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Travel Daily

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Tuesday 2nd September 2014

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RWC2015 countdown

THERE'S just one year until the 2015 Rugby World Cup which will be held across 10 cities in England and Wales, with up to one million tickets available globally for the 48 matches and bookings via four official travel agents - **see p11**.



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ATDW set for tech revamp

THE Australian Tourism Data Warehouse has issued a Request for Information for the "Delivery and Support of a Single National Platform for Tourism."

The organisation is seeking to identify suitable providers who can offer a "single location for tourism operators of Australia to create, maintain and store high quality product information."

Currently the ATDW is run by technology firm V3Travel, which has operated the platform for the last nine years in conjunction with Tourism Exchange Australia, which links consumers with ATDW distributor websites to offer real time rates and inventory.

The proposed new system must enable the information to be disseminated to consumers through digital distribution channels worldwide, as well as providing reports on engagement and conversion.

The ATDW, which is owned by Tourism Australia and the state tourism organisations has been in place since 2002, and says they're committed in reinvesting in the platform "to ensure it is future-proofed and continues to be relevant in the face of rapid

changes in technology."

Outsourcing the technology aims to increase the value for users by "substantially improving the platform," as well as future-proofing the system.

Respondents must have been in operation for three years, have an annual turnover of at least \$3.5m and be able to demonstrate a high level of capability and "appropriate structures to be able to service an Australian based industry in a quality manner."

NZ NTIA winners

THE Travel Agents Association of New Zealand staged the inaugural NZ National Travel Industry Awards last weekend, with the extravaganza following the 2013 NZ awards which were conducted as a subset of the Australian NTIA.

Air New Zealand was one of the big winners, taking out the Best Agency Support and Best International Airline categories, while House of Travel won the Best Retail Brand award.

Avis won Best Car Rental operator; Travelpart took out the Best Technology Supplier award and Globus won Best Tour Operator - a big night for the company, with Avalon Waterways also taking out the Best Cruise Operator award.

Lufthansa won the Best International Airline - Offline category, and GO Holidays claiming Best Wholesaler.

PAL back to Big Apple

PHILIPPINE Airlines will launch a new four times weekly flight from Manila to New York via Vancouver effective 15 Mar 2015.

The A340-300 service sees PAL return to New York for the first time since 1997.

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AFTA SEO webinar

AFTA is operating a free "SEO for Small Business in Travel" webinar, giving guidance on how to improve the visibility of websites on the internet.

Presented by Simon Hillier from Get There Writing Services, topics covered will include attracting more clicks, conversion of web visits into enquiries and boosting website rankings on Google search results without having to pay for advertising.

More than 85% of consumers now find local businesses via the internet, with Search Engine Optimisation able to "give you a big advantage over your competitors."

The free webinar is on Wed 24 Sep at 11am AEST - register by **CLICKING HERE**.

Trafalgar doubles Ireland

TRAFALGAR'S 2015 European program includes a major new focus on Ireland with seven brand new itineraries featuring the Emerald Isle, making a total of fifteen Irish trips.

MD Matthew Cameron-Smith told *Travel Daily* he believes this makes the Trafalgar Ireland product range the "most comprehensive in the market."

"We believe there's a real affiliation between Australians and Ireland," he said, with the expanded program focusing on iconic accommodation such as castles and abbeys to provide a unique experience for clients.

Cameron-Smith has just returned from Trafalgar's global strategy meeting in Istanbul, with the company continuing to innovate with its 2015 programs.

Trafalgar has introduced a new "Hidden Journeys" travel style,

comprising an initial six trips with group sizes limited to 26.

Hidden Journeys, which are in a separate brochure, has been developed around smaller accommodation, allowing Trafalgar to showcase unique properties which don't have the capacity for larger groups.

Also new is a focus on solo travellers, with Trafalgar slashing single supplements by 50-100% on a selection of 17 trips.

Trafalgar has continued to expand its "insider experiences," with almost 1,300 of the exclusive offerings across the portfolio.

The brochure officially launches today, with Cameron-Smith saying Trafalgar is expecting a strong 2015.

"Our forward sales are already the highest in the last five years," he said, with interest stimulated by bargain airfares and the ANZAC anniversary next year.

