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Travel Counsellors shuffle

TRAVEL Counsellors has confirmed changes to its staffing structure in Australia, including the departure of marketing manager Ray Howe and commercial manager Aida Osta.

Managing director Fred van Eijk will continue to oversee the Australian operations, as well as the Travel Counsellors businesses in the Netherlands and Belgium.

The restructure has also seen the appointment of Jason Bell Davey as product manager effective from today.

Bell Davey, who joins Travel Counsellors from his former role as head of product development at Helloworld Wholesale, will also source product in Australasia and Asia for the Travel Counsellors group globally, van Eijk said.

Tracy Parkinson continues as general manager with a greater

responsibility for sales and business development, while Simon Gatt's role is expanding to see him focus on corporate Travel Counsellors as well as bolstering the group's business accounts - one of the fastest growing segments for the company.

Van Eijk told *Travel Daily* since his secondment to the Australian business (*TD* 24 Feb) he had aimed to "build and develop a more sustainable organisation" heavily focused on supporting the group's local Travel Counsellors.

"I feel very confident this new team is the foundation for the day-to-day success of our Australian business," he said.

SureSave invitation

SURESAVE Travel Insurance is inviting travel agencies to discover more about its product range, with the firm becoming a preferred supplier for Helloworld effective from today (*TD* 19 May).

The new partnership was unveiled at the recent Helloworld conference, and agents are able to find out more about SureSave via the cover page of today's *TD*.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has eight pages of news and photos, including a front cover wrap for SureSave plus full pages from:

- Albatross Tours
- AA Appointments jobs

Australian Air Holidays®
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MELBOURNE
Wednesday 26 July
SYDNEY
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Past NTIA winners: where are they now? Find out what the win has done for their careers in the July issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



John Thomas pulls out of Virgin

VIRGIN Australia's heir apparent, John Thomas, has left the carrier after less than a year as second in command to ceo John Borghetti.

Thomas was group executive in charge of VA's domestic and international operations, with *Fairfax* reporting that Virgin management had "decided he was not the right fit for the role".

While a search is undertaken for a replacement, Tigerair Australia ceo Rob Sharp will act in the role.

Key initiatives rolled out by Thomas during his tenure include VA's recently launched Economy X extra leg room offering.

EK Orlando boost

EMIRATES will increase flights on its Dubai-Orlando route to a daily operation during the upcoming peak season, with seven weekly 777-300ER services from 01 Aug-29 Sep and 05 Dec-30 Jan.

Webjet concludes US JV

WEBJET has re-acquired ownership of intellectual property associated with its name in the USA, Canada and Mexico, after selling out of its long-running joint venture with Mathias Friess.

The company confirmed it had sold its remaining interest in Webjet Marketing North America LLC (**TD** breaking news Fri) which launched more than seven years ago (**TD** 17 Sep 2009) and now has 40 staff and an annual TTV in excess of US\$150m.

Win a Scenic cruise!

SCENIC is this month offering **Travel Daily** readers the chance to win a 15-day Jewels of Europe river cruise for two people, incl return flights valued at \$18,000!

To enter, travel agents need to correctly answer a series of questions that will appear every week day in Jul, with question 1 & more details on **page eight**.

Before setting up the US operation, Friess was Virgin Blue general manager of global sales and distribution.

In 2013 Webjet reduced its stake from 50% to 15% to provide its US partners with "additional strategic flexibility" and now the remainder of the shareholding has been sold to interests associated with Friess.

The change will also see the American operation rebranded as 'Flyus.com' over a 12 month period, with Webjet to regain all rights associated with the 'Webjet' name, logo and the Webjet top level domain names for US, Canada and Mexico.

MD John Guscic congratulated the company's former North American partners "on building a very efficient and quality consumer operation".

He said Webjet looked forward to collaborating on relevant opportunities in the future.

We're turning 23!

ASTUTE readers will have noticed a slightly different look for today's **Travel Daily**.

