



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news, the latest **BEN** Christmas Venue Guide on **page three** and a full page from: ([click](#))

- AA Appointments

BEN Xmas guide

THE BEN Christmas Venue Guide is filling up fast!

If your venue has a Christmas or New Year offering and you'd like to promote this to our readers, please send us an email by [CLICKING HERE](#).

This week's Christmas venue guide is featured on **page three**.

GC to host SMAANZ

THE Gold Coast will set the stage for the Sport Management Association of Australia and New Zealand Conference next year, following a successful bid.

Around 200 sports leaders and professional sport administrators from organisations such as the Commonwealth Games Federation, Team Australia and other sports leagues are expected to attend.

Director of Gold Coast Business Events Anna Case said they were thrilled to host the delegates, adding it is "becoming a logical choice for sporting organisations to meet on the Gold Coast" due to the city's close alignment with the world of sport.

TNZ ceo calls it quits

TOURISM New Zealand chief executive officer Kevin Bowler has handed in his resignation, after almost seven years on the job.

Bowler will leave the position on 28 Oct to join Frucor Beverages Limited as its New Zealand ceo.

Tourism NZ chair Kerry Prendergast confirmed they will begin the process for replacing Bowler immediately, with the first step being the appointment of an executive recruitment agency to lead the search.

SOH \$202 million renewal



THE Sydney Opera House (SOH) today revealed how it will invest \$202m on four major upgrades, including a brand new function space to rid the landmark of the eyesore marquee.

Billed as "Australia's premier tourist destination and performing arts centre", projects will be funded by the NSW Government and include the enhancement of acoustics, accessibility, efficiency and flexibility of the Concert Hall.

The revitalisation work of the 43 year-old attraction aims

next year and finish in early 2018 - view a clip of the space [HERE](#).

Herron said the renewal will "return more of the Opera House to the people".

A Creative Learning Centre "for the children to explore their own creativity" will replace office space.

Other work will see the removal of roadway beneath the Monumental Steps, make way for new seating and a digital art wall.

New lift access points to the Concert Hall and Joan Sutherland Theatre will also be added.



to "ensure the Opera House continues to evolve," ceo Louise Herron AM remarked today.

Work on modernisation of the Concert Hall is slated to begin in mid-2019 and take 18 months to complete, reopening for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's 2021 season.

The new ground floor Function Centre will replace the existing events marquee on the Northern Broadwalk, "revealing the Opera House as Utzon intended, without a tent obscuring the gentle curve of its northern face," SOH said.

It will have a capacity of 190 people seated and 500 standing.

The 320m² main function space will provide "dramatic views" of Sydney Harbour from the inside, with floor-to-ceiling windows.

Construction is slated to begin



COMPETITORS and onlookers at the Rio Olympics raised an eyebrow yesterday after the water in the diving pool turned a sickly shade of green.

US men's diver David Boudia shared a picture ([below](#)) of the green water to his 45,000+ followers yesterday, questioning the strange hue.

"Wait, is someone playing a joke or are celebrating St Patty's early here in Rio?" he wrote.

The event continued as planned after Olympic officials deemed that athletes were not at risk and the cause was being investigated.

"The water quality at the Maria Lenk Aquatics Centre was tested and there were no risks for the athletes. We are investigating the cause," they wrote.



**THE
EVENT
SHOW**

SYDNEY 1 AUGUST 20-26 2016

Google's Event Technology Guru Flying in from the USA for The Event Show 2016



Production Manager for Google based in San Francisco.

The opening keynote session for The Event Show 2016 is Chris Tillman, Event Technology

Chris will be providing our registered delegates some insight into Google's very own event technology strategies from events like [Google I/O](#) and showing how we can replicate this success. You can only hear from Chris if you register for a 1 or 2 day pass on [The Event Show website](#).



Hilton Hawaii event appeal

BOASTING an already bumper room inventory in the Aloha State, Hilton Hawaii is preparing to make its groups appeal even broader with an expansion of the brand's flagship hotel.

Hilton Hawaiian Village, the largest Hilton hotel in the world and biggest property in the USA (outside Las Vegas), has a massive 2,860 hotel rooms, making it a clear favourite among conference organisers around the world.

Speaking with **Business Events News** this week, Hilton Hawaii regional director of corporate communications Cynthia Rankin said the hotel has wide appeal to the MICE sector due to its diverse options available and location.

"It has the largest committable room block of all the hotels in Hawaii. Because we have so many rooms we can give a group 1,800 rooms. It's a great selling point, as it means that really big groups don't have to split to go to other hotels," Rankin explained.

Just down the road from the Honolulu Convention Center, Hilton Hawaiian Village has 3,500 rooms when taking into account two towers dedicated to Hilton Grand Vacations (timeshare).

That number will increase to almost 4,000 when a third tower opens in Mar next year.

As not all of the timeshare units are sold, conference attendees may be allocated rooms in the Grand Vacation towers, she said.

"Large groups, whether it's 1,000 or 1,500 rooms, are given a wide variety of options at Hilton Hawaiian Village.

"They can pick an upscale tower where boardmembers may stay and there are rooms further back from the ocean that are lower priced, so we can give groups a whole tier of scale to choose."