The positive booking profile means that Trafalgar will open the season with close to 60% of its departures already guaranteed to depart.

Eurail ferry deal

EURAIL pass holders can now access bigger discounts on ferry crossings between Spain, Greece, Sicily and Sardinia under an "augmented partnership" between Eurail and Grimaldi Lines.

The free Eurail Rail Planner app also now features details of the Grimaldi Lines discounts.

Helloworld share buy

HELLOWORLD this morning advised of the on-market purchase of some of its shares this month in order to fulfil vested performance rights under its Performance Rights Plan.

The Helloworld Employee Share Plan trust will acquire the shares in accordance with a strict protocol which prohibits market manipulation.

The performance rights are part of packages for senior executives under the Long Term Incentive Plan, with current beneficiaries including former CEO Rob Gurney, who resigned on 28 Mar but remains a Helloworld employee during a notice period, meaning that some of his performance rights granted as a sign-on bonus two years ago vested last week.

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More Abu Dhabi stays

HOTEL guest arrivals in Abu Dhabi surged 26% year-on-year in Jul, Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority has announced.

Guest nights climbed 20% and occupancy levels rose 3%.

Hotel room inventory increased 10% compared to 12 months earlier, with the emirate now home to 157 hotels and apartments.

India, the United Kingdom and Germany were Abu Dhabi's top overseas markets based on hotel night stays.



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New strategy for Walshe

SOUTHERN Travel Group, the NZ parent of the Walshe Group, has confirmed a "considerable change to the management and structure of the company," with full details to be revealed to shareholders in Nov this year.

A letter from the company's chairman John King also details a further improvement in trading results, with unaudited figures showing an EBITDA result of around NZ\$1.4 million, up from the \$900,000 result last year.

However the company plans to recognise a write-down of \$200,000 on its Experience Travel NZ operation, and this along with increased depreciation, tax and foreign exchange losses means the company will report a NZ\$545,000 net profit after tax for the year to 30 Jun, King said.

The restructure follows a strategic workshop held earlier this year, and aims to respond to "significant and increasingly rapid

changes in the tourism industry.

"A business model based on the activities and successes of the past does not fully enable us to benefit from new opportunities, and to be better equipped to profit from them," King wrote.

He said that the parts of the business performing well will be strengthened, while issues in underperforming divisions will be addressed.

"We are also structuring the company to allow a more strategic approach and one that will add value and profitability across the whole company, rather than individual business units."

King warned that the remodelling of the business may involve a short term impact on profit in the current financial year.

He said that a share buy-back means the firm now has just 124 shareholders, which will enable greater individual engagement by King and md Jacqui Walshe.

FLT board changes

GARY Smith has taken on the role of chairperson of Flight Centre, with the move following the previously announced decision by current chair Peter Morahan to step down.

Morahan, who heads up Moreton Hire, has been FLT's chairman for the last seven years.

Smith, who is also a director of the Kingfisher Bay Resort Group, has been a non-executive director of Flight Centre since 2007.

Cassandra Kelly, co-founder and ceo of corporate advisory firm Pottinger, is also joining the Flight Centre Board alongside current directors John Eales and Rob Baker as well as Flight Centre md Graham Turner.

Smith said that Kelly's "extensive experience and knowledge will be great assets to the company as it continues its international growth and its strategic evolution from a travel agent to a world class travel retailer for leisure and corporate customers."



Window Seat

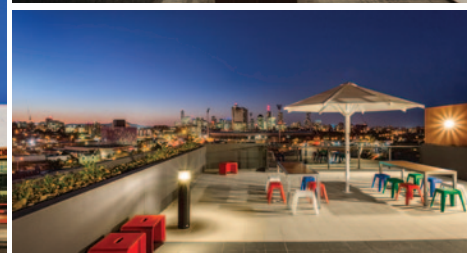
HERE'S an ideal way to bring in tourists - if a little pricy.

A flood of inquisitive visitors has gathered on a beach near Folkestone in southern England, after 30 gold bars were buried as part of an arts festival.

German artist Michael Sailstorfer said the ingots are worth about \$25,000 in total - and members of the public who find any of them are allowed to keep the treasure.

