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Southern Ocean offer

THE acclaimed Southern Ocean Lodge on Kangaroo Island is welcoming business events groups with seasonal "Exclusively Yours" bonuses.

The 21-suite lodge is available on a sole use basis for two or three nights between May and Sep 2016, for a minimum of 15 paid suites - down from the usual 18 suite minimum.

Bonus offers include gala dinners and celebratory drinks in the wild as well as spa and "bespoke experience" credits such as a local gin masterclass or wine tastings, as well as complimentary Regional Express return flights to Adelaide.

All-inclusive tariffs include an open bar, porterage and transfers at Australia's top ranked hotel for info CLICK HERE.



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Pacific World into South America

DMC and event management organisation Pacific World has announced its expansion into South America, via a new partnership with Peru-based DMC Lima Tours.

Pacific World said the move will help showcase Peru as a meetings and incentives destination for MICE planners across the globe.

"Peru is rapidly emerging as

GC Business appoints

GOLD Coast Business Events has named Tara Raj as trade events executive, where she will manage the Gold Coast Business Events program of trade events, including AIME and an upcoming post Dreamtime famil program.

Raj has worked at several Gold Coast hotels and most recently spent three years as Private Event Manager at Crown Melbourne.

the leading incentive destination in South America due to an immense diversity of eco-regions combined with an age-old culture," said Pacific World strategic development director, Harsha Krishnan.

Krishnan also cited the country's gastronomy, modern international hotel offerings and a high level of safety and security.

Peru's capital will also shortly open the Lima Convention Center, which will have capacity for up to 10.000 attendees.

He said Lima Tours is a longestablished player in Peru's inbound travel business "and the perfect partner to assist us in taking our first steps in South America".

The expansion into Peru sees Pacific World now operate in 33 countries and more than 100 destinations across the world.

Crown Perth progress

CROWN Perth has celebrated the 'topping off' of the Crown Towers with a ceremony and a hard hat tour.

Crown Towers will offer 500 rooms and a 9,800m² resort pool. Restaurants, bars, retail outlets, a new spa & increased convention space will integrate with existing



facilities at Crown Perth.

Events Calendar

BEN's calendar details events at various venues across Australia.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@businesseventsnews.com.au.

NSW Career Insights 2015; UNSW CBD Campus, O'Connel Street, Sydney; more info at: www.meetingsevents.com.au

21-23 OCT

ITB Asia; Marina Bay Sands, Singapore; details at: www.itb-asia.com

Complimentary hosted Networking Functions for PCOA members; for details email: jillian@pco.asn.au

17-18 NOV

Australian Event Symposium 2015; Novotel Sydney on Darling Harbour; details at: www.eventsymposium.com.au

17-19 NOV

ibtm world; Barcelona, Spain; see: www.ibtmworld.com

18 NOV

Pacific Area Incentives & Conferences Expo (PAICE): **SKYCITY Auckland Convention** Centre; Auckland; more info at: www.paicexpo.co.nz

29 NOV-1 DEC

PCO Association Conference and Exhibition 2015; Adelaide Convention Centre; more info at: conference.pco.asn.au

1-2 DEC

EEAA 2015 Conference; Sydney; for more details go to: www.tradeevents.australia.com.

6-9 DEC

Dreamtime 2015; Adelaide; for more info at: www.eeaa.com.au.

SMA's Rat Pack rocks SKYCITY Darwin



SMA Productions took its "Rat Pack" show to the Northern Territory on the weekend, with the trio taking to the stage for a Qantas Holidays incentive event where the travel group honoured its top achieving consultants.

The 1940s-themed night took place in the events marquee at Darwin's SKYCITY Hotel, Casino and Convention Centre, with predinner drinks on the waterfront capped off with a stunning

fireworks display.

The room was decorated with authentic (and precious) memorabilia from the Qantas Heritage Collection, while the event was hosted by TV personality Hugh Sheridan.

As well as the gala event, participants enjoyed some of the highlights of the region in pre- and post-touring courtesy of local operators and the Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

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GUESTS staying at London's Shangri-La Hotel in iconic Shard building will be well-shod, under a new collaboration with British designer Beatrix Ong.

