



Rogue's Gallery

BACK to back visits to Sydney from two top Australian regions this



week started with the Northern Territory Meetings Muster 2013 held on two consecutive days in the Ivy's Sun Room, and the Cairns Convention Centre Showcase at the Police & Justice Museum.

The latter allowed guests to roam through the intriguing City of Shadows exhibition - a collection of Sydney Police photographs (below) spanning the years 1912-1948.



Both events saw healthy visitor attendances and opportunities to meet with and engage with a diverse range of exhibitors.

More on the Cairns Convention Centre Showcase in Monday's **BEN** - have a great weekend! Jill

Coffs celebration

COFFS Coast Marketing says it's thrilled to record a 5% lift in domestic and 51% increase in international visitation to the Coffs Coast in the year to 30 Jun.

Recent initiatives include new TV commercials, a new website and the regional *Where Memories are Made* branding.



STAMFORD SWEETENS THE DEAL FOR EVENTS

Find out how your next function at Stamford Grand or Stamford Plaza Adelaide can be sweetened with extras.

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for further information.

Koos Klein quits Voyages

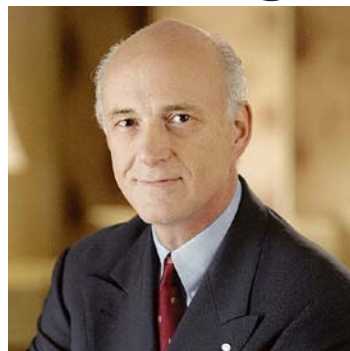
THE head of Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia, Koos Klein, has resigned in the wake of a purge of the Voyages board, after more than \$60 million was slashed off the value of the Voyages Resort at Ayers Rock.

Yesterday the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) issued a statement confirming that outgoing directors include former Qantas ceo and Tourism Australia chairman Geoff Dixon, along with Peter Barge, Ronald Morony and Richard Longes.

ILC chair Dawn Casey said "there is no doubt the Voyages Board has done an excellent job expanding Indigenous employment at Ayers Rock Resort," but said the ILC Board had taken "decisive action" to address challenges facing the operation including strengthening its financial sustainability."

In Casey's statement yesterday she said Klein was continuing as a Voyages director - but since then after considering his position the resort md has formally submitted his resignation.

"I have invested a lot of myself in this project and would appreciate the opportunity for a proper and professional handover in the interest of the company, the staff and especially the close to 300 indigenous people who have found professional training opportunities and meaningful jobs with Voyages," he said in a resignation letter.



The resort was purchased for \$317 million in 2011 but in the latest figures is valued at \$250m.

Following the ILC takeover there's also been significant investment in facilities including a new conference centre.

Accor's \$10,000 spree

PLANNERS who book a conference by 31 January 2014 with Accor Hotels in Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia, have the chance to win a \$10,000 conferencing spree.

The bonus of double Meeting Planner Points is being extended to a new conference or event in conjunction with a minimum of 20 accommodation rooms booked.

From boutique board meetings to conferences and events for up to 1600 delegates, meeting planners can select from 25 different Accor hotels located in key regional and city-based localities including Melbourne, North Melbourne, Albert Park, St Kilda, Glen Waverley, Caroline Springs, Creswick, Yarra Valley, Geelong, Swan Hill, Echuca, Portsea, Launceston, Adelaide, and the Barossa Valley.

Each of Accor's brands offers tailor made meetings solutions such as Sofitel's Inspired Meetings, Pullman's Co promises, Meet@Novotel and Mercure's pace setting carbon-neutral meetings offer.

To get involved, event planners need to join Le Club Accorhotels or be an existing member - visit www.accor10k.com for details.

BESydney Board

BUSINESS Events Sydney has announced the appointment of Dockside Group's Beverley Parker and Shelley Roberts from Sydney Airport as members directors.

They replace outgoing directors Kate Smith from WaldronSmith and Gary Daly of Exhibitions and Trade Fairs, with BESydney chair Col Hughes saying "Our nine directors bring unique energy and perspectives, along with diverse industry and commercial knowledge to the table."

"We also must acknowledge the extraordinary contribution of Ton van Amerongen who has served on the BESydney Board for the past 20 years, either as a director or special advisor," he said.

