AUTUMN 2021

OUTLOOK

MARRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

THE MARRAM COMMUNITY TRUST MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE:

More pet friendly choices for the Baxter in your life
Wanaka build on-track for Christmas bookings
A sunsmart wake-up call from the Cancer Society
And be in to win one of five $250 vouchers by completing the Marram Survey

Laying out the welcome mat for our four legged friends

More pet-friendly homes than ever – and it seems you're welcoming the opportunity to take your pets on holiday with you.

In France ***c'est nomale to take le chien en vacance***, but New Zealand's been a bit slow coming to the party.

However as more and more cafes put out the water bowls, and rules are relaxed around dogs on public transport, it's becoming a lot easier to take the family dog on holiday.

Marrams been busy too, putting up fences and securing properties so your pets will be safe and catered for when you're staying in the pet-friendly holiday homes.

PASSING THE BAXTER TEST

Marram's resident in-office dog Baxter has just returned from a week-long beach holiday at the Wellington South holiday home.

His owner Murray Crombie, says being able to take Baxter with him is a game changer.

It's worry free with the property being fully secured, and just over the road from a dog friendly beach.

Murray suggests owners take their dog's familiar bedding and a few toys with them to help their pets settle in quickly.

"After a quick check and sniff of all the rooms, Baxter is pretty much right at home," he says.

Baxter thoroughly enjoyed the beach walks, swims and socialising with the other four-legged locals in the specially zoned, dog area of the beach.

When our content team visited Baxter and Murray to get these pictures, they were amazed at how a beach holiday had transformed Baxter's usually very measured and professional persona.

'He turned into a crazy social butterfly!'

"He greeted us at the door as if it had been years, not days since we'd seen each other, and then when we went to the beach he turned into a zooming, crazy social butterfly, even forgetting a couple of times that he's a bit scared of water."

Marram currently has 14 holiday homes certified dog friendly, and will be working to get more fenced off, and meeting local dog by-laws.

Your dog is catered for with feeding and water bowls and blankets and basic bedding in the pet-friendly homes.

Travelling to the homes with your pet can be challenging, but the following link has some great tips and ideas.
https://www.healthination.com/health/pet-travel-

Flag falls on Wanaka rebuild

Excitement tinged with sadness no doubt for those of you who've enjoyed wonderful Marram holidays in Wanaka over the past 60 odd years.

Excitement that work's about to begin on the five brand new holiday homes in Upton Street, Wanaka, and maybe a little sadness at the demise of the homes where you created such good memories in the past.

But, no need. Far from being consigned to the scrap heap, the old homes are being trucked to Fairlie in Canterbury, where they will be upcycled, and become part of a retirement living complex.

The original homes were sold in an online TradeMe auction, but not before the massive interest in the auction crashed the site in the first few hours.

SUBSIDENCE ISSUES SEAL THEIR FATE

Marram built the original homes in 1967 but in latter years they've been affected by land subsidence issues, and that alongside increasing demand for Marram homes in Wanaka, prompted the decision to fix the land and build five new homes maximising use of the site.

The increase in demand will be met by increasing the number of bedrooms from four to eight with the new build.

The three, two bedroom apartments, and two one bedroom units will be dual key, allowing more flexibility for groups.

LOOKING GOOD FOR CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS

Building Project Manager Andrew Hyndman, says with the old homes now offsite, work can start on the site, issues, consents can be finalised and the actual building work should start in April.

"There are always challenges, of course, but we hope to have the homes ready to book for Christmas," he says.

And it's all looking good so far.

In the meantime if a holiday in beautiful Central Otago is on your wishlist why not check out nearby homes in Queenstown, Cromwell, Lake Tekapo and Dunedin.

And it seems the Marram whanau's loving the news out of Wanaka.

Here's a few reactions to the photo we posted on Facebook of the old homes on the truck ready to leave for Fairlie.

Rachael – This is excellent!! Love how the Trust is so forward thinking.

Marg – Loving the innovation. Imagine if those walls could talk.

