

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news including Business Events News plus a full page from Visit Monaco.

What a great job

G ADVENTURES has named former Flight Centre executive Sean Martin as its new Managing Director Australia and NZ.

Martin's FCTG roles include being GM of the Student Flights and My Adventure Travel brands, and more recently Universal Traveller where he was closely engaged with the small group travel sector.

More appointments on [page 5](#).

Air NZ cargo route

AIR New Zealand has been awarded the rights to operate cargo flights between Melbourne and Los Angeles, as part of the Australian Government's International Freight Assistance Mechanism program.

The carrier will operate one flight weekly until 31 Oct, in addition to the Brisbane-Los Angeles cargo operations Air New Zealand has been flying since Aug last year under the same scheme.

Ethiad to Vienna

ETIHAD Airways has scheduled flights from Abu Dhabi to Vienna, with the new route to launch on 18 Jul using a Boeing 787-10.

The service will initially operate twice weekly.

TravelPay, CATO EFT solution

EXCLUSIVE

THE future of cost-effective travel industry EFT payments has been secured, with travel agents able to continue to make secure bank account remittances to suppliers and wholesalers using the new TravelPay B2B solution (**TD** breaking news) announced in partnership with the Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO).

The new operation is being put together at light speed, following the shock announcement earlier this month that eNett was shutting down its longstanding EFT remittance platform in Sep this year (**TD** 03 Jun).

Andrea Slark, CEO of TravelPay's parent company Zenith Payments, said "within hours of hearing of the impending closure we were inundated with calls from suppliers and agents asking if we could help".

"We are thrilled to be able to expand our services to make supplier payments easy, secure and cost effective," she said.

ACe Virtuoso role

ANN-CATHERINE (AC) Jones from Jones & Turner Travel Associates has been elected as the Australian and NZ Regional Representative for the Virtuoso Travel Events Committee.

Jones said she was "so excited to work a little more closely with Virtuoso who have given me so much inspiration and elevated my career over the past few years".

The new platform is scheduled to go live in Aug to ensure continuity for the industry, and is being developed alongside CATO whose members are key payment recipients.

"CATO is delighted to work together with TravelPay to quickly bring this solution to market," said CATO MD Brett Jardine.

He said the organisation was pleased to be able to remove the concerns wholesalers, operators and agents had about facilitating secure EFT payments.

TravelPay B2B will be launched alongside the existing TravelPay consumer-facing solution used by over 1,000 travel agencies.

Slark said the new platform would be available to all agents and suppliers, with real time notifications, easy reconciliation, a single daily report and online tracking, and the ability to offer partial and full refunds.

Pre-register at travelpay.com.au.

Monaco e-learning

VISIT Monaco is inviting travel advisors to extend their knowledge and expertise of the destination.

Completing free online training modules will lead to a "Monaco Tourism Expert" certification - more details on the [last page](#).

Travelport APIs

TRAVELPORT has introduced new interfaces to provide "next-generation retailing capabilities to travel retailers worldwide".

Part of the next-generation Travelport+ platform, the "enhanced RESTful/JSON APIs" are said to facilitate up to 68% faster transactions, leading to a better shopping experience.

The APIs complement the latest NDC enhancements from this month's launch of Travelport's Smartpoint 10, with the GDS firm saying it "currently has NDC connections under way with 10 major airlines".

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Pelikin ready to fly again

EXCLUSIVE

A MULTIPURPOSE travel app targeting millennial users is preparing to relaunch to the market after undergoing a major revamp which will see the product offer a suite of new services and features.

Melbourne-based Pelikin is primarily a multi-currency mobile wallet that can be used by solo or group travellers to manage shared expenses or transfer money instantly overseas, however it also offers users the ability to adopt bespoke travel insurance options thanks to a tie-up with provider Travel By Us.

Pelikin CEO Sam Brown said that while the impact of COVID on the travel sector has been immense, the downtime had allowed the company to pursue “a few opportunities”, including the building of a new affiliate and reseller platform.