BESydney ceo, Lyn Lewis-Smith said the organisation's future is "positive and promising".

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business events news

25th October 2013

Sojourn in the sunshine



'SUNSHINE Sojourn', a tour developed by Business Events Sunshine Coast (BESC) to showcase the region, was held recently with eight top conference organisers.

BESC manager, Lauran Hofman said she was extremely happy with the quality of participants from Brisbane and New Zealand on this three-day program.

Representing companies such as Ernst and Young, Oracle, Ergon Energy and the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Hofman said, "The individuals we selected to attend this program have a strong influence on where an event will be held for their companies and have the capacity to bring a lot of business to our region."

With support from local operators, the group toured the region from 17 to 19 October and visited Australia Zoo, Spicers Clovelly Estate, Mantra Mooloolaba Beach, Noosa Springs, RACV Resort and undertook a challenge at Eumundi Markets.

Accommodation was provided by Novotel Twin Waters and Sheraton Noosa, while the group were treated to meals with Spicers Tamarind Retreat, Palmer Coolum Resort, Noosa Beach House, Outrigger Little Hastings Street and Bohemian Bungalow.

A reported \$60 million is generated from the 50,000-plus delegates travelling to the Sunshine Coast annually.

These important business visitors spend up to five times that of a leisure traveller.

Pictured above at Australia Zoo are, from left: Nina Yeoman, Oracle NZ; Tiffany Beal, BESC; Ursula Britten, Brisbane Catholic Education; Lauran Hofman BESC; Lisa Moyle, Ernst & Young; Amy Stewart, Institute of Chartered Accountants; Jessie Burrows, Australian Podiatry Association; Maree Hawcroft, Holcim; and in front, Isobel Jones, Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Association

Specialists restructure

THE Association Specialists has announced several new staff positions as it continues on a growth trajectory following the addition of a number of new clients.

Two event management teams will be led by Daniel Evans and Lucy Timms, in a similar structure to the Association Management arm of the business which is led by Doug Wiles and Megan Ogier.

And Julie Krieger will move into the new Chief Operating Officer role effective immediately.

To the Manor born

PEPPERS Manor House in the NSW Southern Highlands has opened "The Stables," a new dining and function venue available for VIP incentive groups and intimate celebrations.

The original Manor House tack room has been lovingly restored to offer a unique venue for up to twenty people.

The property has also named Jesse Kornoff as its new general manager, while the Peppers Manor House executive chef is now Daniel James.

Stretch out for Xmas

STRETCH Structures is offering "super Christmas specials" for event organisers wanting to use the company's visually stunning offerings to create unique ambience for upcoming events.

The company says it's seen record sales for its Axion sealed inflatable range, offering fast, foolproof setup with no blowers required - info 02 9907 6488.

Get festive at Radisson

FORGET the sandwiches, coffee and a supermarket bought cake this festive season, employees deserve a treat and Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens Melbourne has some ideas.

Book out a private room at the hotel with a group of 20 or more from \$60 per person and have buffet tables overflowing with a range of Christmas treats, including market fresh fish and glazed ham.

Then follow this with mince tarts, gateaux and warm plum puddings.

Or hold a private cocktail party from just \$25pp - 03 9322 8199.



crumbs!



SPANISH hospitality group Meliá Hotels International has launched a new program which makes its @SolWaveHouse Hotel, located in Mallorca, become the world's first "Tweet Experience Hotel".

With the aim of facilitating interaction between guests, it promises "fun, new friendships, experiences, surprise, excitement and buzz", oriented to beach, music and surfing experiences.

GM Gonzalo Echevarría said the innovation is based on a "virtual community" called #SocialWave, only accessible from the hotel's wifi network, to which clients can connect from their mobile or electronic device, registering their Twitter accounts during their stay at the hotel.

Two e-Concierges are devoted exclusively to meet guest requests via Twitter and generate conversation in this virtual community, acting as a link between all of them.

In addition, the hotel has created spacious PartySuites in which users can enjoy spending time with their new found friends.



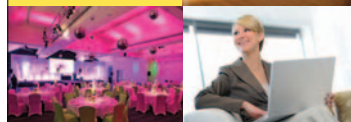
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business events news

25th October 2013

IACC expands its reach

THE International Association of Conferences Centres has established three new offices in Brussels, Chicago and Singapore to "provide operational and administrative services to IACC on

a worldwide basis."

