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Travel Daily

First with the news

Thursday 27th October 2016

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Qantas unveils 787 cabin

QANTAS today revealed its "next generation" cabins for the new Boeing 787-9 *Dreamliner* due to join its fleet in a year's time (**TD** breaking news).

The aircraft will seat 236 passengers in Economy, Premium Economy & Business cabins, with a layout designed to maximise comfort for longer distances.

Business seating will be a new version of the type recently installed in the Qantas A330 fleet, with a fully-flat bed, an adjustable divider between each seat and a 1-2-1 configuration.

Economy class will offer an extra 2.5cm of seat pitch compared to the QF A380 offering, with an all-new seat featuring a personal device holder, USB ports, a seat-back "mood light" and a 5% larger high-definition entertainment touch screen.

Qantas ceo Alan Joyce said the *Dreamliner* was an aircraft "built for comfort".

"The windows are bigger, it helps reduce jetlag, it's extremely quiet and there's a system that smooths out turbulence," he said. "Customers are going to love it."

The *Dreamliner* cabin has been conceived by Australian industrial designer David Caon in "a progression" of the aesthetic established by Marc Newson.

Designs for the Premium Economy cabin, featuring a "revolutionary new seat," will be unveiled early in the new year.

The 787's initial destinations will be revealed in coming months, with the first international flights on sale before Christmas.

The aircraft will gradually take over routes operated by QF's existing 747 fleet, as well as adding new city pairs to the airline's network.

At the same unveiling, Qantas also announced changes to its livery to come with the 787 introduction (see page **five**).

CLICK HERE for images from today's Qantas launch.

Mammoth TD issue

Travel Daily today has nine pages of news, a photo page for **Air Canada**, a front cover page for **Air New Zealand** plus a full page: (**click**)

- AA Appointments jobs

Dave's itinerary open

AIR New Zealand's highly anticipated 'Do Dave's Itinerary' travel agent comp is now open, with participants invited to create an American football weekend itinerary for the carrier's newest frequent flyer, Dave the Goose.

The grand prize is a Keith Prowse Travel Super Bowl Package worth \$20,000 - see the **cover page** for more details.

New role for Gestro

NEIL Gestro, long-time general manager commercial for Helloworld and its predecessors in New Zealand, has left the company to take up a new role as Head of Tourism Partnerships with Kiwi motoring group AA Travel & Tourism.

In his new role he is responsible for the establishment, management and development of all tourism partnerships within the organisation's portfolio.

His departure from Helloworld has also seen him step down from his former directors position on the board of the Travel Agents Association of New Zealand.

More industry appointments on **page nine** of today's **TD**.

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Scenic executive gm

SCENIC has confirmed the appointment of long-time staffer Aleisha Fittler to the role of acting executive general manager.

Fittler has been with Scenic for 16 years, most recently in the role of gm of product development.

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Week 2 Q4. Which Airline alliance is Air India affiliated to?

Click here for rules for the competition.



Dreamliner Return fares to London starting from \$1210*

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STPC on outbound at airside Holiday Inn Express transit hotel (Indian visa not required)

AFTA battles on all fronts

AFTA ceo Jayson Westbury appeared before a parliamentary committee in Canberra yesterday, joining with other industry representatives to urge officials not to implement the planned increase to the Passenger Movement Charge (**TD 27 Sep**).

Westbury and TTF ceo Margy Osmond presented financial modelling from accounting firm KPMG which confirms the cut to the backpacker tax "does not need the PMC to supplement the revenue the government desires by this package".

The AFTA boss said they "made the point very firmly to the Senate Committee that \$5 is a big deal to the travel industry, and that any increase to the PMC is unwelcome, particularly when it is proposed to do nothing but top up revenue targets".

The Senate will debate bills covering the backpacker tax and the PMC in the week of 07 Nov.

MEANWHILE, in a circular to AFTA members yesterday, Westbury also detailed the current state of play with regards to the controversial anti-travel agent Webjet ad (**TD 16 Aug**).

He said AFTA's complaint to the ACCC about Webjet - which includes allegations of misleading comparative pricing - is still very much "active and open".

"Several members have been in touch with me about this and have suggested that we should

take a more aggressive approach."

Westbury said he believed in this case it was "better to fight fire with water, which is why we have gone down the ACCC path".

