

Magazine of the Marram Community

inside this issue

Explore Ohakune

MEET SUNITA KUMAR

Our new Ohakune house volunteer

The Bridge to Nowhere

**Contributor
Notices**

Healthcare Matters

Marram Pet Friendly

**R E F E R
& BE REWARDED**

Photo Competition



visit **Ohakune**

You should visit Ohakune, the Mountain town. It's also known as the 'carrot capital' of New Zealand and you know you've hit Ohakune when you see the 10-metre carrot which is an iconic spot for a photograph!

Ohakune is at the foot of Mt Ruapehu with both Whakapapa and Turoa ski fields nearby. Whatever the season, the town of Ohakune is a base for adventures in the Tongariro National Park, for anyone wanting to have fun with the many outdoor activities such as mountain biking, skiing, snowboarding, kayaking, horse trekking, hiking, scenic flights and even trekking the Tongariro Crossing or canoeing the Whanganui River..... so give it a go!

Marram is well equipped for your adventures with three modern homes which can accommodate between 8-10 people...so bring your friends and/or family, as there's plenty of room for everyone!

The homes have great views of the mountain and are only minutes to the centre of town for restaurants and bars. Try the Powderkeg when you're there, it's an ideal refuelling stop for when you're exhausted from your activities and looking for a drink or bite to eat.



Live for the cycling



Live for adventure



Get 1 night **FREE!**

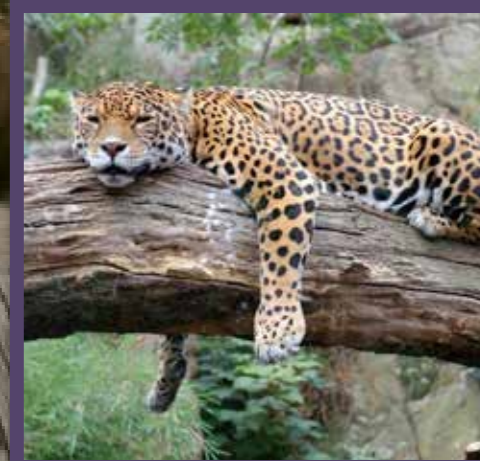
Explore with Marram and take advantage of our latest 'get 1 night free' offer. If you book a minimum of 2 nights in Ohakune during April and May, you can get an extra night free! So...what are you waiting for.....Book Now!!!



Live for the outdoors



Live for the snow



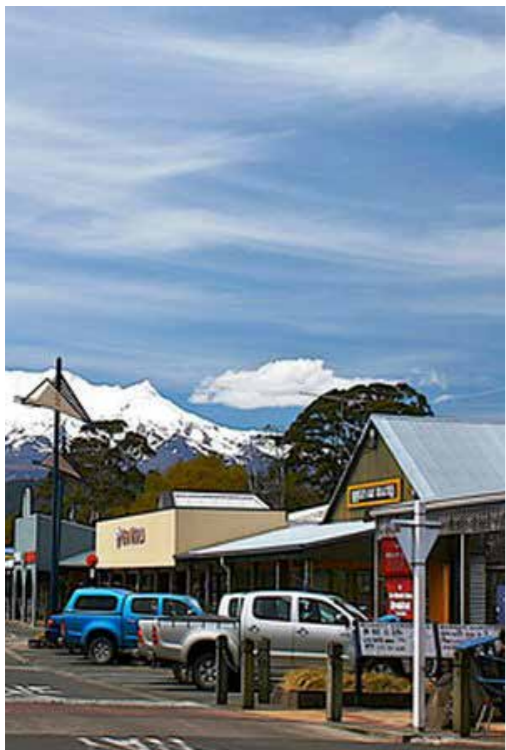
... Or live for the relaxation

Meet our new house volunteer for Ohakune

"Hi, my name is Sunita Kumar and I've been living in Ohakune for the past 9 years.

Ohakune is a very nice town. I like talking to people, walking and cycling and just love the Winter time. Prior to the last volunteer leaving, I used to help with the cleaning of the homes so have got to know how everything works."

Welcome aboard Sunita! Bottom line.....without our unique Marram Volunteers, we would be unable to provide holiday homes to you at such low prices. Thank you Sunita for taking this role on!