Bev – The upgrade is marvellous.

Paddy – Have had a very memorable holiday in those units.

As old homes truck off to a new life

Wanaka home removal

Jennian Homes

HOW SUNSMART ARE WE?

Our long hot Kiwi summers are the envy of many but when it comes to being sunsmart we aren't doing as well as we should.

Aoteoroa New Zealand enjoys more than 2000 hours of sunshine a year with some places up around 2,350.

Research from NIWA (National Institute of Water and Atmospheric research), shows those sunshine hours increasing over the past four decades by two or more hours a year.

That long hot summer comes at a price.

We live in the most dangerous place in the world when it comes to UV exposure.

More than 500 New Zealanders die of sun-related cancers every year. Along with Australia, we have the highest melanoma rates in the world.

To put those numbers in perspective, fewer people die on our roads most years.

These stats are of great concern to the Cancer Society, and the society's Advocacy and Wellbeing Manager Shayne Nahu is calling for more government investment in this space.

He'd like to see sunscreen products, currently classified as cosmetics, reclassified as therapeutic products requiring higher standards of regulation.

"And with cancer mortality higher than the road toll it would be good to see the same amount of investment in social media campaigns around being sunsmart, as there is in road safety," he says.

So just how sunsmart are we?

Well according to Shayne, the stats say we're not.

"Everyone keeps an eye out for the little kids but it becomes less of an issue as we get older. Australia seems to be pulling the curve back through clever and constant social marketing, but we're not. We have to keep on it all the time."

Why is the sun so dangerous here?

Shayne says it's a combination of things.

"We have long hot summers and we have a large population base from northern Europe who don't do well with high levels of UV."

He explains the levels are higher because we have less pollution, and because of the way we orbit around the sun.

"Because of the tilt or axis of earth as it orbits around the sun, Aoteoroa New Zealand is closer to the sun than any other country ever gets," he says.

What 's the answer?

Be UV aware. Use an app like **UVNZ** to get accurate UV levels wherever you are. Anything above three, follow sunsmart steps.

Shayne Nahu says not to rely on just one preventative measure, but rather a variety of things, like suncreams, hats, shirts, sunglasses and seeking shade.

He says he'd like to see government and local councils investing more in public shade spaces, using trees and shade structures.

And according to Shayne education is key. He sees the Cancer Society's Sunsmart Schools Programme as very valuable.

"You have to get the early buy-in. Primary and intermediate schools do well, but high schools and colleges not so much. Thirty percent of our schools are credited sunsmart meaning staff and students are committed to using hats and sunscreen, but most lack the funding required to build shades," he says.

On a personal level he says we must all be skin aware. Mole maps are a good investment, but it's most important to self check. Anything suspicious should be checked immediately.

"The earlier it's detected, the better the outcome."

What sort of holiday spins your wheels

Is it heavy on thrills or more at one with nature, chilling in the bush?

Maybe it's sand between your toes, a book and swimming with the dolphins at the beach.

Or a city break complete with niche shopping, lattes, great food, and a vibrant nightlife might be your thing.

One thing's for sure, post lockdown, it's become obvious Kiwis love their roadies.

We've been out there giving the roads a good old working out, loading up our cars and travelling from one end of the country to the other appreciating what freedom feels like.

In this first of a series on how Kiwis like to holiday, we're talking to Sarah Tevita about the girl's roadie she took over the New Year break.

A major consideration on any holiday is where you're going to lay your head at night.

FORWARD PLANNING PAYS OFF

Marram people are well placed of course with 153 holiday homes in some of the most beautiful places in Aoteoroa New Zealand.

Booking well ahead is the secret to securing the exact home and location you want, and it's as easy as jumping online and heading to www.marram.co.nz

Marram homes cater for everyone, young, old, families, singles, and even in many of the homes, your pets are welcome too.

And best of all you'll find them in locations perfect for the sort of holiday that spins your wheels.

