



## New *Encounter* arrives in Sydney

**THE** maiden arrival of P&O Cruises Australia's *Pacific Encounter* into Sydney Harbour yesterday (**pictured**) combined a salute to "hero tugs" and other "maritime champions" which help keep the country's waters safe (**CW** 01 Aug).

*Encounter* entered the Harbour amid a water cannon display, led by the Port Authority of NSW's fire tug and three privately operated tugs, which were involved in a ship rescue off the coast of Sydney recently, which included Australian pilot Lindsay Cavanagh.

"We are very proud to welcome *Pacific Encounter* to begin her P&O Cruises cruising career to offer our guests fantastic and memorable cruise experiences," said Carnival Corporation President Australia Marguerite Fitzgerald.

"It is very exciting to see the



rebuilding of cruise tourism in Australia and its economic benefits as we look forward to its revival in the wider Pacific region along with a near-normal summer cruise season here.

"It is wonderful that we can also use today's arrival as an opportunity to salute the hero tugs of Sydney and everyone who does so much to support cruise shipping and the maritime sector

in general."

*Encounter's* "encounter" with Sydney will be relatively brief, as the ship is destined for her homeport of Brisbane, but will be of large economic benefit to the city, with more than half a million kilograms of locally sourced produce to be loaded aboard to begin her cruising program.

View the video of *Encounter* arriving in Sydney **HERE**.

### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Viva la Norwegian!

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line has celebrated the float-out of *Norwegian Viva*, the second of six vessels in the cruise line's groundbreaking Prima class.

*Viva* floated out from her dry dock at the Fincantieri shipyard in Marghera, marking a major construction milestone and the first time the new vessel touched water.

To celebrate the occasion, a commemorative coin was welded into *Viva* in a traditional maritime ceremony, presided over by Norwegian Cruise Line President & Chief Executive Harry Sommer and Fincantieri Shipyard Director Antonio Quintano.



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## PORTHOLE

**A BREACHING** whale landed on a fishing boat off Manomet Point in Massachusetts last week.

Fortunately, no-one was injured in the incident, which was described to *CBS News* as "a sense of excitement and concern", by North American Whale & Dolphin Conservation Regina Asmutis-Silvia.

A Plymouth Harbormaster boat was monitoring the waters during the time, as a precaution due to the large amount of whales in the area of late, but evidently, that did not stop nature taking course!

## Bishop to preach for Cunard



**GUESTS** on Cunard Line's upcoming 2022/23 Australian season will hear from a host of well-known Australian political, sports, and media figures, with the brand announcing its guest speaker line-up, including former



politicians Alexander Downer and Julie Bishop (pictured).

They will join others including Dawn Fraser, Nova Peris, John Stainton, Ken Sucliffe, Peter Cosgrove, Tim Flannery, and Ian McFadyen, on local homeport sailings as part of Cunard's Insights Programme.

Cunard's local Commercial Director Katrina McAlpine said the guest speaker program is a vital aspect of the cruise line's sought-after onboard experience.

"We know our guests are passionate about learning and expanding their views, so in choosing our speakers for this upcoming season, we wanted to ensure that they both inspire and entertain our guests whilst sailing with us."

Cunard's dynamic guest speaker program continues the line's legacy of hosting stars on board, and is only a small fraction of the overall cruise line experience, which is built on exemplary fine dining, dynamic West End style entertainment, art deco-inspired public spaces, and outstanding White Star Service.



### International borders

**EXCITING** news as we celebrated the reopening of the New Zealand maritime border to international cruise ships a few days back.

When P&O Australia's *Pacific Explorer* docks in New Zealand on 12 Aug, it will mark the first time a foreign-flagged cruise ship has visited the country's shores since Mar 2020.

It will also go on to mark another first when it visits Lautoka and Dravuni in Fiji in the following days making it the first ship to visit three major ports in the Pacific for the first time since cruise restarted in this region.

On the back of the New Zealand reopening, I will be headed to Auckland with a few of our members for the NZCA Conference which will be a wonderful opportunity to catch up with our international counterparts and do some further planning for the future.

That puts us back in Sydney just in time for CLIA's Cruise360, which promises to be a fabulous session on 25 Aug.

We then back into our annual conference in Townsville from 07-09 Sep after too long a hiatus!

We are looking forward to hearing from the most extensive gathering of cruise line speakers we have attracted as we come together to develop a clear roadmap of recovery for the cruise sector.

What a fabulous cruise month - #LoveCruise



Thursday 25 August 2022 | Hyatt Regency Sydney

#LOVECRUISE 

"This year's Cruise360 Australasia will be a fantastic opportunity to reunite and celebrate the revival of cruising in our region. Every cruise specialist travel consultant should attend."

- Gavin Smith, Vice President & Managing Director Australia, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd



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