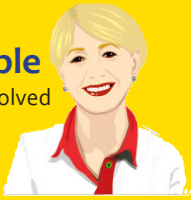




Being responsible

GETTING involved in corporate social responsibility programs that help disadvantaged communities or endangered species is very much a part of a company's business strategy these days and this is especially so when it comes to conferences and event programs.



When Omega launched its Seamaster Planet Ocean watch collection on Phuket's Naka Island resort, part of Starwood's Luxury Collection, the 'Treasure of Planet Ocean' event was more than just a celebrity event.

It was also held to raise awareness of oceanic conservation, with the proceeds from worldwide sales going towards funding projects to protect South-East Asian mangroves and seagrass and also to make a donation to the island's village school, Ban Konaka.



MEANWHILE Peter Bliss, whose company Business is Bliss combines 30 years of Western business intelligence with 3,000 years of Eastern wisdom, is leading an 'Experience the art of Qigong in Bhutan' tour from 24 Oct to 26 Nov.

In this upcoming journey, he has created an opportunity where participants can receive some of the amazing gifts of this traditional, ancient practice.

As Chris Barton, director of Systems 2 Succeed said of his experience, "I would highly recommend any company that wants to boost staff productivity, reduce sick days and to create a healthier work environment to contact Business is Bliss, you will not be disappointed."

To find out more, **CLICK HERE**.

Jill

NT eyes Malaysia

NORTHERN Territory Chief Minister Adam Giles is in Malaysia attending a major international business expo to expand trade links with the country.

Giles was attending the Sabah International Expo, one of the region's premier business fairs with exhibitors from more than 20 countries, the Minister's office said.

He is accompanied by a Territory business delegation, led by the Chamber of Commerce, which includes the Darwin Convention Centre (DCC) (**pictured**).

The Chief Minister would be promoting Darwin as a potential destination for business events, with the DCC displaying its facilities as part of the NT booth at the Expo, a spokesperson for the Minister said.

The NT would be the only Australian jurisdiction with a stand at the Expo.

Promoting Darwin for future business events from South



East Asia was a "significant opportunity" for the government, they said.

The Chief Minister said it was an "amazing opportunity" for the NT, and particularly the business community, to showcase investment opportunities.

Giles will also meet with Malaysia Airlines senior executives to explore ways to up bookings on the week-long mission.

The NT Convention Bureau received \$2.5m to market and promote the region as a business events destination in the 2014-15 state budget (**BEN 19 May**).

AACB goals set

THE Association of Australian Convention Bureaux (AACB) goals for the next 12 months include delivering the Deloitte Access Economics report with the value of Australia's international business events sector.

At its AGM, the AACB said it would focus on positioning the sector as a key economic action strategy for the Federal government by aligning bidding strategies with trade and investment priority areas, as well as partnering with Austrade to create support mechanisms in the bid process for events.

Business Events Tasmania ceo Stuart Nettlefold was also re-elected as vice president, with Business Events Sydney ceo Lyn Lewis-Smith staying on as president, and Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd ceo Simon Ambrose newly elected as treasurer.

MeetHawai'i

THE team from Hawai'i Tourism were at the Ivy in Sydney yesterday to fill the travel industry in on their 2015 marketing plans.

Special guests at the event were Mike McCartney, Hawai'i Tourism Authority president and ceo, and Mike Storey, tourism brand and sports manager.

Giving a perspective on Hawai'i's heart and soul, McCartney said even though Hawaii was the most isolated landmass in the world with a population of 1.2m, against all odds, it had access to the world, including almost 1,000 flights a week directly connecting to 48 cities by 21 airlines.

With almost \$1b in tourism coming into Hawai'i from Australia, McCartney said the nation would continue to grow and diversify its international



markets.

It's a diversification that means from next year Tourism Hawai'i will be developing their new MeetHawai'i brand meetings, conventions and incentives segment, said Australia country manager Ashlee Galea.

"In the latter half of this year, we will be going along the eastern seaboard and inviting conference and incentive planners to one on one meetings."

Pictured are McCartney and Galea.

The Christmas Venue Guide

BUSINESS Events News has launched a Christmas Events guide - check out **page six** for the best end of year function venues out.

The Guide is booking out fast, so get in while you can to highlight your venue's unique features, like a karaoke battle to the death of 'We Three Kings - The Reggae Remix', to the business events industry and **BEN's** readers and social media channels, email advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au.

