

Marram

outlook

AUTUMN 2014

Magazine of the Marram Community

inside this issue

It's known as the hottest, driest & coldest place!

Introducing Theresa

Our Alexandra House Volunteer

MEET THE MARRAM TEAM

Contributor Notices

Great to see so many people
benefiting from Marram

REFER & WIN!



Welcome

TO THE FIRST OUTLOOK FOR 2014

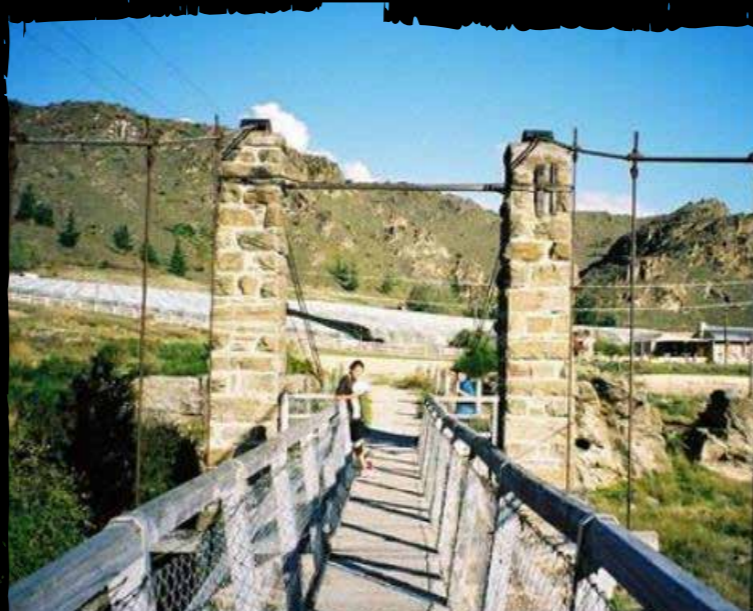
The Marram Trustees and staff hope that 2014 is proving to be a happy and successful year for you and your family. There's so much media talk of economic recovery and New Zealand being a lucky country; let's hope it's all true and those of us fortunate to be part of the Marram community stay healthy and make the most of the holiday homes.

During some of the tougher economic times of the last five years, we've seen employees of the affiliated companies scaling back or cancelling expensive health insurance in favour of being part of the Marram community and requesting reimbursement of their healthcare expenses. The result has been a large upturn in requests and distributions: we've been able to accommodate both in terms of the workload and money. The small increase in contributions requested by the Board helped enormously, so despite the extra money being distributed we're looking for ways to do more.

The economic times also increased demand for the holiday homes such that the Marram homes are as popular as ever. The challenge is to keep them up to date with the quality you expect in the places you want to be and at the lowest price. For the fifth year in a row, there's another big refurbishment programme this year and the prospect of several new homes. As always, your co-operation in looking after the homes is appreciated. Some people just don't understand what Marram is all about and abuse the homes, but they're few and getting fewer as we catch up with them.

The Marram website will receive another update this year. It's almost an annual event but given that's how over 85% of people communicate with Marram, it's very much an online operation. If you haven't tried the website yet to make your holiday bookings, we urge you to try it. You can't break it and we're always happy to provide instruction. Please be in touch if we can help.

Glenn Clark (CEO)



IT'S KNOWN AS THE HOTTEST, DRIEST & COLDEST TOWN IN NEW ZEALAND



Whether it be during the heat of summer or the cold, crisp winter days, Alexandra has four distinct seasons and is a unique place to visit at any time of the year.

If you love history, Alexandra is teeming with relics from its past, including mining dredges, a water wheel located outside the town's museum and many historic buildings, railway bridges and walks.

But it's not just its past that has made Alexandra what it is today - the town has discovered a new type of gold with its many orchards and vineyards producing top-quality fruit and wine which have gained an international reputation.

Ride it, walk it, experience it! The Otago Central Rail Trail, which follows the original rail line from Clyde through to Middlemarch, was the first of its kind to be constructed in New Zealand.

Alexandra is known as Central Otago's thriving commercial and cultural hub and there's plenty to see and do all year round.