"These sorts of issues are never easy, particularly when you are dealing with a company that does not want to engage...Webjet has not elected to take up ATAS accreditation, has never been a member of AFTA and... [is] not likely to be any time soon."

"Please know that we are working behind the scenes on this issue," Westbury added.

FURTHER, he also mentioned the disappointment many AFTA members had expressed about the final result of the Travel Compensation Fund, with funds distributed back to the state governments (**TD 26 Sep**).

"It is an important point to note that along the entire journey of de-regulation there was never any suggestion whatsoever that any of the surplus funds would be returned to travel agents."

"While I don't agree with this and in the early days of the reform process took the issue up with the authorities, it was clear more than three years ago that this was not going to be the case," Westbury wrote.

He said some of the TCF funds had helped establish ATAS and boost consumer awareness of the scheme which was "definitely a big success".

Eurowings strike

EUROWINGS and Germanwings domestic flights will be grounded today after the flight attendants' union Ufo called a 24-hour strike.

EW & 4U have advised affected customers can cancel or rebook without charge - **MORE HERE**.

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CLICK HERE for further details

MH to adopt Amadeus' Altea

MALAYSIA Airlines has signed with Amadeus and its Altea Passenger Service System in a move it says will allow greater ease and customisation.

Airline ceo Peter Bellew said the system would offer "a great web booking experience and state of the art mobile applications to suit individual needs".

"Passengers can look forward to a leaner, more agile experience, from booking tickets to pre-purchasing excess baggage, meals and managing loyalty," he said.

Agencies using Amadeus would also benefit, with both agent and airline sharing a single res number and the same PNR view.

The system, to be adopted by 2017, would also allow closer integration with partner airlines, including sharing real-time availability, fares & booking info with oneworld carriers.

"Technology will play an important role in Malaysia

Airlines' transformation and I am confident that Amadeus and its technology will allow us to streamline our operations and deliver the best service to our customers," Bellew said.

The ceo added that a robust tech system would position the airline for continued recovery and future success.

Ardent value drops

ARDENT Leisure shares fell a further 15% yesterday after this week's fatal accident at Dreamworld, on top of an almost 8% fall suffered on Wed.

Chairman Neil Balnaves today addressed the company's agm as scheduled and expressed condolences for the four lives lost on Tue.

The park will operate as normal from Sat except for the Thunder River Rapids Ride which will close throughout the coronial inquiry.

Ciobo under fire

FEDERAL Tourism Minister Steve Ciobo received a mixed reaction in the UK this week as he launched the latest Tourism Australia campaign targeting young travellers (**TD** 26 Oct).

At a media event at London's Victoria Station, Ciobo came under fire for the use of British stand-ins to play the part of Aussie lifesavers.

"Minister, there are 15,000 Australians here in London, I'm just wondering why you can't find one of them to represent Australia," one journalist asked.

The minister was also pressed on the merits of a campaign aimed at youth after the recent backpacker tax controversy.

"The backpacker tax was really bad PR, wasn't it?" he was asked.

MEANWHILE, the Australian Tourism Export Council (ATEC) welcomed the campaign, saying it would help address a decline in backpackers which had been worsened by the tax issue.



Window Seat

PLENTY of us can admit to slipping a hotel freebie into our luggage: some of those little shampoo bottles or some luxury soap perhaps? How about the spare toilet seat you found hiding under the bed?

One Chinese couple staying at Toyoko Inn hotel in Nagoya, Japan did just that.

The hotel didn't take the theft lightly, contacting the couple & demanding the 'multi-function' toilet seat be returned.

The seat was sent back to its rightful owners after the thieves arrived at the next destination on their tour.

The embarrassed light-fingered duo said they took the item because they thought it had been left behind by previous guests and was not the property of the inn.



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Scenic celebrates 30 years



SCENIC celebrated its 30th Anniversary in style with around 100 trade & media partners at a lavish cocktail party at Park Hyatt, Sydney last night.

GM of sales and marketing, Michelle Black heaped praise on travel agents and suppliers for their loyal support over the past three decades, in which the 100% Australian-owned company has continued to evolve.

From humble beginnings when starting out as a domestic coach tour operator in 1986, the luxury firm now operates in over 60 countries and employees over 1,600 staff in locations spread around the globe.

Scenic's latest big venture is the launch into ocean cruising with *Scenic Eclipse* from mid-2018.

The 'World's First Discovery Yacht' is scheduled to cut steel on 25 Nov in Croatia.



