



ACA “glimmers of light”

THE Australian Cruise Association (ACA) has cited a positive outlook for the sector, with huge potential ready to be unleashed as soon as Governments lift their current restrictions on cruising.

Speaking at the ACA annual general meeting, which was held virtually last Fri morning, Chair Philip Holliday (**pictured**) recognised the challenges which had faced the industry since the start of the pandemic.

However “demand for cruising is strong, and bookings for the coming years clearly indicate that all we need is approval to operate and the industry will quickly return,” he said.

“We have supported each other this far, and there are glimmers of light ahead,” Holliday added.

The meeting was opened with remarks from Gavin Smith from Royal Caribbean Group, who is also Chair of Cruise Lines International Association Australasia, who noted the success of cruise restarts in other parts of the world.

Approximately 70% of the CLIA global fleet is now operating - about 2,500 sailings since Jul 2020 with stringent health protocols in place - with record



levels of guest satisfaction and onboard spend, including the booking of shore excursions.

Smith also hailed the close relationship between CLIA and ACA in recent years on joint advocacy programs, saying the collaboration had been “critical, productive and successful”.

The ACA AGM also confirmed votes for office bearers for the coming year, seeing Matthew Carley from Port of Brisbane; Scott Lovett of Tourism NT; Karlie Cavanagh from Inchcape Shipping Services; and James Coughlan of Intercruises Shoreside and Port Services all re-elected to the Management Committee.

Incumbents Anthony Brent of Akorn Destination Management, Kristy Little from Tasports and Philip Holliday of the Port of Authority of NSW were not up for re-election, and have a year remaining in their positions.

CEO Jill Abel said she looked forward to working with the Committee “as we move toward a much hoped-for cruise restart in Australia in 2022”.

Cruise Weekly today

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

New Dawn for Silversea Cruises



SILVERSEA Cruises has taken delivery of its newest vessel from the Fincantieri shipyard in Ancona, Italy, with the formal handover of *Silver Dawn* (**pictured**) taking place on Fri.

The tenth ship in the Silversea fleet, *Dawn* has capacity for 596 passengers and is a sister to *Silver Moon* and *Silver Muse*.

Roberto Martinoli, Silversea President and CEO, signed for the ship as it was handed over by Luigi Matarazzo, GM of Fincantieri’s Merchant Ships Division, saying it was a “huge milestone on our mission to take our guests deep into the world in luxury”.

The event also included video speeches from outgoing Royal Caribbean Group CEO Richard Fain and his successor, Jason Liberty, with

Martinoli recognising the great contribution of Silversea’s parent company.

He said building on the innovations of *Moon* and *Muse*, the new ship represented an evolution of luxury cruise travel.

“With *Silver Dawn* we affirm our position as the leader in ultra-luxury cruising,” he said.

Building on the success of the S.A.L.T. culinary program which launched aboard *Silver Moon*, the debut of *Silver Dawn* also sees the further introduction of the new Otium wellness program (**CW** 03 Aug) which “encourages balanced indulgence, pampering, and pleasure over sacrifice and delayed gratification”.

A video of the formal “change of flag” ceremony is live at cruiseweekly.com.au/videos.

Feel Free

PARTNERS-FIRST

REWARDS

BE REWARDED WITH UP TO

\$50 FOR EVERY NCL BOOKING*

[LEARN MORE](#)

*Conditions apply



Cruise Traveller adds Celestyal to portfolio

CELESTYAL Cruises has joined the growing Cruise Traveller stable of brands as a preferred trade partner, with the move meaning the wholesaler now represents 56 boutique, luxury and expedition cruising operators across the world.

Celestyal, which is locally led by Asia Pacific Regional Manager Stuart Williams, is now scheduled to resume operations in Mar 2022 in the Eastern Mediterranean using its two classic ships - the 1200-guest *Celestyal Crystal* and *Celestyal Olympia*, with capacity for 1575 passengers.

The company also recently sold its *Celestyal Experience* (CW 07 Sep) as part of a post-pandemic restructure.

The cruise line's Australian and NZ BDM, Mary Williams, said Cruise Traveller was an ideal fit for Celestyal's focus on immersive, all-inclusive

experiences aboard smaller ships.

"The Greek Islands are a well-known bucket-list destination for Australians, but our value-added immersive cruises through these magical islands may not be as familiar, so we're very excited to embark on this partnership with Cruise Traveller so that we can welcome more Australians onboard than ever.

"Because we are based in Greece, we offer Greek Island cruises, the Greek way, with lively and welcoming Greek hospitality at the fore," she said.

Cruise Traveller MD Craig Bowen said Celestyal was a welcome addition to the portfolio, with a strong destination focus.

"As a Greek-owned company, Celestyal's local business relationships provide access to many smaller and less visited ports not available to more mainstream cruise lines," he said.

"Celestyal also offers an exceptional value proposition, with beverages, gratuities and selected shore excursions all included," Bowen added.

He said the addition of Celestyal was part of an ongoing proactive approach to growing the Cruise Traveller portfolio, with the aim of having an even more extensive offering as travel resumes.

"The last month has seen an incredible increase in enquiries and bookings for long-haul cruise destinations, which is both encouraging and perfect timing for our new partnership with Celestyal," he added.

To mark the debut of the new wholesale alliance, Cruise Traveller is promoting a range of 2022 Celestyal voyages with fares discounted by up to 40% for bookings confirmed by 30 Nov - for more details call 1800 507 777 or see cruisetraveller.com.au.

