

Sydney shows off

SYDNEY has put on a show for Qantas' centenary, lighting up the Harbour Bridge in Sydney like a birthday cake for the airline.

The showpiece was completed with illuminated candles that were blown out by a Qantas 787 as it did a low-level flyover at 1,500 feet (**TD** yesterday).

More than 1,300 LED tubes, 126 LED fixtures and 38 searchlights were lit up for the occasion - view a video of the big moment **HERE**.

EY to fly to Israel

ETIHAD Airways has announced a new route to Israel, flying daily to Tel Aviv from 28 Mar 2021.

The launch of the flights follows the Israel-United Arab Emirates normalisation agreement, and the signing of the Abraham Accords in Washington on 15 Sep.

EY has now become the first Gulf carrier to operate commercial flights to/from TLV.

NSW extends leasing code

THE NSW Government has today announced an extension of the National Cabinet Mandatory Code of Conduct for small business commercial leasing, with landlords who provide rent reductions through to 28 Mar 2021 to eligible retail tenants able to access land tax relief.

The measure is expected

VA no longer listed

VIRGIN Australia has finally passed into private ownership, with all of its shares this morning transferred to US private equity firm Bain Capital.

The Deed of Company Arrangement, which was negotiated by Bain with the airline's administrators Deloitte, also becomes effective today and Virgin Australia Holdings Limited will be removed from the Official List of the Australian Securities Exchange at 4pm AEDT.

to assist some travel agency businesses, along with a two-year payroll tax cut and a permanent increase in the payroll tax threshold to \$1.2 million.

The tourism sector will also welcome a NSW Budget plan for \$500 million in Out & About digital vouchers, giving \$100 to each New South Wales resident to spend on eating out and entertainment activities.

MEANWHILE AFTA has also welcomed small business support programs in South Australia offering grants of up to \$10,000 - for more details see **page four**.

Wait a mo-ment

THE Travel Industry Hub will be pausing a "mo-ment" on a men's health webinar this Thu, International Men's Day.

Travel entrepreneur Walter Nand will host the session. Sign up by **CLICKING HERE**.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has six pages of news including our **PUZZLE** page.

Welcome, travellers

WELCOME to Country is set to launch as the first not-for-profit online marketplace for indigenous tourism experiences.

Set up to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tourism operators and communities to create sustainable economic and wellbeing outcomes, Welcome to Country already has nearly 90 bookable experiences attached, including indigenous art, cultural performances & talks, food gatherings, all-terrain vehicles, scuba diving and more.

Welcome to Country will launch 02 Dec with a free virtual event directed by indigenous actor and board member Rhonda Roberts.

Visit www.welcometocountry.com for more details.

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Jetstar aviation sale

JETSTAR and Tourism Australia have teamed up to launch the Return for Free airfare sale, which will see 400,000 return trips discounted across 51 domestic routes, leading in at just \$65pp.

The sale kicks off today at 3pm (AEDT) and will run until 11.59pm (AEDT) Thu 19 Nov, with valid travel periods from Feb onwards.

Bunnik rolls it back

BUNNIK Tours has launched its The Places We'll Go campaign, which will see travellers able to book from a range of 2022 small group trips at 2020 prices.

Highlights include a 27-day Spain, Portugal & Morocco journey from \$11,795pp, and a 23-day Southern Italy, Sicily and Malta trip from \$10,995pp.

All adventures have incorporated health protocols developed in consultation with the WTTC and CATO.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Asia Pacific aviation unites

THREE major aviation lobby groups have joined forces to urge governments in the APAC region to implement more strategic measures when it comes to the aviation sector and curbing the spread of COVID-19.

The Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA), the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Airports Council International Asia-Pacific (ACI Asia-Pacific) have signed a joint declaration calling for a more "targeted, balanced, transparent and flexible" approach to air travel, citing measures such as "prolonged border closures" as counterproductive to the recovery of the industry.

