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Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 23rd September 2014

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Lido appointment

THE Lido Group has recruited Peter Beveridge to the newly-created position of director of operations, effective immediately.

Beveridge has held a number of exec roles in the industry, most recently as chief information officer at the Jetset Travelworld Group.

Qantas global earlybirds

THE 2015 earlybird campaign is now in full swing, with Qantas overnight expanding its offers to cover flights to the US, South America and South Africa for the first time (**TD** breaking news).

Flights to Santiago and Johannesburg are on offer from just \$1,399 return, while the lead-in New York fare is \$1,599.

QF's London earlybird fare is \$1,724, while there are "fantastic add-on opportunities to Qantas' extensive partner network across all four continents," according to the carrier.

There are also Premium

Economy, Business and First class earlybird fare levels on offer, valid for travel period from 01 Feb to 31 Oct 2015.

Consumers are being offered double Qantas Frequent Flyer points across the first three weeks of the selling period.

And there is also a major trade incentive for consultants, with prizes including a First Class return trip for two to London and business class tickets to New York, Santiago and Johannesburg.

Airfares to UK/Europe can be combined with stopovers in Asia, North or South America or the Middle East.

See www.qantas.com/agents.

Get to know S Africa

REGISTRATIONS for South Africa Tourism's 2014 roadshow in Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney & Perth next month have opened - see **page 11** for all the details.

New Air Tahiti Nui gm

FORMER Air New Zealand exec Alan Roman has been appointed as general manager for Australia & New Zealand at Air Tahiti Nui.

Roman's appointment follows the recent promotion of Mark Hutchinson as TN's Tahiti-based commercial & marketing director.

SCENIC TOURS

2015
SOUTH
AMERICA

EARLYBIRDS
END 30
SEPTEMBER



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ONE WEEK
TO GO

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has nine pages of news & photos, including a front cover page from **Virgin Australia** plus full pages from: (**click**)

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- South African Tourism

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Tuesday 23rd September 2014

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US 'metasearch' concern

A COALITION of online travel aggregators has voiced their opposition to a proposed US Department of Transportation (DOT) regulation which will expand the definition of "ticket agent" to include metasearch providers (**TD** 22 May).

Metasearch involves gathering travel search results from across a number of sources including airline and hotel websites and OTAs, with the group comprising Google, Kayak, Skyscanner, TripAdvisor, Travelzoo and Hipmunk warning the plan will have "unintended consequences that would harm consumers".

According to a submission to the DOT, consumers use metasearch providers to plan their trips, not purchase flights, and therefore they do not fall within the definition of 'ticket agent'.

"The Department's attempt to regulate a whole new class of entities is without precedent or authority," the document states.

If the rulemaking proceeds, the metasearch companies would be required to comply with various requirements, including

that certain information such as booking fees or ancillaries be disclosed to consumers "from the start of the information discovery process on a metasearch site".

The submission says that as well as significantly increasing complexity, this would hamper a consumer's desired search, and "discourage overall innovation in travel exploration services".

The companies cite research into how consumers use the sites, distinguishing between the search capabilities and the ticketing function of OTAs or airlines themselves.

"Most metasearch users are broadly exploring and researching, without an immediate interest in purchasing a particular air transportation selection," the report says.

BA to Kuala Lumpur

BRITISH Airways will restart services to Kuala Lumpur with a new daily flight from London Heathrow scheduled to commence on 27 May using three class Boeing 777-200LR aircraft.

AFL Grand Final comp

COURTESY of Emirates, **Travel Daily** is this week giving away two tickets to the AFL Grand Final on Sat at the MCG for one lucky Victoria-based reader.

To enter, you'll need to be the first to correctly answer three questions in **TD** today and tomorrow, sending your entry to AFLGF2014@traveldaily.com.au.

The prize includes 2 x General Admission tickets to the Sydney Swans vs Hawthorn final as well as tickets to the exclusive AFL breakfast at Crown Melbourne.

Today's question relates to EK's partnership with Collingwood FC.

"How many years has Emirates been a sponsor of the Collingwood Football Club?"

