjoining farm in early 2020. The two properties are now known as "Otawa".

In 2013 Awakeri was placed on the market again for sale. Seldom do adjoining properties become available and the Trust seized the opportunity to purchase Awakeri and amalgamate the two properties now known as "Pukemiro".

The amalgamation of the two properties was the catalyst for the Trustees to review the operation to continue delivering the objects of the Trust Deed – to help young men and women develop their careers in agriculture.

Students from Taratahi Agricultural Institute in Masterton were taught on the farm during 2014 – 2017.

In 2018 the Pukemiro Cadetship Scheme was established and the Trust welcomed the first three cadets to their 2 year on-farm course.