



A real pearler

BEYOND

Broome's pearling history and blend of Malay, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Aboriginal and European cultures, is the story of Englishman Lord Alistair McAlpine, credited with reinvigorating this once-sleepy town.



It was soon after his arrival in 1979 that he purchased a cottage and the historic Sun Cinema, and within a few years he'd started a zoo and built a luxury resort, the Cable Beach Club.

The zoo is no more but the hotel, opened in 1988 and today the Cable Beach Club Resort and Spa, is as synonymous with Broome as is its cultured pearl industry.

The resort houses a treasure trove of original art pieces which McAlpine commissioned and collected, including original paintings by renowned artists such as Sir Sidney Nolan, Elizabeth Durack and John Olsen.

Recent acquisitions are the Nolan paintings that provide the backdrop to the resort's reception desk (pictured).



"We're passionate about the Resort's many treasured pieces, as we appreciate not only their attractive aesthetics, but the significance and stories they bring from around the world," said general manager Ron Sedon.

With 231 rooms, the resort is spending \$45,000 on each of its 175 studio rooms in a \$12m refurbishment.

For meetings, there are two venues with a capacity from 10 to 200: the Pandanus Room launched in 2013 and the colonial style Sam Male Room.

"Conferences and events are a big part of our business," Sedon said. *Jill*

Uluru to host Biz Chicks conf

THE Uluru Meeting Place has been chosen as the venue for the inaugural Business Chicks conference.

The Movers and Breakers conference will be held at the Voyages Ayers Rock Resort venue from 06 to 09 Aug, with 100

delegates expected to attend, pumping more than \$400,000 into the local economy, Tourism NT said.

The organisation announced a 12 month partnership agreement with the networking group Business Chicks earlier this year, which would see Tourism NT become the partner for eight Business Chick events this year, looking to raise awareness of the Territory among the organisation's 35,000 members (**BEN 13 Mar**).

The first of the eight events included a Sydney Lunch with Sir Bob Geldof, which attracted 1,000 people, and an Adelaide Lunch, also with Geldof, with the other six yet to be announced, a spokesperson for Business Chicks said.

The Movers and Breakers conference would be held each year, with Uluru chosen this year because it was a unique conference destination, the spokesperson said.

"The Northern Territory is on so many people's bucket list



Credit: Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia

and provides a completely all-immersive, magical experience that we can't wait to share with our community."

No official pre or post tours had been organised but a number of the group would extend their stay in the Territory.

Tourism NT ceo Tony Mayell said the conference would see central Australia and Uluru showcased to an "elite group of business people.

"It's hoped this major conference will help generate further business leads and increase awareness of the Territory as a unique business events destination."

18 regions of NZ at MEETINGS 2015

EIGHTEEN regions of New Zealand will be exhibiting at MEETINGS 2015, with more than 180 exhibitors, including 20 that are new, Conventions and Incentives New Zealand has said.

CLICK HERE to read more or register.

New ICESAP director

SIMON Bernardi has been appointed to a newly created executive director role with the Incentive Conference and Event Society Asia Pacific (ICESAP).

Bernardi, who has had an extensive career in the travel industry, would initially work in the role part time but "it will grow as the Society's plans materialise over the next 12 months," ICESAP president Nigel Gaunt said.

He said that as well as overseeing the organisation's continuing membership growth and commercial relationships, Bernardi would drive the launch of ICESAP's proposed "Intermediary Agency Accreditation Scheme" in 2016.

ICESAP was formed this year as the peak body for the incentive, conference and event industry, and now comprises more than 200 clients in the corporate member category.

EEAA: minimise disruption to sector


THE Exhibition and Event Association of Australasia (EEAA) has welcomed the Victorian government's decision to fund the expansion of the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (**BEN 06 May**).

Ceo Joyce DiMascio said the expansion would allow venue-bound shows to grow, as well as free up the Victorian calendar to provide capacity for new shows.

"This will herald a new era for the exhibition and events sector in Victoria."

DiMascio said it would be urging the state government to plan construction to minimise disruption to the events sector.

"If there is one lesson Governments should take from the closure of the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre, it is that disruption due to construction must be managed with the highest regard for its flow on effects to the industry."