However along with the gold he has also buried several thousand metal washers, which will make things interesting for the visitors, most of whom are equipped with metal detectors.

One of the bounty hunters said "it's the first art in the world where I've hopped in a car and drove to see it straight away, so that's something."



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VA upgauge CCK, XCH

MINISTER for Infrastructure & Deputy Prime Minister Warren Truss has confirmed a proposal for larger capacity aircraft to be operated between Perth and the Christmas Islands and Coco (Keeling) Islands.

Truss said Virgin Australia's flight schedule would be upgauged to include one weekly Airbus A320 service on the return Christmas Island (XCH) route, as well as one weekly triangular service on the Perth-Christmas Islands-Cocos Islands (CCK)-Perth route and vice versa, effective 01 Jan.

The A320 is part of the Virgin Australia Regional Airlines fleet which was owned by Skywest.

Currently, VA operates the route using Embraer E-190 jets.

Days of operation using the A320 are still to be confirmed.

Passengers will benefit from the change due to an increased baggage capacity allowance on the routes without additional fare costs, Truss commented.

Creative transition

CREATIVE Holidays md James Gaskell has apologised for a "slight increase in wait times" due to the ongoing transition of the wholesaler's reservations system to Travel Studio (**TD** 21 Aug).

The extended product range has seen a surge in calls and Creative has boosted the number of reservation staff accordingly.

For any departures prior to 01 Oct 2014 agents can continue to use i-Create as normal, while new bookings from 01 Oct can be made through the reservations team on 131 222.

UIA Buy on Board

UKRAINE International Airlines is rolling out its "Buy on Board" meal concept to selected international scheduled flights.

The carrier said the move enables it to offer passengers flexibility to "choose and pay for the in-flight service mix that suits them best."

Massive new Ibis for Brisbane

ACCOR this morning announced the development of the 368-room Ibis Brisbane Elizabeth Street, which it will manage on behalf of Middle East developer Action Hotels plc.

The property will be Australia's largest Ibis Hotel, with the move expanding the existing partnership between the organisations which already encompasses five Ibis properties and a further three under development.

"Accor remains the leader in the economy hotel segment with 60 hotels in the Australian Ibis 'megabrand' brand portfolio," said Accor Pacific chief operating officer Simon McGrath.

He said investors are strongly drawn to the Ibis brand which has "kept up with the changing expectations of consumers through design-led affordable quality hotels."

The \$90m development will



create more than 400 jobs during construction plus 80 during operation, and will be Action Hotels' first Qld investment.

Construction will commence later this year, with the new property scheduled to open in early 2016.

It will be one of Brisbane's most centrally located hotels, adjoining the Myer Centre and Queen Street Mall.

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Gaelic singer Kathleen McInnes on the shore of Loch Assynt

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Scoot shifts Bangkok operation



SINGAPORE low-cost carrier Scoot has relocated its Bangkok operations to Don Mueang International Airport, with the move coinciding with the launch of interline operations with Thai LCC Nok Air.

Scoot ceo Campbell Wilson said the new location is "fantastic news for our guests," with Don

Mueang closer to the Bangkok city centre and providing easy links to the Nok Air network of 21 domestic destinations across Thailand.

Wilson (right) is pictured here with Patee Sarasin, Nok Air ceo and Kasem Wongsomsri, acting deputy director, Don Mueang International Airport.

QF carbon offset push

QANTAS is providing industry partners an option to promote greenhouse gas reduction efforts based on the airline's years of experience and "sophisticated marketing resources."

QF's carbon (C) offset program partners receive a host of tailored marketing collateral for internal and external engagement - for info, see qantas.com.au/agents.

More Rocky staff

CANADA'S Rocky Mountaineer today confirmed the appointment of Julie Rogers as APAC group sales manager (**TD** 13 Aug).

Rogers has vast industry experience, having held positions with Scenic Tours, Globus and Holland America Line.

The company is also scouting for a new New Zealand and South East Asia sales manager based in Auckland due to "tremendous growth" from the Asia Pacific region - **CLICK HERE** for details.

Accor onboard with Sydney Festival

HOTEL juggernaut Accor has signed on as Special Distinguished Partner for the Sydney Festival 2015, to be held from 08-26 Jan.

