



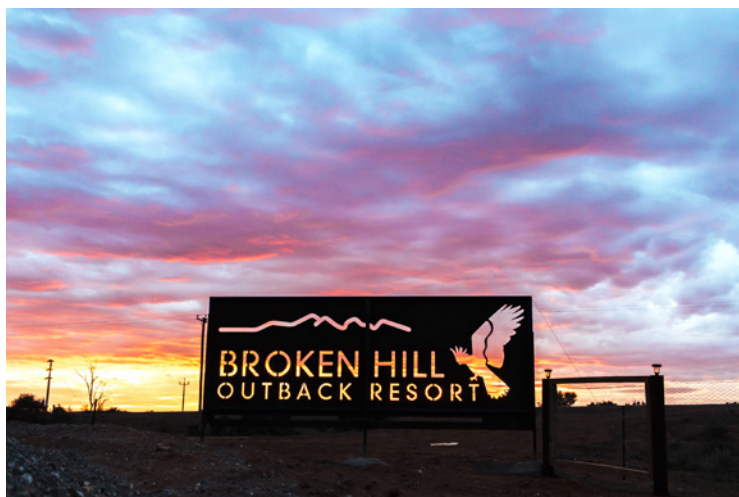
OUTBACK NSW CALLS FOR MORE MICE

EVENT organisers are being urged to “support the bush” and “go out the back”, with tourism company Out of the Ordinary Outback launching a discounted rates program that aims attract more corporate events to far west NSW.

The discounted rates, which are available across Out of the Ordinary Outback’s MICE venues, are inclusive of dinner, bed, breakfast and event costs, with guests also able to enjoy many of the unique activities the region has to offer.

Activities available to book include four-wheel-drive adventures, campfire meals, hikes, indigenous art tours, native cooking or photography classes, space observatory experiences, visits to outback pubs and opal mines, and talks by local indigenous people.

“We offer unique, first-rate locations for events and conferences – underground or surrounded by the rugged outback – so not only will guests and delegates enjoy



special and enriching experiences, they will also be helping to support the economy in the local community,” said Out of the Ordinary Outback owner Scott Smith.

“Hosting events in the outback also helps builds strong teams and networks within businesses, clubs or groups who use our venues for events.”

Corporate and social groups can stay for \$160 per person per night at the Copper City

Hotel/Motel in Cobar; \$180pppn at White Cliffs Underground Motel, which features a hilltop stargazing and canapes area; and \$205pppn at the new Broken Hill Outback Resort (**pictured**), which offers indoor and outdoor venues that can accommodate up to 300 people.

The discounted rates are applicable for groups of 20 or more people, and are valid for bookings made by 31 Mar - **CLICK HERE** for more.

Today’s issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news.

PCMA assists

BUSINESS events company, PCMA, has announced it plans to raise \$250,000 to aid those affected by the bushfires in Australia and the earthquakes in Puerto Rico as part of a “pan-industry initiative”.

“The business events industry has a rich legacy of stepping up and coming together to do good when disasters strike,” said PCMA Pres and CEO Sherrif Karamat.

“This is another way of demonstrating how business events can be a catalyst for economic and social transformation.”

The PCMA and the PCMA Foundation have kick-started the initiative with an immediate \$50K donation, and are urging the industry to take part - more info **HERE**.

Secure your seat to the Summit now

22 April 2020
Doltone House,
Darling Island, Sydney

CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS AND VIEW THE SPEAKERS



Travel Daily



Sustainability SUMMIT

Vic incentives

AN EXTRA 1,265 visitors are set to descend on regional Victoria after the Melbourne Convention Bureau (MCB) secured two new incentive groups to visit in Feb.

MCB Chief Executive Julia Swanson said MCB’s priority is in supporting the industry to rebuild Victoria’s reputation as a “safe and vibrant” tourism destination following the recent bushfire crisis.

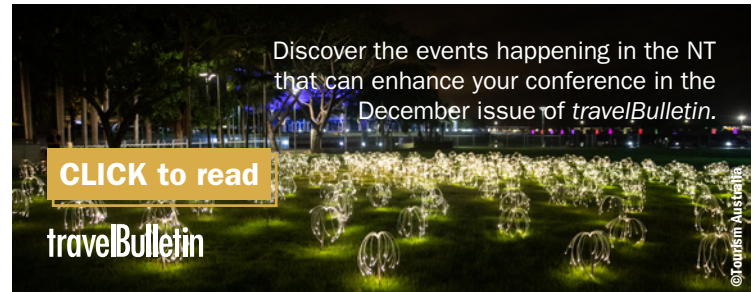
“We are working...with our industry partners, Business Events Victoria and Business Events Australia, to reassure our business event clients and delegates that most parts of Vic are not affected,” she said.