“We’re hoping the platform will be able to help many other travel businesses pretty soon, let’s be honest everyone has been through a rough period, so we’re building an ability for them to distribute to their audience and customer base a pretty great travel money product and to generate a meaningful new

source of revenue,” Brown said.

“It’s been a very wild ride but there has definitely been a lot of opportunities coming out of COVID for us and being an early stage business and having the flexibility to quickly adapt has held us in good stead to ride the wave of last year,” he added.

Brown also revealed its flagship travel card product has been refreshed thanks to the onboarding of a new partner, allowing Pelikin to build a more compelling product proposition.

“What we’re about to relaunch is a virtual travel card that will be Google- and Apple Pay-enabled and will have significantly more currency options to allow instant transfers of money between users, splitting bills between users in local currencies, and creating group tabs,” Brown said.

Pelikin is now on the hunt for like-minded partners and suppliers in the travel sector for its new reseller program, with Brown hinting at some major partnership announcements soon, as well as a big appointment “in the next week or so”, a recruit who Brown describes as having “a lot of runs on the board in the travel space.”

See more about Pelikin [HERE](#).

Jetstar Group Bookings – AU Domestic Promotion

For all NEW domestic Group bookings from 03 May – 30 June 2021:

- ✓ Unlimited name changes up to 24 hours before departure
- ✓ 50% off the deposit amount
- ✓ Final payment extended to 30 days (from 45 days)*

*Terms and conditions apply. See Jetstar’s Group Booking page for details.

[Get Group quote](#)

Donuts worth the wait



Intrepid EOFY deals

INTREPID Travel is offering 15% discounts on a range of trips in Australia and New Zealand to mark the start of its end of financial year promotion.

The offer applies to a range of tours departing between 25 Jun and 31 Dec, with trips inclusive of accommodation, transport, activities and some meals.

The operator has also extended the 15% discount sale across its 2022 Asia trips until 30 Jun.

THE winner of *Travel Daily’s* International Donut Day competition finally has her sweet, yummy reward.

Emirates’ Melbourne-based Senior Sales Support Agent Rachael O’Grady (pictured) had to wait for restrictions to end in the city before devouring her prize of 12 scrumptious Krispy Kreme donuts, but she has told us it was well worth the wait.

O’Grady won for her delightful poem about why donuts are the only true dessert of choice.

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Window Seat

PRINTING company Inkifi has recently scoured the world looking for the most popular words used in tourism slogans, and (drum roll please), the possessive determiner “your” has topped the list with 10 uses.

Second spot went to the word “heart” with eight uses, followed by “land” in third spot and “Africa” in fourth position.

Some of the more interesting slogans pitched around the world include Qatar’s play on words “Qurated for you”, Djibouti’s “Djibeauty”, & Sierra Leone’s “Sierraously Surprising”.

We hope some of the world’s slogans aren’t taken too literally by their respective tourist boards include Benin’s “Revealing Benin” and El Salvador’s “The 45-minute country”.

Responsible travel

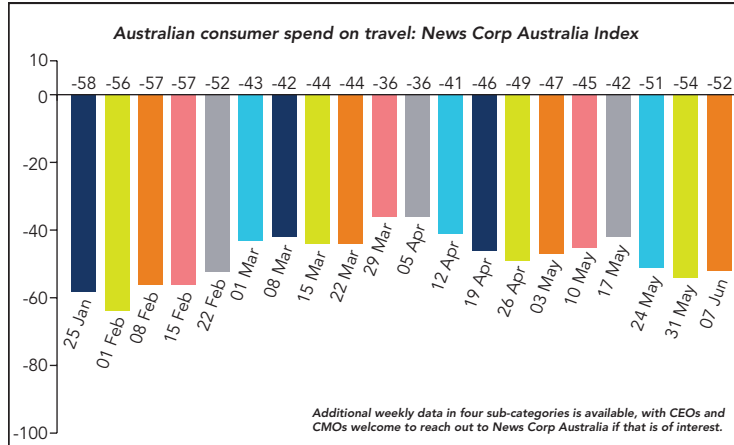
UK-BASED Responsible Travel has launched a new travel agent collection of holidays across the globe designed to make the industry more sustainable.

