

Marram

Outlook

SUMMER 2014

Magazine of the Marram Community

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**R E F E R
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Welcome Summer....



MARRAM'S *Seaside* GETAWAYS

We want you, your family and friends to
have memorable and enjoyable beach holidays.

So why not book one of these fantastic seaside getaways
for when the sun shines? We still have lots of vacancies for
the months of February, March and April.

BOOK NOW!





Welcome to Summer Edition

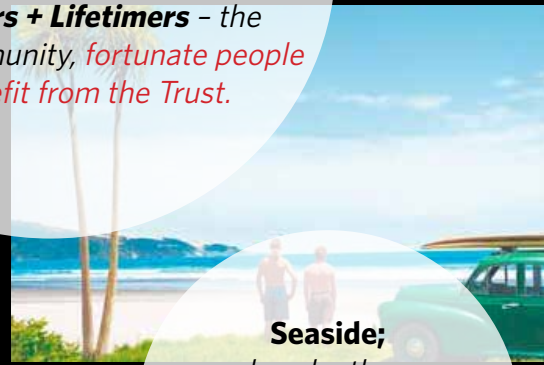
For those of us living in the lower half of the North Island, it was a long, wet winter. But whatever your winter, we all need and deserve a good Summer holiday. Marram can't book the weather for you but the Trust does its best to help with your holiday and healthcare needs. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the team at Marram, we wish you all the very best for the holiday season. We hope you can relax and spend time with family and friends, appreciating the best features of this time of year and avoiding the pitfalls that adversely impact your health and wallet.

Please enjoy this Summer edition of Outlook.

Glenn Clark, CEO



Marram;
Contributors - employees of the Affiliated Organisations who are contributing money to the Trust.
Lifetimers - past Contributors who have left an Affiliated Organisation.
Contributors + Lifetimers - the Marram Community, *fortunate people who benefit from the Trust.*



Seaside;
a place by the sea, especially a beach area/ holiday resort OR (a Marram Holiday Home!)



Getaway;
informal...a short holiday.... "a weekend getaway" (...a Marram holiday...YIPEE!)



- Homes in:*
- Coopers Beach
 - Ruakaka
 - Orewa
 - Auckland East
 - Ohope
 - Raglan
 - Wellington South
 - Maraetai Beach
 - Whitanga
 - Whangamata
 - Mt Maunganui
 - Paraparaumu
 - Plimmerton



Steve Andrews
ENQUIRIES TEAM



Jimmy & Derby

Meet Steve

Let's learn a little more about Steve, our Enquiries Team star....you just might get him when you call with a question and it's always nice to know who you're speaking with!

If you could throw a parade of any calibre through the Marram office, what type of parade would it be?

"Why of course....a superhero fancy dress animal parade!" *(Now that would be fun!)*

If you could sing one song on American Idol, what would it be?

"First of all I can't sing.....but I would sing Karma Chameleon." *(This is coming from the Karaoke King of Marram!)*

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

"Finding that my dogs have been out on meet and greets in the neighbourhood without permission while I'm at work! I only discovered this when a lady 3 doors down asked me their names when I was walking them the other day. This was so she could use their names next time to round them up to put them back behind the gate. Apparently, there have been a few meet and greets lately! I assured her there will be NO NEXT TIME! Gates bolted tight now!!!"

Describe to me benefits of belonging to Marram and why?

"Well you can't compete with the cost of staying in the holiday homes and the value you get from the healthcare! It's an added bonus to know that your basic healthcare can be reimbursed, making going to the doctors or the likes a lot easier without the full expense."

And if you're lucky, when you phone Marram you might be fortunate enough to speak with me!"

Why do you have one big dog and one little dog and OMG what kind is that little dog?

"Jimmy the little dog (isn't he cute?) is a Jackahuahua (Jack Russell X Chihuahua)". *(What a combination!)* "I always wanted a greyhound and my partner wanted a lap dog. We realised pretty quick that Derby the greyhound cross on the lap was never going to work! Hence the arrival of Jimmy!"

Hokitika has a new Volunteer ... Alana Wilson

Alana lived in Brisbane for 7 years before returning to Hokitika 4 years ago. While in Brisbane, Alana worked as a property manager, so we're very lucky to have her on board.

Alana is a busy Mum with three children age 5, 3 years and 6 ½ months. She loves basketball and netball, a bit of gardening and of course activities with the kids.

Welcome Alana!



Naomi's Xmas Cake Recipe

Naomi Bray, Marram's Accounts Assistant and Queen Cake Maker is delighted to share her special Xmas cake recipe that has been passed down the generations in her family. This cake sounds too delicious for words! We do hope she is baking one for the office!



TIP: 2-4 weeks before wanting to bake this Xmas Cake, put all the mixed fruit into a sealed container covered with either Brandy or Whiskey, stirring 2 times a day to ensure the brandy or whiskey is soaking into all the fruit, top up as required.