Through the partnership, Accor is offering special accom & ticket packages to James Thierree in *Tabac Rouge* at Sydney Theatre.

Two person packages including breakfast are priced from \$224pp staying at the Harbour Rocks Hotel in a Heritage Queen room or \$270pp at the Quay West Suites Sydney in a 1-bedroom city view suite, if booked by 12 Oct.

UA extends Kings' ties

UNITED Airlines has signed on for a third year as a Corporate Partner of the MightyMite Sydney Kings NBL basketball team for the 2014/15 season.

The partnership will see United Airlines give away flights to Los Angeles and San Francisco during home games to lucky supporters.



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DNSW school holiday

NSW Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner and Destination NSW ceo Sandra Chipchase have launched a new campaign aimed at families promoting regional areas in the state for the school holidays.

The campaign rollout is being accompanied by a new website - www.visitnsw.com/schoolholidays - which features a range of travel ideas, each packed with plenty of suggestions of things to see & do.

"Our school holiday pages highlight family favourites across the State including zoos & wildlife parks, kid friendly attractions and great family drives, to plan the ultimate getaway," Chipchase said.

Planes for new Tiger

NEW regional startup carrier Tigerair Taiwan will take delivery of the first of 12 Airbus A320 jets for its operation today.

The new regional carrier is a joint venture between Tigerair Singapore and China Airlines and will commence its inaugural route to Singapore from 26 Sep.

Routes to Macau, Hong Kong, Japan and South Korea are on the drawing board for future.

WA on the rebound

AUSTRALIAN Tourism Export Council managing director Peter Shelley says Western Australia has a wide range of opportunities in tourism to capitalise on in the wake of the mining downturn.

Speaking after a series of round-table meetings in WA, Shelley said the local industry was ready to pick up on renewed interest in the state's tourism product.

"The signs in the past 12 months have given us reason to feel positive about the future," he said.

Sofitel stars at French soiree



SOFITEL Luxury Hotels has come a long way since opening its first property in Strasbourg in 1964 and first foreign flagged property in Minneapolis a decade later.

The luxury brand, brought into the Accor family in 1997, last night celebrated its 50th birthday, with a Monaco-themed gala dinner packed with a typically French amount of pomp, class and pageantry.

Adding to the celebration was the 10th anniversary of the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, the first and for just a short while longer, only Sofitel in the NSW capital city.

Sharing the honours for the evening was the Monaco Government Tourism Board and Atout France, who both had their own reasons to glow.

A number of high profile names were in attendance, including Tour de France director Christian Prudhomme and Michael Ellis, director of the Michelin Guide.

Atout France Australasia director Patrick Benhamou greeted attendees by praising Australia's love for France, having sent a record 1.2 million Aussies to visit and enjoy the country last year,

who tallied 11 million bed nights.

The result was particularly impressive considering it tied with arrivals from China.

The French tourism organisation are preparing to roll out the largest ever trade promotion campaign for the country in an effort to continue the momentum.

Attendees at the dinner enjoyed a lavish and elegant French menu especially prepared by acclaimed French chef Alain Ducasse, who has maintained his three Michelin star rating for near three decades.

While a knee injury prevented Ducasse from attending in person, the culinary master sent his well wishes via a video message.

Representing the Monaco Government Tourism Board was Alison Roberts-Brown, who said Australians were flocking to the principality in greater numbers each year.

She is **pictured** above left with Accor Asia-Pacific chief operating officer Simon McGrath and Patrick Benhamou, Atout France.

Jetconnect codeshare

THE US Dept of Transportation has given a green light for New Zealand-based Qantas subsidiary, Jetconnect to begin codesharing with American Airlines (**TD** 07 Aug) for a period of two years.

Jetconnect intends to carry the AA designator code of American Airlines on flights between Sydney-Auckland, Sydney-Christchurch and Brisbane-Auckland.

Mantra Bali growth

MANTRA Group has signed a contract to construct and manage a newbuild property under the brand name Condotel.

The new hotel will be located in the Bali International Park will be named the Springhill Condotel at Green Jimbaran, located south of the main tourist area of Kuta.