The trio of industry bodies stated they are collectively committed to preventing the spread of the virus through "globally accepted and mutually recognised COVID-19 testing protocols", which they claim are

critically important in limiting health risks and supporting a timely recovery of int'l air travel.

"The air transport sector, which accounts for 3.1% of Asia Pacific GDP and supports nearly 50 million jobs, urgently needs regional coordination mechanisms to overcome the unprecedented damage to the travel and tourism sectors, including the widespread loss of livelihoods" the groups argue.

Tourism NZ interim Chief Executive

TOURISM New Zealand has appointed Rene de Monchy as its interim Chief Executive Officer, officially replacing the outgoing Stephen England-Hall (**TD** 29 Oct) from 11 Jan.

De Monchy is currently the company's Commercial Director and has been with Tourism New Zealand for the last five years.

Great Ocean spend

THE Victorian Govt has injected \$44.1m into improving visitor facilities along the Great Ocean Road, including the extension of the Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail from Fairhaven to Grey River.

Cara covers more

COVER-MORE has appointed Cara Morton to be its new Global CEO, where she will oversee the company's reach in all markets, including the Asia Pacific.

Morton has been made permanent after been appointed interim CEO back in Jun (**TD** 04 Jun), and prior to that she was the company's Group Chief Operating Officer.

"Since taking on the role of interim CEO, Cara has quickly demonstrated bold and courageous leadership, steering and navigating the business in exceptionally challenging times," said parent group Zurich Regional CEO, Asia Pacific Jack Howell.

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Jucy gets squeezed

NEW Zealand-based campervan hire business Jucy has been placed in receivership after the pandemic crunched its sales by more than 90% since Mar.

The assets of the company have now been sold to Polar Capital, which also bought a controlling stake in the rental arm of the business in Australia and NZ, a move that will see the business survive in a smaller form and retain around 150 of the 400 staff Jucy had before the health crisis.

As part of the sale process, receivers Grant Graham and Neale Jackson of Calibre Partners will oversee four Jucy Group entities; Jucy Group Limited, Jucy Holdings Limited, Jucy Rentals NZ Limited and Jucy by Design Limited, with Jucy founder Dan Aple to exit the group & become CEO of the Jucy Rentals business.

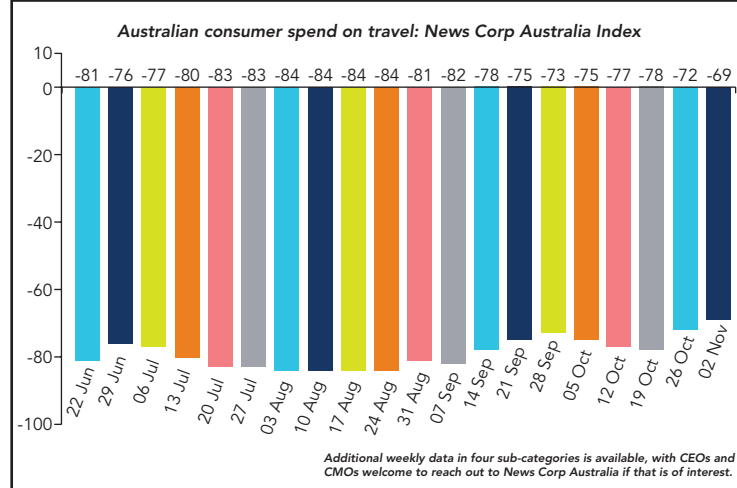
JAL extra legroom

JAPAN Airlines (JAL) has announced the extension of its Advance Seat Selection Service to offer extra legroom seats, such as exit rows, on international flights.

Effective immediately the optional fee-based service is available via the JAL website.

JAL said the initiative complemented other recent enhancements including a platform allowing pax to bid for cabin upgrades; however this bidding facility was temporarily suspended on 29 Mar.

Travel spend heating up



EXCLUSIVE

GLIMMERS of recovery in consumer confidence and travel spending have been reflected in this week's News Corp Australia figures, which now see the indexed results moving up to around 30% of levels for the prior corresponding period in 2019.

