



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has one page of news.



CHOOSING the right venue is key to a successful, or in the latter case, memorable event.

The organisers of the upcoming Swedish Goteborg Film Festival felt that sitting in a seat and watching a movie was simply not good enough & instead decided to hold "an extremely intimate screening" inside a coffin.

Yes, guests will voluntarily lie in a locked sarcophagus to leisurely watch Harry Martinson's epic space odyssey *Aniara*.

Bored vampires can watch the festival trailer [HERE](#).

DoubleTree Perth

THE first DoubleTree by Hilton hotel in WA, and the first new-build DoubleTree by Hilton in Australia is set to open on 18 Jan.

The hotel will feature 206 rooms, including Executive Panoramic View rooms, an executive lounge, a restaurant, 310m² of event space, a gym, a pool and bar.

The hotel brand will open a second property later this year, DoubleTree by Hilton Perth Waterfront.

SCHWARTZ INVESTS \$70M IN QLD

PRIVATE hotel investor Dr Jerry Schwartz has made his first investment in Queensland with the \$70 million purchase of the five-star Hilton Surfers Paradise from the Chinese group, Ja Feng.

The Hilton Surfers Paradise (inset), the Schwartz Family Company's 14th hotel in Australia, features conference and function facilities which comprise of a ballroom for up to 220 banquet-style or up to 350 cocktails, a pre-function lobby, three smaller breakout suites, a theatre, and an outside area of 1,500m² called The Deck.

The hotel also includes 169 rooms and 220 apartment-style residences along with four restaurants and bars, a spa, four pools, an outdoor deck area and car parking.

"I believe there is enormous potential for growing the hotel's business," said Dr Schwartz.

"I have great faith in the Gold Coast as Australia's premier family, couples and groups market because its beaches,



natural attractions, theme parks, events, restaurants and nightlife provide a complete tourism package that is attractive to both the domestic and international travellers."

Dr Schwartz added that the destination is ideally positioned to "take advantage of the boom in international travel from Asia and the Pacific".

"With Gold Coast and Brisbane international airports expanding their range of source markets, I thought it was the ideal time to



enter the market," he said.

The deal is expected to settle in May 2019.

Pictured above is the Hilton Surfers Paradise balcony view of the coast.

Cairns wins bid

CAIRNS has won the rights to host "one of the world's largest science conferences", - the 13th Congress of Int'l Society for Plant Molecular Biology in 2021.

The conference is set to welcome more than 1,200 delegates while showcasing the destination's "ecosystems, experiences and attractions".

Whitsundays gears for 2019

TOURISM Whitsundays is prepping for a big year ahead with the construction of the Bougainville Marquee, a new meetings and events space on Hamilton Island set to commence shortly.

The destination will also welcome the reopening of the much-anticipated Daydream Island and Hayman Island and the opening of boutique Elysian Resort on Long Island.

"Daydream Island is on track and very much looking forward to opening in Apr 2019 after a two-year redevelopment," said Daydream Island's Director of Sales and Marketing Jayson Heron.

After an extensive refurbishment coffee plantation Whitsunday Gold has reopened its doors, featuring coffee roasting facilities, cafe, restaurant and kids play area.