Six pages today

BEN has three pages of editorial plus full pages from (**click**):

- Accor Conferences
- NT Convention Bureau



business events news

17th September 2014

Book a corporate event and your delegates will each receive a \$100 gift voucher to use at Spicers Hidden Vale



SPICERS
HIDDEN VALE

Relaxed Luxury

[Click here to find out more](#)

Novotel Langley gm



THE Novotel Perth Langley has a new general manager in Jean-Philippe Lagarde.

Lagarde has worked for Accor since 1992, when he was food and beverage manager at the ibis Tour Eiffel, Accor said.

He was most recently the general manager of Novotel Mumbai Juhu Beach, having previously held general manager positions in Madrid and England, the company said.

Lagarde planned to work closely with local tourism partners in Perth and WA and had started this month at the Novotel Perth Langley, Accor said.

A geek at Oz Comic-Con

WHOEVER said that youth is wasted on the young weren't wrong, as Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island gm Malu Barrios (pictured second from left) proved when she scored photos with Orlando Bloom, William



Shatner, Jason Mamoia (Game of Thrones) and the Stargate group at Oz Comic-Con held at the Centre over the weekend.

The price of a photo and/or autograph at \$100 a pop with the major stars like Bloom and Shatner was nothing compared with the \$550 cost of the Orlando Bloom Ultimate Experience ticket, which included access to an exclusive catered meet and greet on Saturday night.

With final attendance figures not yet in, Barrios said about 23,000 were expected but that she thought there had been "so much more."

What is known is that there were 13,284 round trip ferry rides, 3,935 one way bus trip from Central Station and 1,125 round trips pedestrian shuttle bus rides from James Craig Road.

Barrios said that next year the Centre would be hosting banquets as well as exhibitions with the Lansdowne Club holding its St Patrick's Day banquet for 1,400 there on 14 Mar.

As a heads up, from 15 Nov to 01 Dec, the Centre will be closed for grading work, when its generators will be changed to mains power, making the facility more environmentally friendly.

Onyx appoints GSO

ONYX Hospitality Group has appointed Great Southern Outbound (GSO) for sales and marketing representation services in Australia and NZ, led by Louise Barker.

Onyx sales and marketing senior vp Debrah Pascoe said the company was excited to strengthen its position in the regions, which were crucial markets for it.

"I am looking forward to working with Louise and the team to develop brand awareness, grow our leisure business and develop our corporate and MICE business."

Tourism Aus calendar

TOURISM Australia has updated its international activity calendar for the 2014-15 financial year.

It said the calendar was an easy way for industry to know what marketing activity was planned and when to leverage it.

CLICK HERE to access it.

AT A GLANCE:

- 2 large ballrooms - 420 & 306 guests
- Exhibition capacity & additional breakout rooms
- Unique outdoor event options - 25 - 300+ guests
- Outdoor amphitheatre
- A permanent marquee - 280 guests
- In-house audio visual & creative event production

ulurumeetingplace.com.au
61 2 8296 8067
conferences@voyages.com.au



business events news

17th September 2014



crumbs!

CONFERENCE goers will know the feeling of leaving a session frantically tweeting, saving networking contact details to phones or checking work emails while walking to the next event on the list.

It's a hazardous enterprise and while **BEN** has yet to walk into a pole while doing so, there is a certain feeling of sea sickness when glancing hurriedly up and down to avoid exhibition stands, performers or other attendees.

So perhaps convention centres and bureaus could consider following the lead of Chongqing, a Chinese city which has created a smartphone sidewalk lane for those too engrossed in their phones to look where they're walking.

Reuters reported the city took its cue from an American TV program - but that it was meant to be ironic, to show it's dangerous to tweet while walking.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

Hamblin for PCEC

AVPARTNERS has appointed Ben Hamblin to the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (PCEC) as technical director.

Hamblin was previously PCEC project manager for the company.

The company extended its five year relationship with the Centre in July and was reappointed as in-house AV partner, it said.

Atlantis expansion



THE Royal Atlantis Resort and Residences in Dubai is set for a \$1.4b expansion.

Investment Corporation Dubai (ICD) and Kerzner International Holdings Limited (Kerzner) unveiled the expansion plans, which include event space for both large and small gatherings for business and pleasure.

They also included almost 800 new guest rooms, 250 luxury residences and marine experiences.

China push for QLD

QUEENSLAND is making a push to attract more visitors from China with a new marketing initiative.

The campaign would come in the lead up to Chinese New Year, Minister for Tourism and Major Events Jann Stuckey said.