Antarctica 2-for-1 sale

INTREPID Group has launched a two-for-one sale on its Antarctic Explorer trip on select voyages to Antarctica booked this week.

The deal applies to the following cruises: 07 Nov & 05 Dec on *Sea Spirit*, 16 & 26 Nov and 06 Dec on *Sea Adventurer* and 02 Dec & 11 Dec on *Ocean Diamond*.

Bookings need to be made by Fri 26 Sep - **CLICK HERE** for more.

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Tuesday 23rd September 2014



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* Conditions Apply.

CLICK HERE for further details

Nexus flexi Europe touring

NEXUS Holidays has rolled out a new "flexible escorted coach program" in Europe which combines the flexibility of hop-on, hop-off touring with three-star accommodation included.

The firm offers two eight-day loop itineraries which depart from Paris on Sat, year-round.

The Classic Northern Europe trip explores Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg & France visiting cities including Brussels, Amsterdam, Cologne, Frankfurt, Koblenz, Trier and Reims.

Nexus' Picturesque Western Europe southern itinerary takes in Switzerland, Italy, Monte-Carlo & France, making stops in Lucerne, Milan, Venice, Florence, Rome, Nice, Cannes and Avignon.

The itineraries provide the flexibility to allow guests to choose a point to hop off, then rejoin the tour one week later when it passes through again.

"No one has a similar product on the market here in Australia at present," Nexus national bdm Richard McKisack commented.

Adding to the flexibility of the offering, Nexus enables guests to join and conclude the tour from other European city destinations aside from Paris.

The trips are currently priced at \$995ppts until 31 Dec 2015 and include daily brekkie, English speaking guides, deluxe coach transport and tipping for guides.

Both tours are also able to be combined to form a 15 night trip which is priced from \$1,875ppts.

Optional sight-seeing excursions are available on top of the tour price, with activities including the Eiffel Tower, Moulin Rouge show, Seine River cruise, gondola ride in Venice, Colosseum tickets & more.

Compulsory city entrance fees are excluded.

CLICK HERE for more details.

ATM into WTM World

ORGANISERS of the Arabian Travel Market have announced the event has become part of the World Travel Market portfolio.

ATM joins the group's stable of shows which include WTM in London being held in Nov, as well as WTM Africa and WTM Latin America - both hosted in Apr.

"We will be making changes to our branding to reflect this," Reed Travel Exhibitions commented.

Next year's Arabian Travel Market will be held from 04-07 May at the Dubai International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Fairmont Bali fast

FAIRMONT Hotels & Resorts has fast-tracked its entry into Bali, announcing it has been appointed to manage the Regent Bali by Dec.

The property will rebrand as Fairmont Sanur Beach Bali.

Fairmont Jakarta and Fairmont Bali will open in Indonesia in 2015 and 2016.



Window Seat

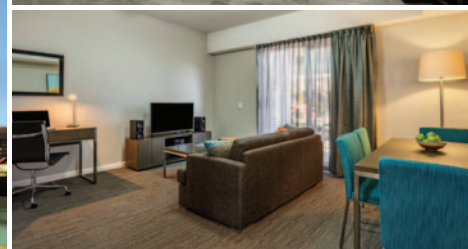
TOURISM Queensland's 'Best Job in the World' winner and 'Caretaker of the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef' Ben Southall continues to make a name for himself as a wildlife warrior.

In his latest task, Southall has been recruited by Australia Post to spruik this year's *Things that Sting* stamp series to "help spread the important message of safety and respecting animals in their natural habitat", a role he described as a "great thrill".

NZ 787-9 Asia delay

AIR New Zealand has delayed the introduction of *Dreamliner* services from Auckland to Tokyo Narita and Shanghai until Dec.

According to GDSs, Air NZ will now use 787-9s on the NRT route starting 02 Dec (was 10 Nov) and to PVG from 14 Dec (was 02 Dec).



Quest Berrimah – NOW OPEN

Situated a short 15 minute drive from Darwin's city centre, Quest Berrimah offers studio, one and two bedroom apartments ideal for the business traveller to Darwin. Whether staying for a night, a week, or a month, Quest Berrimah offers a 'home away from home' experience.