A change is as good as a holiday, so we have updated our design just in time for the publication's 23rd birthday tomorrow.

First founded by Mike Heard on 04 Jul 1994, **Travel Daily** has grown over the past 23 years into Australia's most respected travel industry news source.

Thank you for your support and feedback over the years - the whole **Travel Daily** team hopes you enjoy the updated look.

Butler Marketing

TRAVEL industry marketing whiz Diane Butler has departed Destination NSW after close to two years and has established her own business.

Diane Butler Marketing will work on travel & tourism marketing, management, research and training projects.

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travelBulletin Travel Daily

CZ all year to CNS

CHINA Southern Airlines will operate year-round services from Guangzhou to Cairns under an agreement struck with the Queensland Government.

The thrice-weekly services will begin in Dec and are the first secured through the state government's Connecting with Asia fund.

"In the first year we expect these flights to bring more than 33,000 Chinese visitors to Tropical North Queensland," said Qld Tourism Minister Kate Jones.

Tourism Tropical North Queensland chair Max Shepherd said the flights were the first direct year-round services from mainland China to Cairns.

"The China Southern flights will inject \$30.8 million in overnight visitor expenditure for the region in the first year and \$90 million over three years with three flights per week delivering 33,852 seats on an A330-200 aircraft," he said.

Virgin profit update

VIRGIN Australia this morning reaffirmed that it expects "the underlying performance of the Group for the 2017 financial year to improve on the fourth quarter of the 2016 financial year".

In Q4 2016 VA reported a group underlying EBIT profit of \$26.1 million and an underlying loss before tax of \$21.9m - along with a statutory quarterly loss after tax of \$228.4 million.

Today's update says the company expects to report a positive free cash-flow performance of between zero and \$50 million, an improvement of \$90-\$140m on the prior corresponding period.

Virgin's Velocity Frequent Flyer business has just surpassed eight million members and the Velocity segment EBIT performance will improve by 2-3% this financial year, the company said.

VA will report its full year results for 2016/17 on 10 Aug.

AUH/USA reprieve

THE US Government has lifted its electronic device ban on flights between Abu Dhabi and the USA "following the successful validation of security measures at the US preclearance facility," Etihad Airways has announced.

"Effective immediately, the removal of the restrictions allows passengers flying to the US to carry laptops, tablets and other electronic devices onto the aircraft, subject to enhanced security measures," the Gulf carrier said in a statement.

IHG double addition

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group has welcomed the addition of Crowne Plaza Hawkesbury Valley (formerly The Sebel Resort & Spa Hawkesbury Valley) and Kirkton Park Hunter Valley (was The Sebel Kirkton Park Hunter Valley) to its NSW portfolio, effective 01 Jul.

Window Seat



WE'VE all bemoaned the indignities of travelling in cattle class at some point, but officials at Toronto's Billy Bishop Airport have been forced to back-pedal after animal rights activists complained about using terms they deemed to be disrespectful to cows.

The *Toronto Star* reports the airport has taken down an advertisement that said "You're precious cargo, not cattle" after a Facebook user rallied others to lodge protests against insulting bovine sensibilities.

PortsToronto assured the poster wouldn't be used again in any future campaigns and that any implied disrespect for animals was not intended.

"We appreciate that these concerns were brought forward," a spokesperson said.

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Terms and Conditions apply, click through for details. Open to AU & NZ res. 18+ who are either employed as a travel agent by a WLCL registered travel agency in AU or NZ or are the owner/manager of a travel agency eligible for WLCL registration in AU or NZ. Must not be already registered with the Princess Academy Program as at 2/7/17. Starts: 3/7/17. Ends: 11:59pm AEST 4/8/17. Limit 1 entry per person. Draw: 55, Erina Plaza, 210 Central Coast Hwy, Erina NSW 2250 on 15/8/17 at 12pm AEST. Winners at www.onesourcecruises.com from 21/8/17. Major Prize: 7 night Western Caribbean cruise for 2 valued at \$3,588 + \$4,500 EZair flight voucher toward airfares. Prize must be taken to coincide with the cruise's departure on 3/12/17. Minor Prizes: 5 x \$100 Visa Gift Card. Promoter: Carnival plc trading as Princess Cruises (ABN 23 107 998 443) of L5, 15 Mount St, North Sydney, NSW 2060 (in AU) and Carnival plc trading as Princess Cruises (Company No. 1471215) of Level 7, Chorus House, 66 Wyndham Street, Auckland 1010 (in NZ). Permits: NSW LTPS/17/14320, ACT TP17/00951, SA T17/892.