"The campaign will see Queensland on TV screens, on radio and in prominent travel agencies across Greater China."

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

MEANWHILE Tourism and Events Queensland has formed a partnership with the Pacific Asia Travel Association, which gives it access to Asia Pacific visitor research online, including trends and developments.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

CONTACT US:

Publisher	Editor	Deputy editor
Bruce Piper	Jill Varley	Alex Walls

For advertising enquiries email Sean Harrigan & Katrina Ford:
advertising@businesseventsnews.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 & 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.



FACE : FACE

Suzanne Hart Director SHE Travels



Business Events News recently caught up with Suzanne Hart, director of Suzanne Hart Events Pty Ltd (SHE) and SHE travels, a boutique business catering to independent women looking for a tailored travel experience.

What's the first thing you do when you get in the office?

Check social media with a cup of tea; try not to get distracted by Pinterest!

What is the most challenging aspect of your job?

Balancing travel and being out of the office with day-to-day client expectations and deadlines.

Technology allows me to travel and stay in touch with my clients, but when it fails, it's frustrating and extremely challenging.

What's one sure-fire way to land an event bid?

The million dollar question. Address the brief first and foremost; be as concise as possible but try to demonstrate some point of difference so the client is interested enough to want to meet you in person. If SHE can get in front of the client, I've found that our chance of winning the bid increases substantially.

What are your top tips for dealing with clients?

Good, honest communication – and picking up the phone. The message and intention often gets lost in an email and text messages don't qualify as communication (unless you're running five minutes late for a meeting). Clearly identify roles and responsibilities so everyone understands what's expected of them, and then get on with the job.

What's the most important thing

when it comes to organising a business event?

Attention to detail. No event is ever the same, even if it's been run every year for the past five years. And no detail should be overlooked; near enough is never good enough.

What would you be doing if you weren't director of SHE travels and Suzanne Hart Events?

Working in a restaurant or café in a town that had a beautiful beach where I could surf every morning before work.

Who in the world would you most like to have dinner with, alive or dead?

Is it wrong or completely predictable to say George Clooney? Well honestly, the man is fascinating, he has had a brilliant and interesting career, and who wouldn't want to have dinner with a good-looking, charming man?

What's the most interesting/weirdest event you've ever organised?

SHE doesn't do weird. And of course, every event we run is interesting. Seriously, SHE runs regular product knowledge roadshows for one of our department stores, and has been doing so for eight years. I find the technology updates really interesting and spending time onsite with the clients has meant I'm able to access some of these innovations as they're happening – what a bonus!




Experience the
South Coast of NSW

With Accor Hotels Special Offers...


Head South...On Us!

Book your next conference with **Novotel Wollongong Northbeach** and we will take care of the travel for you and your delegates!

Your return coach transfers OR Caltex petrol vouchers will be ON US!* PLUS
A personal, dedicated event butler - just for you!!

Call 02 4224 3154 or email
h1654-sb3@accor.com
www.novotelnorthbeach.com.au



WOLLONGONG
NORTHBEACH

www.accorconferences.com.au

*Conditions apply, subject to availability. Valid for events confirmed prior to 31st December 2014 and held from 1st October 2014 - 31st December 2015. Minimum spend of \$10,000 & minimum of 25 room nights confirmed. Return transfers from Sydney region or Sydney airport. Coach to accommodate up to 50 or Caltex petrol vouchers to the value of \$1500. Valid for new bookings only.


Exclusive Use Package!

Book your residential conference with us and receive exclusive use of the entire **Mercure Gerringong Resort** for the duration of your event.

The resort will be all yours, complete with a dedicated team and private chef*.

Call 02 42341359 or email
events@mercuregerringong.com.au
www.mercuregerringong.com.au



*Conditions apply, subject to availability. Accommodation, day delegates and catering package prices apply. Package includes exclusive use of 52 guest accommodation rooms, 3 function rooms catering up to 150 guests, various break out spaces and trade display areas, Bella Char Restaurant and Wine Bar, Bella Spa Gerringong - day Spa, a tennis court and two swimming pools.

INVITATION

We are excited to bring the NT to your backyard and share the wide range of options for Business Events in the Territory.

DISCOVER why the NT should be the destination for your next event.

CONNECT with the local expert to professionally plan your event.

INSPIRE yourself with unique possibilities and connections the NT can provide you and your next business event.