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or Search "QG" on the GDS



Tuesday 23rd September 2014

travelBulletin founders hailed



LAST night travel industry luminaries gathered to honour Eddie Raggett and Ian McMahon who launched *travelBulletin* ten years ago and have now passed the baton on to **Travel Daily**.

AFTA ceo Jayson Westbury gave a vote of thanks to the pair for their tireless pursuit of excellence in travel industry reporting, with *travelBulletin* having built an

unrivalled reputation.

Subscribers to the magazine will be receiving the first new-look issue in the next day or so with a fresh feel, new features and more so keep an eye on your mailbox!

Pictured at the Swissotel Sydney from left are Eddie Raggett, **TD** publisher Bruce Piper - holding the first of issue of the revamped *travelBulletin* - & Ian McMahon.

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Travelport signs CWT

TRAVELPORT has announced a new "expanded multi-year global agreement" with Carlson Wagonlit Travel, which creates a long term commercial framework between the organisations.

CWT consultants will continue to have access to Travelport inventory including fares and ancillaries from traditional and low-cost carriers, while Travelport will in turn "benefit from new and incremental business from CWT in certain targeted countries in Europe and the Pacific regions".

CTM addition

COMPLETE Travel Marketing has been appointed as the official sales and marketing representative for Layana Resort & Spa in Koh Lanta, Thailand.

The agreement covers the Australian and NZ market, with the property offering 51 rooms and suites including a two bedroom private pool villa.

TT supplementaries

TIGERAIR Australia will operate two additional services between Sydney and Melbourne this weekend, to cater for expected demand from Sydney-based AFL fans wanting to see the Swans take on the Hawks at this year's Grand Final on Sat.

Virtuoso appoints

THE Virtuoso network has appointed Katie Nodland to the newly created role of Business Development Manager, Asia Pacific.

Nodland joins Virtuoso from New York-based "leading luxury travel consultancies" dm AFRICA, dm ASIA and JG Black Book.

In her new position she will be responsible for servicing Virtuoso members across the region, providing ongoing training and sales support.

Nodland will report to Virtuoso Asia Pacific managing director, Michael Londregan.

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Airlines out of Libya

DFAT has advised that ongoing flight cancellations to and from Sana'a International Airport in Libya may be experienced due to a deteriorating security situation. Etihad Airways has announced it has suspended service to the country until further notice, with customers able to obtain refunds on whole or partly used tickets purchased before 18 Sep.

USA DISCOVERY PROGRAM

How well do you know the USA?



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The USA Discovery Program is an exciting new agent training tool to give you all the information you need to sell the USA!

USADiscoveryProgram.com.au

Wu brochure revamp

WENDY Wu Tours has revealed a fresh face for its 2015 range of brochures covering China, India, Vietnam and Japan.

Each Wendy Wu guide is now sporting a "local's face" on the cover (**pictured**), while a clearer layout has been developed inside to assist agents and consumers find relevant information.

MD Alan Alcock said agent feedback had been utilised in the new approach to design & content



The 2015 brochures will be distributed later this month.

EY recruitment drive

ETIHAD Airways will embark on a month-long global recruitment drive for new cabin crew starting in Rome later this month.

Recruitment days will be held in 12 cities spanning Germany, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Tunisia and Abu Dhabi, with some 200 candidates to be interviewed in each location.

Roles available span cabin crew, food & beverage managers and inflight chefs - for more info, see etihad.com/cabincrewrecruitment.

Top holiday spots

HOLIDAYMAKERS have voted Melbourne as Australia's number one domestic destination in a recent Wotif.com survey, trumping Sydney and Tasmania.

Paris was polled as the most popular international destination, ahead of New Zealand, Italy and New York City.

MEANWHILE, Wotif is trialling a new-look website design which features bright imagery and a "Sale of Two Cities" promotion, pitting Melbourne vs Sydney with prices starting from \$99 per night.

Insight excited for Egypt

INSIGHT Vacations global chief executive officer John Boulding will personally host travellers on the company's first departure in its return to Egypt (**TD** 17 Sep), scheduled for 08 Jan.