Singapore Airlines marks 50



SINGAPORE Airlines is eyeing Sydney for the launch of its next generation Airbus A380 aircraft, a landmark that would coincide with this year's 50th anniversary of the carrier's first Aussie flights.

At a celebration in Sydney on Fri to mark the half century, SQ's senior vp of sales and marketing Campbell Wilson said it was "odds on" that Sydney would be the first city to welcome the redesigned super-jumbo, which would offer new cabin product in all classes when the first of five new planes debuts later this year.

A Sydney deployment would also coincide with the 10th anniversary of Singapore Airlines' launch of the original A380, when the NSW capital became the aircraft's first commercial destination worldwide.

Campbell said Australian routes were also likely to see increased

Airbus A350 deployment in coming years and that Sydney was a front-runner to welcome the Boeing 787-10 *Dreamliner*, for which SQ will be the launch customer next year.

In 1967 Sydney welcomed Australia's first flight operated by Malaysia Singapore Airlines, the forerunner to SQ, becoming its first destination outside Asia.

"From humble beginnings of just two flights a week, Singapore Airlines now offer 35 flights a week from Sydney alone and more than 140 flights a week from Australian cities," Campbell told 300 industry guests on Fri.

Pictured with Singapore's symbolic Merlion at Fri's event are SQ's Dale Woodhouse, senior manager marketing and alliances Australia; Campbell Wilson and Tiow Kor Tan, regional vp south-west Pacific, with cabin crew.

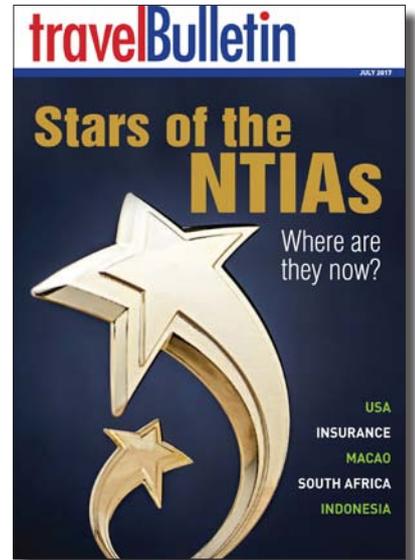
Stars light *travelBulletin*

THE big achievers of the Australian travel industry come into the spotlight in the Jul issue of *travelBulletin*, just in time for this year's National Travel Industry Awards later this month.

As the industry gets ready to celebrate this year's top performers, we track down some of the high-profile winners of past years and look at where they are now, why they won and how their success at the NTIAs has helped shape their careers.

travelBulletin also examines AFTA's new Insolvency Chargeback Scheme (AICS) and explains how dramatic changes in credit card regulation have provided an opportunity to achieve greater protection for travel agents.

We also reveal full details of our exclusive Cruise Industry Survey, providing detailed insight into how travel agents view the booming cruise sector and what they think of Australia's biggest-selling cruise lines in areas from education and training.



education and training.

The Jul issue of *travelBulletin* is out now and includes all the latest industry news, comment and analysis.

It also offers features on travel insurance and destinations including the USA, Macao, South Africa and Indonesia.

To view the latest issue of *travelBulletin* online or to arrange a subscription, visit www.travelbulletin.com.au.