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business events news

8th May 2015



crumbs!

IF YOU'RE feeling like you're going to collapse after a round of appointments at your latest trade show, and you're trying to gear up for a networking event or two, just watch this video of Army Captain Sarah Cudd finishing the last 50 metre stretch of a roughly 19km trek at Fort Dix in the United States - you'll immediately realise your events are not so bad by comparison.

Cudd, who completed the march with a combined pack and rifle weight of about 32kg in two hours and 46 minutes, the *Telegraph* reported, collapsed twice in the last few metres, but struggled to her feet again, using her rifle as a prop, before hobbling across the finish line, cheered on by fellow soldiers.

For comparison, the world record for women for a half marathon (about 21km), running unencumbered, is one hour five minutes, according to Wikipedia.

The *Telegraph* reports that the trek is the last event needed to earn the Expert Field Medical Badge in the US Army, with 80% of those who attempted it failing to cross the finish line.

CLICK HERE to view the video.

Regional Vic on show

BUSINESS Events Victoria has said its inaugural Regional Showcase will show event organisers what regional Victoria has to offer.

The event will be held on 20 May at Rydges Hotel in Melbourne, with free entry.

CLICK HERE to register.

Olympic Park golden ticket up for grabs

THE Pullman and Novotel Sydney Olympic Park are offering conference and event organisers the chance to win a 'golden ticket' which will see them and a friend attend a number of major events at Olympic Park next year.

Events included the APJA Tennis matches and State of Origin, NRL and Waratah rugby games, Accor said.

To be in to win two tickets to six events, conference organisers need to hold an event at either hotel by 30 Jun 16, to be booked before 30 Sep 15, and say what event they would like to see at Sydney Olympic Park, the company said.

Minimum spend requirements apply.

For more, **CLICK HERE**.

Sheraton Mirage Port Douglas \$40m refurb



THE Sheraton Mirage Port Douglas Resort is set to undergo a \$40m renovation starting in the next two weeks.

The hotel's 294 rooms would be refurbished, as well as its Mirage Country Golf Club, main buildings and surrounding pools, Sheraton said.

There would be no impact on the seven meeting spaces and events facilities, a spokesperson said.

The renovation is expected to be finished early next year.



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Ben on BEN

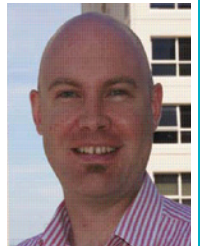


Each month Business Manager for inPlace Recruitment, Ben Carnegie, writes his observations from the recruiter's perspective to help job hunters find the perfect job.

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

Contractors or Permanent

EVENTS has a high level of both contract and permanent employees. What will work best for your next



hire? There are benefits to both for employers and job seekers. Employers get the opportunity with contractors to work on 'one off' short term events without ongoing overheads, additional staff without adding to your head count and contractors, due to the nature of the lifestyle, work very well under pressure. Permanent staff though are much better suited to annual event programs for continuity with your clients and staff that really know your business so can be good for succession planning. For job seekers the lifestyle, flexibility, often higher rates of pay and being your own boss is great! The pitfalls are job security, no employee benefits and no training is generally offered. Only you can decide what is best for you but if you're at a crossroads, consider this to ensure you make the right choice.

So oh la la



A SIX day New Caledonia famil, in collaboration with New Caledonia Tourism and Aircalin, was held recently with a group of Australian conference organisers.

The event allowed the PCOs to gain a better understanding of the business events experiences New Caledonia offers.

These include this French Territory's remarkable landscapes and cosmopolitan cityscapes, its Pacific Island charm and French sophistication as well as its

unique Melanesian culture.

A suite of activities started in the domain of Deva on the central-west coast of Grande Terre, visiting Green Island and snorkelling amidst colourful tropical fish, sampling French wines and cheeses in the capital Noumea, scenic helicopter flights, visiting Ile aux Canards (Duck Island) and discovering the bays of the city by Segway.

Pictured is the group in fancy dress at Turtle Bay.

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Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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Publisher: Bruce Piper

Editor: Jill Varley info@businesseventsnews.com.au

Deputy Editor: Alex Walls

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan and Magda Herdzik advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@businesseventsnews.com.au

