



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news.

MEA launches scholarship

APPLICATIONS are now open to nominate for the Meeting & Events Australia (MEA) 2018 Ungerboeck Young Professionals Scholarship.

The prize will offer young event professionals the opportunity to attend the MEA Annual National Conference that will be held in Adelaide on 06-08 May.

At the conference, the scholarship winners will have the opportunity to develop their skills, build professional relationships and network with industry leaders and colleagues.

Winners will receive flights and accommodation for three nights in Adelaide.

The scholarship will be awarded to one individual from each state and territory.

To be eligible, the applicant must be under 30 years of age, with less than three years full experience in the MICE sector.

The person also needs to be employed by a MEA member, available for an interview in mid-Feb and must be able to attend the MEA conference.

MEA and Ungerboeck Software have partnered together for the past 14 years, in which the scholarship has supported 88 future leaders from all sectors of the events industry across Australia.

The deadline to apply is 02 Feb 2018.

CLICK HERE for more info.

OVERHAUL FOR EVENT SITES

TWO of Sydney's key event precincts will undergo major overhauls following the NSW Government's decision to rebuild a pair of the city's largest sports arenas.

The former Olympic venue ANZ Stadium and its Moore Park cousin Allianz Stadium will be demolished and rebuilt at a cost of \$2.3 billion under plans revealed on Fri by NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian.

Both venues currently offer meeting and event facilities and are centerpiece attractions among other high-profile venues in their locations.

ANZ is at the heart of the wider Sydney Olympic Park precinct, while Allianz adjoins the venues of the Entertainment Quarter and Fox Studios, and operates in conjunction with the business events facilities at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

While detailed plans of future venues have yet to be determined, the demolition of the two sports arenas will mean the loss of their facilities for



several years.

Allianz Stadium will be out of action between 2018 and 2021, while ANZ Stadium will be closed for construction between 2019 and 2022.

Berejiklian said the redevelopments would involve the introduction of advanced technology and allow NSW to compete on a world stage for sporting events.

"This is an investment into our vital tourism industry, which is worth \$33.2 billion per year to the NSW economy and supports 164,000 jobs," she said.

The announcement has been welcomed by industry bodies including the Tourism & Transport Forum (TTF).

"TTF commends the NSW Government on its investment into critical tourism infrastructure that will keep Sydney internationally competitive in the tourism and major events space," said ceo Margy Osmond.

The current ANZ Stadium has 15 event venues for up to 1,500 delegates, while Allianz Stadium has function spaces including the Captains Bar for up to 300.

Melb to host Hemp expo

ORGANISERS of the Hemp, Health & Innovation (HHI) Expo & Symposium exhibition in Melbourne are expecting similar numbers to the 7,000 people who attended the Sydney event in May.

The Melbourne event will be held at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC) on 02-03 Dec.

A number of experts in the field will also give speeches.

The running of the event comes weeks after hemp food became legal for sale and consumption in Australia.

\$100m Centre for Rooty Hill



A \$100 million redevelopment of the Rooty Hill RSL will see a five-star Pullman hotel built as part of the Western Sydney Performing Arts Centre (WSPAC).

The Pullman Hotel itself will be a \$60 million project and will feature 120 rooms at the hotel, with works due to start in 2018.

The WSPAC will feature a 2,000 seat proscenium arch theatre and will have the capacity to host stage shows, musicals and concerts, as well as accommodate large conference groups and cocktail dinners of 600 delegates.

Pictured is a render of WSPAC, due to open in Oct 2019.



Find out why Perth is hot for events in the November issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*



Tourism Australia

PCB largest AIME Team

THE biggest WA team ever will be attending AIME in Melbourne on 20-21 Feb. Perth Convention Bureau will have 20 members at AIME, from hotels to AV firms.

Events Calendar

WELCOME to the **BEN** events calendar.

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

29 - 30 NOV

EEAA 2017 Conference; Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre; register here: www.eeaa.com.au

3 - 9 DEC

Dreamtime 2017; Brisbane, Queensland; details here: tradeevents.australia.com

20 -21 FEB

AIME 2018; Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre; visit: www.aime.com.au

7 - 11 MAR

ITB Berlin; Messe Berlin ExpoCenter City; for details see: www.itb-berlin.de

15 - 19 APR

ATE 2018; Adelaide Convention Centre; register here: www.events.tourism.australia.com

6 - 8 MAY

MEA 2018; Adelaide Convention Centre; register to attend: www.mea2018.com.au

ORCHIDS TO PERTH

PERTH will welcome 2,000 delegates to the city in 2023, after successfully bidding to host the 24th World Orchid Conference (WOC24).

The triennial event is held in different destinations around the world and will call into the WA capital for a week.

The Perth Convention Bureau (PCB) is expecting the gathering to have an economic impact of \$9.1 million to the WA economy.

WOC24 will provide an opportunity to bring the global orchid community together for a series of events, including an orchid show that will be open to the public and will showcase

a number of displays from countries around the world.

The conference will also have a focus on the importance of agribusiness through the horticultural industry.

PCB chief executive officer Paul Beeson said plans to secure the event had been in the pipeline since 2009 after it lost bids to host the event in 2017 and 2020.

PCB's chairman Kevin Skipworth added, "this final win is a testament to the persistence, resilience and high int'l reputation of Bruce Larson (bid team chair) and WA Regional Orchid Organisation."

Wellington crisis win

WELLINGTON has secured the rights to the inaugural ISCRAM Asia Pacific regional conference in Nov 2018.

The Int'l Association for Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM) conference will bring hundreds of delegates with a background in crisis management to the New Zealand capital.

The event will focus on a range of information management research.

Hobart hosts top travel agents

HOBART played host to 600 travel agents and industry suppliers on the weekend at the 2017 Helloworld Travel Frontliners Forum.

Held at Wrest Point, the event utilised the Plenary

Hall which can accommodate up to 1,000 delegates, as well as Grand marquee on the hotel's waterfront which was used for the opening function, as well as for lunch on conference days.

The 600 delegates also enjoyed an evening at the pristine Glen Albyn Estate and its sweeping views of the Derwent River.

The Glen Albyn can handle groups larger than 700 delegates and offers four different event spaces from the Riverview Deck to The Conservatory indoor tennis court venue.

Pictured are: David Padman, Helloworld Travel; Steve Jacobs, mc and Channel 9; Elise Archer, Tasmanian Arts Minister; Julie Primmer, Helloworld Travel, Emma Terry, Tourism Tasmania; and Peter Rawley, Intrepid Travel.



A HALF-AEROPLANE, half-eel creation has been named Japan's favourite mascot following a survey in which 805,000 voted as part of the country's annual Yuru Chara Grand Prix.

The two-day event was attended by 23,000 people.

The winner, Unari-kun (**pic** third from left), represents two things for which the city of Narita is famous - its airport and unagi freshwater eels, a common ingredient in Japanese cuisine.

