

P&O's Pacific Dawn rescues sailors

THREE people forced to abandon their sinking yacht off the coast of New Caledonia have been taken aboard P&O Cruises' *Pacific Dawn* after the cruise ship responded to a distress call.

The vessel, which had about 2,000 cruise passengers on board, was in the location when the seafarers raised the alarm, with Noumea maritime authorities asking *Dawn* to go to their aid.

The dramatic incident saw a tender lowered from the ship which diverted slightly on its itinerary back to Brisbane from a seven night South Pacific voyage.

According to some reports from passengers, the yacht sank just as *Pacific Dawn* crew plucked the stranded seafarers from their liferaft.

"*Pacific Dawn* and her crew have followed the finest



traditions of the sea by going to the aid of fellow seafarers in peril on the sea," said P&O Cruises Australia CEO, Sture Myrmell.

"It is wonderful to know that all three seafarers are now safe and well and being cared for on board *Pacific Dawn*," he added.

The ship will arrive on schedule in Brisbane tomorrow morning.

The trio of stricken sailors, named Ben, Chris and Kevin, are pictured courtesy of P&O Cruises' Facebook page with the *Pacific Dawn* crew members who participated in the rescue.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

RSSC Europe offer

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) is offering up to 25% discounts on select European sailings in 2020 for bookings made before 30 Sep.

The deal applies to 11 itineraries that will explore popular destinations in the Mediterranean, Baltic and Northern Europe.

The cruise line has also reduced the required deposit to 10% for bookings by 30 Sep.

For more information on the promotion, **CLICK HERE**.

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Virgin cruise circles

VIRGIN Voyages has announced the launch of a groups program titled "Circles".

The concept starts at 10 cabins, with groups eligible for Circle Bounty such as on-board credit and a 10% "Circle Chest" voyage credit controlled by the agent making the booking - info at TTW on 1300 857 037.

Celestyal 2020/21

CELESTYAL Cruises has released its new brochure, detailing new itineraries for 2020/21, including first-time sailings to the Adriatic.

The new seven-night Romantic Adriatic itinerary will visit Venice, Corfu, Patras, Kotor, Dubrovnik and Split, while Celestyal will also sail a seven night Steps of Paul voyage in 2021, retracing the journey of St Paul on an exclusive departure on 16 Oct. See celestyalcruises.com.

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CRUISE WEEKLY

On location aboard *Scenic Eclipse*

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you from on board the brand new *Scenic Eclipse*.

THIS morning *Scenic Eclipse* has arrived in the first US port on our itinerary, Boston.

Guests will spend the day exploring the city via a range of activity options including the Boston Duck tour, a culinary walking tour of the city, or even a bike tour taking in Boston and Cambridge.

Eclipse continues the itinerary over the weekend, heading further south via Martha's Vineyard to our final destination, New York.

View a video of her wellness facilities by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Seabourn squared

SEABOURN has revealed further details and renders for the Seabourn Square spaces that will feature on its two upcoming expedition ships launching in 2021 and 2022.

The cruise line describes the spaces as the "true living room" of its vessels, a place for guests to socialise over a drink at a European style coffee bar, or order a meal such as light sandwiches and desserts.

The area is also where guests can access concierge services such as assistance with special requests, as well as port and travel information.

One of the newly released renders is **pictured** below.



Don't Strand on ceremony



HURTIGRUTEN has revealed that polar expedition veteran Karin Strand (**pictured**) will be the godmother of its hybrid powered cruise ship, *MS Roald Amundsen*.

The experienced polar pioneer of more than 140 expeditions to Antarctica will formally bless the ship at a novel naming ceremony to take place on 08 Nov, an event that will break with maritime tradition in a number of ways.

The christening will be the first to take place in Antarctica, with Strand to break a chunk of ice against the vessel's hull instead of a champagne bottle, a practice Amundsen himself invented when christening his expedition ship *Maud* in 1917.

Hurtigruten CEO Daniel Skjeldam said the reason for



choosing Strand as *Roald Amundsen's* godmother was because, like the new ship, she is someone who has successfully pushed the limits of exploration.

"Our *MS Roald Amundsen* is out of the ordinary and so should be our godmother," he said.

"We wanted someone who represents our core values, the spirit of exploration and the sheer awesomeness of the ship, Karin is all that and more, her passion for exploration, the oceans and the communities we visit, combined with her never-ending will to innovate, makes her a true role model," Skjeldam added.



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*T&CS APPLY

Crystal Euro brochure



CRYSTAL Cruises has published two new brochures, detailing its all-inclusive ocean journeys from Oct through to Dec 2020 and all-suite, all-inclusive 2020 European river cruises.

The 96-page Worldwide Atlas brochure details over 80 ocean departures with maiden calls to Pohnpei, Micronesia; Majuro, Marshall Islands; Hambantota, Sri Lanka; Mooloolaba and Airlie

Beach, Australia; and Alghero, Sardinia, Italy (**pictured**).

Highlights include an extended season in the Mediterranean with a total of 25 sailings.

