



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news plus the latest **BEN** Christmas Venue Guide on **page three**.

Gaest launch

MORE than 65 venues across Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane have signed up to Gaest.com, a new online tool designed to help event planners find and book "unique and quirky" meetings and events spaces.

Launching in Australia next month, the website offers options from "relaxed courtyard pavilions...to 6-star boardrooms".

For more, visit the website www.gaest.com.

PCOA invites

THE PCO Association is seeking five PCOs or in-house event managers to get involved in the Fast Case Studies as part of a session at the PCOA Conference and Exhibition in 09-11 Dec at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

PCOA is looking for short case studies about something new that was tried at a conference and worked beyond expectations.

Delegates will also need to give a couple of examples of how the team achieved success.

The top five submissions will be included in the program and will also win 12 months' free PCOA membership.

Applications must be lodged by 08 Oct.

To submit, **CLICK HERE**.

BRISBANE HOSTS FIP CONGRESS

PHARMACY professionals from across the globe are set to gather in 2021 for the FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (**pictured**).

The announcement follows a successful bid by the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA), the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA).

"The FIP Congress 2021 is a landmark opportunity to continue to ensure roles, recognition and remuneration for pharmacists in Australia are optimised and comparable with other countries around the world," said PSA national



president Dr Shane Jackson. "PSA is leading the profession by bringing Australian pharmacy practice to the world stage," Jackson said.

The host organisations represent over 20,000 members across Australia in community and hospital

pharmacy, academia and the pharmaceutical sciences.

SHPA ceo Kristin Michaels said the event would showcase Australia's enthusiasm and capability to deliver an "outstanding and memorable international professional meeting".

CannaTech Syd

AUSTRALIA'S first medical cannabis summit, CannaTech Sydney, will take place on 28-30 Oct at Doltone House, Darling Island Wharf.

The summit will cover topics including agriculture tech and innovation, business and finance, policy and regulation, science and medicine, along with human interest stories.

"Many Australian cannabis companies are on the cutting edge of the market and we are thrilled to bring some of the world's leading companies and investors to Australia to meet with their counterparts to discuss a range of business and technological issues," said Saul Kaye, founder and ceo of iCAN Israel-Cannabis, a Israeli developer of cannabis-based formulations, clinical trials and cannabis testing.

For details, **CLICK HERE**.

Centres achieve double platinum

THE Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC) and Adelaide Convention Centre (ACC) have achieved the coveted EarthCheck Platinum Certification.



"At GCCEC we work extremely hard on our waste, water and energy-saving initiatives to reduce our impact on the environment and give back to the community," said GCCEC gm Adrienne Readings.

ACC has also been fighting the war on plastic by using fully biodegradable and compostable cups and lids for beverages, and using 'bio-bins' along with enforcing a "local" food policy.

SELL TNQ

PORT DOUGLAS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

15-18 November 2018

MORE INFORMATION





INDIGENOUS MONTH

THE fourth annual Indigenous Business Month will celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in business, to coincide with the 2018 NAIDOC theme "Because of Her, We Can" from 01 to 31 Oct.

Twenty events across Australia will take place showcasing the talents of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women entrepreneurs from a variety of business sectors.

The Indigenous Business Month is driven by the alumni of Melbourne Business School's MURRA Indigenous Business Master Class.

"This year it is more significant than ever to support the female

Indigenous business community and provide a platform for them to network and encourage young Indigenous women to consider developing a business as a career option," said MURRA program director and associate professor of leadership at the University of Melbourne Michelle Evans (pictured).

CLICK HERE to view and register for the events.



THE incident of a traveller who found himself stranded without a hotel room in Vladivostok, a city near the Chinese-Russian border, just reinforces how important it is to double check or perhaps even triple check that all loose ends are tied up tightly before an event.

The man was advised that his travel agency had made a booking at a hotel with a similar name in Kavos, on the Greek island of Corfu.

The agency's solution was for him to catch a cab to the booked hotel, which would have taken a casual six days of nonstop driving.

NZ welcomes Info congress

THE stage is set for the 2020 Library and Information Congress, which will take place at Auckland's New Zealand International Convention Centre from 28 Jul to 05 Aug 2020.

It will be the first time in almost 40 years that the event will be held in the Pacific region, with more than 3,000 information sector managers and professionals convening in the city for the duration.

The congress is predicted to inject more than NZ\$7 million into the local economy.

