



Darling Exchange

COMMUNITY information sessions have been held this week to discuss The Darling Exchange, the proposed community and lifestyle hub for Darling Square, Sydney.



The exchange is planned as a six storey building designed by Kengo Kuma Architects (artists impression **pictured** above) with an adjoining public square designed by Aspect Studio.

It will contain a new library and an Innovation Exchange to support creative start-ups.

The designs will go on public exhibition at the Department of Planning and Environment for formal comment.

The hub is set to open in 2018.

Major Whitsundays sale

LONG Island Resort and Club Crocodile Airlie Beach Resort are about to be listed for sale through an International Expressions of Interest campaign.

Wayne Bunz & Hayley Manvell of CBRE Hotel will market the Whitsunday properties in with PRD Nationwide Airlie Beach.

Bunz said he was expecting "wide ranging interest" in both assets from "cashed up Asian buyers through to high net worth individuals, hotel chains and domestic investors looking to buy the assets via a syndicate".

Long Island Resort is made up of eight hectares of land and was an established resort until Feb 2015 when it closed for a proposed renovation.

The 172 room resort, complete with recreational facilities and a function room was originally developed by Contiki but was owned by Ocean Hotels for 20 years.

The company is selling to focus on "other business interests" including a major expansion of the Cairns-based Sunlover Reef Cruises business.

Club Crocodile Airlie Beach Resort can be purchased with Long Island or bought individually.

The 3.5 star, 161 room property underwent a \$1.3m refurbishment between 2014/15.

Local agent Christie Leet said the Whitsunday's region had seen "renewed investor interest" with a surge in development site sales and substantial growth in accommodation performance over the past 18 months.

Bunz said off the back of recent CBRE Hotel sales including Daydream Island to China - he was "very confident" about securing the sales.

The expressions of interest campaign which opens at the start of Apr will close 12 May at 1pm.

Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has three pages of news, plus a full page from **Auckland Convention Bureau**.

Dreamtime study

A STUDY of Tourism Australia's 2015 Dreamtime conference found 94% of business events buyers who attended were "very satisfied" with the program hosted in Adelaide and 95% of attendees were likely to send business to Australia.

More than 100 international buyers and media attended Dreamtime last Dec.

International guests gained new insights into Australia - with one buyer saying it showed them that "Australia is more than kangaroos and koalas, it's an exciting and appealing destination which offers luxury hotels and resorts, gastronomy and wineries. The perfect place to exceed all of your MICE clients' expectations".

LIGHT UP YOUR NEXT EVENT

Ayers Rock Resort will host its most memorable event yet, a monumental solar powered art installation from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, adding extra sparkle to any event. Hold your next event at the Uluru Meeting Place, enquire today.

02 8296 8067 | ulurumeetingplace.com.au | conferences@voyages.com.au





business events news

17th March 2016



crumbs!

ST PATRICK'S Day events will be taking place all over the world today - but here's some of the more unusual celebrations honouring the saint.

Over in Chicago, USA, they will be turning their river green with orange powder dye (pictured below) to mark the occasion.

The river only stays green for five hours while parades filter through the city.

In Nebraska, a city with strong ties to Ireland, a giant shamrock is painted in the middle of the road each year at the intersection of Route 281 and Highway 20.

And don't think the celebrations are limited to planet earth, astronauts commemorate the day too.

Astronaut Chris Austin Hadfield once recorded a cover of the Irish classic 'Danny Boy' while in orbit and sent it back to earth.



VR to revolutionise MICE

VIRTUAL reality is entering the MICE domain in a big way with the technology set to "completely revolutionise" the industry.

BEN spoke exclusively to director of EMG Events, Peter Jack about the company debuting its virtual reality offerings at last month's AIME conference in Melbourne.

Collaborating with Scann3d, EMG fitted guests with VR headgear to transform them to Melbourne's iconic locations.

"The 3D environment that they were able to create was so lifelike," Jack said.

"Collaborating with Scann3d enabled EMG to showcase Melbourne's iconic locations with

incredible accuracy".

EMG was "really thrilled" to see so many people interact with the experience at the hub during the conference.

"It demonstrated how much appetite there is for technology and new experiences in the sector," Jack said.

He is a firm believer these new and emerging technologies providing immersive experiences will create "exciting opportunities" for those in the MICE industry.

Jack explains the technology will lead to 2D pictures on websites which make booking venues and events destinations a guessing game "a thing of the past".

ICMI survey to win

ICMI, the company behind providing speakers and entertainers for corporate events is asking customers past and present to fill out a five minute survey on their services.

Those who take part go in the running to receive \$500 off their next booking with the company.

To complete the short 2016 ICMI customer opinion survey **CLICK HERE**.

Melb delegate offer

SHERATON Melbourne Hotel is offering a special delegate rate of \$75 pp (normally \$95pp), including 30 mins of complimentary drinks and two free car parks per day of the conference.

The hotel has a dedicated meeting floor with over 660 sqm of meeting space plus an outdoor terrace bar on level three with city views.

The offer is valid for bookings between 01 Jun and 30 Sep.

To book call (03) 9290 1000.