Almost every voyage features one overnight stay, at over 55 cities around the world.

The 104-page 2020 European River Cruises brochure details the line's 146 departures in 2020 along Europe's Danube, Main, Moselle and Rhine rivers.



THE keel has been laid for MSC Cruises' *MSC Seashore* during a traditional coin ceremony held at the Fincantieri shipyard in Monfalcone, Italy this week.

MSC Cruises revealed more details about the ship at the event, telling attendees that its newest addition will be the line's longest at 330 metres, and will also have the highest ratio of outdoor space per guest of any ship in the company's fleet.

"*MSC Seashore* - which will feature the latest and most advanced environmental technology currently available - represents another proof of our long-standing commitment to preserve the environment in our ongoing journey to minimise

and continuously reduce the impact of our operations," said MSC Cruises Executive Chairman Pierfrancesco Vago.

Long-standing employees Marianna Cicala and Silvia Bozzetto were on hand at the ceremony to perform the godmother ritual of placing two coins under the new ship's keel.

MSC Seashore is due to enter service in Jun 2021.

Pictured: MSC Executive Chairman Pierfrancesco; godmother Marianna Cicala; Fincantieri Executive Vice President Merchant Ships Luigi Matarazzo; godmother Silvia Bozzetto; and Monfalcone Shipyard Director, Fincantieri Roberto Olivari.



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Seeing polar bears is only the start on a cruise to the Arctic. Read more in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

Grandparents at sea

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises has launched two special grandparent cruises, with either lunch or high tea sailings on Sydney Harbour.

The trips were introduced to celebrate National Grandparents Day on Sun 27 Oct and are priced from \$69 per adult - for more information call 02 9206 1111.



PERHAPS not quite on the Fletcher Christian level but a mutiny of sorts certainly occurred recently on a Fred. Olsen operated "mystery cruises" in the United Kingdom.

According to a report in *The Sun*, an 11-day cruise trip that departed Liverpool turned into a nightmare when the promoted mystery sailing stopped at a number of undesirable locations, including a Dutch port described as looking like a "council estate" by passengers.

"It's mutiny on here, god knows where we will end up next," one passenger exclaimed.

The outrage on board was so intense that passengers became involved in a number of arguments with staff, even refusing to disembark when the itinerary was completed.

The real kicker for a portion of passengers however was when the ship called in to Great Yarmouth - where some of those on board lived - awkward!

FACE-2-FACE: Delores Gangotena

Founder and Director of PR - Quasar Expeditions.



1. What is the favourite part of your job?

Planning new experiences for our clients is the best part of my job. I am always looking for ways to make our clients' experiences better based on their feedback. I still take the time to personally read all the comment cards from our clients.

2. What attracted you to a career in the cruise industry?

I visited the Galapagos for the first time when I was just 16 years old, aboard a navy ship. What I experienced on that voyage changed my life.

3. What is the key to success in the cruise industry?

Listen to your clients, pay attention to details, be passionate, choose ships that compliment the destination experience, take care of your people.

4. What was your best fam trip?

Galapagos, hands-down. It has been 50 years since I took that first trip and it is still my most memorable fam trip.

5. Where do you see yourself in five years?

Growing in other areas of Latin America and continuing to create new, personalised and in-depth cruising experiences.

6. The celebrity you would most like to cruise with?

If I could go back in time, it would have to be Nelson Mandela. Today, I would love to cruise together with Angela Merkel.

7. What should the cruise ship of the future look like?

I dream of a ship that is powered solely by solar wind or other renewable energy sources. And if it can look like a classic expedition ship, even better!

Cannes cruise ban

FRANCE'S fourth busiest cruise port, Cannes, has announced that from next year it will ban high polluting cruise ships in a bid to alleviate air quality concerns.

"It's not about being against cruise ships, it's about being against pollution," Cannes Mayor David Lisnard told Reuters Television.

Bahamas resumes

IN A positive and encouraging sign for the region following the destruction of Hurricane Dorian, the Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line has announced that it will resume cruises to the Freeport, Bahamas from today.

The cruise line has also revealed the addition of a second destination in the Caribbean, announcing new sailings to Nassau from 12 Oct.

It's our shout: MSC

MSC Cruises is offering a complimentary Easy Drinks package for guests who book an oceanview or balcony cabin for departures in the Mediterranean, northern Europe, Caribbean, Arabian Peninsula sailing between Jan 2020 to Apr 2021.

Available for the first two people booked in the cabin, the Easy Drinks package offers a selection of wines, beer, spirits, cocktails, soft drinks, bottled water, and coffee.

The promotion is priced from \$15 per night guests and the offer commences 01 Oct and expires 31 Jan 2020.

Call 1300 028 502 for more.

Carnival forges Cousteau partnership

CARNIVAL Corporation has announced a partnership with Jean-Michel Cousteau and the Ocean Futures Society to support environmental commitment.

Cousteau will provide expertise on initiatives supporting Carnival's "commitment to achieve and sustain environmental compliance and excellence."

The partnership is one of a number of Carnival initiatives underway to support the line's long-term commitment to sustainability.