MSC + Chelsea FC

MSC Cruises has announced a three-year extension of its agreement to be Chelsea Football Club's Official Global Cruise Partner until 2024.

MSC CEO Gianni Onorato said the move was "further evidence of our commitment to the UK and Irish markets, which are a key part of our global growth plan".

The company said 85% of Chelsea's 2.6 million-strong fan base were now familiar with the MSC brand.

Seabourn special

CREATIVE Cruising is celebrating the launch of Seabourn Cruise Line's 2023 European season by announcing a Double Cruise Sale Week, which includes an exclusive USD\$300 shipboard credit per suite - 1300 362 599.



ISN'T IT TIME?

TO EXPLORE THE WORLD WITH YOUR
BETTER HALF—HALF OFF.

ALWAYS INCLUDED*** LIMITED TIME*
DRINKS. WI-FI. SERVICE CHARGES. + **UP TO 50% OFF 2ND GUEST FARES**

BOOK BY 13 DECEMBER

LEARN MORE AT
THECELEBRITYCOMMITMENT.COM.AU
OR CALL 1-800-754-500.

THE CELEBRITY
COMMITMENT

JOURNEY SAFE. JOURNEY WONDERFULL™.

Celebrity **X** Cruises®

*Terms and conditions apply. Visit celebritycruises.com/au or celebritycruises.com/nz for full terms and conditions. Imagery and messaging may not accurately reflect onboard and destination experiences, offerings, features, or itineraries. These may not be available during your voyage, may vary by ship and destination, and may be subject to change without notice. ©2021 Celebrity Cruises. Ships' registry: Malta and Ecuador.



WORLDWIDE campaigns to clean up beaches have made our shorelines a lot nicer - even though the items collected still often end up in landfill.

However that's not the case in Denmark, where a local authority has come up with the bright idea of simply dumping any rubbish collected straight back into the ocean.

The odd practice has been highlighted by *Danmarks Radio* which has published images (pictured) of a bulldozer which drives up and down the Stilling beach, part of the coastal municipality of Slagelse, twice weekly during summer scooping up any trash. Once its scoop is full the machine turns towards the ocean, drives about 10m into the water and dumps the contents into the sea.

Although officials insist the measure mostly collects seaweed to ensure a pristine beach for local swimmers, observers note that lots of rubbish from holidaymakers is also collected.

Environmental experts asked about the practice described it as "completely idiotic".



Croisi resumptions

CROISIEUROPE has announced the resumption of its cruise operations in Southern Africa.

In Feb next year Croisi will operate a "one-of-a-kind safari cruise" taking in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, while Mekong voyages are also back on the CroisiEurope agenda, operating between Vietnam and Cambodia from Feb 2022.

The company will operate a series of traditional Christmas Market itineraries over the upcoming European winter, and also last month recommenced Egyptian operations on the Nile River.

Sea Cloud cancels Caribbean season

SEA Cloud Cruises has confirmed it will not operate its planned Northern Winter cruise season in the Caribbean.

The company had previously scheduled voyages in the region for both *Sea Cloud* and *Sea Cloud II*, but cited slow vaccination coverage in several islands for the decision to cancel.

"The rising incidence figures and increasing vaccination breakthroughs worldwide are a serious risk to the Caribbean countries," Sea Cloud said in a statement announcing the move.

"This has increasingly led to a more restrictive approach to cruise guests...access to reliable, necessary health care cannot be guaranteed for guests and crew in case of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases on board our vessels in the Caribbean."

Oceania shuffles exec deck

OCEANIA Cruises last week announced several senior leadership changes, including the transition of the brand's President and CEO, Bob Binder, to become Vice Chairman of parent company Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH), where he will remain in an advisory role reporting to NCLH CEO Frank Del Rio.

Binder (pictured), who co-founded Oceania Cruises in 2002, will be succeeded as CEO by company veteran Howard Sherman, while Senior VP of Onboard Revenue for NCLH, Ross Henderson, has been promoted to Sherman's role leading the line's Onboard Revenue and Destination Services divisions.

Del Rio paid tribute to Binder's achievements at Oceania over the last 20 years, during which he has overseen almost every facet of the brand's global operations including marketing, sales, PR,



e-Commerce, finance and guest services.

He helped design and develop Oceania's *Marina* and *Riviera* and also spearheaded the OceaniaNEXT brand evolution.

Binder said he was honoured to have led Oceania's team, "whose talent, dedication and passion are unmatched".

"I look forward to continuing to champion the line's future success as I remain with the company in my new role," he said.

The changes are all effective from 01 Jan 2022, with the new team expected to continue

Looking for a change or a new challenge?

Then come and join the team at Business Publishing Group as our:

Advertising Operations and Customer Service Co-ordinator

This role offers a variety of responsibilities to keep your day invigorated. Working on our Travel Daily, Cruise Weekly and Pharmacy Daily publications, this is a key role as part of the sales and marketing team

We are after a team player who will be working on the development of the daily editions, liaising with clients, as well as an assortment of other tasks - for which on the job training will be provided.

If you are highly organised, have a penchant for design, a keen eye for detail and a willingness to learn, this could be the role for you.

Candidates with customer service, travel industry experience, organisational skills and Adobe Suite proficiency would be highly regarded. Salary commensurate with experience. Full job description available upon request.

Applications close 12th November 2021.

Send your CV and covering letter to jobs@traveldaily.com.au