VENUES

Monday 13 Oct, 12:00-2:00pm - BRISBANE:

Sofitel Brisbane - Odeon Room - 249 Turbot St | Brisbane QLD 4000

Tuesday 14 Oct, 7:30-9:30am - CANBERRA:

Sage Restaurant - Gorman House Arts Centre/ Batman St | Braddon ACT 2612

Tuesday 14 Oct, 5:30-7:30pm - SYDNEY:

The Slip Inn Sydney - Sand & Garden Bars - 111 Sussex St | Sydney NSW 2000

Wednesday 15 Oct, 5:30-7:30pm - MELBOURNE:

MCG - Premiership Dining Room - enter via Gate 6, use elevators 14 and 15 and go to level 2 | Brunton Ave | Richmond VIC 3002

Thursday 16 Oct, 12:30-2:30pm - ADELAIDE:

Chianti Classico - Gallo Nero Private Dining Room - 160 Hutt Street | Adelaide SA 5000

Friday 17 Oct, 12:00-2:00pm - PERTH:

The George - London Room - 216 St Georges Terrace | Perth WA 6000

KEY NT BUSINESS EVENT SUPPLIERS

Alice Springs Convention Centre

Darwin Convention Centre

Darwin Turf Club (BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Fusion Exhibition and Hire Services

Great Southern Rail (BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Hilton group ((BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Kakadu Tourism (BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Toga Hotels

SKYCITY Darwin

Voyages

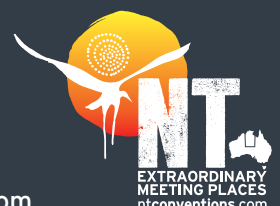
**WIN AN
NT ADVENTURE
FOR TWO**

Attend the event at any city to be eligible to win!

REGISTER NOW

info@ntconventions.com.au | www.ntconventions.com

**CONVENTIONS
WALKABOUT '14**
13-17 OCTOBER 2014

**NT**
EXTRAORDINARY
MEETING PLACES
ntconventions.com

Christmas Venue Guide

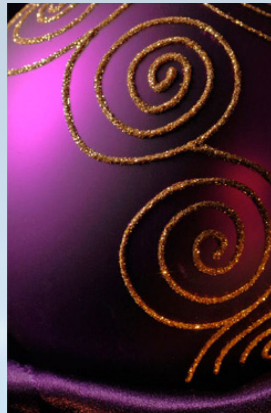
Looking for a Christmas venue or staff celebration?
Business Events News guide to 2014/15 Christmas venues is the place to showcase!
To feature here email advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au.

Bayview Eden Melbourne Melbourne, Victoria

Book your festive networking lunch or the company Christmas party now! Bayview Eden Melbourne covers it all!

Choose from a variety of Christmas Packages that can be tailored to suit your every need! Packages include complimentary bon bons, parking, dance floor, room hire & more!

Bonus - Book an event from Monday–Thursday and receive a 10% discount or take advantage of our \$135.00 per room offer!
Terms & Conditions apply.
www.bayviewhotels.com



6 Queens Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004

Festive Celebrations at Bayview Eden Melbourne

Packages from **\$69** per person

1800 033 001



Fairmont Resort Leura, NSW

Eat, drink and be merry!
Celebrate your fabulous festivities at Fairmont Resort this year with an all-inclusive package of four hour venue hire, four hour standard beverage package, and Christmas theming with bon bons and centre pieces.
Talk to our Event Elves and tailor your own event package today.

Don't forget to ask us about our preferential room rate from only \$149.
Book now on 02 4785 0000.
www.fairmontresort.com.au

Chifley Hotel Wollongong Wollongong, NSW

Reward your staff with a memorable Christmas Party at Chifley Wollongong. With all inclusive Christmas Party Packages available, or tailored packages to meet all your personal touches your event will be a breeze to coordinate and a night to remember. Quote BEN to receive the following bonuses*:

10% discount off your total bill; One complimentary accommodation room for every 20 paid accommodation rooms; Complimentary upgrade to all accommodation rooms.

*T&C's apply, subject to availability

www.chifleywollongong.com



Royce Hotel Melbourne, Victoria

Celebrate your Christmas function in style and experience.
Melbourne's chic five star designer hotel, ideally located next to the Royal Botanic Gardens. Four venues to choose from – amberoom bar, dish restaurant, Royce function rooms or the hotels private outdoor courtyard.
enquiries@roycehotels.com.au or
tel 03 9677 9931.
www.roycehotels.com.au
Ask about the complimentary gift certificate you may be eligible for.