Acting executive gm Aleisha Fittler revealed to *Travel Daily* at the event that sales for *Scenic Eclipse* have exceeded "pretty optimistic targets", with Polar region cruises selling very well.

More from Scenic in today's issue of *Cruise Weekly*.

Pictured at the event from left are Scenic's Rob Kalembe, nation business manager; Aleisha Fittler; Jane Moggridge, marketing & comms mgr and Michelle Black.

Inset are Fittler and Black with a celebratory 30th birthday cake.



Uncover ultimate luxury in New York. Check out the October issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read **travelBulletin**

DL local agency site

DELTA Air Lines has confirmed a new travel agency website has been launched specifically for the ANZ market, not a Groups Portal, as mentioned in *TD* yesterday.

The local B2B website, dubbed Delta Professional, is aimed at equipping agents with essential information related to Delta products and services.

A spokesperson for the US carrier told *TD* consultants will be able to refer to the site for the latest policy changes and updates, with a suite of tools set to also be deployed in the future.

CLICK HERE for more details.

EK A380 winners

THE lucky winners of *Travel Daily's* Emirates comp who have snagged the opportunity to fly on the inaugural Emirates A380 flight from Sydney to Christchurch on Mon are: Craig Reid, The Village Travel; Nick Landy, Flight Centre; Marica Salpietro, italktravel Kensington; Adrienne Witteman, Trendsetter Travel and Isabella Cilia of Flight Centre.

AC expands Sabre

AIR Canada is extending its market reach by launching the sale of more offerings via Sabre Corporation's travel marketplace.

Corporate and leisure travel buyers in Canada and the US now have the ability to purchase Air Canada's Preferred Seats and paid advance seat selection through the Sabre Red platform.

Air Canada said the new platform shows "commitment to the agency network" by making selling AC as efficient as possible.

Westin Cairo opens

WESTIN Hotels & Resorts has debuted in Cairo with the opening of The Westin Cairo Golf Resort & Spa Katameya Dunes.

The 135-key property offers three dining options, an indoor plunge pool, heated outdoor pool, fitness centre and day spa.

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Tourism tops in NZ

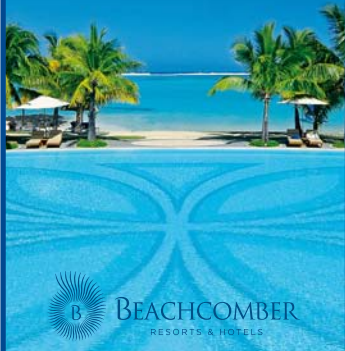
INTERNATIONAL visitors to New Zealand have injected NZ\$14.5 billion into the country's economy in the year ending Mar 2016, according to annual data released yesterday.

As a result, one in 13 Kiwis are now employed within the tourism industry, with the number expected to grow as visitor numbers increase.

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Wyndham overhauls Rewards program

WYNDHAM Rewards has announced plans to expand its loyalty program to include Wyndham Worldwide properties, beginning with the addition of more than 17,000 condos and homes to its portfolio.

The updated scheme will mean Wyndham Rewards members will now be able to redeem their points from some 25,000 properties all around the world.

CLICK HERE for more info.

Heart Hotel launch

AIRLIE Beach's Heart Hotel and Gallery will welcome its first guests from 01 Nov.

The new precinct will offer a restaurant, pharmacy and touring agency all on site.

Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said the property was "part of a large infrastructure pipeline in the Whitsundays creating jobs for Queenslanders".

Cathay to Tel Aviv

CATHAY Pacific is set to commence four weekly flights between Hong Kong and Tel Aviv, Israel from 26 Mar.

Commenting on the new route, CX chief executive officer Ivan Chu called Tel Aviv "an important market in the 'One Belt, One Road' initiative".

"This new service to Tel Aviv reflects our commitment to growing the Cathay Pacific network," he said.

Flights will be operated using Airbus A350-900 aircraft.

TIME silent auction

TIME'S Silent Auction (**TD** 13 Oct) which includes air tickets, accommodation, rail tickets and car hire closes on Fri at 8pm.

CLICK HERE to place a bid.

Qantas debuts refreshed livery



QANTAS has today unveiled its updated livery in preparation for the launch of its new Boeing 787 Dreamliner which is set to enter the fleet a year from now.