GENerating Change

Director of Conference Focus, Max Turpin is sharing his insights on a range of topics with a regular column in *BEN*. Topics include new generation events and making events effective and valuable.

Chameleons everywhere in Australian meeting venues

THIS article covers the concept of the cabaret and cabaret style seating, including its origins, what it means and why the meetings industry has adopted this style of seating.

What encouraged me to focus on this topic is the realisation that there's a key aspect of it that's been lost on many venues and venue staff.

The word 'cabaret' is derived from an ancient Middle Dutch word, 'cabaret', meaning tavern.

By the early 20th century, the word 'cabaret' came to mean a pub, restaurant or night club offering food, drink and entertainment, especially stage performances. So a cabaret (show) is a venue at which you can sit and watch a performance while eating and drinking at the same time. The seating at these venues is both practical and comfortable – it allows guests to eat, drink and watch a performance without the need to move their seats, swivel or crane their necks in order to see the stage and entertainers.

In today's meeting rooms, cabaret style seating is created using banquet rounds with the end facing the stage left open. This allows guests to sit and watch a speech or presentation while writing notes and having a drink in front of them. During breakfast, lunch or dinner presentations, it also means guests can be served food. I tend to think we all have that basic understanding. However, when dealing with venues I often encounter a fundamental

part of this concept that seems lost to them. Yet to me, it's the most important part of all.

To start with, an evolutionary reminder: Unlike snakes and lizards that have eyes on the side of their heads, or chameleons with eyes that independently swivel, homo sapiens have eyes positioned on the front of their heads that face forward.

My experiences reveal that many venue staff have the belief (or teaching) that cabaret style means having eight people sitting at a banquet round for 10. However, this will undoubtedly result in some people sitting with their backs to the stage and others side-on to it. How is this practical or acceptable? In my world, cabaret style means having a maximum of seven people, preferably only six or even five, seated at a round for 10. This creates adequate open space at the front of the table so that no-one has to move to see what's going on, swivel their chairs around or make an attempt at being a chameleon. I wish venues would realise this fundamental.

From a meeting design perspective, the other purpose of cabaret style is that it facilitates discussion and interaction with others seated at the same table. If you host a meeting with no participation or interaction intended, there's really not a great deal of point in setting up your room that way.

If you'd like to learn more about how to make your events fresh, innovative and effective, please contact **Max Turpin** at Conference Focus on 02 9700 7740 or email max@conferencefocus.com.au.



Christmas Venue Guide



business events news
presents

Looking for a Christmas venue or staff celebration?

Business Events News guide to 2018/19 Christmas venues is the place to showcase!

To feature here email advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au.

Cropley House Sydney, NSW

Celebrate Christmas 2018 in Sydney's newest venue. Opening in September this year Cropley House is undergoing a magnificent restoration. With 6 private rooms (2 with adjacent undercover balconies), the Baulkham Hills venue will be the place to unwind and enjoy your Christmas celebration in style. Onsite kitchen and wait teams will ensure a seamless event that guarantees your team feel highly valued.

Contact us now for our special opening packages - sales@cropleyhouse.com or 0425 356 700



Athol Hall Sydney, NSW

Spoil your team with Christmas in style, amongst unspoilt views of Sydney Harbour and the Bridge while enjoying drinks on your own private balcony. Recently restored, Athol Hall offers Christmas food and beverage packages to take the stress out of organising and is the ideal venue to celebrate and relax. Book your Christmas Party at Athol Hall now.

Contact us now for our special opening packages - functions@atholhallvenue.com.au or 0425 356 713



ICC Sydney Sydney, NSW

Experience a world class Christmas.

Celebrate in style this year at ICC Sydney. With a number of striking spaces to choose from and a dedicated events team, we will provide you with the flexibility and expertise to create a special event.

Your guests will experience award-winning catering comprised of the freshest NSW produce and delivered by our passionate team.

Contact us today to book your unforgettable end of year celebration.



55 George Rooftop Holiday Inn Old Sydney, The Rocks

Stunning sunsets, glittering water and panoramic views of the harbour and city skyline – 55 George is one of Sydney's hidden gems and the perfect rooftop event space for an intimate and unforgettable Christmas Party!

Located above Holiday Inn Old Sydney in the historic Rocks precinct; impress and delight your colleagues with a sumptuous selection of canapes and indulgent live BBQ experience overlooking the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House.

For more information please contact our dedicated Events Team on events.holidayinnsydney@ihg.com or 02 9255 1853 or www.holidayinnsydney.com/55-george