If you have a holiday experience you'd love to share contact Sue, Marram's Content Editor at sue.burgin@marram.co.nz

Sarah's Roadtrip

Wellingtonian Sarah Tevita is a young woman who puts entertainment quite high on the holiday requirements list.

She likes to dance, spend time with friends and other young people at night, and chill with a picnic by a lake, or have a beer and good grub in a pub, in the daylight hours.

Sarah also rates value for money and convenience when it comes to holiday accommodation.

So over the New Year break Sarah and her two girlfriends set off on a bit of a roadie to the action hotspot of Queenstown.

"If I'm honest, it was the affordability of the Marram homes we stayed at along the way that was the main attraction," she says.

The friends flew into Queenstown, hired a car and drove to Tekapo where they spent two nights in one of Marram's holiday homes.

Did Tekapo meet the entertainment expectations?

"There weren't a lot of entertainment options for younger holidaymakers, but it did give us a nice relaxing start to the holiday.

Left to right: Sarah Tevita, Fiona Leatuavao and Rachel Tevita

We walked the Mt John track, lazed on the lakefront and took the usual photos at the church of The Good Shepherd."

Sarah was keen though to recommend the great cocktails at Lake Tekapo's Blue Lake Eatery.

Then it was back on the road to Queenstown, stopping for a beer at the historic Cardrona Pub and checking out Wanaka along the way.

The scenic entertainment mecca of Queenstown did not disappoint. The young Wellingtonians loved it.

"There are so many attractions, all within walking distance of the Marram home in Man Street. Everything was on the doorstep. Restaurants, bars, nightclubs, fireworks on the waterfront and FergBergers, the best burgers in the world," Sarah says.

And then there was the Silent Disco!

Say what? I can hear the boomers cry.

It's a nightclub where you get headphones at the door, which stream four channels of dance music, allowing you to dance without impacting the hearing ability of others wanting to socialise and chat, according the Sarah.

"And," she says, "when my feet got sore I could walk back to the holiday home and swap the heels for sneakers! "

Would they recommend a holiday at a Marram home in Queenstown to other younger holiday-makers ?

"Absolutely. We had a home which was fully equipped, with two single rooms and a sofa bed in the lounge, for a fraction of the cost of an Air BnB.

We didn't have to rely on Ubers, and there was no need for designated drivers. There was loads to do and the travel was easy," Sarah says.

If this sounds like a holiday that might spin your wheels, make sure you book early to secure a Queenstown holiday home.

SURVEY

It's your Trust and your opinion matters.

Marram would've struggled to remain as relevant as it is today, 75 years after being established, without your support and feedback.

I remember when I first heard the story of the little trust that grew and morphed into the Marram Community Trust we know today, how people were at the centre of its success.

The Marram whanau, the people who support it by using the homes and healthcare assistance programme, and those providing feedback are crucial to keeping the trust current and meeting your needs.

Every couple of years we undertake a comprehensive survey to find out what you think about Marram and how it might do a better job of meeting your expectations.

If you're a little cynical about surveys, thinking nothing ever changes as a result, be assured that's not the case at Marram.

If a serve is needed, serve it, or if you think there's a better way of doing something, we'd love to hear it.

And of course, a bit of love is always welcome.

Tell us about you. The more we know about you, the easier it is to make sure your needs are being met.

Sit back with a coffee or drink of choice and help us out. The survey shouldn't take you more than 10 minutes to complete and be in to win a great prize.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/MarramTrust

Flights, Nights and Bites

Five $250 vouchers to spend on your next holiday!

To be in the draw to win one all you have to do is click on the link at the bottom of the page and complete the Marram Survey before March 12th.

You can only enter once and winners will be notified the following week.

Rediscovering Paradise

Photo competition reveals hidden gems in our beautiful backyard

Over the summer break we asked you to send in the best photos you took while out exploring our beautiful backyard, and you bombarded us with images that reinforced just how lucky we are to call this land home.

Aotearoa New Zealand, is still one of the world's best kept secrets, despite the best efforts of people like Thomas Bracken who first coined the phrase 'Godzone.'