Method

Cream butter and sugar, add beaten egg yolks.

Add flour, fruit, milk and soda, then stiffly beaten egg whites - mix all well.

Put into a tin prepared with cooking paper; make sure there are several layers around the side and let stand overnight.

Put into cold oven set on Bake at 150C, 2nd or 3rd rung and leave for 4 ½ hours. **TURN OFF** and leave cake in the oven for another 2 hours.

Take out and prick holes with skewer and pour some more Brandy or Whiskey onto the cake. It is lovely iced or left as it is with some nuts on top.

Ingredients

- 1.40kg (3lbs) mixed fruit
- 280gm (10oz) butter
- 280gm (10oz) sugar
- 5 eggs
- ¼ tsp of baking soda dissolved in ½ cup of milk
- 340gm (12oz) flour
- Few drops each of vanilla & almond essence plus one other essence - whatever you have in the cupboard



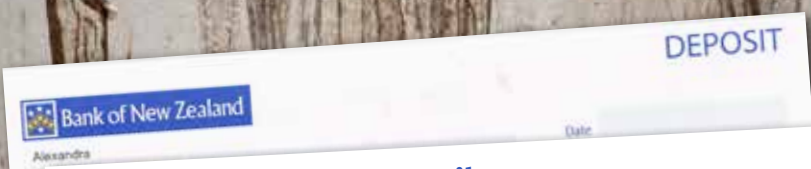
During the year we rolled out fresh Visitor books to all our holiday homes. This was in response to all the feedback we got in the survey we did a while back. You told us you wanted them again, as they're a great way to find out recommendations from previous holiday makers of things to see and do in the area and of course they always have a few little stories.

Clifford one of our Lifetimers sent us in this cheeky little story about the Picton Visitor book....

Our family first stayed at Picton Marram in 1964. The following entry was written in the visitor book; "Although it rained the whole time, we had a wonderful Honeymoon." Well, while we were there we saw a birth notice in the paper which happened to be nine months after the logbook entry, so we cut the notice out of the paper and taped against the entry!

We hope you find the new Visitor books helpful and maybe even get a giggle like I'm sure a few Picton holiday makers would have got. ;-)

CONTRIBUTOR NOTICES



Bank of New Zealand

DEPOSIT

Alexandra

Your Bank Account Details

When you're sending in your request for reimbursement of your healthcare expenses, please check and double check the bank account number you write on the form. We've many occasions where we're provided with the incorrect number and are unable to contact you to clarify. This means we have to re-process your payment in the next scheduled run, delaying the distribution of funds to you.



Moving Furniture

We're more than happy if you move furniture during your stay. However, our volunteers would really appreciate it if you would move it all back the way you found it before you leave.



Remember Remember ... Remember!

Check your confirmation papers before you leave on holiday and take them with you.

Check-in time is 2pm.

Check-out time is 10am if you've booked a cleaner or 11am if doing the cleaning yourself.

Please make sure you book a cleaner or clean the home to a high standard before you leave. Not cleaning is a BIG NO NO!

Have fun and enjoy your Marram Holiday!

CLEANING

Book a cleaner! No worries, no hassle, no complaints, makes for a great holiday! Our Volunteers who offer these services will always try their best to accommodate you so please give as much notice as possible when booking your clean.

Christmas Closing Hours

The Marram Office will close at 12 noon on Wednesday 24th December and reopen at 8am on Monday 5th January 2015.



Marram Online

Make sure you've already created a Login so that you can access information 24/7 during the holiday period. You can access all your information by logging into Marram Online with your email address and the password you provided when you created your Login. If you're having difficulty creating a login, please phone us now so we can help you.

MacBook Pro

REFER & BE REWARDED

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

Sign up a colleague by 12th December 2014 and be rewarded with either:



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 Maram?" select "Referred by Maram Contributor" and complete your name and organisation. Alternatively, have them complete a sign-up application form saying you referred them and send it into Maram.

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 Maram community or understand the great employee benefits they can enjoy.

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

+ Healthcare changes coming ..

Over the last decade, we could comfortably say Maram's healthcare benefits were **relevant, value for money, providing affordable healthcare assistance for the whole family.**

To ensure the benefits are relevant to you today, the Trust has undertaken a review of all our healthcare benefits. The Board's vision is to ensure that the maximum benefits are paid out to as many individuals and families as possible, along with making it as easy as possible to understand and easy to submit requests.

We hope to bring these exciting changes to you in the New Year.



Maram does the top up!

If you have health insurance with Southern Cross or the likes and your policy doesn't give you 100% back on your claim, Maram may be able to do the top up!

All you need to do is complete a healthcare request form and send it to Maram with your insurance remittance advice and original receipts, provided the receipts are less than 12 months old.



www.marram.co.nz

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