Accor in Sunny

THE Sunshine Coast’s Best Western Plus Lake Kawana Waters has been rebranded as Mercure Sunshine Coast Kawana Waters, after the hotel group entered a franchise agreement for the property with Stay Centro GC.

“We are delighted to partner with Accor on this new venture at such an exciting time for the destination, and look forward to welcoming both corporate and leisure guests to the Sunshine Coast with the Mercure brands internationally renowned authentic, locally inspired service,” said Stay Centro GC CEO Michael Carr.

The hotel offers 81 suites, full restaurant & bar, plus two adjoining function rooms.



GC Sanc Cove

INTERCONTINENTAL Sanctuary Cove Resort on the Gold Coast has revealed its \$6 million refurbishment, which began mid-Jun 2019.

The resort said that its conference facilities will also be rejuvenated this year, as well as the gardens framing the resort.

The extensive upgrade saw the property's 251 rooms and suites receive new furnishings, including large work desks, and updated colour palettes, while the on-site Cove Cafe now features a refreshed tropic-inspired aesthetic.

Additionally, throughout the year, rooms and suites will be fitted with in-room iPad compendiums for "easy-to-manage and more eco-friendly room services".

GCCEC for 10

THE Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC) has been recognised for maintaining EarthCheck Platinum Certification for 10 years, reaffirming its commitment to sustainability (**BEN** 02 Sep 2013).

EarthCheck is the global scientific benchmarking, certification and advisory group for travel and tourism.

"The GCCEC Green Team will continue to explore and implement ways to further improve responsible operational practices as we pursue EarthCheck Master Certification," said GCCEC General Manager Adrienne Readings.

TE PAE IS SHAPING UP



TE PAE Christchurch Convention Centre, **pictured**, has inched closer to completion ahead of its opening in Oct, with CPB Contractors having now installed a quarter of the 43,000 herringbone tiles that will form the braided river effect of the building's facade.

The "fluid and undulating" design of the centre's facade is inspired by the local Iwi culture and the Avon River that flows through the city.

"Each of the fibre cement tiles is placed individually on a panel in a layout that creates the look of a braided Canterbury river," said Otakaro Limited Chief Executive John Bridgman.

The fibre tiles, expected to last for over 50 years, are fully recyclable and eco-friendly, with the production process using 90% less greenhouse potential than the more traditionally used aluminium sheeting.

MEANWHILE, Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre has added to its pool of international expertise, announcing the appointment of global events leader Lee-Ann Dahl as Client Services Manager.

Dahl previously worked at the Durban International Convention Centre in South Africa as part of the sales and events team for over a decade, where she project-managed a range of large-scale events.

"I'm looking forward to creating events that really put the spotlight on Christchurch – it really is a wonderful, innovative city," said Dahl.



SRC Syd closes

STAGING and event production company Staging Rentals & Construction (SRC) will permanently close down its Sydney branch in Apr.

The company has been building large-scale sets and props for exhibitions, corporate events and more for over 30 years.

Owners Meri Took and David Comer said the decision was made "after a lot of consideration...due to a range of factors".

SRC Melbourne will continue to operate as per usual under Took and Comer.

Sydney rentals will remain available until 06 March.

IT'S time to sharpen up your multiplication skills and brush up on Pythagoras' theorem - the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia (MERGA) is heading to Tassie for its 2021 annual conference.

Approximately 200 delegates will convene in Launceston, northern Tas in Jul next year to crunch the numbers - or more specifically, present and discuss research findings, issues and outcomes when it comes to mathematics teaching and learning.

CWT podcast

2B4E travel management platform CWT has launched a new monthly podcast *Business Travel On the Fly*, which is aimed at on-the-road employees.

Each 15-minute episode will focus on one main industry topic or issue, featuring a guest interview, as well as helpful tips.

The podcast will air on the 20th of each month on a number of platforms, including Stitcher, Spotify, and Buzzsprout, as well as through CWT's website.