Once complete, the five-star property will offer 121 rooms and 112 villas, with a pool, gym, spa, restaurant & children's play area.

FJ boosts experience

FIJI Airways has today launched its new inflight experience (**TD** 20 Jun) Signature Dining featuring a new dish by Fiji-based chef Lance Seeto on all international flights.

The improved onboard product also includes inflight duty free shopping, new inflight magazine and signature welcome cocktail.

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Competitive remuneration based on experience. Please send all applications to: hr@discovertheworld.com.au. Applications close **5th September** and only successful candidates will be contacted.

Tour the World on TV

EVERGREEN Tours is supporting the return of Network Ten's travel program, *Tour the World*.

The travel series returns to TV screens on ONE this week and is airing daily from today at 4:30pm.

Audiences will join "real Aussie tour groups to the world's most amazing destinations".

This series repeat includes trips to the UK, Southern Africa, New Zealand, Canada, Tasmania, Kakadu, the Kimberley and a European River Cruise.

A new series of the show is shortly going into pre-production.

India on a shoestring

TUCAN Travel has introduced three new Budget Expeditions group itineraries to India & Nepal.

The tours are pitched at the youth market (18-35) and include the bare essentials - that being accom, transport and the expertise of a tour leader.

Excursions and activities are additional options.

New itineraries include the 13-day Delhi to Kathmandu Express priced at \$899pp, a 15-day Forts, Taj & Varanasi tour that operates roundtrip from Delhi is \$1,029pp and the 22-day Best of India & Nepal journey that is \$1,239pp.

The trips exclude local payments ranging from US\$300 to US\$400.

See www.tucantravel.com.

EK A380s to Frankfurt

EMIRATES has commenced new daily services between Dubai and Frankfurt, with the German city the 30th superjumbo destination for the UAE airline.

The 519-seat jet operates as EK45/EK46 on the route.

2-for-1 Tigerair fares

TIGERAIR Australia is offering two-for-the-price-of-one airfares on select routes in a Father's Day sale running until 03 Sep.

Prices for two people range from \$49 to \$165, valid for travel between 03 Feb and 26 Mar (on most routes).

TT's head of communications Vanessa Regan said "We believe all Australians should have the right to affordable air travel - not just the affluent few."

Options include the Gold Coast-Sydney routes which starts at \$49, Melbourne-Sydney (\$55), Sydney-Whitsundays (\$95), Melbourne-Mackay (\$99), Brisbane-Darwin (\$119) and Perth-Sydney (\$165).

More info at www.tigerair.com.

New Renaissance

THE Renaissance Beijing Wangfujing Hotel has opened in China's capital overlooking the Forbidden City - the second Renaissance Hotel in Beijing.

Solomon Islands Tourism Forum



HONIARA played host on Fri to the biggest tourism conference in the Solomon Islands in three years, with 200 delegates from across the country joining with government representatives and the private sector to discuss tourism industry challenges and the way forward.

Hilton Sydney recruit

JAN Jansen has been appointed by the Hilton Sydney as director of business development, with key responsibilities including directing all aspects of the property's commercial functions.

Jansen's industry experience includes stints at Shanghai Hongqiao in China and Hilton Singapore.

Issues addressed included accommodation supply, developing the Solomon Islands' international cruise ship appeal, potential new air access and growing visitor numbers.

Solomon Islands Visitors Bureau ceo Josefa Tuamoto said the Our Telekom National Tourism Forum was a "very positive first step" that would aid the development of a blueprint for shaping the country's tourism sector.

Tuamoto said a more aggressive approach would be needed "to see tourism do well, and taking this step change is the appropriate and critical way forward for us as a destination."

Pictured are Tuamoto (second from left) with the SIVB crew.

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To be successful in this role, you must have proven experience in the Travel Industry either in the retail or wholesale sectors. In addition, your effective communication and interpersonal skills, organisation skills and strong work ethic, and commercial acumen will be highly regarded.

Nexus Holidays Sydney will reward you with a market competitive base salary.

For the right person, this role provides unbound opportunities of career progression.

If this sounds like you, put in your application to
Richard@nexus holidays.com by 12 September.