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AAPA lauds tougher security measures

THE Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) has commended measures taken by the US Govt to toughen border security to make it more difficult for terrorists to carry out terror activity (**TD** Thu).

On Fri, AAPA director general Andrew Herdman said adoption of the new security directives "will necessitate a number of procedural & operational changes by airlines and airports around the world," adding, it was crucial airlines, airports and relevant government authorities "work closely together to avoid unnecessary disruptions".

Excessive payment surcharges clamped

THE Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) is advising small businesses that a ban on excessive payment surcharges for using credit cards will come into force from 01 Sep.

The new law limits will apply to businesses who accept payment either through EFTPOS, American Express, MasterCard and Visa issued by Australian banks.

"This means that from Sep this year, it will be illegal to impose payment surcharges on your customers that are higher than your 'cost of acceptance,'" the ACCC said in a statement.

The competition regulator's deputy chair Michael Schaper urged small businesses to review their surcharge levels now.

"Businesses can only pass on to customers what it costs them to process a payment such as bank fees and terminal costs."

More details available [HERE](#).

'Airbnb Lux' label?

ACCOMMODATION disruptor Airbnb is reportedly establishing a new rental service for mansions, penthouses and "mega-homes", to be rolled out later this year.

Citing "people familiar with the matter", *Bloomberg* reports the new accom tier is currently branded in-house as 'Airbnb Lux'.

Insight rejigs Discovery range

INSIGHT Vacations has overhauled its 2018 collection of Discovery tours across Europe, incorporating a range of fresh activities to appeal to first-time and repeat travellers.

Local md Alexandra O'Connor told *Travel Daily* the re-invented Discovery tours offered next year "were more than refreshed".

Discovery tours tend to be multi-country itineraries geared towards either first-time travellers or those who are returning to a destination after a lengthy break.

Insight has offered its Discovery collection for many years, but she said customer research indicated travellers these days want "deeply immersive experiences" rather than traditional attractions.

O'Connor said the study found 60% of customers would prefer a gourmet food encounter in Paris rather than climb the Eiffel Tower.

"I think that was a bit of a light-bulb moment for us because tours were originally built around big classic highlights.

"People want to see the Eiffel Tower but they don't necessarily need to go up. What they really want to do is taste macarons in the little laneways of Paris," she explained to *Travel Daily*.

It's that approach to immersive experiences versus traditional inclusions that has been developed across Insight Vacations' eight Discovery trips featuring in its newly launched 2018 Europe Preview collection.

O'Connor explained to *TD* the Discovery program has essentially been "pulled apart and then put back together and are completely unrecognisable from other years".

Most itineraries are now modular, meaning travellers can

put the pieces of a European holiday together, starting in hubs outside of the UK as has been the tradition of commencing ex London, with options now from Amsterdam, Rome or Madrid.

"The way that we've changed the Discovery tours, customers can do one destination and then come back and do another later."

The Europe Preview program has a feast of 2018 trips to choose from, with nearly 80 tours spanning its Discovery, Country Road and Regional journeys.

Agents can lock in their clients' 2018 preferred tour options now at the 2017 price using Insight's 'Preview Guarantee' until the full Europe program release in Sep.

There's also a bunch of 'early registration' options on some of Insight's most popular tours, enabling guests to secure a space on the tour now, which can then be bedded down once finalised costs are released later in the year, or review without fee.

More new brochures on [page 7](#).

Round 15 Winner

Congratulations

NIZANNE HERBERT

from *Virgin Australia*

Nizanne is the top point scorer for Round 15 of Travel Daily's AFL footy tipping competition. She's won a \$100 travel voucher courtesy of Expedia.

Major prize for the 2017 footy tipping competition is two return economy class airfares to any one of **EMIRATES** 39 European destinations.

NSW permit LTFS-17-1499; ACT permit TP-17/00235

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If you feel you meet the criteria above and this sounds like your ideal role please apply by sending a short covering letter and your resume to: jobsau@vikingcruises.com

Only suitable applicants need apply.