The trade has responded well to the company's confirmation of its return to the country, according to Insight Vacations managing director Australia Joost Timmer.

"Egypt was a significant part of our business up until last year," Timmer told **Travel Daily**.

"Last year was particularly challenging and this year we're quite excited about the prospect of bringing Egypt back."

Currently, five itineraries are on offer in Egypt, with a major factor in the strong sales being the small crowds as the country regains its feet as a tourist destination after recent political upheaval and

subsequent declines in visitation.

All brochure departures are currently open for sale, with any introduction of further product dependent on the performance.

Timmer said despite current assurances, the company was still keeping an eye on volatility in the general region, particularly in neighbouring Libya, however "at this stage, we're 100% all go".

"We'll continue to monitor the situation and if it's appropriate to pull back, we will but at this stage it's all fine. That was very well received by our trade partners over the last few weeks because they all know how important Egypt is as a destination for them and us," Timmer added.

Download Layar app

INSIGHT Vacations has expanded its use of augmented reality in its 2015-16 Europe brochure, with one of nine videos embedded on the intro page.

Managing director Australia Joost Timmer said he encouraged agents to download the "Layar" app to their iPhone or Android device to "bring the itineraries to life with original content".

The technology was tested as part of last year's brochure but has been increased for 2015-16.

No East Euro concern

ITINERARIES to and including Russia are continuing to sell well despite the recent conflict involving Ukraine, Insight Vacations managing director Australia Joost Timmer told **TD**.

"Ukraine is no longer in the program, at least for the time being, but Russia is still there and it's selling as popularly as it always does," he added.

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BACK-ROADS Touring brand manager Hugh Houston hosted nine top performing travel agents on a seven day fam of Ireland recently following a stellar summer season in 2014.

The group joined Back-Roads' Corners of Southern Ireland fam which provides an introduction into Ireland's diverse land, dominated by wild, breathtaking vistas and vivacious people.

Participants visited the best on offer in Ireland including the Irish National Stud, a Cliffs of Moher Cruise, Jamesons Distillery and the seaside medieval town of Kinsale, known for its buildings, narrow streets, traditional bars and fascinating shops.

The final night of the itinerary included a dinner hosted by Tourism Ireland at Number 10, one of Dublin's most exclusive private dining venues.

Pictured from left are Amber Stuart, Travel Designers Canberra; Maio Cufone, Phil Hoffmann Travel Modbury; Hugh Houston, Back-Roads Touring; Samantha Young, North Shore Travel Gordon; Vera Kolarvoski, Escape Travel Charlestown; Jenna Serginson, helloworld Mackay; Brooke Taylor, italktravel Rutherford and Roslyn Stock, Bay Travel Mentone.

Back: Andy Barton, helloworld Surrey Hills & Andrew Jones, Andrew Jones Travel Hobart.

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JQ punctuality vow

A NEW 'Punctuality Promise' is being promoted by Jetstar in New Zealand where the low-cost carrier will provide pax on flights delayed by 10 minutes or more with a NZ\$25 flight voucher.

The eight-day campaign applies to arrivals on NZ domestic flights only and is a "unique way to highlight to Kiwis how much the airline's domestic punctuality has improved," Jetstar head of New Zealand Grant Kerr commented.

Kerr said the campaign will be used to reiterate JQ's improved on-time performance.

If a flight is delayed, passengers on the affected flights will be provided flight vouchers as they disembark the aircraft.

Amadeus Silver deal

TEMPO Holidays has a 2-for-1 special on the *Amadeus Silver* Classical Rhine river cruise from Basel to Amsterdam on 09 Oct.

The seven-day voyage is now priced from \$2,621 per couple for a C-4 Haydn cabin - 1300 362 844.

EK keen on more US

EMIRATES president Tim Clark says the Dubai-based carrier is keen to expand its network further in the United States, with new destinations being scouted.

According to *Bloomberg* reports, Clark expects the US market will become one of Emirates' three largest sources of revenue.

EK currently operates to nine cities in the USA.

Travelport SAA pact

SOUTH African Airways has become the first carrier in Africa to contract Travelport's Rich Content and Branding platform.