Territory taste event

DARWIN Convention Centre has secured the inaugural Territory Taste Festival which will put Northern Territory produce in the spotlight.

Celebrity chef Matt Moran will feature at the 16-17 Apr event and is looking forward to returning to "such a unique part of Australia".

The debut festival is being organised by NT event management company Agentur in partnership with Sprout creative agency.

Territory Taste Festival event organiser Marijana Tadic, Agentur said it was "such a coup to get someone of the calibre of Matt Moran to do live demonstrations in our first year".

"Having a two day line up of chefs participating in our festival means we are really telling Australia and anyone who is into food that the Northern Territory is ready to invite the world to our table," she said.

For desert Agentur has organised Pascal Janvier, global ambassador for Cacao Barry.

The event is supported by Festivals NT, the Northern Territory Gov't and the Department of Business.

For further information on the festival or to secure tickets see territorytastefestival.com.au.

Advertising, Production & Sales Coordinator || Macquarie Park, NSW

- Maternity leave position
- Leading online and print B2B publisher
- Influential role
- Competitive salary

The Travel Daily Group is looking for the services of a proactive Advertising, Production & Sales Coordinator to work in their close knit team at Macquarie Park, NSW.

You will be responsible for client liaison, managing enquiries, developing quotes and coordinating advertising behind leading titles Cruise Weekly, Pharmacy Daily and Business Events News while supporting their production and assisting with sales strategies.

If you have two to three years' experience in advertising, desktop publishing or sales and want to be a part of a growing organisation, this could be your next role.

To apply email your confidential CV with Cover Letter to jobs@traveldaily.com.au before 31/03/2016.



business events news





DMCs marketing the world



THE 2016 Destination Marketing Services Roadshow took place in four cities last week, enabling over 200 MICE and high-end leisure agents to connect with destination marketing companies (DMCs) representing more than 40 countries.

Many DMCs travelled across the globe re-instating their commitment to the Australian and New Zealand market.

Some destinations are facing challenging times but this did not dampen their enthusiasm to join the showcase.

The new roadshow format

which gave clients access to a large selection of suppliers at their doorstep and under one roof received great feedback from those who attended.

Building on the success of previous years, clients were introduced to new destinations including the Philippines and The Baltic States.

DMS thanked all its sponsors including major sponsor South African Airways for playing an "integral" role in ensuring a successful event.

Pictured above attendees at the Destination Marketing Roadshow.



view jito

job seeker
hundreds
of jobs
now on
jito.co

jobs in travel, hospitality & tourism

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**.

CONFERENCE KODAK MOMENTS

A SHOUT-OUT for the quiet achievers of the conference circuit, the trusty event photographers.

PCO's do amazing jobs largely behind the scenes. The AV team is integral to a seamless conference. And those scene-stealing speakers and MC's get all the accolades. Yet the hard-working event photographers rarely get noticed, let alone thanked.

So I'm paying tribute to the awesome, creative, talented, professional, photographers out there, hiding in the plenary room shadows, waiting patiently for the presenter to look up from their notes so they can snap them in a flattering pose. They're always there, quietly waiting for something interesting to shoot, a tricky task when the day often involves a few hundred people seated motionless in a semi-darkened room, listening to a speaker standing at a lectern on a stage.

At every networking event, they have the unenviable task of delicately interrupting conversations, cajoling small clumps of delegates to pose, when no one really wants to pose awkwardly for a photo, often with people they've just met.

Finally the photographer's big moment arrives, the 5 minute gap in the Agenda before lunch, the annual opportunity to capture the whole company together in the requisite Group Photo. The photographer battles valiantly to squash several hundred chattering attendees into a 5 square metre space, in some orderly fashion, often while perched atop a wobbly ladder. You've all complained between smiling clenched teeth about how long it's taking.

"Shorter people down the front; squeeze in at the sides; Hey, you with the sunnies, take them off; now on the count of 3 big smile; just one more; now throw your hands in the air and look like you're having a ball" There they are again at the Gala Awards dinner - desperately trying to get each awe-struck, nervous winner to pose for the money shot, shaking hands with the CEO whilst holding the trophy at a 45 degree angle to avoid the glare of the flash.

You may complain when they ask you to pose Kardashian-style in the Exhibition Hall during lunch or you may not even notice they are there. But when the post-conference website photo link goes up and you locate that nice one of you with Richo and Tracey from HR having a drink at the Movie World dinner, you'll know it was all worthwhile.

So next time you scour over the group photo searching for yourself 'Where's Wally' style, smile and toast the thankless job of the conference lensmen and woman out there, courageously capturing our conference Kodak moments.



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: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

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

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

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 Herdrik 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

Inspired choice



Choose to have it all in Auckland, where urban style and beautiful landscapes combine. The city's world-class dining, shopping, accommodation and venues are surrounded by sparkling harbours, picturesque wine regions, lush rainforest and island escapes.

Inspiring spaces to meet, inspiring places to explore.

AUCKLAND CONVENTION BUREAU

Edwina Fitzsimon

Business Development Manager – Australia

P +61 455 045 656 | E edwina.fitzsimon@aucklandnz.com

Choose to have it all

aucklandnz.com/conventions