Rankin said the hotel offers an array of event spaces, including two large ballrooms indoor and locations around the lagoon outdoors, ideal for teambuilding.

She admitted the Australian market does not provide "huge" convention business for Hawaii, due to distance, however smaller groups continue to arrive.

Rankin and a team of sales and marketing reps from other Hilton Hawaii operated hotels (pictured below in Sydney) are in Australia this week and New Zealand next week on a sales mission with trade partners.



Confessions of a compulsive conference-goer

Andrew Klein, professional MC and presentation skills speaker and director of SPIKE Presentations, presents his front line observations on conferences in a regular feature in **BEN**.

Don't F up your presentation

ASA music-obsessed teenager growing up in the 80's, my mates and I got immense pleasure from the song "Add It Up" by the Violent Femmes. Gen X readers of this article know exactly which specific lyrics I'm referring to. For the benefit of Gen Y readers, or anyone else unfortunate enough not to know the song, it's a great, catchy tune that features a few colourful swear words.



No big deal in this current age where every second pop or rap song contains endless profanity. And as much as I'd prefer that my 10 year old daughter didn't get to hear the S word, F word and mother-related phrases in pop songs every day, I've come to accept the world has changed and the Violent Femmes lyrics are tame by today's standards.

Yet when it comes to corporate presentations, I still advise my presentation skills clients to play it safe. Personally, swearing doesn't offend me at all and I certainly drop a few F bombs privately with friends or at home on a regular basis. But in the relatively conservative surrounds of the conference room, I still feel swearing should be avoided.....in most cases.

Even though some may feel the odd F word used to emphasise a point or show disgust or used purely for effect isn't offensive, one member of your audience might. Is it worth offending them? Is there not another colourful, descriptive word that could have the same effect? Couldn't your presentation be just as effective if that word was removed?

I just don't think it's worth the risk.

There are exceptions of course. For example, if you are telling a story where someone used the swear word and you are simply recounting the conversation and the word is central to conveying the tone. Or if you're Billy Connolly. Somehow Scotts, Irish and northern Englishmen seem to make swear words sound poetic and they just can get away with it, whereas Aussies somehow make swearing sound crass.

Yes times are ever changing and words like "damn" and "hell" were once considered utter profanity yet now would go totally unnoticed. And yes, the S word has become quite tame, almost a quaint, cute term.

But bottom line (no pun intended) no one will get upset or offended if you don't swear - but there's always a possibility someone may get offended if you do. So I'd err on the side of caution and seek to not alienate any of your audience.

Unless of course you don't give a &\$@# what your audience thinks in which case WTF, fire at will.

If you are looking for an MC for your next conference or a speaker/trainer on presentation skills or pitching skills, email andrew@lunch.com.au or visit his website at www.andrewklein.com.au.



Business Events News is Australia's newest online publication dedicated to the vibrant meetings, incentives, conferences and events sector.

Sign up for a free subscription at www.busesseventsnews.com.au.

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

Street address: Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Part of the Business Publishing Group.

Business Events News is a publication of Business Events News Pty Ltd ABN 80 153 775 449. All content is fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in preparation of the newsletter 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. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

Editor: Bruce Piper info@busesseventsnews.com.au

Contributors: Guy Dundas, Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai

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

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

Travel Daily

CRUISE WEEKLY

travelBulletin

business events news

Pharmacy DAILY

Travel Daily V

CHRISTMAS VENUE GUIDE



business events news
presents

Looking for a Christmas venue or staff celebration?
Business Events News guide to 2016/17 Christmas venues is the place to showcase!
To feature here email advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au.

Amora Hotel Sydney, NSW

Think outside the box and have an interactive Christmas experience at the Amora Hotel Jamison Sydney! Why not embrace your inner Master Chef and learn to cook Spanish cuisine? Each team will be given a mystery box of ingredients to cook a three course dinner! Or take advantage of our dedicated Chef's Stations, where our chef will prepare delicious canapés and interact with your guests.

To learn more about how the Amora can add a little extra to your next event simply call our team on 02 9696 2552 or email them on functions@sydney.amorahotels.com
www.sydney.amorahotels.com



Novotel Twin Waters Resort Sunshine Coast, QLD

Come and join the atmosphere and excitement of an incredible party this festive season! Our "Join a Party" package is designed to provide all businesses both small and large the opportunity to celebrate 2016.
Dates: Friday 2nd December OR Saturday 3rd December 2016

For Bookings and Enquiries: P: 07 5450 9582 or
E: conference@twinwatersresort.com.au

Click here to view the flyer
www.novoteltwinwatersresort.com.au



Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley Lovedale, NSW

Book your festive celebration at Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley before 31 August 2016 and take advantage of our range of exclusive extras from complimentary drinks, canapés and even accommodation specials for you and your guests. Let our team take care of the planning, so you can truly enjoy your festive celebration.