That's the best result since Mar, with News Corp's Dwayne Birtles citing pent-up demand and improved confidence, particularly with the reported week (02 Nov) seeing the announcement that NSW was planning to open to Victoria by 23 Nov.

"What this delivered in the way of category spend were the best weeks since Mar for the Travel and Tour Agency, Flights under \$350 and Flights over \$350 segments," Birtles said, with consumers responding to

the positive outlook on borders by booking flights and holiday packages via travel agents and tour operators.

He said the outcome was in line with recent News Corp consumer research which illustrated that 37% of Australians are currently booking their holidays just one month out.

The two categories which did not see growth in these latest results were accommodation and cruise, Birtles said, but noted that hotels were likely to benefit on the back of the growth in flight bookings because generally speaking consumers book their airfares first and then accom a little closer to their travel dates.

"Cruise will also see growth in the coming months, as the outlook for international travel is becoming more of a reality with each week that passes," he said.



Window Seat

HONEYMOONS are a massive boon for the travel sector as countless loved-up couples jet abroad each year for their big romantic getaways.

But as we know not all marriages last the test of time and not everyone is blessed with that fairytale relationship you commonly see depicted on a Hallmark card, so the good people at gambling comparison site compare.

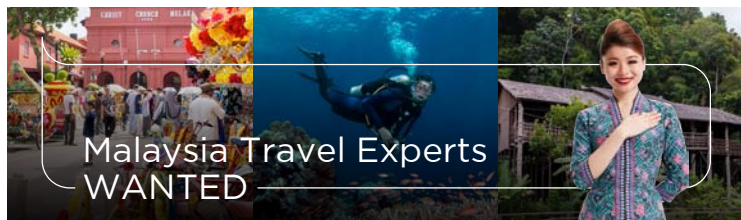
bet recently surveyed 3,100 separated people to see which destinations break most hearts.

Topping the list of the disenchanted was The Maldives, with 620 couples' marriages hitting the rocks after their ill-fated tropical holiday.

Marrakech in Morocco came in second with 527 bust-ups, while Bora Bora also proved unlucky for some, recording 403 separations.

So where should you be advising your clients to go for their big romantic getaway?

The best "bets" according to gambling pundits are Nairobi, Maui, Napa Valley and Bangkok.



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Crowne Adelaide uncut



FEDERAL Minister for Finance, Trade, Tourism and Investment Simon Birmingham was on hand to cut the ribbon to the recently relaunched Crowne Plaza Adelaide yesterday.

The 329-room property, housed within Adelaide's tallest building, features transformed lobby and public spaces, with all rooms benefiting from floor-to-ceiling windows, Chromecast streaming capabilities, plush bedding and espresso pod machines.

Amenities at the new hotel include a rooftop heated infinity pool with city views and a 24-hour fully-equipped gym.

Conferences and events are also a big focus for Crowne Plaza Adelaide, offering companies 450m² of flexible events space.

"It is a new era for the Crowne Plaza brand with all new design innovations, and quite the

milestone as we join two new openings in Australia this year," said the hotel's General Manager Sarah Goldfinch.

Upon cutting the ribbon, Minister Birmingham hailed the hotelier for pushing ahead with the project during a difficult chapter in the country's history.

"A big congratulations on your official opening, it's a wonderful step forward but it's a real testament to your own resilience and courage during the course of this year, you have managed to adapt to the ever changing plans and re-invent and innovate in terms of the market segments that you're targeting and be in a position to be able to celebrate today," he said.

Pictured: Sarah Goldfinch, Simon Birmingham and owner of the Crowne Plaza Adelaide Theo Samaras celebrate the moment.

Travel Daily

Catch up on the news of the week

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

AFTA UPDATE

from the Australian Federation of Travel Agents

LAST week, AFTA CEO Darren Rudd met with the majority of the National's leadership team in parliament, as well as a considerable portion of the Shadow Cabinet and key members of the Liberal Party.

