



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news plus full pages from:

- Emirates One&Only Wolgan Valley
- AA Appointments

Xmas venues

THE *Business Events News* Christmas venue guide will launch on 22 Aug, with limited spots available.

The guide will inc event spaces for the Xmas season - call 1300 799 220 or **EMAIL**.

HKTB winners

THE winners of the *Business Events News*/Hong Kong Tourism Board competition have been announced.

Congratulations to Carly Adler, Caroline Mumford, and Rachela Vigara, who all nabbed a gift box of Haigh's Chocolates for joining in.

AIME partners

THE Asia Pacific Incentives and Meetings Event (AIME) has joined forces with international industry associations PCMA and ICCA in an effort to provide "provocative and informative content" to visitors and exhibitors at the event.

Noor Ahmad Hamid, ICCA regional director Asia Pacific, said that the partnership was a positive one.

"Teaming relationships allows us to leverage and bring different specialities to the show, and together create a more robust event for everyone," he said.

For more information on the event, **CLICK HERE**.

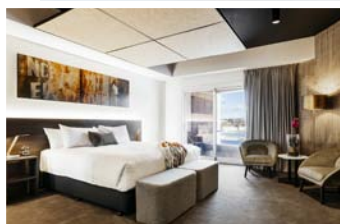
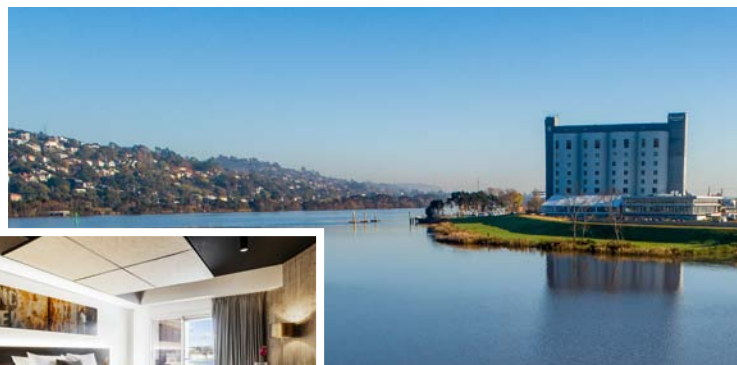
TASMANIA CEO SETS COURSE

WITH a new ceo, major hotel developments and 35% more conferences secured for Launceston next year compared with this year, Tasmania is experiencing a high.

"My focus is to create a strategic vision for the organisation and the industry for Tasmanians; it's about positioning Tasmania as a preferred destination for businesses and working with the membership to understand the emerging market and opportunities," said recently appointed ceo of Business Events Tasmania Marnie Craig.

"Tasmania is a very attractive destination and our conferencing capabilities are strong, so it's about educating the market about what our capacities are," she told **BEN**.

These offerings will be expanded once three more hotels open in Hobart over the next 18 months, starting



with the 128-room Marriott International, followed by the 278-room Crowne Plaza and 196-room Hyatt Centric Hotel.

"We are aiming for positive growth, but most importantly we are aiming to achieve more conferences & business events across our member segments and dispersing throughout Tasmania," Craig said.

In the last financial year, Tasmania hosted 120

conferences and added \$86 million to the local economy.

The growth in the region has also resulted in a 17% increase in business event visitors, according to the latest Tasmanian Visitor Survey for the year ending Mar 2018.

Another win was the recent announcement of direct flights between Hobart and Perth, starting in Sep.

Pictured is Launceston's newly opened Peppers Silo, which features conference space for 500 people.

NZ to host major tourism conference in 2019

CHRISTCHURCH is set to host next year's annual Tourism Export Council of New Zealand (TECNZ) Tourism Conference, the first time the city has welcomed the event in 20 years.

ChristchurchNZ general manager destination and attraction Loren Heaphy said the appointment "demonstrated strong confidence in the city and region", and that it was the perfect opportunity to showcase the city at its best.

"Tour operators will get to experience first-hand the fantastic tourism product on offer in Christchurch and Canterbury, putting us at the forefront of their minds when they are looking for products to put into their itineraries for future international visitors," she added.