For bookings and more information please visit our website,
call 02 4991 0907 or email meetings.hunter@ihg.com
www.crowneplazahuntervalley.com.au



Rydges Parramatta Rosehill, NSW

Rydges Parramatta is the perfect venue to host a Lunch, Dinner, High Tea or Cocktail event for your End of Year Christmas Party. Complimentary car parking is also available for your guests! Book your Christmas Party at Rydges Parramatta and receive a complimentary photo booth! A perfect way to share, remember and celebrate Christmas with your colleagues!
Packages start from \$49* pp.

Contact our team on 02 8863 7600 or functions_parramatta@rydges.com
www.rydges.com

*T&C's apply



#LOVEMYJOB

Celebrate with a winning team today!



FOR ALL THE BEST VACANCIES VISIT www.aaappointments.com.au

NSW & ACT - 02 9231 6377 - apply@aaappointments.com.au
VIC, WA & SA - 03 9670 2577 - recruit@aaappointments.com.au
QLD - 07 3229 9600 - employment@aaappointments.com.au

FUN IN NUMBERS

GROUPS LEISURE CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE (INNER) - SALARY PKG UP TO \$70K (OTE)

Do you enjoy the planning of incredible destination weddings, or love organizing large group bookings? From large group sporting events, weddings, special interest groups, educational groups and anything in between, you will be handling bookings from 10 - 500 people. With amazing famils on offer and a lucrative salary package offering uncapped commissions; current consultants are clearing \$80K - \$100K annually. You will have a min. of 2 years Travel Consulting experience and GDS Skills.

MOVE AWAY FROM A PCO

SALES MANAGER - MICE MARKET

SYDNEY - SALARY \$85K PLUS PLUS

This Global Leader in the Travel Industry has an opening in their meetings and events team; you will be tasked with using your strong knowledge within the MICE arena to win new business from cold and warm leads. With a strong brand behind you, this should be a walk in the park. You will be rewarded with a salary of \$70K plus a car allowance plus commission taking your package to over \$100K. Career progression and flexibility are just some of the benefits you will obtain in this amazing role.

BE PART OF THIS WINNING TEAM!

CRUISE GROUPS TRAVEL SPECIALIST

SYDNEY CBD - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$60K

Global cruise liner is searching for a groups' specialist to join their growing team. Create worldwide bespoke all-inclusive packages for weddings, birthdays, conferences & more. Secure flights, pre/post arrangements & land excursions, on this elite cruise liner. If you have min 4 years groups exp (cruise is desirable), a passion for sails, solid airfare / GDS skills & thrive in a fast paced team; you will be rewarded with a top salary, beautiful offices, supportive team, ongoing progression & 5* famils. Groupies, come on-board today!

EVENT OF THE CENTURY

CORPORATE GROUPS / MICE COORDINATOR

NORTH SYDNEY - SALARY UP TO \$60K + BONUS

Renowned TMC is rapidly expanding & groups is booming! Service their existing corporate clients by catering for their groups/MICE travel. Handle all land & air group logistics, including negotiating rates, special requests & final reconciliation. If you have MICE or Groups exp, solid GDS, high attention to detail & ability to think outside the box then a top salary package, M-F hours, sociable team, discounts, famils, renowned training & much more, can all be yours. This amazing opportunity won't be around long!

WINNING ROLE!

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

BRISBANE - SALARY PKG \$60K + INCENTIVES ++

Do you have hotel sales experience and want to step into a business development role? You will be responsible for managing existing accounts, proactively sourcing for new business in conference & events & other market segments, negotiating contracts & conducting site inspection to increase revenue & reach sales targets. Previous hotel experience desirable, along with strong sales, presentation & negotiation skills & the ability to close the deal. Top package and benefits on offer for the right candidate.

ARE YOU A WIZ AT COORDINATING?

TRAVEL TOUR COORDINATOR

SYDNEY CBD - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$52k + BENEFITS

This global company is looking for a talented tour coordinator to join their friendly team. Centrally located in the CBD, close to transportation & shops, regain your work/life balance with M-F working hours only! You'll be responsible for providing expert advice & knowledge, liaising with Suppliers directly, build strong rapport with both existing & new customers & ensuring the smooth running of tours. Min 1 yr travel industry experience, Asia/South Pacific dest knowledge & top customer service skills. Apply now!

NEXT CHALLENGE IN TRAVEL

LEISURE GROUPS

SYDNEY - SALARY PACKAGES STARTING FROM \$60K

Are you an experienced travel consultant looking for that next step in your career? Our client is a leader in the Industry who is looking for an experienced Leisure consultant to look after and service specialised Groups. On a day to day basis you will work on dedicated accounts managing and creating tailor made itineraries for groups ranging from 10 - 300 passengers. Strong GDS skills required, excellent communication skills, ability to multi task and work under pressure. Unlimited career opportunities provided.

UPCOMING ROLE CORPORATE LIFESTYLE GROUPS AND EVENTS CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE (INNER) - SALARY PKG UP \$60K + BONUSES

We have an upcoming opportunity to step up into the MICE industry. This well-known corporate and events company is looking for strong travel or groups consultant to join their successful team. You will be booking flights, accommodation, conference rooms and all events details for corporate groups which can vary in size. This role will see you earning a sensational salary & working Monday to Friday hours only. If you have at least 4 years group coordination experience & experience using a GDS then we want to hear from you!