The solution helps airlines to more effectively control how fares are presented to agents.

\$13K Brando package

TAHITI Travel Connection has introduced the recently opened all-inclusive Brando in Tahiti to its stable of accommodation options.

Located on Tahiti's island of Tetiaroa, the property was once a retreat of Marlon Brando.

A five-night stay at the eco-resort in a one bedroom villa, including return Economy class Air Tahiti Nui flights from Sydney/Melbourne, pre and post night in Tahiti with brekkie and transfers have been discounted by 20% for visits until 31 Mar and start at \$13,350 per person twin share.

Phone 1300 858 304.

Rex OTP correction

REGIONAL Express recorded an on-time departure result for Aug of 87.1%, not 83.7% (**TD** yest), which was the carrier's on-time arrivals score, according to last month's official figures.

Ethiopian jet order

BOEING has signed an aircraft order with Ethiopian Airlines for 20 737 MAX 8s valued at a list price of US\$2.1 billion.

The order includes options and purchase rights for an additional 15 aircraft of the same type.

Treasures training

TRAVEL agents in Canberra and Wollongong will have the chance to hone their knowledge on the South Pacific next month when Treasures of the South Pacific host seminars on 14 Oct and 15 Oct respectively.

The group represents nine Pacific Island Tourist Bureaus of the Cook Islands, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Tahiti, New Caledonia, Norfolk Islands, Niue, Solomon Islands and Tonga.

To attend the seminars, RSVP at www.tosp.com.au.

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AFTA UPDATE

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

LAST night a new era in Australian travel journalism was launched with the official kick off of the new Travel Bulletin.

As **Travel Daily** readers would know, Travel Bulletin is now a part of the Travel Daily family, and at a very well attended event in Sydney overnight, the previous owners of Travel Bulletin Ian McMahon and Eddie Raggett were recognised for their lifetime of contribution to the travel industry, including bringing Travel Bulletin to life ten years ago.

In fact, Ian mentioned that his travel industry experience spans some 30 years and it is very pleasing to see that the new look Travel Bulletin will carry a column by Ian.

The travel trade press is an extremely important part of the industry and having quality publications bringing us a range of stories, articles and updates allows everyone to be informed and across the many issues and opportunities that exist within this great travel industry.

I can highly recommend the new Travel Bulletin to everyone, having spent last night reading it cover to cover.

This is a new era for travel journalism and I am sure that Travel Bulletin will be an important part of everyone's information source for many years to come.

Congratulations to Bruce and Jenny Piper for having the entrepreneurial skills to reinvigorate a wonderful travel publication and continue the good work of Ian and Eddie with the new Travel Bulletin look and style.

They have also assembled a fantastic team to support the success of the magazine and many are familiar faces who have returned to the take up the challenge of ensuring Travel Bulletin remains relevant, informative and balanced - something that Travel Bulletin has been known for and I am sure will continue to be in this new look format.

Well done to all involved.



Boost free tram zone

THE Victorian Government has declared a zone in the centre of the city as a free tram zone, meaning all tram journeys within the area are free of charge.

Victoria Tourism Industry Council chief executive Dianne Smith praised the move but said the zone needs to be expanded to include a wider range of city attractions to help improve the visitor experience for tourists.

"The tourism industry is disappointed that this latest announcement regarding the Free Tram Zone once again excludes many key attractions that are vital to our visitor economy," she said.

Living with the Fijians

FIJI Airways has launched an innovative new competition in which it is offering the chance for an Aussie family, individual or couple to spend a week in Fiji living with a local family.

The contest ties in with the new FJ global branding of 'Welcome To Our Home', with the airline now accepting nominations for people deserving of such an experience.

Winners will be flown to Fiji to experience the islands and taking part in a range of activities that make up the everyday life of a friendly Fijian family.

Entries close at midnight on 29 Sep - **CLICK HERE** to nominate.

BW Plus star increase

STAR Ratings Australia has increased its rating of the Best Western Plus Apollo Int'l Hotel in Charlestown, NSW from 4* to 4.5* following major renovations.

Holdsworth set for surf and sun



TRAVELLERS Place agent Tina Holdsworth will be packing her bags for New Caledonia soon after being named as the winner of a four-night island holiday.