“We know that more and more agents are asked about planet-friendly travel options and this collection has a vast range of community-focussed, nature-friendly holidays to choose from,” the company’s Director of Customer Services Tim Williamson said.

The new swathe of tours can be accessed **HERE**, and offers agents a generous 10% commission on bookings, with adventures covering the cruise, walking, volunteering, cycling, cultural and wellness categories.

All bookings are made between the agent and Responsible Travel’s partners who run the trips, with payments and commissions to be transacted directly with these partners.

Quick rebound after lockdown



EXCLUSIVE

THE travel sector has seen a slight improvement in travel spend for the week ending 07 Jun, with cruising the only category to fall against the prior week, according to the latest

Lines take action

TWO major cruise lines have renewed their commitment to achieving carbon neutrality.

Norwegian Cruise Line has released a new long-term climate action strategy which incorporates three major pillars: reducing carbon intensity, investing in alternative fuels and implementing a voluntary carbon offset program.

The line has also committed to offset three million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide over three years starting this year.

MEANWHILE Carnival has established a new set of sustainability goals for 2030, identifying six key areas of focus including waste reduction, sustainable tourism, health and wellbeing, inclusion, biodiversity and conservation.

Details of the climate charter include the goal of achieving a 40% reduction in the carbon rate per available lower berth day by 2030 (relative to a 2008 baseline), as well as delivering a 50% reduction in absolute air emissions of particulate matter by 2030 (relative to a 2015 baseline) and growing shore power tech.

figures from News Corp.

This week saw a two-point improvement on the prior week for total travel spend, which sits at -52% of pre-pandemic levels.

The reported week saw Melbourne in lockdown for four days until midnight 10 Jun, with consumer confidence jumping back quickly following the shutdown, continuing a trend throughout the pandemic, News Corp Australia Head of Travel Dwayne Birtles said.

Other contributing elements include a long weekend for all states, except Qld and WA.

Hurtigruten swims with the turtles

HURTIGRUTEN Expeditions is expanding its cruises to Ecuador’s Galapagos Islands, unveiling 10-day voyages aboard the recently upgraded 90-passenger *MS Santa Cruz II* from Jan 2022.

“There is huge pent-up demand for travelling right now and we are responding with this breathtaking new destination,” the line’s Group CEO Daniel Skjeldam said.

Travel Money GM

FLIGHT Centre has confirmed Dan Thorne has been appointed the new General Manager of its hibernated Travel Money Group division, replacing Scott McCullough who departs the role after 18 months.

Thorne has been promoted from the subsidiary’s Head of Product role, having previously spent seven years as Head of Sales Australia & New Zealand for Topdeck Travel in Brisbane.

Travel Money is expected to start opening a few stores over the coming months as overseas travel gradually returns.

Did you know?

Travel & Cruise Weekly’s fortnightly consumer magazine called **Keep Dreaming** is specially designed for agents to send their clients - giving you a reason to reach out to your database.

Click here to view Keep Dreaming magazine

Click here for a toolkit to help you share it with clients



Travel & Cruise Weekly



Apply for Boost

APPLICATIONS for Tourism Australia's Business Events Boost program (**BEN 04** May) close next Wed 30 Jun at 5pm AEST.

The scheme aims to support the Australian business events industry with the opportunity to leverage funding and Tourism Australia's expertise, to deliver marketing and distribution projects which help drive demand for domestic face-to-face business events.

Full details of the program and application info are at businessesnews.com.au.

Auckland success

ALMOST 400 delegates have registered for the 17th Congress of the Intestinal Rehabilitation & Transplant Association (CIRTA) which is scheduled to take place in Auckland from 30 Jun-02 Jul.