When Fiona and Debbie of the Marram property team were in Alexandra finishing off the Marram home refurbishments, they were both impressed by the many eateries, wineries, parks, golf courses and the smiling locals. The drive from Queenstown to Alexandra was absolutely stunning.


Debbie and Fiona agreed that if they had the opportunity, they would like to bring their families back for a holiday.

Marram has two great homes right in the centre of town and they look impressive after their make-over.

Alexandra is the heart of Central Otago and is situated at the junction of State Highway 8 and State Highway 85.

- **Two Great homes**
- **Close to town**
- **Newly refurbished**
- **Nightly rate \$55-\$70**
- **Weekly rate \$180-\$245**
- **WOW! Value for Money!!!**
- **Book now!**

Introducing our Alexandra House Volunteer
....Theresa Gallagher.



Hi, I worked for the Post Office, NZ Post, then Kiwi Bank for 30 plus years. I have been retired now for 3 years. My interests now are the love of my family the enjoyment of my grandchildren, my garden and travel. After retirement, I spent four and a half months in France. In winter I play indoor bowls and in the summer lawn bowls where I meet and enjoy the company of so many people. I am a member of Probus and since retirement just don't know how I had time to work, life is so full. I have been the cleaner of the units over the past 20 years and the houseperson for the last 4 years.

Great to see so many people benefiting from Marram...

It is great to see how many employees from our affiliated organisations are involved in the Marram community - **32% of eligible employees.**

Last financial year, **\$4,337,608** was paid to reimburse healthcare expenses – benefiting employees, their partners and dependent children.

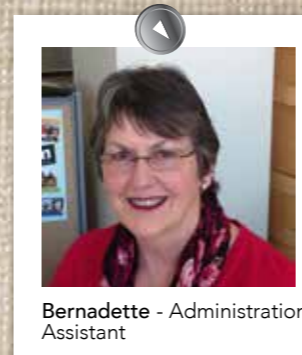
Also, **10,824 holidays** were taken, with most employees paying between **\$160 - \$295** for a whole week's accommodation!

The Marram benefits are available to most employees of our affiliated organisations.
For more information, please contact us on:
04 801 2920 or email: enquiries@marram.co.nz

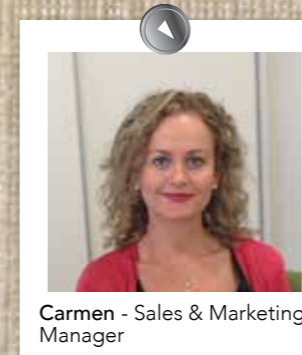


team Marram

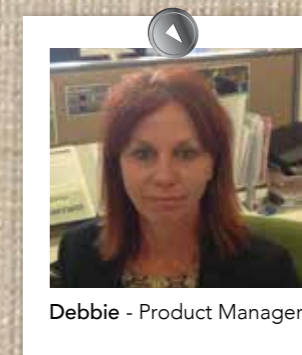
It's a small and dedicated bunch of people who bring you your Marram benefits every week. Introducing the Marram team!