Ong has created a customdesigned limited edition luxury slipper exclusively for guests and residents of the property.

Described as "a marriage of sustainability, high design and comfort" the fancy footwear (pictured below) is made with luxurious silk velvet and non-slip suede soles.

The innovative deisgn allows the back to be folded down to transform into a slip-on style.

And even foot-odour won't be a problem, with Ong thoughtfully including insoles made from bamboo and charcoal, "natural deodorisers that are also antiperspiring and ionising".

The slippers (pictured) are designed to complement the hotel's 202 rooms and suites, which have all been individually designed with Asian influences.

Every room will feature the slippers for use during guest stays, while those who book The Shangri-La Suite, The London Suite or The Westminster Suite will even be able to take them home as a "complimentary luxury amenity".



PCOA Conf update

EARLY registration has closed for the eighth annual PCOA Conference and Exhibition 2015.

The conference exhibition has sold out, with 60 industry partners nabbing booths, including return exhibitors Accor Hotels, Adelaide Convention Centre, CIM, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre and Rydges Hotels and Resorts.

Stamford Hotels and Resorts will be the "Silver Sponsor" for the annual Conference & Exhibition.

Brisbane shows off

THE Brisbane Showgrounds has back to back events returning to the venue in 2016.

The Caravan, Camping and Touring Supershow will return for its 38th year, while Oktoberfest will celebrate its ninth and tenth years at the showgrounds after re-signing until 2017.

Rock solid 2016 events

TWO brand new events in the Red Centre have been added to the major events program at Ayers Rock Resort next year.

Already locked in are annual events, the Tjungu Festival (22-25 Apr), Uluru Camel Cup (27-28 May), Outback Marathon (30 Jul) & the Uluru Astronomy Weekend (26-28 Aug), on top of the yearlong Bruce Munro's Field of Light art exhibition which commences on 01 Apr and runs to 31 Mar 17.

Joining those events is the Desert Dreaming Yoga Festival (24-29 Apr) and Touch the Silence Within Wellness Weekend (13-15 May), with Voyages ceo Andrew Williams saying the events program attracts good crowds, with visitors able to also partake in regular attractions - see ayersrockresort.com.au/events.

Niue Matavai conference space



SCENIC Hotel Group broke ground on a new oceanfront conference facility at its Scenic Matavai Resort in Niue last week.

When completed in around 12 months time, the conference centre will have a capacity of up to 140 people and give Niue a key new business events option.

Scenic Hotel Group managing director Brendan Taylor said the design of the facility will optimise its "flexibility and functionality", through moveable walls and

The Star appointment

MATHEW Haynes has been appointed as technical manager of The Star Event Centre in Sydney, overseeing the audio visual operation for the venue, effective immediately.

Haynes has been a technical producer at The Star since 2012 and will lead a team of 45 audio visual professionals in the role.

Crown Parra venue

CONFERENCE space at a planned mixed use development in the heart of Parramatta's CBD will be expanded by 180m2 (or more than 25%) to 665m².

Modified plans for the Crown Landmark Development Pty Ltd on the corner of Hunter St and Marsden St call for the project's residential count to be increased to 591 units across 19 storeys and the scrapping of 42 previously mooted serviced apartments.

breakout rooms.

Taylor said the space would not only cater for demand from the New Zealand & Australian conference and incentive sector but also weddings, major Pacific Island forums, meetings & more.

Pictured at the ground breaking ceremony from left are Vicky Taylor, Bret Inkster, Ian Fitzgerald, Hon. Murray McCully, Brendan Taylor & Niue Premier Toke Talagi.

Radisson MPI alliance

CARLSON Rezidor Hotel Group's upscale hotel brand Radisson has formed a new education pact with global meeting and event industry association, Meeting Professional International.

The tie up has seen a new certification comprised of six virtual training modules added to the Radisson Meetings Success program, with educational elements delivered by MPI.

VP branding for Radisson Richard Flores said the tie-up with MPI enables the group's hotels to provide "the best possible meetings experience" for clients.

"MPI is a leader in the industry and we're confident through this collaboration employees will be equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to ensure every meeting is a success."

Radisson expects all general managers and directors of sales to be Meetings Success Certified by the end of this year.

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