The event was secured with the collaboration of Auckland Convention Bureau and Dr Helen Evans from Starship Children's Hospital, with the support of Tourism NZ.

It's the first time the congress has been held in New Zealand, with delegates to attend both in person and online.

Sustainable Asia

DESTINATION Asia has taken the opportunity of the travel shutdown to update its sustainability policies and goals, with local representative Nicole Naylor saying they are "perhaps more relevant than ever".

The comprehensive strategy is mapped to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals - for more info see destination-asia.com.

BECA LOOKS TO INDUSTRY FUTURE

BUSINESS events will be a key part of Australia's long-term tourism targets, with a gathering of senior industry stakeholders this month setting an ambitious \$50 billion target for the industry's contribution to the Government's Tourism 2030 long term visitor economy plan.

The Business Events Council of Australia (BECA) is on the front foot for the country's post-COVID recovery, convening the high level meeting at ICC Sydney to help inform the Government's Reimagining the Visitor Economy strategy as part of a task force commissioned by Tourism Minister Dan Tehan.

The event saw 75 industry leaders and senior executives attend, both in person as well as virtually due to the COVID-19 restrictions which at the time impacted travel from Victoria.

The workshop included delegates from Tourism Australia, Austrade and Business Events Australia, with the outcomes set



to be incorporated into the final Tourism 2030 report currently being developed by an expert panel led by former Tourism Minister Martin Ferguson.

Both short- and long-term objectives were discussed, with immediate priorities including building "confidence to meet" by promoting what is possible, increasing certainty for planning and reducing financial risk.

Also on the agenda were urgent workforce shortages and skills gaps, as well as securing further Government support

for attracting and fulfilling the potential of business events.

Longer term targets included building a future-ready workforce, and developing growth strategies in partnership with Government towards the \$50 billion 2030 aspiration.

BECA Deputy Chair, Geoff Donaghy, said the meeting also saw strong support for BECA to continue its role of uniting the industry and its advocacy role with the Federal Government.

"There was an endorsement of the BECA Recovery and Rebound Framework, as the vehicle to deliver this message, which will now include an industry vision to 2030," Donaghy added.

Key next steps include advocating for a clear re-opening roadmap for business events, as well as consulting with the industry about "consolidating business events representation and increasing resourcing for the peak body to promote consistent messaging".

MEA 2021 Young Professional winners

MEETINGS & Events Australia (MEA) has announced the winners of the 2021 Ungerboeck Young Professional Scholarship.

Recipients this year include:

- ACT - Olivia Hannan, Air Force Events
- NT - Emily Smigowski, AA&P Events
- NSW - Keisha Pickin, Merlin Events
- Qld - Erin Glackin, Sofitel Noosa Pacific Resort
- Vic - Luci Awad, Saxton Speakers Bureau

The scholarship gives the successful applicants the opportunity to attend Evolve 2021, MEA's annual national events industry showcase which is scheduled to take place in Melbourne on 08 Sep. MEA Chair, Nigel Collin, said

"it is wonderful to see the calibre of future leaders in our industry," paying tribute to Ungerboeck's longstanding support for the program.

Ungerboeck MD APAC, Fred Lazerini, congratulated the winners, saying "they have all shown incredible achievements and their participation at Evolve will provide them with valuable insights that will help shape the future of our industry".

"I wish all the winners every success throughout their careers, and look forward to witnessing more of their achievements in coming years."

Attendance at Evolve can be either in person in Melbourne or at Satellite Hubs in Sydney and Brisbane - for more information see the website at evolve2021.com.au.

Hong Kong shows

NEARLY 20 physical exhibitions at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre over the last three months welcomed more than one million visitors.

The strong attendance is a "promising sign for the exhibition industry," said Kenneth Wong, GM MICE & Cruise at the Hong Kong Tourism Board.

He said the positive response "clearly indicates that the value of physical shows are high, and Hong Kong has demonstrated how to safely and seamlessly resume large-scale business events gradually, and pave the way for further recovery".