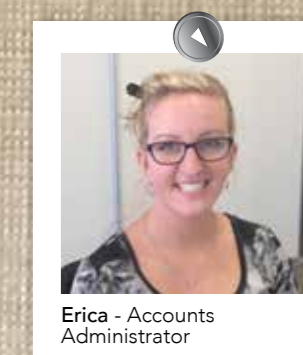
Bernadette - Administration Assistant



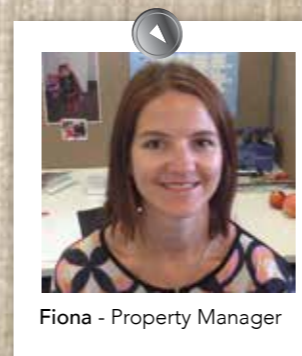
Carmen - Sales & Marketing Manager



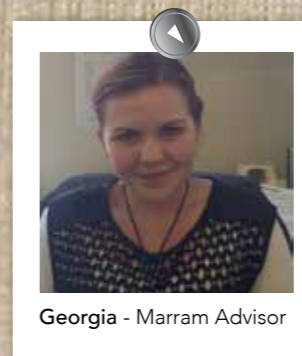
Debbie - Product Manager



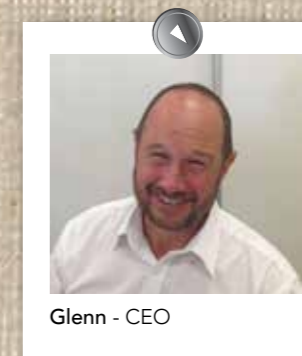
Erica - Accounts Administrator



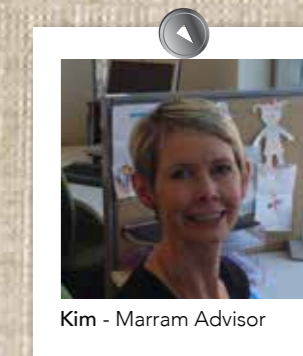
Fiona - Property Manager



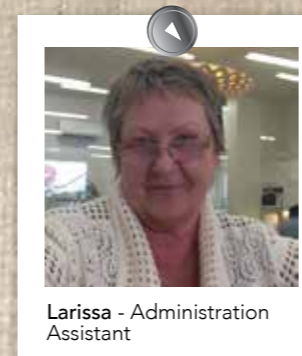
Georgia - Marram Advisor



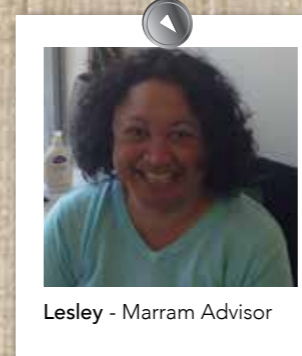
Glenn - CEO



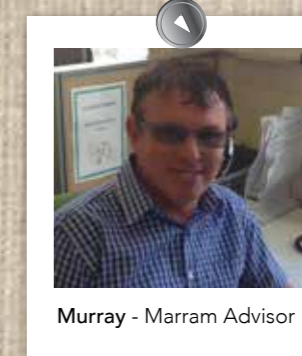
Kim - Marram Advisor



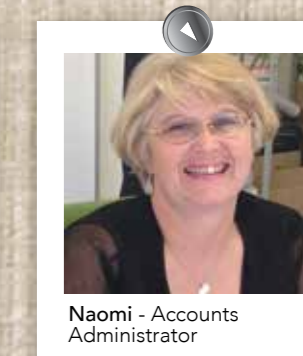
Larissa - Administration Assistant



Lesley - Marram Advisor



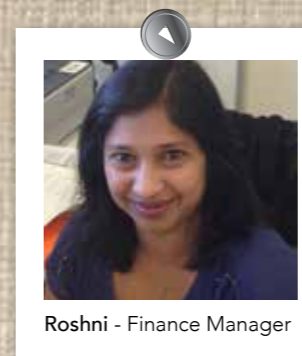
Murray - Marram Advisor



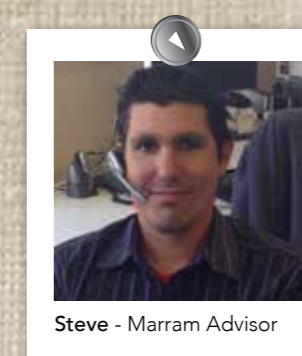
Naomi - Accounts Administrator



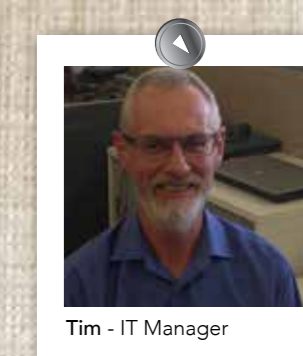
Paula - Head of Contributor Relations



Roshni - Finance Manager



Steve - Marram Advisor



Tim - IT Manager

CONTRIBUTOR NOTICES

Surcharges

Two separate surcharges are payable for Marram holiday home bookings. They are:

Pet Friendly Surcharge – this is payable if you book a Pet Friendly home in Maraetai Beach, Westport or New Plymouth. This surcharge is **\$10.00 per night** or **\$50.00 per week**. The money goes toward the extra fencing and cleaning.