The new decal (**pictured** above) depicts a refreshed typeface for its Qantas logo and 'Spirit of Australia' tagline, with its iconic Flying Kangaroo branding also simplified for a cleaner, more modern look.

Speaking to more than 1,000 guests and media at the unveiling this morning, Qantas ceo Alan Joyce said "we wanted to make sure our brand remained familiar but we also wanted it to be more modern and dynamic".

"When we looked at the history, we found that the logo has been

updated around the time of a game-changing new aircraft joining the fleet," said Joyce.

"A fresh brand helps symbolise the new era Qantas is entering as we head towards our centenary."

Chimu Ski Antarctica

A NEW ski and sail expedition to Antarctica is now available from Chimu Adventures.

The 28-day journey departs from Ushuaia in Argentina on 19 Nov and explores the jagged peaks of Antarctica, the dodging humpbacks near Two Hummock Island and the natural ski fields of Mt Banck, Bruce Island, Jabet Peak and Port Lockroy Base.

CLICK HERE for the itinerary.

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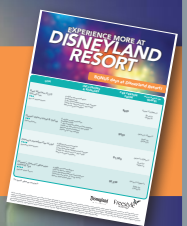
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Mantra Richmond opening



A TRADITIONAL ribbon cutting ceremony attended by VIP guests this week heralded the opening of Brisbane's newest property, the Mantra Richmond Hotel.

Speaking at the event, Queensland Minister for Tourism and Major Events Kate Jones said the new property was a "vote of confidence for Brisbane's booming tourism market". "We've seen significant increases in both domestic and international visitors here in Brisbane and the continued investment in new hotels is a sign of confidence in the Queensland tourism industry," she said.

The \$28 million, 108-key property is located in the historical suburb of Spring Hill is situated just 1km from the CBD.

Pictured cutting the ribbon (from

left) are: Brisbane Lord Mayor Graham Quirk; Gregory Loh, managing director, Richmond Holdings; Kate Jones and Bob East, chief executive officer, Mantra Group.

9w/AF codeshare

JET Airways has expanded its codeshare agreement with Air France-KLM to include AF operated services from Paris to Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, as well as KLM flights from Amsterdam to Atlanta and Miami from 30 Oct.



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Thursday 27th Oct 2016

Qld tourism job hike

THOUSANDS of skilled employees will be needed in Queensland to meet the growing demands of the tourism industry, said Qld Minister for Tourism and Major Events Kate Jones at the recent DestinationQ forum in Mackay earlier this week.

"Tourism is a \$23 billion industry which supports 220,000 jobs in our state and we are committed to growing the industry further," she said.

Jones acknowledged that growing jobs within the tourism industry was a "whole-of-government" approach.

"Developing a skilled tourism workforce is a priority for the Government and we are investing in small businesses and jobs and skills training for Queenslanders".

More than 300 tourism industry leaders and business operators from all around the state attended DestinationQ on Tue.

DL Sleep Well blanky

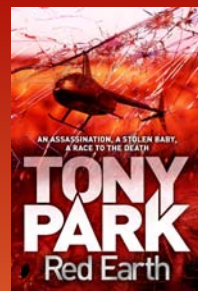


DELTA Air Lines has partnered with Westin Hotels & Resorts to present an all-new Heavenly In-Flight Blanket for First class pax.

Developed based on feedback from customers, the muted grey blanket "exudes a relaxing and calming ambiance" and is inspired by elements of the Westin Heavenly Bed.

Win Red Earth by Tony Park

This week **Travel Daily** and Swagman Tours is giving five lucky readers the chance to win **Red Earth** by Tony Park.



On the outskirts of Durban, Suzanne Fessey fights back during a vicious carjacking. She kills one thief but the other, wounded, escapes with her baby strapped into the back seat. Called in to pursue the missing vehicle are helicopter tracker pilot Nia Carras from the air, and Mike Dunn, a nearby wildlife researcher from the ground. But South Africa's police have even bigger problems: a suicide bomber has killed the visiting American Ambassador, and chaos has descended on Kwa-Zulu Natal. As the missing baby is tracked through wild game reserves from Zululand to Zimbabwe, Mike and Nia come to realise that the war on terror has well and truly invaded their part of the world.

To win, simply be the first person to send through the correct answer to the question below to:

tonypark@traveldaily.com.au

Name one new lodge featuring in Botswana from the 2017 Swagman Africa brochure.