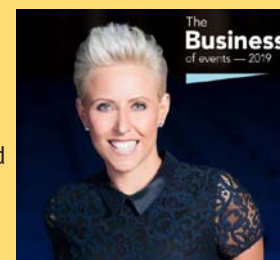
The conference will take place 14-15 Aug 2019, with local tourism product famils being held around the region before and after the event.

Business of Events Conference to launch in Feb

AUSTRALIA will welcome a new events industry gathering in 2019 when The Business of Events conference launches in Feb.

Taking place in Sydney from 07-08 Feb 2019, the event will present the latest industry findings and updates, while also offering in-depth discussions on topics such as the future of event technology, tourism and aviation, safety and security, and sales and marketing growth.

Ex-White House events director Laura Schwartz (**pictured**) has been named as the event's keynote speaker - **CLICK HERE** for more info.





AACB'S NEXT WAVE

THE 29th Association of Australian Convention Bureau Annual (AACB) Conference took place last weekend at Pier 33 in Mooloolaba, Sunshine Coast.

The event theme, "The next wave: Exceeding tomorrow's expectations," attracted over 120 attendees from the business events and conference sector.

Visit Sunshine Coast ceo Simon Latchford said the Sunshine Coast had gone from strength to strength as a popular destination for business events and incentive experiences, and hosting the AACB event for the first time on the Sunshine Coast would demonstrate what the region could offer.

"With business events

estimated to be worth \$40.8 million to the Sunshine Coast region, showcasing what our region can offer and collaborating with the best in the business makes good sense."

Pictured at the conference are: Brooke Jaworski and Mark Day, Business Events Geelong; Nerida Worboys, Newcastle Business Events; and Melissa Trost, Destination Gold Coast.



IF YOU'RE wondering who the fastest person to stack two 20-brick right angle LEGO towers using both hands is, look no further.

Alex Reddick claimed the prestigious title during the annual SandboxLIVE conference in Atlanta, Georgia last month, where attendees were invited to take up the challenge in between sessions at the three-day event.

Reddick's winning time of 37.793 seconds shattered existing records by four seconds - now that's a result worth its weight in bricks.

Te Pae tour

CHRISTCHURCH'S upcoming events and convention centre project, Te Pae, can now be viewed via a new virtual reality video tour.

The animation shows how the facade reflects the region's rivers and southern alps, as well as capturing the South Island's beauty with the extensive use of timber and stone.

To view the video animation, **CLICK HERE.**



What to consider when planning a team building event

TEAM building is vital to the success of an organisation. When teams appreciate and respect each other, they will likely be more productive, efficient and happy. What's not to love? A team building event is a great way to deliver on team building goals and enhance the overall performance of a team.

The objective

When planning a team building event or activity, it's best to determine a goal or objective before you begin. Knowing what direction you would like the team to go in, and what you want everyone to get out of the day, will assist you in choosing appropriate activities and venues.

Usually, team building events or activities aim to provide fun and boost morale, or they aim to solve a problem or a communication breakdown within the workplace. This is achieved by getting everyone out of the work environment and allowing them to relax and get to know each other better in a new setting. This can help people to open up to new experiences and can lead to a better understanding of each other. Additionally, tackling a workplace problem outside of the usual domain can reveal a new perspective on the issue, and potentially, how it can be solved.

Things to consider

Ensure that the activity chosen is appropriate for the team and workplace. A wine and cheese tasting or a trivia night are great options for fun casual events where the goal is to relax and socialise. If you want to take things up a notch, you could arrange a CSI night, where teams work together to solve a "murder" or a casino or games night where everyone can let their hair down and mingle with their colleagues. If the aim is to create greater team cohesion, activities such as "escape rooms" or interactive matrix style mazes really test people and require them to pool their strengths to get out of the game.

At AVPartners we love supporting team building events to bring teams closer together! It's important to think about what technology will be required to make the event a success - from getting the lighting and sound right, through to ensuring you have the right projection screens, or even considering what app technology you can leverage to strengthen communication and engagement - technology can often make or break an event.

Ready to start planning a team building event? Contact us and we'll help!

Matt Taylor is the partner at The Westin Perth with AVPartners, which creates integrated event experiences through combining state of the art audiovisual technology, unrivalled expertise and a highly tailored approach. www.avpartners.com



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