To view a video showcasing the centre's health and safety measures [CLICK HERE](#).

Preferred welcomes 11 new members

PREFERRED Hotels & Resorts has welcomed 11 new members.

Highlights of the new additions include ModernHaus SoHo in New York City, The Fives Oceanfront Puerto Morelos in Puerto Morelos, Haycock Manor in Wansford, La Esperanza Granada in Andalucia, Ultima Gstaad in Gstaad, Pendry Chicago in Chicago, Ultima Corfu in Corfu, Hotel Villa Barbarich Venice Mestre in Venice, Artiem Madrid in Madrid, Parkhotel Quellenhof Aachen in Aachen, and The Park Kolkata in Kolkata.

Carnival adds two

CARNIVAL Cruise Line will grow its fleet with the addition of two new ships by 2023.

The cruise line will take ownership of *Costa Magica* from sister brand Costa Cruises, after she goes through a dry dock, renaming and Carnival-branded conversion, before joining the fleet by mid-next year.

Carnival will also take the delivery position of an Excel-class ship that will arrive in late 2023, previously assigned to sister line AIDA Cruises.

The pair is in addition to growth represented by *Mardi Gras* and *Carnival Celebration*.

APPOINTMENTS

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

Crystalbrook Collection has named **Fiona Pascoe** as the Area Director, Sales & Distribution of the world's first **Crystalbrook Riley**, a Cairns **Luxury Resort** in Far North Queensland. Pascoe expressed her excitement to be back and working in the hotel industry after more than a year away.

QT Perth has appointed **Andrew Barkham** as its new Executive Chef of Santini Bar & Grill. Barkham, who joined the kitchen earlier this year, will join the company from mid-next month, stepping up to the position from the role of Chef de Cuisine for the restaurant, which opened with the hotel in 2018.

Barbara Muckermann has taken on a new Chief Commercial Officer role with **Silversea Cruises**. She joins the role to spearhead the global, guest-centered market approach for the cruise line. Muckermann most recently served as the line's Chief Marketing Officer.

Azamara has announced more of its executive team following its new-found independence, including Chief Administrative Officer Doug Parks, Head of Marine Operations Nico Corbijn, and Chief Information Officer Laura Krejci. The local operation has also promoted **Natalie Bax** to Sales Support Executive, from her previous role as Business Development Coordinator.

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Village sends up bat signal



LATE last week the Village Roadshow Theme Parks (VRTP) team joined the Vinnie's CEO Sleepout initiative to help raise funds for less fortunate Aussies.

The team raised over \$60,000 roughing it for the night, but thankfully were able to do it in their warm Batman onesies.

Pictured back row are: Warner Bros. Movie World General Manager Shane Phillips, Topgolf Director of Operations Robert Ianchello, VRTP Chief Financial Officer David Humphreys, VRTP General Manager Sales Sue Elliott, VRTP General Manager Finance Erin Horst, Hot Tomato Broadcasting Company Breakfast Announcer David Christopher.

Hilton tops value

HILTON is the world's most valuable hotel brand in 2021 with a value of US\$7.6 billion globally, according to valuation consultancy Brand Finance.

Front row: Sea World General Manager Sanjay Bhatia, VRTP General Manager Marketing Renee Soutar, VRTP Chief Executive Officer Clark Kirby, VRTP Chief Operating Officer Bikash Randhawa, and VRTP General Manager Business Services Anthea Buratowski.

GA axes DPS-PER

GARUDA Indonesia has suspended flights between Perth and Bali from Jul as the embattled Indonesian flag-carrier grapples with ongoing financial issues.

The decision marks the first time in more than two decades the airline has not flown to WA, with Garuda now only operating one route into Australia, to Sydney.

Indonesia's Enterprises Minister revealed earlier this month the country's national carrier Garuda will have to shift its focus to the domestic market for any chance of survival (**TD 07 Jun**).

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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