



# GOLD COAST PLANS UNVEILED

**DEVELOPERS** behind the proposed \$3 billion Gold Coast Integrated Resort have released new details on the project, which will feature large-scale spaces suitable for events.

ASF Consortium has begun a community consultation process over what will be the Gold Coast's biggest development in several decades.

Within the plans are a 9,200m<sup>2</sup> waterfront square, several towers, a terrace with rooftop gardens and a marina.

The project will include a 1,200-seat open-air amphitheatre for live performances and a 'signature ballroom' for gala dinners and other indoor events.

The development will also feature a casino, several "five- and six-star hotels" with meeting and convention facilities, theatres, a boutique and retail precinct, and serviced residences.

To be built on an area of The Spit between Sea World and the Gold Coast Fisherman's Co-Operative, the development "creates a new waterfront precinct accessible to locals and visitors alike," ASF says.



"The project will reinvigorate The Spit and attract an estimated 1.5 million additional tourists each year. It will grow the tourism market, meaning significant new tourists coming to the Gold Coast."

Designs for the project are pictured above.

Today's issue of **BEN**  
*Business Events News* today has three pages of news.

## Anzac 100th

**INTERNATIONAL** Convention Centre Sydney has announced it will host The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience from 15-27 Apr.

The event is Australia's largest free travelling exhibition in decades and will feature a program with a Last Post Ceremony, a two-day War Collectables event, children's activities, and a series of talks.

On 21 Apr, visitors will be able to hear talks on the stories and personal insights of the First World War.

The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience has visited 23 different locations and been seen by more than 300,000 people across Australia after two years on the road.

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## EVENTS WORTH \$30b

**THE** Business Events Council of Australia (BECA) has found the business events industry contributed \$30.2b in direct expenditure in 2015/16, up from \$28b in 2013/14.

BECA commissioned Ernst & Young to provide an update on the events industry, which also found business events supported Australia's GDP with a total economic contribution of \$24.9 billion, compared to \$23.1 billion in the previous period.

Matthew Hingerty, chairman of BECA, said the study demonstrates why governments and industry should continue to invest in the sector.

"While the report reveals the strength of the business events industry in Australia, on an international level, Australia is falling behind."

Hingerty said the key assumptions of the survey reflected growth in local (2.7%) and national (13%) delegates, however there was a decline of 3% in international delegates.

"The business events sector is, at times, under-appreciated for the financial and non-financial benefits it delivers to the economy, including its role in enabling global and domestic trade," he said.

The survey also reported business events provided 193,203 direct jobs up from 179,357 in 2013/14.

While the study reconfirms the business events sector's dimension, influence and potential, Hingerty said the industry and governments must work together to leverage this great opportunity.



**NEW** Zealand couple, Pamela and Kelvin Baker are selling their beloved castle on the hills that overlook Tirau, 50km south of Hamilton.



Built as a gift from a dying man to his wife to house her thousands of dolls, it was constructed in 1998.

The 825-square-metre property sits on 2.88ha, with the owners gaining permission to use the castle as a large-scale hospitality and function venue.

The castle includes landscapes gardens, a goldfish moat, outdoor dining & parking; making it the perfect venue for your next conference.

Picture - Stuff.co.nz

### New Outback venue

**NSW** tourism brand Out of the Ordinary Outback will build a new \$750,000 hotel and conference facility in the town of Cobar following a \$375,000 grant from the Federal and State governments.

Work will start late Apr, with an eatery and bar to open in Oct followed by conference facilities and accommodation rooms to be completed in Apr 2018.



**SYDNEY** Seaplanes has opened a brand new seaplane terminal (pictured above) in Rose Bay, which caters for the company's joy flights as well as providing an events and functions space.

The venue can host up to 140 people and offers water views, catering, licensed bar, full a/v equipment and access to the companies Seaplanes for an extra thrill to your event.

In addition to the function space, Sydney Seaplanes is offering a boardroom layout which caters for 30 people standing or 10 people sitting around a board table.

### Rotary Pt Stephens

**NELSON** Bay in Port Stephens will host a major Rotary Conference from 16-18 Mar 2018 with up to 400 delegates due to attend.