The Bridge to Nowhere

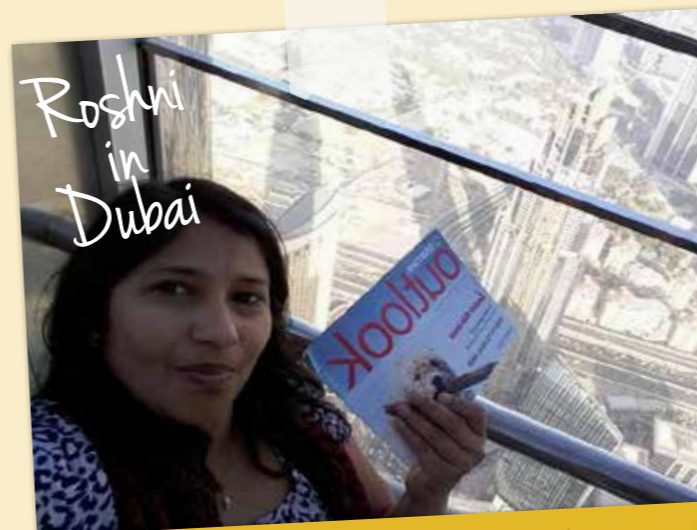
Last November, I was thrilled to visit the iconic Bridge to Nowhere. Completed in 1936, this impressive concrete bridge across a deep gorge was intended to service a rural community of "re-hab" farms established in remote Whanganui hill country after WW1. Unfortunately, the farming proved too tough and the Government paid the last of the settlers to move off their land and let it revert to native forest. The bridge was abandoned almost as soon as it was built but.....now it's used regularly by trampers and mountain bikers exploring this beautiful part of the North Island. It's now put to very good use.

For Marram holiday makers staying in our executive style holiday homes in Ohakune, the bridge is reached by a highly recommended grade 3 mountain bike ride, or by jet boat from nearby Pipiriki. If you ride to the bridge, then you and your bike can be picked up from the nearby Mangapurua Landing, ferried down river to Pipiriki and taken by shuttle back to your Marram home.....or you could ride back! I used www.bridgetonowhere.co.nz for the jet boat connections. Joe, the boat skipper, said collecting riders and ferrying them to Pipiriki is now a big part of his business.

If mountain biking isn't for you, then leave your car in Pipiriki, Joe will tell you where to park, then it's a beautiful trip up the river and a comfortable walk in and out from Mangapurau Landing to the bridge. A great way to spend a day. Check it out at the Dept of Conservation website.

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/ places-to-go/manawatu-whanganui/places/whanganui-national-park/things-to-do/tracks/mangapurua-kaiwhakauka-track/>

Glenn Clark - CEO



Roshni our Finance Manager took our 'Outlook' newsletter for a little trip recently to Dubai and up the Burj Khalifa Tower - the tallest building in the world! The altitude clearly got to Roshni and her photography skills as somehow the 'Outlook' name appears backwards! Dizzying heights!!



Here is a pic from Fiona our Property Manager. She has just come back from a 6 week holiday in her homeland South Africa. Sitting at Mjejane Game Reserve on the banks of the Crocodile River with the Kruger National Park in the distance. A heritage site and paradise!

Watch this Space

The Marram brand is having a major refresh, launching 1 April. We've changed a lot over the past 5 years so we really want our new image to align with these changes. So watch out for a fresh new vibrant Marram that will also be simpler to understand!

Marram

Holidays & healthcare sorted

Contribute \$7.30* per week
*Or less with a subsidy

Facebook.com/MarramCommunityTrust

Holiday Searches

When searching for your next holiday, be sure to enter the total number of people staying in your search options, excluding babies and infants. If you require a port-a-cot, please check when booking if child friendly facilities are available.

This will avoid the possibility of you booking a home which will not accommodate your needs.

You cannot book Marram homes on behalf of your friends/family

It's a condition of your booking that you or your partner are one of the occupants at the Marram home for the entire time of your booking. You cannot book the homes for your friends or relatives to stay in, unless you are staying in the home with them.

Lake Tekapo

We received this fantastic photo from one of our Contributors of the two Marram homes in Lake Tekapo. Lake Tekapo is definitely the place to see the stars! (Not the red carpet kind of course!)



ty Trust
t Te Aro
LLINGTON

Lifetime Surcharge

It is a Board of Trustees requirement that if you enjoy Lifetime Status, you must pay the surcharge for all bookings. This surcharge is payable even if you have made a booking prior to having your status changed to Lifetime. You can phone or email your credit card details to us to make this payment.

**Peak: \$100 per week / Shoulder: \$30 per week.
Off Peak: \$20 per week / Nightly: \$5**

If you're unsure how much you should be paying, please contact us.