Lifetime Surcharge – this is payable if you enjoy Lifetime Status and make a booking. The surcharge is:

- \$5.00 per night
- \$20.00 per week – off peak season
- \$30.00 per week – shoulder season
- \$100.00 per week – peak season

All surcharges and service fees are automatically included in the price you pay when you make a booking. You'll need to make an additional payment if you book a cleaner, payable at the end of your stay.

Eftpos Receipts for Healthcare Reimbursements

These alone are not enough to reimburse your healthcare expenses. Please provide us with a tax invoice from the treatment provider which must also detail the type of treatment/service you received.



WINNER OF FACEBOOK PHOTO COMPETITION

It was great to see all the fantastic holiday photos submitted on Marram's Facebook page. The lucky winner of the weekend away in a Marram home was Wendy Morrison with this great photo below.

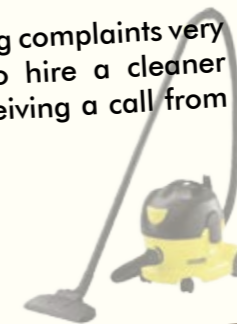
If you haven't already 'Liked' us on Facebook and want to see the latest deals, promotions or share your experience with us, go to www.facebook.com/MarramCommunityTrust and click on 'Like'.



VACUUMING

When on holiday, the last thing you want to do is vacuum clean but it is a necessity, especially when cleaning the un-serviced units before you depart. If you find the vacuum cleaner is not working to its full potential, please check to see if it requires the bag to be emptied, or the filters might need dusting off etc. Please take the time to clean it out or put in a new bag instead of leaving it for the next holiday maker to arrive. In this way, the vacuum cleaners remain in good working order for everyone to use. Thanks for your co-operation.

We do take cleaning complaints very seriously! Better to hire a cleanerinstead of receiving a call from us!



Reminder!

12 months advance bookings

On 1st January 2014 we introduced to you 12 months advance bookings so you can now plan and book your Marram holidays a year ahead. The balloted school holidays will still be reserved until the ballot has run and anything not allocated in the ballot will then be released for normal booking.

100% flexi-stays

We have also made all the homes flexi-stays (except the school holiday ballot periods) which means that you can book them any day of the week for any number of days. Gone are the weekly bookings from Saturday to Saturday.... start your holiday on any day of the week.

We wanted to give you more options and make it easier when making and planning your Marram holiday breaks.

Leaving Employment:

Do you pay your contributions by direct debit? Do you have a date that you will be leaving your employment? If so, please cancel your direct debit authority and also let us know, so we can inactivate your file. This will prevent any further deductions being made from your bank account. We don't always get notified by your employer and the direct debit continues to run until you stop it or we inactivate your file. We do not have the authority to cancel direct debits.

We also cannot provide refunds if you continue paying your contributions once you have left employment. It is up to you to cancel your direct debit please.

REFER & WIN!



iPad mini – your chance to win!

2 iPad mini's up for grabs! All you have to do is refer a colleague and instantly you are both in the draw.

So refer a work colleague between **28th February & 14th March 2014** and you **both** go into the draw to win one of two iPad Minis 16GB. If either of you are drawn as the winner, **you both win.**

All you need to do is go to www.marram.co.nz and click on **"Sign-up Now"** and complete the online application. When asked **"How did you find out about Marram?"** select **"Referred by Marram Contributor"** and complete **your name** and **organisation**. Alternatively, get them to complete a sign-up application saying you referred them and send into Marram.



C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
to our latest winners of the referral competition:
Annette Henry and **Peter McKeefry** from New Zealand Transport Agency. Annette's entry was drawn as our lucky winner and since Peter had referred her, they both took away an iPad mini.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEALTHCARE
Competition will be drawn 30th April 2014 and winner notified. Marram's terms & conditions apply.

Out with the old and in with the new....



Have you had two wives? Or even two husbands? Or maybe a partner and a wife or husband? Well, according to our records, some of you have multiple partners listed. If you have had relationship changes since you have been with Marram, could you please let us know so that we can update your file.

If you've been in a relationship with your partner/husband/wife for 12 months or more, you can include them as a dependent under your profile.

www.marram.co.nz