WCWR revenue jump

REVENUE for the West Coast Wilderness Railway in Tas rose to \$3.43m in 2015/16, up 48% compared to the same period prior, according to the Tas State Growth Annual report.

The upward trend continues to climb this financial year, with the railway reporting a 6% spike in passengers in Jul and Aug - traditionally quieter months.

Pax satisfaction is at 94%, jumping 6% since last year.

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Aussies go wild for Canada's west

THERE'S nothing like encountering a grizzly bear catching his salmon breakfast to remind you just how wild Canada's west really is.

A select group of product managers recently got up close and personal with one of the world's most impressive predators when they ventured beyond Canada's iconic west-coast attractions on an 11-night tour of British Columbia and the Northwest Territories designed to showcase just a few of the unique experiences the region offers Australian travellers.

Boarding a floatplane at the tip of Vancouver Island, the group flew over Queen Charlotte Strait to Great Bear Lodge, a celebrated retreat surrounded by a rainforest that is home to grey wolves, otters, mink and bald eagles. As well as daily treks along rivers and estuaries to watch the bears chasing salmon, the Australians enjoyed interpretive rainforest walk & boat excursions to explore the glacier-carved inlet.

The three-night stay in Great Bear Lodge was just one of the unforgettable experiences enjoyed by the group, which also flew from Vancouver to the Northwest Territories' capital Yellowknife to view the dazzling Northern Lights, cycle through the snow on fat bikes, fish for northern pike and hike to beautiful Cameron Falls.

The Australians flew as guests of Air Canada, and explored Canada as guests of Destination British Columbia, Northwest Territories Tourism, Tourism Vancouver and Tourism Vancouver Island.



BENEATH the Northern Lights, Aurora Village, Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories.

From left are Nathan McLaughlin, Destination Canada; Stefanie Linley, Natural Focus Safaris; Kristy Prince, Adventure World; Shannon Szucs, Northwest Territories Tourism; Lisa Monk, Infinity Holidays and Karryn Papenfus, Adventure Destinations.



A GRIZZLY greets the group on the way back to the Great Bear Lodge!



NATHAN from Destination Canada show's off his catch - a northern pike - during a Yellowknife Outdoor Adventures tour.



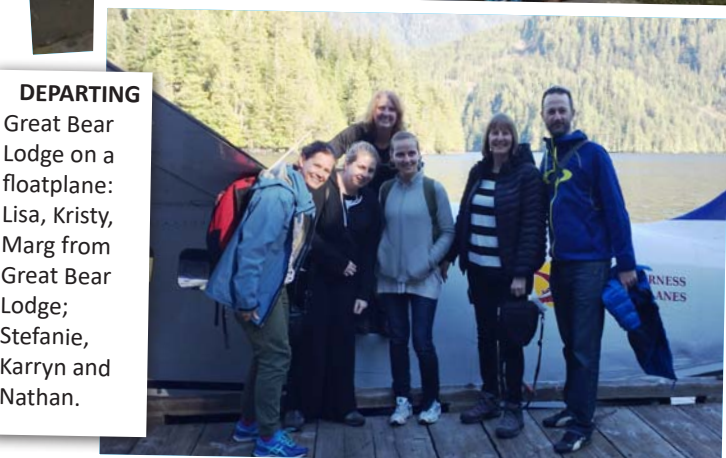
THE name says it all! - the group arrives in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.



THERE'S a bear out there! The group embark on a bear viewing safari at Great Bear Lodge in the Great Bear Rainforest, British Columbia with guide Marcus.



HOW'S the serenity? The group's base while in the Great Bear Rainforest of BC, the floating Great Bear Lodge.



DEPARTING

Great Bear Lodge on a floatplane: Lisa, Kristy, Marg from Great Bear Lodge; Stefanie, Karryn and Nathan.



TAKING a wild ride with David Stephens (second from left) on a Fat Bike Tour with Borealis Bike Tours Unlimited in Yellowknife.

Thursday 27th October 2016



Corporate Chatter

With Tony O'Connor

WE RETURN to the troubled world of our friend Alan Smart, the Travel Procurement Manager.

Tony O'Connor (TOC): Hello Alan. You look troubled. What's up?

Alan Smart (AS): I'll tell you what's up. The CEO. That's what's up. He called me into his office yesterday to ask about how we manage travel.

