



After AFTA

THERE'S nothing like a major travel event to put the beauty of the world in perspective.



That is the overwhelming emotion I felt when the Qantas/Emirates alliance video 'What a wonderful world,' was screened at the AFTA National Travel Industry Awards on Saturday.

The photography shot on locations in London, Singapore, Istanbul, Texas, New York and Sydney, is a reminder that despite human frailties, we do live in a world of astonishing beauty.

Check it out on YouTube.

By the way, thumbs up to Qantas' new uniforms, worn by crew during the award presentations, navy with panels and slashes of Qantas red, is their best look yet.

Just some of the standouts of an evening that included an audience wowing appearance by Jessica Mauboy that made you want to jump out of your seat and dance, and the seductive contortions and aerial acrobatics of Aerial Artistry, all emceed by Andrew Daddo whose shushes to quiet noisy talkers kept the evening and the awards rolling along at a lively pace.

Notable among the award winners are: **Best Business Travel Agency** – Event Travel Management, **Best Tourist Office – International** – Dubai, **Best Hotel/Resort Group**- Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts which Jenny Williams received on their behalf and Louise Goldsbury, also editor of *Travel Daily's* (a major sponsor of the event) *Cruise Weekly*, who won **Best Travel Writer**.

BEN salutes you all!



Above: Jill's red carpet moment!

ETM top for business events

EVENT Travel Management is celebrating today after being named Australia's Best Business Events Travel Agency at the National Travel Industry Awards in Sydney on Sat night.

Tracey Edwards, gm of the Corporate Travel Management (CTM) specialist events division, accepted the award from Tony Carter of Amadeus (right), and thanked the Australian Federation of Travel Agents for "recognising this important and exciting part of Australia's travel industry".

Corporate Travel Management took out a trifecta of awards, regaining the Best National Travel Management Company gong for the eighth time in a decade, while CTM Operations Manager Shelley Leven was recognised as Best Travel Agency Manager -



Corporate.

CTM ceo Laura Ruffles said that the Event Travel Management division is "a key part of our service delivery for our clients.

"The honours CTM received from AFTA on Saturday evening are clear proof of the continued and consistent success of our value proposition, focusing on highly personalised service and constant innovation for our clients," she said.

It's Time for South Africa

SOUTH Africa Tourism's latest campaign, dubbed 'It's Time', was launched at an exclusive preview event held at Mojo, Luke Mangan's newest venture in Sydney, last Thursday, the same time the Rainbow Nation held its annual Mandela Day celebrations.

As an extension of South African Tourism's initial Bucket List campaign, which was launched in November last year,

this new phase focuses on motivating Aussies to make a change and book South Africa as their next holiday.

An integrated multi-platform strategy, the campaign highlights that with its combination of excellent exchange rate, great

value-for-money packages and an array of experiences on offer from adventure and cultural enrichment, to world-class culinary delights and luxury; South Africa is ticking the ultimate destination off bucket lists.



In the spirit of Mandela Day and in honour of South Africa's beloved hero, guests donated to Boots

For Africa, a not-for-profit organisation that collects pre-loved sneakers, sport, hockey or football boots and delivers them to children and adults across Africa so they no longer need to play their favourite sport barefoot.

GHM lures Pavlakis

AUSTRALIAN

hotelier Evan Pavlakis has been lured out of semi-retirement to manage General Hotel Management's (GHM) third property in Bali, the Chedi Sakala in Tanjung Benoa, Nusa Dua, Bali.



According to GHM president Hans R. Jenni, Pavlakis brings more than four decades of international experience in the hospitality sector to his new post in Bali, including 26 years in general manager and vice-president positions with leading five-star hotel groups in locations such as Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and China.

MACAU GOVERNMENT TOURIST OFFICE

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE ULTIMATE TRAVEL GUIDE TO MACAU

Consider Macau when selecting your next Incentive Travel Destination

or more information Click here



Look, listen, learn

SYDNEY'S Event Showcase and Australian Business Events Expo are inviting students of event management courses to attend a new specially designed session at this year's event.

A guided tour of the shows together with presentations, insights and experiences from high-calibre speakers is also included.

Event consultant and author Lena Malouf, Janene Wardrop, events manager of Australian Medical Association and ceo of the SME Association of Australia, Dr Caroline Hong will all give presentations to the students.