Additionally, Darren both met and spoke with, on numerous occasions, key government agencies that are working on the modelling to inform government so that they can make a decision as to whether to provide a travel sector financial support package.

The week's meetings included in-depth discussions, and a working lunch with the Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Michael McCormack MP.

Darren also met with the Hon David Littleproud MP, Deputy Leader of the National Party and Pat Conaghan MP, member for Cowper NSW.

Pat has been instrumental in championing the cause of travel agents across the National Party, the Conservative Party and through the media.

Furthermore, we continue to work constructively with the state & territory governments to secure funding support and



afta

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TRAVEL AGENTS

we are most pleased by the recent announcement from the South Australian Government, who will provide a second cash grant for small businesses in South Australia that continue to be

impacted by COVID-19 and this includes travel agents.

The announcement was made last Mon 09 Nov as part of the South Australia State Budget 2020-21 and following our ongoing dialogue with office of the Hon Steven Marshall MP, Premier for South Australia.

Applications for the \$10,000 cash grant have opened and we encourage all SA members to **APPLY** before the closing date of 14 Dec. Additionally, for the first time, the Government has introduced a \$3,000 cash grant for eligible businesses that do not employ staff, including sole traders and partnerships, operating from a commercial premises and suffering financial hardship as a result of the pandemic.

AFTA has also produced a short survey for South Australian members related to the cash grant and we ask that you complete this [HERE](#).

Free ferry rides

SEAROAD Ferries has announced it will allocate \$1 million worth of free tickets to Victorians as a reward for diligently adhering to strict restrictions during lockdown.

To say thanks, the company is asking the state's residents to take a free trip to a seaside town such as Queenscliff or Sorrento between 23 Nov and 31 Jul.

Register [HERE](#) for free tickets.

SYD blasts airlines

SYDNEY Airport's GM of Aviation, Rob Wood, has accused Qantas and Virgin Australia of stockpiling slots at the aviation hub, potentially stifling the recovery of the travel sector.

In a submission to the ACCC, Wood said slots at the airport were in short supply, and that the two carriers were hanging on to them with no intention, or current ability, to utilise them.

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HOW many words can you make out of these nine letters? Every word needs to include the centre letter, have four letters or more and not be a proper noun or a plural. You can only use each letter once.

I	T	O
T	H	R
F	N	G

Good – 13 words
 Very good – 20 words
 Excellent – 26 words

NOTE: We've used Chambers Dictionary to decide what words are acceptable.

Where in the world?



THIS stadium is colloquially known as the bird's nest due to its design, however that isn't its official name.

The stadium cost US\$428 million to build and was constructed by a Swiss architecture firm.

The design of the building was created by studying ceramics from the country where the

stadium is located, and also involved consulting with an artist from the same nation.

The outside of the stadium, with its seemingly random steel frame, was designed so that the supports for a retractable roof could be easily hidden, although the roof was never actually built.

Do you know where this is?

Play Monopoly Day



WE'RE sure that most people can recall an argument they've had over the game Monopoly, but it's time to put those feelings of resentment aside and embrace your inner property mogul with Play Monopoly Day on Thu 19 Nov.

The game originated in 1903, when anti-monopolist Elizabeth Magie creating the game, called Landlord's Game, to explain the single tax theory of Henry George.

The game demonstrates the

effects of monopoly in simple terms, but it wasn't until 1935 when the Parker Brothers sold the very similar Monopoly that the game gained popularity.

Today, Monopoly is one of the most popular board games played around the world.

If board games make you see red, you can also celebrate Baklava Day today (17 Nov), or else indulge your caffeine addiction with Espresso Day on Mon 23 Nov.