Double QF pts promo

HCF Travel Insurance is offering one Qantas Frequent Flyer point for every new annual multi-trip int'l comprehensive policy bought by 07 Oct - double normal levels.

QR rolls out its first Airbus A350



FRESH out of the paint shop, Qatar Airways has provided a look (pictured above) at its first Airbus A350 aircraft as it prepares to take delivery by the end of 2014.

A total of 80 A350 XWB (Extra Wide Body) aircraft are on order for the Doha-based carrier and will be deployed on a range of medium and long-haul routes.

Qatar Airways will be the debut customer of the A350 model, tipped to bring fierce competition to Boeing's B787 Dreamliner.

CEO Akbar Al Baker said the

carrier was proud in introducing the latest products and services available in the industry.

Planeterra appoints

G ADVENTURES has named sustainable tourism expert Jamie Sweeting to the role of vice president of sustainability for the firm and president of its non-profit foundation, Planeterra.

Sweeting was most recent role in the travel industry was as global chief environmental officer at Royal Caribbean Cruises.

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- WA Drivers Licence;
- High level of written and verbal communication skills;
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To apply, please forward your resume to Alex Ng, Manager Western Australia, Singapore Airlines, either by email info_per@singaporeair.com.sg or by mail to Level 1, 178 St George's Terrace, Perth 6000

Applications close Tuesday 09 September 2014.

Only successful applicants will be contacted.



AFTA UPDATE

The latest updates from AFTA's Chief Executive, Jayson Westbury

WELL, spring is upon us as 2014 appears to be on a rush to the end like no other year. Hard to believe it is already September, the year does seem to be pushing on very quickly.

What has also passed very quickly is the first year of the Tony Abbott-led Government. Elected on the 7th September 2013, it does seem that this past year has gone by in a flash.

There is no doubt that the new Senate is presenting similar challenges to the way the previous government had to negotiate with minor parties in the lower house, and the year in review has definitely had its challenges for this new Abbott Government.

Consumer confidence does appear to be stagnating and what the travel industry needs is confident consumers. Governments play a big role in how people feel about life in general and they [the government] set the platform upon which the macro economic setting impacts on peoples minds.

There's no question that the Federal Budget - handed down six months ago - must come to some conclusion so that the media and the country can get on to whatever else we should be thinking about.

Then for those political junkies in the travel industry, we have a series of state elections looming on the horizon.

First cab off the rank will be Victoria which is slated to be held on the 29th of November this year. All of the polling has the outcome too close to call and it may well be that there is a change of government in Victoria. With the run up to this election about to get started, I am sure all of the Victorians will be watching this space very closely.

Then for those in NSW the state election, the first for the current Premier Mike Baird, is set for the 24th March 2015. Those that are following the mini series also known as ICAC in NSW know that many of the events will present the new Premier with some challenges but the margin for a change is very big. We shall see.

Sometime next year, but no later than June, the Newman Government in Queensland will run to an election. It would seem there are also a range of challenges facing that government in the lead up to the election, so for the political junkies there will be lots to watch and no doubt a few crazy times ahead for us all.

Fortunately for the travel industry, none of these elections are set to have any direct impact upon the new de-regulated travel market in Australia, and this would be the first time I have said that for five years. Got to love a bit of political cut and thrust.



NZ North Island push

TOURISM New Zealand has today launched a new promotion of the highlights and diverse wonders of the North Island.

Entitled 'Every day a different journey', the campaign is in its fourth year and is being run in conjunction with a variety of local regional tourism organisations.

Digital, online and social media material will be rolled out to support the campaign, along with TV advertising pushing the wealth of experiences available in close proximity to major city centres.

On a trade level, Flight Centre and Air New Zealand will carry out promotions to their own consumer databases, with newzealand.com as the core site.

TNZ general manager Australia Tony Saunders said last year's campaign drove preference for NZ to the highest levels recorded.

VA Online Check-In

VIRGIN Australia has revamped its mobile and web check-in platform for its domestic network.

Dubbed "Online Check-In", the site is supported by multiple browsers and devices, including Windows, Safari (Mac only), Firefox and Chrome for desktop, iPhone 4S and higher, Samsung Galaxy, HTC One X and Google Galaxy Nexus for smartphones & iPads and Galaxy Tab 3 tablets.