Round 17 Winner

Congratulations

LISA RYAN

from *Swansea Travel*

Lisa is the top point scorer for Round 17 of Travel Daily's NRL footy tipping competition. She's won a \$100 travel voucher courtesy of Expedia.

Major prize for the 2017 footy tipping competition is two return economy class airfares to any one of **EMIRATES** 39 European destinations.

NSW permit LTFS-17-1499; ACT permit TP-17/00235



Tourism WA change

THE Western Australian Government has announced that Tourism WA will be amalgamated into the new portfolio of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation.

The move will see Tourism WA join the ranks of Department of State Development, parts of the Dept of Commerce, some of Department of Premier and Cabinet, such as trade offices.

Current Department of State Development Director General Stephen Wood will be the acting Director General of the new merged department.

At the same time, Wood will take on the role as acting ceo of the Western Australian Tourism Commission, commonly known as Tourism WA after Gwyn Dolphin finished up in the post on 30 Jun.

CCC ICC ferries

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises has been awarded permission by the NSW State Government to commence a ferry service to and from the International Convention Centre (ICC) Sydney wharf.

The ferry will commence in a few weeks and will operate daily from early morning to evening between the ICC, Barangaroo and Circular Quay.

Services on the route will be operated by catamaran ferries that hold up to 60 passengers.

Second DEL airport

THE Indian government has approved plans to build a new international airport for New Delhi, which will be built on a 3,000 hectare greenfield site at Jewar in Greater Noida.

The single runway airport will be operational in the next four to five years.

There are plans to build three extra runways in a second phase over the next 10 years.

Cooks glass bottom

ARIKI Adventures on Rarotonga in the Cook Islands has introduced guided glass bottom kayak tours for guests to experience and view the marine life and coral formations.

The glass bottom kayaks are modified so the usual plastic base is replaced with clear glass to increase viewing opportunities.

Prices start from \$59pp for single kayaks, while double kayaks are \$99 each per tour.

Sheraton Cairo refit

AFTER an extensive renovation, the Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino has reopened with a host of new features for guests.

The hotel's 326 rooms have been renovated with an updated look, while those staying in suites can now enjoy the Sheraton Signature Sleep Experience.

Meetings facilities have been updated including the ballroom.

CELEBRATIONS got started early on Fri as Canada marked 150 years of confederation with a lavish trade luncheon in Sydney.

In the presence of Canada's Consul General to Australia, attendees from across wholesale, retail and touring sectors of the travel industry were entertained by a panel of Canadian ex-pats now calling Australia home including Jack Cowin, billionaire founder and owner of burger chain Hungry Jacks.

Recent figures show Canada enjoyed growth of 30% in global visitor numbers over 2016 with local numbers set to soar when Air Canada's new seasonal service into Melbourne commences Feb

Celebrity extension

CRUISE travellers can lap up the savings a little longer, after Celebrity Cruises extended its Global Cruise Sale offer to 31 Jul.

Guests can save up to \$200 and receive free drinks on select room types - more details **HERE**.

next year (**TD** 17 May).

Pictured at the event from left are Nathan McLoughlin, account director trade, Destination Canada; Joanne Motta account manager Destination BC; Paul McLean, outgoing general manager Air Canada Australia/NZ; Donna Campbell, managing director, Destination Canada and Philippa Macken, director media relations, Destination Canada.

Qantas gadget ban

QANTAS has confirmed that the use of in-flight travel products and accessories that attach to or squeeze in between airline seats are prohibited on its flights.

The devices, such as 'bed boxes' and 'leg hammocks' block rows, restrict passenger movement and can cause damage to fixtures, the carrier warned.

Qantas said while some manufacturers may advertise such items are safe for use in-flight, the final assessment rests with the airline.



Exclusive ticket giveaway

This week Travel Daily and Helloworld Travel are giving away 20 family passes (4 tickets) to the Woman's Indoor Volleyball Grand Prix at the AIS Arena, Canberra on 22-23 July, see the Helloworld Volleyroos take on the world on home soil, thanks to Helloworld Travel.