Earlier this year IACC appointed MCI, the globally integrated association management company, to search for the ideal locations to establish offices.

Mark Cooper, ceo of IACC said the three offices are now open and dedicated staff are now actively supporting the association and its chapters, including IACC-Americas, IACC-Europe, and IACC-Australia Asia-Pacific.

According to Cooper, "Wherever you are in the world, there will always be someone available to assist and handle your request.

"All of the offices are able to support all our members regardless of location of that member or the interested party."

In making the announcement, Cooper cited the significant and rapid change that affects the meetings industry.

"Like many other global associations, IACC has seen the evolving demand for increased membership benefits.

"The unsurpassed changes in technology have dramatically changed how we all do business and how we interact with each other and with our clients and other associations that are part of this evolution," he said.

Cup runneth over

ARIA Catering is hosting its annual Melbourne Cup lunch in the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall, Northern Foyer, complete with a three-course lunch designed by Matt Moran.

Sky TV coverage of race day at Flemington will be broadcast on screens throughout the foyer.

For something a little more exclusive for your clients, host your own private event in the Joan Sutherland Northern Foyer or Utzon Room from \$240pp including theming, free-flowing drinks and uninterrupted race coverage.

For bookings call 02 8274 9600 or events@ariacatering.com.au

Ben on BEN inPlace RECRUITMENT

Each month Business Manager for inPlace Recruitment, Ben Carnegie, writes his observations from the recruiters perspective to help job hunters find the perfect job.

Ben has over 15 years working in 5 star hotels and the MICE industry and has worked on some of Australia's biggest events.

MY word of warning about LinkedIn Endorsements.

Since LinkedIn introduced this feature most people receive endorsements for their skills and expertise from their connections, almost daily.

These endorsements are getting out of control.

Often, your connections are promoting you for skills and expertise they actually have no idea if you are good at or not.

I've spoken directly with LinkedIn about this and not even they know what the value is in having these endorsements.

A traditional endorsement is like a testimonial for someone you have worked directly with, have a good knowledge of their performance and would recommend their specialist skills.

As more employers are viewing Linked profiles as part of their recruitment process, endorsing someone for skills you don't know they have may not only be damaging to that person but to your credibility as a referee.

It's the quality of endorsements that are valuable, not the quantity.



Northern Territory on the gallop



WITH its position closer to Singapore than it is to Sydney and its annual growth rate scheduled to be higher than anywhere else in Australia from an events prospect, the Northern Territory Convention Bureau (NTCB) took their NT Muster on the road this month spruiking their unique product.

Overall thirteen networking forums have been held progressively over three nights in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne from 22-24 October, with smaller NT Roundups being staged in Canberra, Adelaide and Perth earlier in October.

Scott Lovett director of business events at the NT Convention Bureau said at the Sydney Roadshow, that the business events sector is estimated to generate \$89 million in annual expenditure for the Territory economy.

The MC was Bill Zammit, a local Territorian who runs motivational workshops and presentations, while attendees were presented with a calico fabric backpack featuring specially designed artwork created by Bindi, an Alice Springs-based cross-cultural organisation which provides employment opportunities for adults with disabilities.

Pictured above are some



mysterious ladies concealed behind eye catching Santa Teressa silk scarves, which grace the throats of the NT Muster uniforms and were created by the artists of Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teressa), an Aboriginal community renowned for their use of colour, their detailed style, and their presentations of their culture and its stories.

And **inset** is Janet Hamilton, recently appointed as the new general manager of the Darwin Convention Centre.

Bewak Trumps SoHo

TRUMP SoHo New York has announced the appointment of Monica Bewak as director of catering & conference services.

The property offers 12,000 square feet of stylish and customisable indoor and outdoor event space - more than any other hotel in the area, with the appointment set to further elevate Trump SoHo's "success in the event sector".

CONTACT US:

Publisher
Bruce Piper

Editor
Jill Varley

For advertising enquiries email Christie-Lee Lachance:
advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au

P: 1300 799 220 F: 1300 799 221

PO Box 1010 Epping, NSW, 1710

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