



Cruise Weekly today

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

Dream-ing of cash

DREAM Cruises has received US\$307 million in liquidity from new share subscriptions issued to Darting Investment Holdings and fellow Genting Hong Kong subsidiary Ocean World.

Darting paid US\$59 million, received in full in cash, and Ocean World's investment of nearly US\$248 million, was set-off against an equivalent amount of intercompany loans or balances owed by Dream.

With this, Ocean World's stake in the cruise line grew to 70% from 67%, while Darting's went to 30% from 33%.

The investment will provide additional liquidity to Dream to meet its upcoming financial obligations and prepare for the target resumption of *Genting Dream* in Jul, which would see the entirety of the cruise line's fleet sailing.

Explorer Dream and *World Dream* have both been sailing since last year.

The cruise line's restart in Singapore has been a hit, and Dream recently welcomed the island's 100,000th cruise passenger post its restart (**CW** 17 Mar).

Hurtigruten split to drive specialisation

EXCLUSIVE

HURTIGRUTEN'S strategic structural change (**CW** 23 Oct 2020), which is rolling out now across the world, will not only allow clients to identify the group's two different brands (Hurtigruten Coastal Express and Hurtigruten Expedition), but will also deliver operational specialisation, Managing Director APAC Damian Perry has told **Cruise Weekly**.

Emphasising the difference in operational expertise between the two brands, Perry said the structural change will result in a sharper execution of both products for clients, and a more agile workforce.

"The reason to [split the business] is to create an agile way of working where we have the right people in the right roles," he said.

"You need to have an in-depth specialised skill set to run Coastal Express at the best level, and you need the same expertise to run Expedition sailings around the world in warm and cold waters.

"It's meant we've had to bring different expertise into the business over time to be able to deliver on our promise."

Perry said a supplemental result of the change is a full pipeline of concepts and expansion.

"I think the strategic change in our operation is going to deliver a huge amount of change in the



marketplace," he said.

"You're going to see a lot of action in the next six to 12 months, and that could be more destinations, broader destinations, that could be operational expertise, expansion on our core pillars, you'll see a whole lot of things happen."

In the future, Australia (**pictured**) could feature among those destinations, with Perry revealing the country is part of "every single strategic

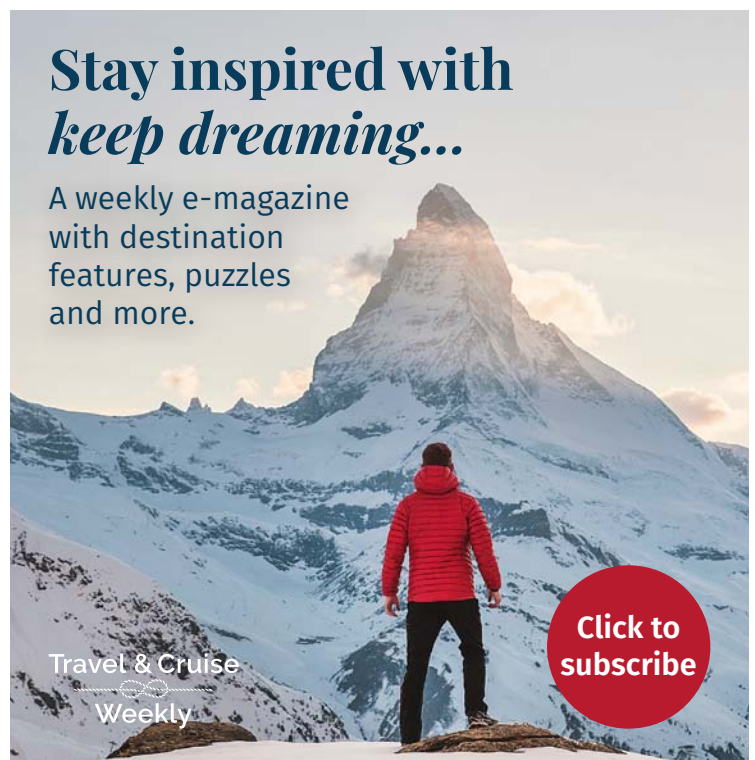
conversation that comes up," at Hurtigruten.

"People want us to be here...we have a lot of engagement already with key people in this part of the world," he enthused.

"When we have these conversations from a local level, we get such a positive and open response, because they love what we do, they've seen how we commit to local communities around the world and they want us to bring it to their region."

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P&O ANZAC Day

YESTERDAY'S ANZAC Day has been commemorated aboard P&O Cruises Australia's *Pacific Encounter*.

The ship's senior officers (pictured) kept the tradition alive with a dawn service in Singapore set against the island's colourful sunrise.

The service was the first ANZAC commemoration held on board *Encounter* since the ship joined the P&O Cruises fleet.

It was led by *Encounter's* Hotel Director and Security Officer respectively, Melissa Yates and Dave Yates.

"Our cruise operations might be paused temporarily but it is wonderful to know that the ANZAC tradition could still be commemorated in such a respectful way," said P&O Cruises Australia President Sture Myrmell.

"The special service on board *Pacific Encounter* was another way for us to stay connected to our guests who have experienced ANZAC Day services at sea and the special meaning of the day."

Encounter only recently completed her transformation after joining the P&O fleet, leaving her dry dock in Singapore with her name badge and a range of finishing touches to the ship's onboard spaces and features (**CW** 15 Apr).



Action on board: Viennese string quartet



SHIP: All Riviera Travel River Cruises sailing on an itinerary that includes Vienna.

LOCATION: The Lounge of each ship.

COST: Included in fare.

CRUISE straight into some authentic Viennese culture with the performance of a string quartet when moored on the Danube River.

The evening's entertainment, which takes place in the ship's

lounge after dinner, features a local string quartet performing music from Mozart, Haydn, Bach and Strauss, including the famous Blue Danube Waltz.

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ITINERARIES INCLUDED: The Blue Danube; Vienna, Bohemia & Treasure of the Danube; Cruise the Heart of Europe; Budapest to the Black Sea; and The Danube's Imperial Cities and Yuletide Markets.



HAVE you ever wanted the experience of captaining your own boat without having to bother with a boat license?

With GoBoat, now you can - and as with all great adventures, there is a strong emphasis on food and drink!

GoBoat operates a fleet of "electric picnic boats", which are Danish-designed, eight-seaters, and are pet-friendly.

They're also made from recycled plastics and fibreglass, and the electric engine is not only silent, it emits no pollution.

GoBoat launched in Brisbane last week, following successful launches in Canberra and Melbourne.

The brand's Qld presence has begun with a pop-up location at Dockside Marina in Kangaroo Point, before it officially starts in the Sunshine State at Breakfast Creek in Brisbane's inner north-eastern suburb in the coming months.

MSC to Bahamas?

BAHAMAS Minister of Tourism & Aviation Dionisio D'Aguilar has told local news MSC Cruises is investigating the viability of cruises from the country.

With Crystal Cruises and Royal Caribbean International having committed to the country, D'Aguilar said MSC was "finishing their due diligence" on the matter, with an announcement to come very shortly.

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