Holdsworth was the winner of an agent incentive conducted by Excite Holidays in conjunction with Aircalin and New Caledonia Tourism (**TD** 08 Aug).

After disembarking from her Aircalin flight, Tina will spend two nights at the Chateau Royal Beach Resort & Spa, one night at Le Meridien and one night at the Noumea Hilton.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to have won this incredible prize. I have been to New Caledonia once before and can't wait to go back to experience even more of the island," Holdsworth said.

She is **pictured** left with her prize-winners certificate.

Kurrajong to reopen

HISTORIC Canberra property Hotel Kurrajong Canberra says it is set to reopen its doors in Dec after a significant renovation.

Works have seen the 147-room property restored to resemble that of its original pre-WWII design, with heritage listed rooms among the range on offer.

Co-owned and managed by TFE Hotels, a pre-opening special of 30% off starts from \$169 per night, on sale to 08 Dec for stays from 08 Dec to 27 Jan 2015.

Biofuels on Finnair

SUSTAINABLE biofuels made from recycled restaurant cooking oils will today power a Finnair flight from Helsinki to New York aboard an Airbus A330 aircraft.

The service coincides with the UN Climate Summit taking place in NYC, with Finnair saying the flight coincides with its pledge to take proactive measures to manage its environmental impact.

New records at DXB

A WHOPPING 6.6 million pax utilised Dubai Int'l Airport in the month of Aug, according to the facility's official figures out today.

The result was up 10% on the same month last year and was the first full month of normal operations since major runway upgrades were carried out at DXB which reduced landing capacity.

Tuesday 23rd Sep 2014

WIN A \$75 GIFT VOUCHER

This week **Travel Daily** and **French Travel Connection** are giving 5 readers a chance to win a \$75 gifts.com.au voucher.



French Travel Connection's 2015 Brochure is out, featuring 116 pages of France. Paris, Regional France, Monaco, Battlefields, Tours, Waterways... We've got France covered! Explore the brochure for your chance to win!

Click **HERE** for hints and to find out more.

To win, be the first to send through the correct answer to the question below to: gifts@traveldaily.com.au

What are the two main international airports in Paris?



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TD launches new look travelBulletin

LAST night's *travelBulletin* launch (see p4) saw around 100 people from across the industry celebrate the new look magazine, which has now become part of the **Travel Daily** family.

Hot off the presses, the Sep issue is now heading to subscribers and the evening was an opportunity to introduce the magazine's new team which includes Louise Wallace as co-ordinating editor, Lisa Maroun as National Sales Manager and a range of contributors including the one and only Steve Jones.

These pictures were taken at the event at the Sydney Swissotel, with more at [facebook.com/etravelbulletin](https://www.facebook.com/etravelbulletin).

The launch subscription offer is still available, with a year of *travelBulletin* costing just \$30 by using the coupon code AGENT at travelbulletin.com.au/shop.

RIGHT: Some of the TD team, from left: Christian Schweitzer, Matt Lennon, Guy Dundas, Louise Wallace, Sean Harrigan, Lisa Maroun, Bruce Piper, Sarah Piper and Jenny Piper.



RIGHT: *travelBulletin* columnist Steve Jones, Dave Carroll, Ian McMahon and Magellan Travel Group general manager Andrew Macfarlane.



ABOVE: Sophia Chen and Julie King from Dubai Tourism proudly showing off the stunning Dubai-themed cover wrap on the Sep edition of *travelBulletin*.

BELOW: Peter McKeon, Delta Air Lines; Martin Edwards, Bench International; Jo O'Brien, Tramada; and Mike Thompson of Helloworld.



LEFT: Tom Manwaring of Orient Express Travel Group with Spiros Alysandratos of Consolidated Travel.



LEFT: Club Med's Erin Kramer and Romy Briers.



ABOVE: Dennis Bunnik of Bunnik Tours with Matthew Cameron-Smith, Trafalgar.

LEFT: Tourism Ireland's Diane Butler with Maureen Van Metter, Insight.



RIGHT: Adam Mussolum and Linda Lopestri from Globus.