The Irish-Kiwi politician and proud patriot, was the first to compare New Zealand to paradise.
He called his adopted home "God's own country," in a poem he wrote in 1890 which eventually become our national anthem.

The phrase "God's own country," evolved into Godzone, a label often still attached to New Zealand today.

SO WHY ARE WE SO OFTEN MISSING FROM WORLD MAPS?

Perhaps the fact we're a small country of just five million, at the bottom of the world, explains why we often just don't appear.

Maybe it's why we've managed to avoid the pitfalls experienced by other beautiful areas of the world.
Tourists as we know, can be both a curse and a blessing.

Ed Tissink, Aoraki Mount Cook

For the sake of our economy and the lifestyle we enjoy, we know that we must share this beautiful land with tourists, who until Covid-19 closed our borders a year ago, flocked here from all around to globe to experience Godzone.

BUT AS THE WORLD RESETS, IT'S ALL OURS

Kiwis have hit the road and explored like never before. We've flocked to the usual holiday hotspots and embraced local attractions, cafes and accommodation providers in a show of solidarity Thomas Bracken would have been proud of.

We've also gone off-piste, taking the time and space afforded by the absence of our overseas friends, to explore off the beaten track. The bush, mountains, beaches and 15,000 kilometres of coastline discovering places we never knew existed.

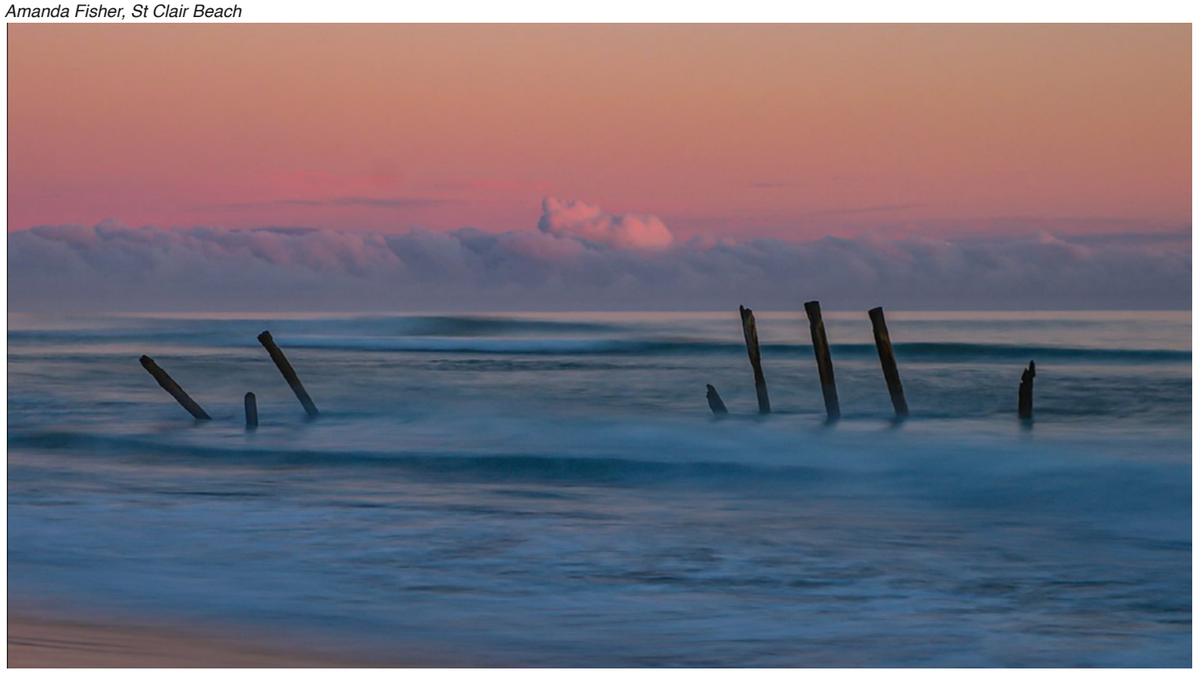
It's been great watching all your holiday snaps come in over the last month. You've given me all the good feels, making me proud to call this country home, and your've inspired me to spend time in the future in some of the places you've shared.