The conference for District 9670 covers one third of NSW from Port Stephens and Newcastle to Bourke.

The event is worth more than \$300,000 to the region.



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## Events Calendar

WELCOME to the **BEN** events calendar.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email [info@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:info@businesseventsnews.com.au)

### 30 APR - 2 MAY

MEA Conference; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); for more info see: [www.meetingevents.com.au](http://www.meetingevents.com.au)

### 14 - 18 MAY

ATE 2017; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); details at: [www.tradeevents.australia.com](http://www.tradeevents.australia.com)

### 24-25 MAY

This is Gold Coast PCO Famil; Gold Coast; for more info visit: [www.visitgoldcoast.com](http://www.visitgoldcoast.com)

### 25 - 27 MAY

This is Gold Coast Business Exchange; Gold Coast; apply here: [www.visitgoldcoast.com](http://www.visitgoldcoast.com)

### 31 MAY - 1 JUN

CINZ Meetings 2017; ASB Showgrounds, Auckland NZ; for more info visit: [www.meetings.co.nz](http://www.meetings.co.nz)

### 20 - 21 JUL

The Travel Industry Exhibition & Conference; Luna Park Sydney; register here: [travelindustryexpo.com.au](http://travelindustryexpo.com.au)

### 25 - 26 JUL

The Travel Industry Exhibition & Conference; MCEC Melbourne; register here: [travelindustryexpo.com.au](http://travelindustryexpo.com.au)

### 28 JUL

Get Global – Where the World Meets; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); read more: [www.getglobal.com.au](http://www.getglobal.com.au)

## World Business Forum for Sydney

**FOR** the forth consecutive year key international speakers will descend on Sydney for the two-day World Business Forum to reveal how to thrive in a world where change is accelerating and competitive advantages are increasingly transient.

To be held at The Star on 31 Mar and 01 Jun, the forum will explore the idea of 'BE BETA', by bringing a host of industry thought leaders together including Arianna Huffington, co-founder of *The Huffington Post*, who will redefine success in a fast-moving world and provide insights into reducing stress and boosting productivity.

Wikipedia co-founder Jimmy Wales will investigate how businesses need to adapt to compete and innovate in an increasingly open and collaborative world.

Rosabeth Moss Kanter, named on *The Times* of London 50 most powerful women list, will examine how business leaders are creating innovation, growth and social good.

"The line-up will help us to reinvent our companies, experiment and learn to identify new opportunities and most importantly drive a competitive advantage," said the event's ceo Alberto Saiz.

## PCO group gets a view of Hawaii



**SEVERAL** professional conference organisers had some amazing experiences in Hawaii courtesy of Hawaiian Airlines, Starwood/Marriott and Hawaii Tourism Oceania recently.

The group attended a farewell dinner at an estate in the Honolulu Hills overlooking the city and Pacific Ocean.

**Pictured** above at the dinner are Nick Berry, Starwood/Marriott; Lindsay Castro, Current Affairs; Felicity Smith, Solterbeck; Rhonda Norman, 33 Degrees; Ron Anderson, Unicorn Group; Philip Richardson, Current Affairs; Joanna Hancock, DCIM; Avi Mannis, Hawaiian Airlines; Wayne Taylor, Taylored Images and Joyce Weir, Hawaiian Airlines.



with Barry Neame

### Decisions, Decisions - How to Pick the Perfect Keynote Speakers for Your Conference

**ONE** of the biggest steps in designing a compelling and effective conference or event program is selecting the keynote speakers. Add into the mix that keynotes can be a significant investment for your conference or event budget, the pressure is certainly on to nail it!

Peta Moore, Program Director for the PCO Association will be presenting the Association's next webinar, on Thu 23 Mar, 2017.

An expert conference program designer, Peta Moore will share her selection process tips so you can be confident in making the best choice for your audience.

Learn about the important planning steps for a successful keynote speaker search, programming of keynotes to enhance the conference outcomes, weighing up all factors impacting the decision, to meeting the needs of all stakeholders.

With substantial event and integrated marketing experience, Peta not only understands how to organise and manage an event, she understands how to build marketing strategies that successfully meet business objectives within specified timeframes and budget constraints.

For further information, log onto [www.pco.asn.au](http://www.pco.asn.au).



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