Health Matters



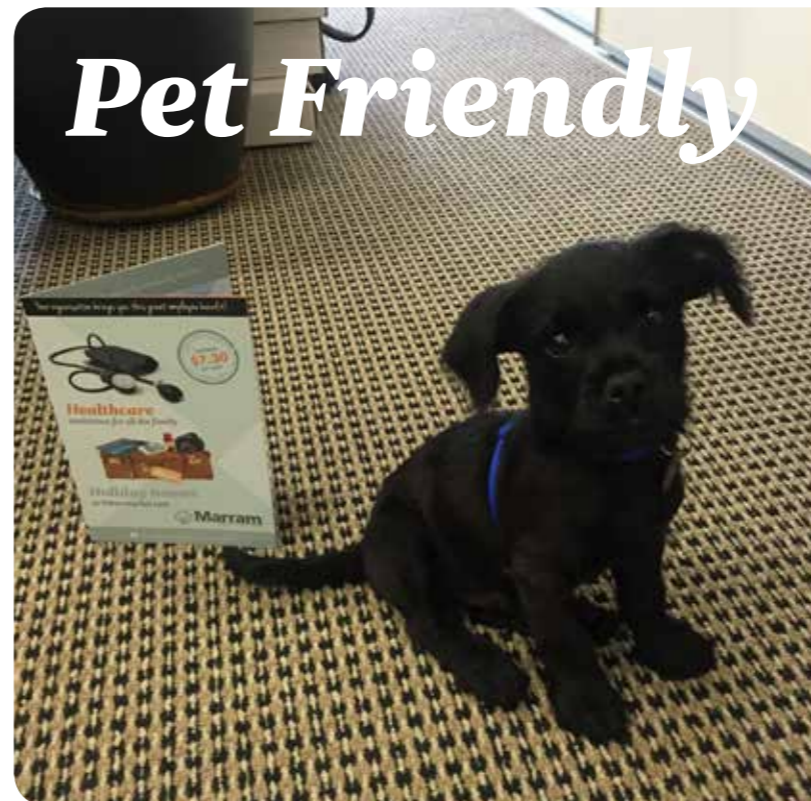
Specialist/Surgical Benefit

Marram provides 60% refund for Specialist/Surgical consultations up to \$2500 per family per calendar year.

This is a great benefit which makes it a bit more affordable to seek assistance from a medical practitioner who specialises in a particular field. As Specialists do extensive study in their field of expertise, they can usually point you in the right direction. So if you have a healthcare issue which your GP is unable to help you with, a Specialist visit is usually the way to go to help solve the problem.

As well as the consultation, this benefit can include reimbursement for expenses such as **scans, ultrasounds, MRI's, CAT scans and exploratory investigations.** This benefit is also for Surgery which would include expenses relating to the Surgeon, Anaesthetist and hospital charges.

Pet Friendly



Introducing Marram's newest staff member Rufus!

The Marram office is now pet friendly along with some of our homes. Little Rufus has just started with us... well he gets to come and hang out at the office during the week when he comes to work with his mum Erica, our Accounts Administrator.

Lots of research has shown the great benefits of having a puppy in the workplace so Marram's office has joined that club!

Little Rufus is a **Pug X Griffon** and is just 10 weeks old in his debut photo.

REFER & BE REWARDED

Refer a work colleague & be rewarded with a **voucher** of your choice.

Sign up a colleague by 11th March 2016 and be rewarded with either:

- \$50 Marram Holiday Voucher
- \$40 Westfield Voucher
- \$40 New World Voucher



Even better, if 2 friends sign up, you'll receive double the vouchers, 3 friends then triple the vouchers.....!

All your colleague needs 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, have them complete a sign-up application form saying you referred them and send it into Marram.

Once the referred person's contributions start, we'll be in contact with you to select your voucher(s).

Thank you to all who referred a colleague in the last referral!!!! We hope you enjoyed your voucher!!! We really appreciate you spreading the word, as often your colleagues may not know about the Marram community or understand the great employee benefits they can enjoy.

Marram's terms and conditions apply. Please see FAQ's at www.marram.co.nz



Photo Competition

We would love to see your Summer holiday snaps, so send them into us and you could be the lucky winner of a week away in a Marram holiday home of your choice!

Email or Post us your favorite pic by **18th March** to be in with a chance! Then watch out.....if you are the winner, your photo will star in the next Marram Outlook and on our Facebook page.

Email: enquiries@marram.co.nz and in subject line enter:

Summer photo competition

Mail to: Marram Community Trust,
PO Box 24006, Te Aro, Wellington 6142

www.marram.co.nz

Marram Community Trust. 8 Lorne Street, Te Aro, Wellington PO Box 24006 Manners Street, Wellington 6142
T: 04 801 2920 F: 04 385 3558 E-mail: enquiries@marram.co.nz [facebook.com/MarramCommunityTrust](https://www.facebook.com/MarramCommunityTrust)