The new platform enables customers to increase checked baggage to a maximum to two pieces and extra legroom seats, paid for using credit/debit cards.

Existing Mobile Check-In boarding pass options will be extended to all guests through Online Check-In product, with guests able to receive boarding passes via SMS, Passbook/Google Now/email or by printing a copy.

New Thai Minister

THAILAND'S PM General Prayuth Chan-ocha has appointed former Toshiba Thailand ceo Kobkarn Wattanavrugkul as the country's new Tourism Minister.

WIN A TRIP TO VANUATU

In September, **TD** is giving readers the chance to win a holiday to Vanuatu, courtesy of **Vanuatu Tourism Office**.

The prize includes return economy class airfares to Port Vila with Air Vanuatu, airport transfers, five nights accommodation at Grand Hotel and Casino and a Glass Bottom Boat Trip, for two.

Every day this month **TD** will ask a different question about Vanuatu. The subscriber with the most correct entries and the most creative response to the final question will win this holiday.

Email answers to: vanuatucomp@traveldaily.com.au

Q2: Agents who complete the online training become what?

Hint: www.vanuatuspecialists.com.au



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Vanuatu
Adventures in Paradise

GRAND
HOTEL AND CASINO
Vanuatu

Airport cash haul

THE Australian Customs & Border Protection Service and the Federal Police have cooperated to help intercept a 76-year-old Egyptian woman carrying about \$138,000 in cash as she attempted to depart from Sydney International Airport.

A security screening and subsequent search revealed the money, in Australian and US dollars as well as Egyptian pounds, concealed by being sewn into the lining of her shorts.

She has been charged with several offences including dealing with money reasonably suspected of being proceeds of crime.

FNQ helicopter deal

CAIRNS-BASED Cape York Helicopters is set to be acquired by Nautilus Aviation, with Cape York Helicopters owner Yvonne Wallace set to move into retirement as a result.

The move will see Nautilus have fixed bases in Townsville, Cairns and Horn Island, giving it the ability to service the whole of North Queensland.

Nautilus has a fleet of 12 helicopters and is part of the Colonial Leisure Group which also owns and operates Orpheus Island Lodge, Daintree Eco Lodge & Spa and the pending purchase of Jupiters Hotel & Casino.

Queen's Award for Counsellors



TRAVEL Counsellors has been honoured with another Queen's Award for Enterprise, with more than 200 of the company's staff gathering at its UK office to celebrate the gong.

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant Warren J. Smith presented Travel Counsellors chairman and founder David Speakman with the award (above) alongside Travel Counsellors md Steve Byrne and director Maureen Speakman.

The company was recognised for its contribution to the UK's International Trade, after bringing its business model to overseas markets including Ireland, South Africa, the Netherlands, Canada, Dubai, Belgium and Australia.

Speakman said he was thrilled at the award, which is a "positive and prestigious recognition."

"We have based our success on the foundations of integrity, care,

trust and professionalism, proving that there is a need for sincere and trusted advisers that place customer care at the heart of everything they do," he said.



Rd 25 Winner

CONGRATULATIONS

Scott Marsden

from *Corporate Traveller*

Scott is the top point scorer for Round 25 of *Travel Daily's* NRL footy tipping competition, and has won a breakfast cruise for two people, courtesy of Captain Cook Cruises.



Major Prize Sponsors

1st Prize: two return flights to Dubai, courtesy of Emirates



2nd Prize: 5-night holiday to Vanuatu, courtesy of Air Vanuatu & The Grand Hotel and Casino Vanuatu



ASTA agent blog

THE American Society of Travel Agents has launched a new 'My Travel Agent Rocks!' online blog, as part of its ongoing consumer awareness campaign.

The website aims to showcase examples of how travel agents have helped their clients plan successful vacations, with various consultants being profiled based on nominations made for the Extra Mile Award at the ASTA global convention this month.

Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication. Produced each weekday since 1994, the newsletter is first with the latest industry news and is available by paid subscription to people within the travel industry. Sign up for a free 14 day trial subscription at www.traveldaily.com.au.