To win, be one of the first five people each day to answer the question. Email your entries to sponsorships@helloworld.com.au

Who are the Helloworld Travel Volleyroos?



Do you know who sells adventure tours to Cuba? 😞

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Council of Australian Tour Operators www.cato.travel

Dora christens Explorer



A TOTAL of 120 children took over P&O Cruises' *Pacific Explorer* on Sun for the vessel's naming ceremony in Sydney Harbour.

The ship was christened by Nickelodeon's Dora the Explorer by breaking a giant bottle pinata on the ship's upper deck.

Dora was joined at the event by SpongeBob SquarePants, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

and Skye from *PAW Patrol* who performed a welcome dance with families and the ship's crew.

In true Nickelodeon style, four honorary "mini me" crew members won the opportunity to slime P&O Cruises president Sture Myrmell.

"Two thirds of our passengers are families and couples so it made sense for fun loving children and families to lead the celebrations while sampling all that *Pacific Explorer* has to offer," Myrmell said.

Throughout the day, children on board had an opportunity to play with SpongeBob SquarePants and Patrick Star in the interactive waterpark, rolled lawn bowls with Skye from *PAW Patrol* and watched Patchy the Pirate on an 80-metre zip line.

Dora is pictured with her friends on board *Pacific Explorer*.

NYC accessible app

NYC & Company has launched a digital resource, Accessible NYC, to help visitors find hotels, restaurants and attractions that accommodate for mobility, auditory and visual needs.

Accessible NYC has an interactive search function which allows users to search based on their needs and the site also includes editorial content for visitors and new information for planning a visit to New York City. See www.nycgo.com.

AC launch YUL/ALG

AIR Canada has commenced seasonal non-stop Montreal-Algiers services, operated by subsidiary Air Canada Rouge.

The four times weekly departures are using a 282-seat Boeing 767-300ER aircraft offering Economy; Preferred seating; and Premium Rouge.

W Shanghai Bund

W HOTELS Worldwide has opened W Shanghai – The Bund located between the Suzhou Creek and the Huangpu River.

The hotel offers 374 rooms, 35 of which are suites, along with five restaurants or bars.

A total 6,000m² of meeting and events space is packed into the property, including a 2,000m² "Great Room" - the largest hotel event space in Western Shanghai.



Brochures

THIS week's Brochures of the Week is brought to you by DriveAway Holidays. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



DriveAway Holidays - USA Driving Guide

The USA is truly the land of the free and is the ultimate road-trip destination. DriveAway offers clients the freedom to discover the USA at their own pace. There's the choice to do it in style in a Mustang, a big classic American SUV, a motorhome or on a motorcycle. Download DriveAway's FREE guide to print in store or to keep on a tablet or smartphone today. See more at www.driveaway.com.au.



Celebrity Cruises - Australia, NZ & Sth Pacific 17-19

The latest brochure from Celebrity Cruises highlights *Celebrity Solstice's* voyages throughout Australia, New Zealand, Asia and the South Pacific for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 cruise seasons. New highlights for the 2018/19 program include an overnight in Hobart and maiden calls for Celebrity to Apia in Samoa, Pago Pago in American Samoa, and Vava'u and Nuku'alofa in Tonga. Itineraries range from nine to 19 nights, including the new 13-night South Pacific roundtrip from Auckland.



APT - African Safaris 2018

Game spotting on the Chobe River, private air journeys, exclusive game lodges and tented camps, and iconic rail travel are all packed into APT's 2018 collection of African safaris. A total of 14 journeys visit destinations including South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania, Namibia, Egypt, Morocco, Uganda, and Mozambique. New to 2018 is an extended Rovos Rail journey from Cape Town to Victoria Falls as part of the Rovos Rail through Africa and Chobe River.