TOC: Well that's good isn't it? Having support from the senior management is half the battle.

AS: Not in my case. Apparently he played golf on the weekend with some buddy of his who is a leading tech-head "futurist", and he heard all about the wonders of online booking tools.

TOC: That's good. They save you money.

AS: Yes, but he told me we have to get rid of the TMC completely and make all our bookings on an OBT. He said "get with the future mate before it gets you!" Is it even possible to do this?

TOC: What do you think?

AS: Well. I know TMCs say it can't be done. But they would say that. They say they have to "fulfil" or something. But I talked to an OBT sales person and she was all for it. Ten minutes later she sent me a contract. So I'm none the wiser. I assume it's not a good idea because other companies don't do it.

TOC: It's really a question about the value that the corporate travel agent delivers. What does a TMC actually do for you?

AS: Yes. Good question. What exactly do they do for me?

TOC: Okay. For one, you have to book via a TMC to access your negotiated discounts and deals. That's the structure of the industry. Secondly, the TMC is now the integrator and packager of a range

of necessary systems and software, such as those for risk management, pre-trip approval, policy compliance, profile management and various other bits and bobs. You could try procuring and putting these things together yourself, but that would be crazy. Next, a good TMC will manage the suppliers for you, at the macro and micro levels; everything from availability to waivers. The TMC will create data and analysis, and give you strategic and practical advice

“You still need a human to build to complex itineraries for you”

to reduce costs and risk. And lastly, and most importantly, you still need a human to build complex itineraries for you. Multi-point complex bookings are just way too complicated for the electrons to cope with on their own. There are too many options, products and details, with overlaps, rules and contingencies. Maybe someday an online booking tool will do it better than a skilled diligent booking consultant, but no day soon.

AS: Really? But I've booked multi-point international itineraries at home by myself for our holidays.

TOC: You might have got a result on the screen. But what you didn't see were all the options and prices that weren't presented. I'll bet you paid too much.

AS: Yes. It did seem a little pricey.

TOC: Maybe that's the approach to take with your CEO.

Tony O'Connor is the Founder and Director of Butler Caroye Asia Pacific, which has been running TMC, airline, hotel, and card tenders for corporate travel buyers since 1998.

FCM Travel holds the key



ABOVE: More than 60 of Flight Centre's FCM Travel leaders visited Cambodia earlier this month, to take part in a Habitat for Humanity community building project.

The four-day activity saw six new homes constructed from the ground up, with the FCM volunteers excavating, mixing cement, laying bricks and rendering as well as preparing and laying bamboo flooring.

The week wrapped up with a dedication ceremony (pictured) where the Cambodian recipients were handed the keys to their new homes before a celebratory

lunch was shared.

FCM raised \$122,000 as part of the activity, with the funds given to Habitat for Humanity to support the organisation's ongoing work in Cambodia.

Amex forecasts meetings growth

AMERICAN Express Meetings & Events has issued its sixth annual global meetings forecast, with the report expressing optimism about activity in the Asia-Pacific region.

The 2017 forecast reflects "continued global expansion and growth, balanced by political and economic uncertainty".

Survey respondents have indicated similar spending patterns to 2016 but globally the number of meetings, or number of attendees per meeting, may decline, the report predicts.

However, Asia-Pacific appears to buck the trend, with an increased focus on managing meetings spend which "might be fuelling increased activity".

The report also highlights key issues for meeting organisers including hotel consolidation, duty of care and staff training.

CWT appointment

CARLSON Wagonlit Travel has named Johan Wilson as its new country director for UK and Ireland, with Wilson taking up his new role effective 01 Nov.

He's been with the TMC since 2008, and will combine his new role with his current position as head of CWT's Nordic region until a successor is found.

Wilson takes the place of Chris Bowen who has been promoted to CWT md for Northern Europe.

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Industry Appointments

WELCOME to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thursday feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry email appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

David Sumich has taken on a new role as Chief Operating Officer of **Freedom Road Travel Group**, a Chinese travel and digital media business with offices in Shanghai, Brisbane and Sydney. Sumich joins the company from his most recent role as MD of digital firm Websalad connect, and prior to that as Managing Director of BCD Travel Australia.

Satu Raunola this week announced her departure from **Amadeus IT** after five years as Marketing Communications Manager, in order to pursue new opportunities. Tomorrow is her last day at the company.