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WEEKLY **DAILY**



business events news

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Our client is a global leader in travel industry technology and due to an interstate move a position has become available in one of their specialist solution teams.

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To secure this unique opportunity you will need to have worked as a travel consultant and be particularly savvy with back office and accounting software such as Cross Check, Tramada, Travelog or SAM. A back ground in bookkeeping or interest in accounting would make you the ideal applicant for this role!

Call Sandra [click here](#) for more details

Reservations Consultant - Sydney

- ▶ Award-winning tour operator
- ▶ Salary up to \$50K + incentives
- ▶ Sell the exotic and unique South East Asian region!

Customise itineraries throughout this unique region and be rewarded with an excellent base salary and commission on top! Friendly, specialist team located on the city fringe.

Call Cristina [click here](#) for more details

Domestic Corporate Cons - Sydney

- ▶ Prestigious agency
- ▶ Strong team and good work environment
- ▶ Salary up to \$55K + super

Want to work for a supportive, progressive corporate travel specialist where you are not just another number? If you are a domestic corporate expert then make the move!

Call Sandra [click here](#) for more details

Retail Rail specialist - Sydney

- ▶ Global company based in inner Sydney
- ▶ Social team environment
- ▶ Salary from \$40K + super + incentives (10 - 15K)

Rail specialist required for the Sydney branch of this global holiday specialist. You will enjoy piecing together detailed itineraries for your clients throughout the world.

Call Sandra or [click here](#) for more details

Activities Reservations - Sydney

- ▶ Night shift - 7 nights on then 7 nights dining out!
- ▶ Work half the year in this dynamic organisation
- ▶ Salary package \$46K

Great work life balance in this forward thinking organisation. Specialising in activities and recreation you will be assisting customers worldwide with a range of exciting experiences.

Call Cristina [click here](#) for more details

Loyalty Consultant - Contract - Sydney

- ▶ No face to face sales
- ▶ Monday to Friday - Shifts from 10am to 10pm
- ▶ Busy, fast paced travel organisation

Ongoing contract will see you servicing banking loyalty customers located in Asia so English plus fluent in Korean, Japanese, Mandarin or Cantonese would be an asset.

Call Sandra or [click here](#) for more details

BE PART OF HISTORY

Rugby World Cup 2015

A great time to visit England

Rugby World Cup takes place between September 18 and October 31, 2015. Held in 11 host cities from Newcastle in the north of the country to Exeter in the South West and everything in between, it will be a 6 week celebration of rugby. There will be 48 matches played by 20 nations over 44 days. With just over 12 months until kick off, start planning your visit to England.

To guarantee your place at England's Rugby World Cup 2015, contact one of Australia's four exclusive, official travel agents or click on their name below to view packages available.

Flight Centre – T: 133 133

Qantas Holidays – T: 1300 443 485

Gullivers Sport Travel – T: 02 9267 8655 / 1300 307 077

Sportsnet Holidays – T: 03 9482 9411 / 1300 888 858

For Rugby World Cup news and to join the Front Row go to www.rugbyworldcup.com

For other destination inspiration including what to see and do, events and more go to England's official tourism website www.VisitEngland.com

Travel distance and times from London

RUGBY (136km)

🚗 1 hrs 50 min 🚆 1 hr

BIRMINGHAM (192 km)

🚗 2 hrs 20 min 🚆 1 hr 25 min

BRIGHTON (84 km)

🚗 1 hr 25 min 🚆 1 hr

CARDIFF (200 km)

🚗 2 hrs 40 min 🚆 2 hrs 15 min

EXETER (283 km)

🚗 3 hrs 20 min 🚆 2 hrs 25 min

GLOUCESTER (185km)

🚗 2 hrs 10 min 🚆 2 hrs

LEEDS (317 km)

🚗 3 hrs 30 min 🚆 2 hrs 20 min

LEICESTER (166 km)

🚗 2 hrs 5 min 🚆 1 hr 10 min

MANCHESTER (340 km)

🚗 3 hrs 50 min 🚆 2 hrs 10 min

MILTON KEYNES (82 km)

🚗 1 hr 10 min 🚆 50 min

NEWCASTLE (446 km)

🚗 4 hrs 35 min 🚆 2 hrs 50 min