"The role of students is important to drive an informed and skilled workforce," said Malouf.

"By providing them with their own session, they will have an opportunity to learn and absorb what is on offer at these two very important shows."

Students attending the session on Thursday 15 August from 2.30 – 5pm, must be accompanied by their team leader, while all students are encouraged to attend this session rather than just visiting the show independently.

Fashion rut solution

DRESSING for success can be a challenge for busy women, often getting stuck in a fashion rut.

Help is at hand as luxury hotel, Sir Stamford at Circular Quay has joined forces with Australia's leading fashion stylist Kelly Smythe for an elegant High Tea event on Wednesday 7 August, from 12.30pm-2pm.

Designed to be the perfect solution for a time-poor professional, it is ideally suited to the corporate woman who wants to maximise her styling knowledge efficiently and to learn the best outfits for interviewing, business meetings and heading from office to cocktail hour.

For more details & bookings:
www.bit.ly/stamfordHighTea.

To Russia with panache



WHILE guests have already been welcomed to Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts first ever-Russian hotel in St Petersburg, the property is yet to have an official opening date.

Two blocks from the Hermitage Museum, the luxury Four Seasons Lion Palace (pictured) is located in the renovated Lobanov-Rostovsky Palace, known as the

House with Lions.

With 177 rooms, including 26 suites, the hotel was formerly the residence of the Lobanov-Rostovsky family, one of the most ancient Russian dynasties.

Built in 1817-1829, it features restaurants, bars, a spa, a ballroom for 215 guests, six conference halls and a congress hall.

Stefan Pichler to head Fiji Airways

NALIN Patel, chairman of Air Pacific Limited trading as Fiji Airways has announced Stefan Pichler as the new managing director and chief executive officer, after an extensive global search.

Pichler, who used to be a senior executive with Virgin Australia and is currently ceo of Kuwaiti carrier Jazeera Airways, takes on his new role from 1 September.

"Mr. Pichler is a proven chief executive with a strong track record in turning businesses around and growing them to new levels.

"He has extensive global experience, not only in all airline business models, but also in the tourism industry," Patel said.

"He was recently awarded the 'Personal Achievement of the Year Award 2012' by Business Aviation for the Jazeera Airways turnaround."



A PROPOSAL to create a third runway and a vast expansion to Europe's busiest air hub, Heathrow has been unveiled, and it involves a bit of floating.

London Mayor Boris Johnson, a champion of big thinking, has suggested that building an artificial island in the middle of the Thames Estuary could be an option – or maybe on the Isle of Grain in north Kent.

"Ambitious cities all over the world are already stealing a march on us and putting themselves in a position to eat London's breakfast, lunch and dinner by constructing mega airports that plug them directly into the global supply chains that we need to be part of," the flamboyant redhead said.

The three options put forward will allow the airport to move from a capacity of 480,000 flights a year to 740,000 – expansion that supporters insist is critical in order for the country to remain competitive on the world stage.

Crown Perth appeal

WITH a history of Crown staff supporting the Anglicare WA Winter Appeal for the past 15 years, they have once again helped the cause by donating new clothing, blankets, towels, bedding and shoes for Western Australian children and families in need during winter time.

Crown Perth's ceo Barry Felstead said that staff had shown overwhelming support of the appeal over the last four weeks.

"With over 5,600 staff at Crown Perth & growing, high importance is placed on supporting a number of key charity appeals on an annual basis.

"We are incredibly proud to support the valuable work of Anglicare WA in our local community, and the staff have shown great generosity of spirit once again this year," he said.



business events news

22nd July 2013

CONTACT US:

Publisher
Bruce Piper
Editor
Jill Varley
Contributors
C Housler and G Dundas
Advertising:
advertising@businessesnews.com.au

P: 1300 799 220
F: 1300 799 221

PO Box 1010 Epping, NSW,
1710 Business Events
News
is part of the Travel Daily
group of publications
which also include: Travel
Daily, Cruise Weekly and
Pharmacy Daily.

Disclaimer: While every care has been taken in the preparation of *Business Events News* no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. *BEN* takes no responsibility for the opinions of its contributors/columnists. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed.

This is a bit rum...

SYDNEY Urban Adventures has launched a new tour which is ideal for groups wanting to take a stroll around the Rocks precinct.