Love your work whanau. Thanks for sharing.
Nga mihi nui. Let's do it all again soon.
Editor

Dominic Bunney and Moose, Ruapuke Beach

Jo Chang, Tennyson Inlet Marlborough Sounds

Amanda Fisher, St Clair Beach



OUTLOOK Quiz

You find the answers in Marram's 75th History e-book or simply click on the A icon.

The Marram Community Trust we know today was originally known as what?

Where were the first Marram holiday homes situated?

Who said , referring to the original trustees, "What a wonderful thing they did those guys, giving all those young guys a chance to have a holiday?"

A wartime atrocity which claimed the lives of 17 New Zealanders, and is seen as a defining moment in the Marram story, happened on what Pacific island?

According to Marram's CEO, what was the most challenging thing about getting the Trust through the Covid pandemic?

Where are you likely to live if you refer to a small shelter, often with no permit and found off the beaten track, as a crib?

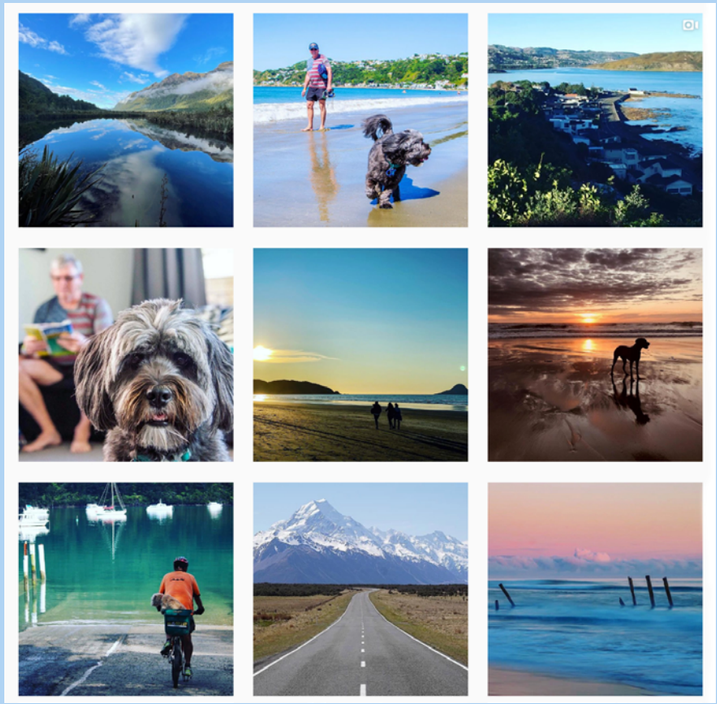
In what decade was the Healthcare Assistance programme added to the holiday homes mix?

Name the act of parliament which changed the way Kiwi's holiday, back in 1944.

And finally - He's cuter than cute, a little on the hairy side and definitely the poster boy of Marram's pet-friendly homes - what's his name?

Ā TĀTOU KŌRERO - OUR STORY

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Love it or hate it, when used efficiently social media can be a great way to communicate.

Marram's always looking for ways to better communicate with you.

We've revived our Facebook and Instagram accounts to open up another couple of platforms to stoke the conversation with you, so please like and share both accounts.

Your feedback is always welcome, and often Facebook and Instagram are a quick and more personal way to get information or quick answers to questions you may have.

Be assured, there are real people at the end of Marram's social media accounts. We're not in the business of swamping you with faceless corporate messages. We love good news, and interesting things that will help you plan great holidays and make good health decisions. And all that's asked in return is that we all be kind to each other when using the comment facility.

facebook.com/MarramCommunityTrust
instagram.com/marram_community_trust_nz

HOT OFF THE PRESS

REGENERATIVE TRAVEL TAKES OFF

Regenerative travel is the newest buzzword according to Tourism New Zealand's Stephen England .

