



GET LOCAL EDUCATION

THE upcoming Get Local business events expo (**BEN** 15 Sep 2020) has partnered with Saxton Speakers Bureau to secure an “exceptional line-up of speakers” for the show.

The Get Local education program will feature Dr Norman Swan, host of the *Health Report* and the daily ABC *Coronacast* podcast, entrepreneur Lisa Messenger, and adventurer, presenter and storyteller Caroline Pemberton.

Get Local will take place at ICC Sydney 29-30 Jul, giving attendees including corporate end-users, in-house meeting planners, association meeting planners, EAs, PAs and training companies the opportunity to hear and learn from the high profile presenters.

They will also be able to discover the latest domestic offerings for meetings and events across Australia, New

Zealand and the Pacific.

Saxton Speakers Bureau CEO Anne Jamieson said she was pleased to be working in partnership with Get Local’s Gary Bender and Donna Kessler.

“The event embodies what we at Saxton have always been about: driving positive change through the power of stories and experience,” she said.

Messenger, CEO of Collective Hub, has just released her 28th book, and will speak about “cultivating killer self-belief, finding passion and purpose, thinking big and going global, strategic partnerships, building a brand and investing in yourself”.

TV producer Caroline Pemberton will MC the education program, while Swan’s highly anticipated session will share the latest on COVID-19 and what the future may hold.

Spaces are limited; for more info see getlocalexpo.com.au.

New ICC role



INTERNATIONAL Convention Centre Sydney has named Martin Clapham as its Director of Business Services.

In his new role Clapham will be responsible for the centre’s corporate, financial and ICT operations.

He was most recently Global Chief Financial Officer of corporate venue manager Cliftons Group.

ICC Sydney CEO Geoff Donaghy said Clapham’s skills would “bolster the venue’s commercial and strategic capabilities, playing a pivotal role in its recovery from the pandemic”.

Wollongong grants

THE NSW city of Wollongong has announced a new grants program aiming to help the events sector reboot as it emerges from COVID-19.

The new Community Event Grant will offer three grants of up to \$20,000 each for events in the north, centre and south of the Wollongong Local Government Area.

Organisers can also apply for up to \$5,000 under a new Live Music Grant to help develop or deliver music in a business or venue in the Wollongong CBD.

Dubbo precinct

DUBBO City Council in western NSW has unveiled renders of The Macquarie River Foreshore Event Precinct, with the initiative aiming to position the destination for year-round events and festivals.

It will offer stage touring capacity for up to 10,000 - to view **CLICK HERE**.

Last chance for EEAA catch-ups

THE Exhibition and Event Association of Australia has limited tickets available for two key opportunities to catch up with industry peers later this week in NSW and Vic.

The Business Networking Drinks will see attendees gather in a social setting,

celebrating the return of events and the opportunities they create for building trusted relationships.

The Sydney event is at The Star on Wed 28 Apr (**CLICK HERE**) while the Melbourne gathering is on Thu 29 Apr at Left Bank (**CLICK HERE**).

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THE cost of venue hire can be prohibitive when organising an event, and a US couple decided to just skip that problem when they invited their wedding guests to their “dream home and estate” in Florida.

The massive mansion is on the market, and the pair had fallen in love with it when they posed as buyers during a property inspection.

Believing it was vacant, they sent out invitations for a ceremony, a red carpet cocktail hour, reception and then celebratory brunch the next day, hoping they could simply hold the event with nobody noticing.

Unfortunately that wasn't the case, with the owner, Nathan Finkel, somewhat surprised when they just arrived and started setup.

He called emergency services and complained about the trespassers who claimed having a wedding on the site was “God’s message”.

Officers attended the scene and ordered the hapless groom to leave, with no formal charges filed.

NSW scores

THE International Netball Federation Netball World Cup will return to Sydney in 2027, bringing NSW a step closer to fulfilling a 2018 promise to secure 10 world cups in 10 years.

Other wins include the ICC Women’s T20 World Cup 2020, FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022 and the FIFA Women’s World Cup, set for Sydney in 2023.

“Hosting major events like this is crucial in helping our tourism and events industry recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, creating jobs and leveraging the extensive expertise our State has in delivering major sporting events throughout NSW,” said NSW Minister Tourism, Stuart Ayres.

Kobe rebrand

THE Japanese MICE destination of Kobe has announced “Kobe for Change Makers” as its new brand message, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Kobe Convention Center in 1981.

WTTC MEXICO SUMMIT

TOURISM leaders from across the globe are today gathered in Cancun, Mexico, for what is billed as the world’s “first face-to-face post-pandemic global travel event,” the World Travel & Tourism Council’s (WTTC) annual Global Summit.

Strict health and safety protocols are in place, including having COVID-19 testing available for delegates throughout the three-day event at the Moon Palace Resort.

WTTC President, Gloria Guevara, said the gathering would bring together, for the first time since the pandemic outbreak, the “cream of the travel and tourism sector”.

“More than ever, as governments begin to re-open their economies, it is vital we share knowledge and best

practice among travel leaders and political leaders to navigate our way to a responsible recovery,” she said.

Keynote speakers will include former Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, tennis legend Martina Navratilova, Hilton CEO Chris Nassetta, and Ahmed Al Khateeb, the Tourism Minister of Saudi Arabia.

Leaders from major travel and tourism operators including The Travel Corporation, Abercrombie & Kent, Royal Caribbean Cruises and Carnival Cruises will participate in debates, with attendees also including representatives of Marriott, IHG, Expedia, Google and TUI.

As well as in-person delegates, the event is expected to attract thousands of online attendees - register by **CLICKING HERE**.

Be inspired by the Territory

DARWIN Convention Centre has released a series of free virtual backgrounds which aim to provide some ongoing Top End inspiration as the nation plans for the resumption of business events.

A collaboration with NT-based aerial photographer and artist Paul Arnold, the

Zoom backgrounds feature a range of amazing images, from the floodplains of Kakadu and Cape Hotham to the shoals of Ngulbitjuk (Bare Sand Island).

The complimentary backgrounds can be downloaded from the website at darwinconvention.com.au.

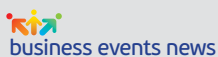
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business events news



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Business Events News is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Business Events News is Australia’s newest online publication dedicated to the vibrant meetings, incentives, conferences and events sector.

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