Scenic - China and Japan 2018/19

Scenic's China and Japan offering has been bulked up with the addition of the 25-day North Asian Odyssey, a combined China and Japan tour. Also new is a 16-day Treasures of Japan tour, which visits Kanazawa and Matsumoto and the refreshed 12-day Japan Highlights tour, which features visits to Tokyo, Himeji, Hiroshima and Kyoto. A host of Scenic Freechoice activities also make their debut, including an Izakaya Nightlife tour in Tokyo & a Scenic Enrich experience has been added in Hiroshima, where guests will hear the story behind oragami crane orizuru.

SAA given lifeline

THE South African Govt has come to the rescue of South African Airways, providing funds to pay back its debt to Standard Chartered Bank & avoid a default.

In a statement the National Treasury said "a default by the airline would have triggered a call on the guarantee, leading to an outflow from the NRF and possibly resulting in elevated perceptions of risk related to the rest of SAA's guaranteed debt".

The funds were sourced from the National Revenue Fund.

ACA conf speaker

BRUCE Krumrine, vp of shore excursions for Princess Cruises, Holland America Line, Seabourn and P&O has been added to the speaker lineup for the Australian Cruise Association conference.

Krumrine oversees 10,000 shore excursions operating on 44 cruise ships globally and will present at the event on "partnering with ports and destinations".

The conference "Together Towards Tomorrow" will be held 06-08 Sep in Mooloolaba on the Sunshine Coast - register [HERE](#).

FareNabber API

SABRE has launched its new FareNabber API, which will allow travel companies and developers to create more personalised experiences for customers shopping for airfares.

The latest API gives developers, OTAs and agents the ability to offer travellers the perfect flight options through the power of automated search.

Users can search by price, destination, date flexibility, departure time and airline.

SKAL MONTHLY MEETING NOTICE

Skål is a professional organisation of travel and tourism leaders. Join us at your local club for industry updates, networking and new friendships.

Club: SKAL Adelaide
Date: Tue 4th Jul
Venue: Coopers Alehouse
RSVP: skaltreasadl@gmail.com

Club: SKAL Launceston
Date: Tue 11th Jul
Venue: Timbre Kitchen at Velo Wines, Legana
RSVP: secretarylaunceston@skal.org.au

Club: SKAL Perth
Date: Thu 13th Jul
Venue: Maurizio's Restaurant
RSVP: alison.banks@travelmanagers.com.au

Club: SKAL Whitsundays
Date: Wed 19th Jul
Venue: Colonial Palms Motor Inn
RSVP: theuptons@whitsunday.net.au



SKAL INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

International Association of Travel and Tourism Professionals
Founded 1934

Wu Japan uptick

WENDY Wu Tours is reporting seeing a growth of 55% for Australians wanting to experience Japan in 2017.

Andrew Mulholland, Wendy Wu Tours md for Australia & New Zealand said, "We've seen traveller interest in Japan almost double year-on-year, a terrific sign that Aussies are rediscovering the historic culture and fresh food of this island nation".

For Wendy Wu Tours, hotspots for their Australian customers include Kyoto, Koyasan, Osaka, Hiroshima and Koyasan.

Aussies are now on the hunt for unique cultural experiences, with demand for the Cherry Blossom festival tripling from the previous year, Mulholland commented.

"Wendy Wu Tours sends more Australians to view Japan's Cherry Blossoms than any other Australian tour company," he said.

CLICK HERE to view Wendy Wu's Japanese offerings, including the 14-day Discover Japan tour.

MEL looks forward

AFTER celebrating 20 years as a private airport, Melbourne Airport is looking forward with hopes of becoming Australia's largest airport.

Melbourne Airport ceo, Lyell Strambi, said with Melbourne on track to be Australia's largest city, it make sense that Melbourne Airport would be the biggest airport in the country too.

Strambi said with forecast growth, it was important to discuss new infrastructure.

"A new runway, along with improvements to the capabilities of existing runways and taxiways is vital," he said.

