



EVENTS RECOVERY SHOWCASE

THE Australian business events industry will come together in a major initiative to promote the sector's readiness for a return, with a hybrid "hub and spoke" event taking place in all major cities across the country later this month.

Supported by Arinex and titled "The Turn of Events," sessions during the 16 Sep event will include a presentation by Business Events Council of Australia (BECA) Chair Dr Vanesa Findlay on the BECA Recovery and Rebound Framework, as well as the key principles developed for COVID-Safe business events here.

Patrizia Buongiorno, Vice President of AIM Group International will speak on world readiness for both face-to-face and hybrid concepts, while other keynote speakers

include Business Events Perth CEO Gareth Martin.

"The tide is turning for the events and conference sector," said a spokesperson for Arinex, who said the initiative aimed to help instil confidence within event planners.

Attendees can attend live in hubs across Australia which will host between 40 and 85 people each, while delegates from around the world can also join in virtually, with plenary and breakout sessions across all locations recorded and available for both live and online attendees after the event.

Venues will include the Adelaide Convention Centre, Sydney's Hyatt Regency Hotel, the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Canberra's National Convention Centre, the Perth Convention & Exhibition

Centre; and the Calile Hotel in Brisbane.

The event will kick off at 4.55pm AEST and feature a plenary session, panel discussions, networking and a virtual exhibition.

A host of industry suppliers are also supporting the event including Adelaide Expo Hire, Harry the Hirer, Monotron, EventsAIR, Oneill Photographics, Perth Expo, Saxton, Signal Group and Sprintr.

As well as BECA other associations are also on board including the Association of Australian Convention Bureaux and the Exhibition & Event Association of Australia.

The event will be promoted with the hashtag #BizEventsBack - for more information and to register to attend see arinex.com.au.

Singapore up to 250

BUSINESS events in Singapore will be able to operate with up to 250 participants, with organisers now invited to register their interest in trialling such events from 01 Oct.

Trade and Industry Minister Chan Chun Sing said the pilot program aimed to open the doors to holding events at "even larger scale".

Currently the event limit in Singapore is 50 delegates, with Chan saying the government is working with overseas partners to "scale this up from the hundreds to the thousands in a safe and sustainable manner".

New DCC brand

DIANA Crebbin has announced that her DC Conferences (DCC) business has formally changed its name to DC Conference and Association Management (DCC&A) to reflect its expertise in "quietly managing associations in the not-for-profit sector for over 20 years".

Perth awards

BUSINESS Events Perth has announced the winners of the 2020 Aspire Awards, with 16 eminent academics given the opportunity to attend international conferences over the next three years.

The awards, in their 21st year, have recently helped attract meetings worth \$53m to the WA economy.

Pacific World shut

TRAVEL giant TUI has announced the closure of its Pacific World offshoot, with the global DMC to cease MICE operations in Nov.

The move is the end of an era, with Pacific World founded in 1980 in Hong Kong and then in 2006 purchased by TUI's predecessor First Choice.

Pacific World had delivered over 40,000 events in 100 global destinations in the last decade alone, but TUI said it was now "moving to a digitalisation strategy and decided to stop participating in the meetings and events market".

However the group said it believed the sector would recover in time, saying "today's reduced travel budgets and cancelled meetings and events are tomorrow's pent-up demand".

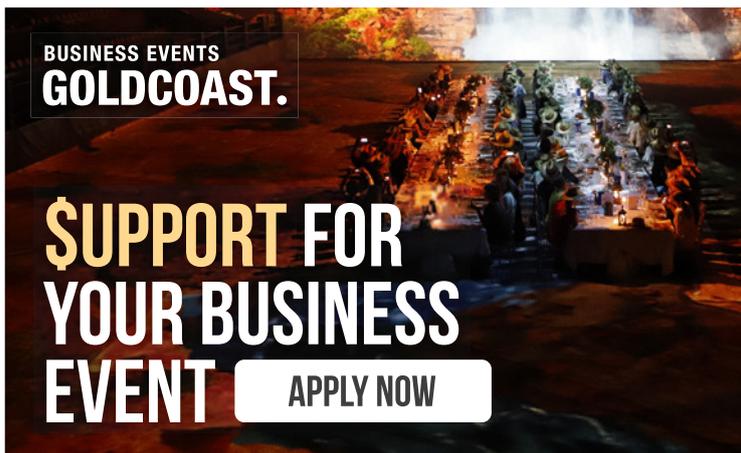
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COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc on the global events sector - but it apparently hasn't stopped some of those wacky Guinness World Record attempts.

And in some cases it's even spurred more innovation, such as a new record set this week for the "most people to simultaneously board a broom online".

The virtual event was organised by Bloomsbury Publishing to celebrate the highly anticipated 06 Oct released of *Quidditch Through the Ages* by Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling.

According to the publisher a total of 133 participants logged on simultaneously, from countries including the UK, India, Spain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, China, Brazil, South Africa, the USA and Australia.

A Guinness World Records representative was present on the coordinated live stream when together, on the count of three, they all climbed on board their broomsticks in the style of Quidditch players from the wildly popular series.

The Rowling book about the sport was actually written in 2001, purporting to be from the Hogwarts library, with the latest release next month featuring new illustrations by Emily Gravett.

Mentoring's new world



THE Professional Conference Organisers Association (PCOA) will host a free webinar titled "Mentoring in the New World" later this week.

Melissa Richardson (**pictured**), founder and MD of specialist mentoring firm Art of Mentoring, will discuss how mentoring is adapting to accommodate virtual relationships, and why mentoring is important for diversity and inclusion in the wake of the Black Lives Matter and MeToo movements.

The session takes place at 1.30pm AEST on Thu 10 Sep - to register **CLICK HERE**.

WA chief resigns

BRODIE Carr, Tourism Western Australia Managing Director since 2018, has announced his resignation.

Carr's wife is French and the couple have decided to relocate to Europe to be closer to her family amid the current global uncertainty.

During his tenure Tourism WA has hosted major events including the Bledisloe Cup and the State of Origin, with record domestic and international visitation.

Together each achieves more

"WOW" F&B MICE delivery, MICE bouncing back in Taipei!

FOR any MICE event the "Touch of Taiwanese Food" has been a highlight in the program schedules, the local cuisine having been influenced by its history and its geographic location.

A variety of local cuisines in Taipei such as minced pork rice, oyster omelet and chicken cutlet provides delightful tastes and unforgettable dining experience. Mango shaved ice at YongKang street is also a must-try dessert! In addition to the street foods mentioned above, the number of local restaurants and eateries listed in the Michelin Guide continues to increase.

During the already past months of 2020, the MICE community in Taipei have worked hard to come with creative solutions.

Yuanshan Plaza is an international conference and exhibition venue in Taipei city. Pandemic prevention and disinfection notices are posted at entrances, tables and chairs are set at proper social distances, temperature checks

and disinfection measures are in use at restaurants, and professional pest control is done regularly. Cleaning staff completely sanitizes the public dining area, plus restaurant staff have their temperatures checked & sanitise their hands.

Organisers these days avoid serving foods where multiple hands will touch the food and arrange for food to be served by staff who are trained in safe food handling. General guidelines the F&B service providers are implemented like keeping the amount of food on display low, plate service and pre-packed meal bags or boxes.

All Taipei's MICE stakeholders are ready to serve all required F&B services to its fullest, and safest, and prepare to deliver healthy and safe "WOW" F&B experiences for all budgets and for all tastes!

For more information please visit www.expopark.taipei or www.anticovid19tw.org.

Pictured: Hotel restaurant provides alcohol pads for diners. (Source: Le Méridien Taipei)