He told the NZ Herald recently the national tourism board was aiming to be "more mindful of the impact of business and consumption on the planet."

He says the philosophy of using travel to improve the world - rather than just offset one's impact – is becoming a more widespread in travel.

And international travel experts Intrepid appear to be onboard with that, saying Covid-19 has been a catalyst for the regenerative travel movement.

"Whether it's closer to home or further abroad, travel has changed forever, and together we must create a new normal and focus on rebuilding travel better than it was before," says CEO James Thornton.

"Reckon he'd be pretty impressed with the news that Marram's no longer fit for purpose Wanaka holiday homes are being upcycled as retirement homes up the road in Fairlie." EDITOR

INTEREST IN DOMESTIC TRAVEL INSURANCE INCREASES

A survey commissioned by Southern Cross Travel Insurance shows a quarter of Kiwis are more likely to buy travel insurance now than 12 months ago.

The survey of a thousand people found just 11 percent bought domestic travel insurance in the year before the Covid-19 outbreak, but 27 percent now intend to buy it before their next domestic holiday.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fears around Covid-19 alert levels shouldn't be an issue for Marram contributors, with the 100% refund policy for cancellations forced by an alert change to Level 3 or 4.

INTRODUCING THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

Your Marram content team Sue Burgin and Destina Munro.

Bringing a bit of youth and vitality to the Marram office, in their dreams, but in reality it's more about passion for their craft and a need to pay the mortgage.

"Since we've been onboard we've produced the 75th anniversary eBook, A Tatou Korero, run a photo competition, and prepared this edition of Outlook, and we love it," Sue says.

"After years in the 'fake news media', this job's a dream," she says, tongue firmly planted in cheek.

"I get to talk to people and write stories about good positive things. It's a great story, the Marram story."

Destina Munro is also a media person who's been teaching her photography, design and shorthand skills for many years and an active photographer. You can check out her work on her website www.destinamunro.com

"I've had the privilege of working in education with adult students in a creative industry. It's been amazing!" Destina says.

Coming from a people focused background as well as keeping up to date with design and technology changes, Destina says she's loving working at Marram.

"It's all about the people, and working creatively! I've stepped from one very cool role to another. I'm really happy!" she says.

We'd love to hear from you dear readers. Have you enjoyed this edition of OUTLOOK? Is there a great Marram story you'd like us to share? Flick us an email at sue.burgin@marram.co.nz

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND $50?

Who says no good deed goes unrewarded!

You already know how amazing it is to be part of the Marram Community Trust, but if you spread the word to a workmate, and they sign up mentioning your name, you'll both receive a gift voucher of your choice! How about $40 to spend on the next family shop or fuelling up; or $50 towards your next fantastic holiday.

PROMOTION runs February 26 to March 15

DON'T FORGET TO TELL THEM:

- Partner and children are automatically included
- $50 birthday gift towards a Marram holiday – every year
- Healthcare benefits of over $6400 per year
- Works with your health insurance
- Includes pre-existing health issues
- And more...

*Terms and Conditions
Please make sure to tell your workmate that they will need to choose "Referred by Marram Contributor" when asked how they heard about Marram during sign-up.

Standard Marram T's & C's apply.

Marram Interislander deal now extended!

interislander · COASTAL PACIFIC · NORTHERN EXPLORER · TRANZALPINE

Not only can Marram help reduce the costs of your next family holiday but we can help you to get there cheaper too!

The fantastic **10% discount** offer with Interislander has been extended from **1 February - 15 December 2021**, meaning you have even more opportunity to get a deal on your next trip.

- Reservations must be made via www.greatjourneysofnz.co.nz
- You must be over 18 to claim this discount
  Marram ID must be shown at check-in
- Use code **XMAR1** when asked to apply your discount
- Normal booking conditions apply - e.g. Easy Change is 100% refundable if cancelled
- Regular rates apply to bookings made through call centre/ groups desk

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