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This month, Scenic and *Travel Daily* are giving readers the chance to win a luxurious river cruise. Experience a 15-day cruise in a balcony suite. The prize includes:

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Q1. What is the duration of Scenic's longest Europe Cruise & Tour?

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Segway CBR tours

SEGWAYS will now be permitted on footpaths, shared paths and some roads across the Australian Capital Territory.

Acting ACT Road Safety Minister Gordon Ramsay said users would need to wear bicycle helmets, have a bell and a light if using the devices at night time.

Segway users will need to follow roads rules and other rules in place for cyclists.

The development will produce new opportunities for Canberra's tourism sector.

HX plans HKG/LAX

HONG Kong Airlines plans to fly Hong Kong to Los Angeles from 15 Dec, GDS displays show.

The new route would be operated by Airbus A350-900 aircraft, with 33 seats in Business and 301 in Economy class.

The service is scheduled to operate on a daily basis.

Crown Secretary

CROWN Resorts has announced that Michael Neilson has stepped down from his role as company secretary, but will remain with the group for a transitional period.

Mary Manos will continue to act as company secretary and will also become general counsel.

MEANWHILE, major Crown shareholder James Packer has increased his share in the company from 48.20% to 49.72%.

New Argentine LCC

ARGENTINA has given the green light for budget airline Flybondi to operate domestic and international flights.

Flybondi plans to operate services to Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay.

The government has approved five new airlines as it seeks to stimulate competition against Aerolíneas Argentinas and LATAM.



2018 SUMMER TOURING DATES OUT NOW!

For your clients who are locking in their plans for 2018, Albatross Tours have announced the release of their European Summer 2018 dates. All existing tour dates have now been set plus we are proud to bring you 2 exciting new programs...

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Are you a creative & innovative Director of Sales? Our client is looking for a dynamic leader to join them to develop & manage the sales team, implement sales strategies & campaigns across all segments, budgeting & forecasting all to maximise revenues. Executive salary package on offer. Experience as a Director of Sales, a track record leading a successful sales team along with great communication, presentation & negotiation skills required.

***NEW* CRUNCH THE NUMBERS!**

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Take your career to the next level and join this industry leader as a Cluster Revenue Manager. Work closely with GM's, Sales & Marketing teams to develop strategies & implement revenue management processes, forecasting, channel management, budgeting, competitor analysis & management reporting to achieve revenue goals. Great salary + bonuses on offer. Prev. experience in a similar role overseeing multiple properties a must.

***NEW* DYNAMIC, HIGH ENERGY IS A MUST!**

NATIONAL TALENT AND CULTURE MANAGER

SYDNEY - SALARY PACKAGE \$100K

Are you a HRM who thinks outside the standard box? This exciting client is looking for a positive, experienced HR professional with a true passion for engaging teams and the ability to design creative, forward thinking training for current and new employees. If you want to escape the cookie cutter approach to HR policy and can come up with innovative strategy, this is your chance to work for one of the best in our industry.

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Great opportunity to join this growing brand as Chief Engineer. Overseeing a team you will be responsible for the overall maintenance & appearance of the property ensuring that facilities are operating effectively, making sure policies & procedures are adhered to & planning preventative work whilst monitoring costs. Above avg. package on offer with great benefits & career progression. Experience in a similar position required. Apply today!

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Turn the key and open the door to success when you join this luxury travel company. Managing a team of 20 sales and support consultants you'll know the secrets of driving and motivating staff members to reach their full potential and sales targets. Stepping into this rare management opportunity your previous leadership experience, wholesale travel knowledge and experience in setting targets will set you apart from the pack. Top \$\$ & bonuses on offer.

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Work at the elite level with a focus on the academic market. You will have impeccable standards in presentation skills along with the professional communication skills to be able to build long term relationships. Your previous experience in the corporate travel market along with tender presentations and dealing with complex data will be the key to success. Enjoy a long term sales career when you join this leading TMC and earn a lucrative salary package.

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