Running every Monday, the tour takes about 3.5 hours and includes a guided historical walk with a local guide, who will regale guests with fascinating tales of convicts, settlers, publicans, bars and a military coup.

There's also a wine tasting and appreciation lesson and an Aussie barbecue - while there's a choice of drinks at each stop including beer and wine.

For more info: bookings@sydneyurbanadventures.com

Queenstown event

THE correct email address for RSVPs to the Queenstown Roadshow on 11 Sep (**BEN** Fri) is janak@queenstownnz.co.nz.

Camp it up in India

IF India is on the blotter and you are looking for an exciting industry colleague package, Cox & Kings have just provided Destination Marketing Services (DMS) with packages at what can only be described as ridiculous prices.

They are offering six nights / seven days packages as low as AU\$800 per person - for instance travelling the famous Golden Triangle and discovering the Spice Lands of Kerala in Southern India - or how about re-creating the magic of old world charm on Cox & Kings' super luxury mobile camp to exceptional locations in the mountains, the deserts, the jungles and the unexplored countryside?

Their Ultimate Travelling Camp (**below**) can be customised for special occasions in individually designed tents, with en-suite bathrooms, private decks, polished silverware, crisp linen and the services of your very own butler, chauffeur and chef.



ABEE hosted buyers

THERE'S still a short time to apply to become a VIP Buyer at next month's Australian Business Events Expo.

Approved applicants will receive flights, accommodation and access to networking functions, with buyers only obliged to attend five pre-scheduled appointments each day. This gives the opportunity to attend the stunning ABEE seminar program which features some of the world's foremost event professionals.

To register **CLICK HERE**.

JTG says Hello World

A MAJOR shift is set to take place in the Australian travel sector, with industry giant Jetset Travelworld Limited today announcing that it will unite its five distinct brands - Harvey World Travel, Travelscene, Jetset and Travelworld as well as Best Flights - under a single new brand called 'helloworld'.

The outcome of a strategic review, the change aims to consolidate marketing spend, with the new brand to roll out starting from later this year.



Getting to Know: Seattle

by: *Guy Dundas*

REPUTED for wet, cold and miserable conditions, the port city of Seattle in the US Northwest displayed anything but those characteristics on a recent visit in May. The home of Starbucks Coffee must have had its 'game-day' face on for three days straight, with clear, sunny, long days of sunshine and comfortable weather all but eliminating the common myth that it 'always rains in Seattle'. Indeed, many locals reminded my group the weather was somewhat unseasonal, or that "mother nature must have known we were coming" and wanted to impress us.

If not from the skies, Seattle is surrounded by water, with Puget Sound lapping at the city's edges on one side and Washington state's largest freshwater lake, Lake Washington and Elliott Bay across town and Lake Union to the city's north. With that amount of water there's no shortage of bridges (over 20 in fact), ranging from cantilever and arch styles, to viaducts and floating pontoons, many of which can be viewed aboard sightseeing cruises which also take in famous floating houses (think *Sleepless in Seattle*), the trendy Gas Works Park and lochs.

Places to explore around the city include the world-famous open air Pike's Place Market, serving up a daily array of fresh fish, meats, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, along with local arts and crafts. It's here where visitors can witness freshly caught fish "flying" from monger to monger. Pike's Place Markets also has facilities for conferences and receptions of up to 200 guests.

Other things to do and places to see in Seattle include the iconic Space Needle, an Underground Tour of Pioneer Square and the EMP Museum (dedicated to contemporary pop culture) - or wander the streets in search of the best bagel and barista coffee outlets - there's heaps of them!

Seattle is probably most renowned in the tourism industry for being the birthplace of aircraft manufacturer, Boeing. Boeing's presence in the Seattle region is overwhelming as dozens of facilities are strewn around the area. One of the most popular attractions to visit is the Museum of Flight where over 150 air and space craft are on display to the public. Boeing also operates group tours of its Everett Factory where visitors can view the assembly line of wide-body aircraft including the 747, 767, 777 and 787 *Dreamliner*.

From Australia, Seattle can be reached flying Qantas to Los Angeles, connecting with Alaska Airlines for the 2.5hr sector north to Seattle.



Elliott Bay Marina with views to Mount Rainier



Seattle's picturesque skyline



Boeing 777s on the assembly line