ABOVE: Adam Vance and Stephen Mahoney from Etihad Airways.

Greyhound revamp

GREYHOUND in the US has launched a revamped website offering a more streamlined ticket purchase process with features including Next Day searching.

Agents take a tippie in Mauritius



ACTIVITIES on land and sea in Mauritius awaited this group of Travellers Choice agents - all winners of the company's Silver Choice Award for sales in 2013.

Flying aboard Air Mauritius to Port Louis, the group were guests of The Africa Safari Co for their stay in the Indian Ocean island.

Patting lions in the Casela Nature Park, sailing & swimming in the crystal clear waters and enjoying fine dining were among the experiences on the itinerary.

The group also participated in an exciting rum tasting session at Ile Des Deux Cocos Island, with a sample of the local chilli rum leaving its mark on the taste buds of those game enough to try it.

Pictured above sampling some of the local rum, from left in the back row is Ian Gore, The Africa Safari Co; Michelle Besnard, The Africa Safari Co; Leith Poad, Travellers Choice; Jim Cooper,

Queanbeyan City Travel & Cruise and Carole Campbell from Brian Campbell Travel.

Front row: Saibra Twigg, Australind Travel & Cruise Centre; Fiona Ellis, Capricorn Travel; Ly Nguyen, Air Mauritius; Maria Vasili, Bay Travel & Cruise and Monique Hulsman from Ucango Travel & Cruise Centre.

New Bellagio dance

ELECTRONIC dance music DJ & producer Tiesto has collaborated with the original creators of the Bellagio fountains in Las Vegas to create a new medley for the property's dancing water show.

Three songs from Tiesto's newest album have been used to set the new fountain routine and is the first time the iconic show has been set to dance music.

"Instead of starting off slow as the other shows do, this performance begins with an explosive burst from the fountains, bringing a new energy to the show," Bellagio director of choreography Peter Kopik said.

The new show will be added to the existing rotation, which now comprises more than 30 songs, with the show continuing to take place at its normal hours.

Kata Rocks unveiled

LIFESTYLE property firm Infinite Luxury has soft-launched its first flagship holiday resort in the form of the Kata Rocks Resort in Phuket.

Located on Kata Beach, the resort offers 34 villas and will be officially opened on 28 Nov.

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 fares 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

Q17: What's the name of the largest, most intact and accessible WWII dive wreck located in Santo?



Vanuatu
DISCOVER WHAT MATTERS

Air Vanuatu

Vanuatu
Adventures in Paradise

GRAND
Vanuatu

'Ski City USA' pitch

TOURISM officials in Salt Lake City, Utah have launched a new marketing campaign aimed at luring more visitors to the city for the winter ski & sports season.

The US\$1.8m campaign will use online and print ads to position the city as 'Ski City USA' in an attempt to entice travellers away from neighbouring Colorado.

Brighton Resort, Alta Ski Area, Solitude Mountain and Snowbird Ski Resort will all feature in the campaign, dubbed the 'Greatest Snow on Earth'.

Merpati Air no more

INDONESIAN regional carrier Merpati Airlines is expected to be wound up in coming months.

Grounded since Feb (**TD** 05 Feb), the state-owned airline is in debt of RP 7.6 trillion (AUD\$713m), state news agency *Antara* reports.

Preferred CA partner

AIR China and Preferred Hotel Group have signed a partnership, allowing PhoenixMiles members to earn up to 1,600 Miles when staying at a Preferred property worldwide.

The Beijing-based carrier is the 17th airline to link its FF program with the Preferred Hotel Group.

Big acts for Vivid 2015

NEW York theatrical production *Here Lies Love* has been signed by Destination NSW as the first major centrepiece act for the 2015 Vivid Sydney Festival.

The show, described as a "360-degree scenic and video theatrical experience" is a product of Talking Heads founder David Byrne & celebrity DJ Fatboy Slim.

Its launch in Sydney will also mark the show's debut outside of the Northern Hemisphere.

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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The road from Redundancy

Read the latest inPlace blog



Sandra Chiles

Travel Designer- Inbound Luxury Mkt - Sydney

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