Pub quiz

1. Lufthansa's primary hub is at which airport?
2. Is Christianity or Islam the more observed religion in Lebanon?
3. Mauritius is an island nation located in which Ocean?
4. What was the port of registry for the *Titanic*?
5. The Catskill Mountains region in New York is famous for being a hotbed for what style of entertainment?
6. What airline pioneered the first airport lounge?
7. The Parritjima Festival takes place in which Australian town?
8. How many boroughs are there in London
 - a) 32
 - b) 38
 - c) 43
9. Griffith Observatory offers fabulous views of which city?
10. What is the most populous city in Texas?

ANSWERS 16 NOV

Whose flag is this: Iran

2	8	6	5	4	9	1	7	3
9	3	1	2	8	7	6	4	5
7	5	4	3	1	6	8	2	9
1	6	3	8	5	2	7	9	4
5	7	8	4	9	1	3	6	2
4	2	9	7	6	3	5	1	8
3	4	7	1	2	8	9	5	6
8	9	5	6	7	4	2	3	1
6	1	2	9	3	5	4	8	7

Asiana acquired

KOREAN Air, backed by parent group Hanjin KAL, has announced plans to purchase fellow South Korean airline Asiana Airlines for ₩1.8 trillion (A\$2.22 billion).

Korean Air said it would provide the struggling Asiana Airlines with a significant initial cash investment in order to secure its viable operation for the rest of the year, with the motivation for the move attributed to a need to stabilise the broader aviation sector in South Korea.

“Given the crisis the airline industry is currently facing, it is unavoidable to restructure the entire market, including Korean Air, Asiana Airlines, the low cost carriers such as Jin Air,” a spokesperson for Korean Air said.

Aussie arrivals up

JUST over 12,300 Australian citizens arrived on our shores from overseas during the month of Oct, a 47.8% increase on the previous month, the latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics suggests.

Of the total 24,700 arrivals for the month, the largest non-Australian group were Kiwis, representing 9.9% of all arrivals, while more than one in 10 of all inbound travellers arrived on temporary visas.

The same report showed that an estimated 47,000 departures took place in Oct, with 11,900 being Australian citizens.

Compared with the previous month, total departures were down by 5.6%.

TEQ support rattles on



TOURISM and Events Queensland (TEQ) CEO Leanne Coddington (pictured right) was accompanied by a band of key Queensland tourism officials on the Sunshine Coast this week, as they showed their support for the embattled region and learned more about its many tourist attractions.

Part of the fact-finding mission saw Coddington jump aboard Gympie’s iconic Mary Valley Rattler, a not-for-profit historic rail experience that chugs its way through the many sites of the Mary Valley such as the Amamoor State Forest.

Highlights on board the train trip included culinary delights supplied by celebrity chef Matt Golinski, who designed a menu to compliment a new craft beer launched by local brewer Graham Kidd, a brewsky appropriately

called Off the Rails Ale.

Representatives from Visit Sunshine Coast, Destination Gympie Region, Tourism Noosa, Fraser Coast Tourism and Events, Gympie Regional Council all joined the TEQ chief for the important tourism event.

MONEY

WELCOME to Money, TD’s Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

AU\$1 = US\$0.731

THE Australian dollar rose by a solid margin overnight following a second positive result from a COVID-19 vaccine trial this month, which also boosted markets across the world.

Drug company Moderna announced its vaccine tests had been 94.5% effective, adding to the optimism created by Pfizer, which revealed a 90% success rate in its trials recently.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.731
UK	£0.554
NZ	\$1.059
Euro	€0.617
Japan	¥76.51
Thailand	฿22.08
China	¥4.811
South Africa	11.209
Canada	\$0.965
Crude oil	US\$42.78

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ASEAN ticks bubble

LEADERS from 10 ASEAN countries have agreed in principle to create a Southeast Asia-wide travel bubble in the future.

The plan was formally discussed during regional summit meetings held late last week, with Indonesian President Joko Widodo confirming the intention, suggesting the bubble could be up and running by Q1 2021.

For confidential tip offs, connect with *Travel Daily* via our secure WhatsApp service on +61 2 8007 6760 or click [HERE](#)

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