Amolaya Rattanathasaniya has been appointed as the new Public Relations Manager at **JW Marriott Bangkok**. Her career has included a former Sydney-based role as Regional Marketing Head Australia & New Zealand for China Southern Airlines.

Business Events Victoria has announced its new board of management, with members including **Relly Bruce** of RACV Cape Schanck, **Nicole Hill** of Ramada Phillip Island, **Brendan Maher** from Albury Entertainment Centre, **John Huber** of Mt Buller Alpine Resort, **Kylie Shorter** from RACV Healesville Country Club and **Julie Jewell** of Mildura Rural City Council. Other returning board members, whose terms expire next year, include Grange Group's **Sharon Ho**, **Mark Day** from Business Events Geelong, Destination Gippsland's **Alison Conroy**, **Terry Karamaloudis** from City of Greater Bendigo, **Chris McClure** from Horsham Rural City Council and **Dean Webster** of Surf Coast Hotel.

Stephen Ferrigno has been named as the new General Manager of the **Four Points by Sheraton Melbourne Docklands**. The property is slated to open in Mar 2017. Ferrigno has more than 20 years' experience with Marriott International and moves to Melbourne after nine years as GM for the Sheraton Noosa Resort & Spa.

BIG4 Holiday Parks has appointed **Susie Thompson** as PR and Communications Manager.

Jason Kruse has been appointed as General Manager of the new **Six Senses Fiji**. The luxury resort is scheduled to open towards the end of next year on the island of Malolo.

Radius Travel has appointed **Timothy J. Fleming** as the new Chairman of the board. Fleming is the chief operating officer of Travel and Transport, one of the largest TMCs in the USA.

Anantara Oman

ANANTARA'S first resort in Oman, Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort, has officially opened its doors.

Perched 2,000 metres above sea level, the five-star resort offers 115 guest rooms and villas plus six restaurants and lounges.

Hard Rock ceo quits

HARD Rock Cafe ceo Hamish Dodds has resigned from the position (effective early 2017) which he has held since 2004 to "pursue new opportunities".

Lake Eyre sales

LAKE Eyre in South Australia has seen its biggest sales season in five years with Kirkhope Aviation completing 26 tours there throughout the 2016 season.

The company also reported that word from their local guides at William Creek, Muloorina and the Flinders Ranges indicated 2017 could be an even bigger year for Australia's lowest natural point.

CLICK HERE to keep an eye on 2017 tour dates - some are already scheduled but more will be added as demand increases.

Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication.

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Thursday 27th Oct 2016

Travel Daily
First with the news



A GROUP of lucky Magellan agents has just returned from an unforgettable fam to Chile with South America Travel Centre.

After sightseeing in Santiago and enjoying a visit to a local winery and lunch overlooking the vineyard, they spent the next few days in the Atacama Desert, staying at Alto Atacama.

This was followed by an incredible sunrise hot air balloon ride over the Atacama Desert.

After Atacama, the Magellan

crew headed south to stay at the recently opened luxury Vira Vira hotel near Pucon before taking in the powerful scenery of Patagonia

The group was fortunate to see a puma while returning from a hike, with the guide describing it as "a very rare occurrence".

Pictured above, sky high, are Cinzia Mucciante, Hayley Bayford, Melissa Ferguson, Monica Godfrey, Michelle Hansen and Janine Lyons.



This month, *Travel Daily* and Vanuatu Tourism Office, Air Vanuatu and Tamanu on the Beach are giving readers the chance to win a trip to Vanuatu including:

- Five (5) nights run of house accommodation at the newly reopened Tamanu on the Beach including daily a-la-carte breakfast
- Return transfers courtesy of Tamanu on the Beach
- Two complimentary return economy class tickets on Air Vanuatu from Sydney or Brisbane to Port Vila.

To win, answer each daily question correctly and have the most creative final answer. Send your entries to vanuatucomp@traveldaily.com.au

18. Which island is the famous land diving ritual (the original bungee jump) held each year?

Terms and conditions



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SYDNEY – EXCELLENT SALARIES UP TO \$90K PLUS**

AA Appointments currently have 2 different opportunities in training. Training roles are rare so if you are a training specialist and thinking of a change please call to discuss. We have a technical training role with mandarin speaking skills and a training role for a niche travel specialist. All are paying exceptional salaries and offer excellent working environments and opportunities for progression, interviews are underway so call today.

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