



Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

July 2009



### A message from our leader

Australia's new industrial relations laws have officially come into force, with Fair Work Australia replacing the Howard government's Work Choices regime.

Under the Fair Work Act, unfair dismissal laws will once again apply to small businesses, a stronger safety net applies and collective bargaining is preferred to individual contracts.

The need for a modern and flexible industrial relations system has never been greater as the global community looks to business and industry to drive economic growth, create more jobs and help insulate the local economy from the current global economic uncertainty.

Businesses across the State, and the Nation, were apprehensive about the first of July 2009 - the day the new system came into force.

For detailed information on what the Federal workplace laws mean for Queensland visit  
<http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/industrial/rights/system/index.htm>

The Chamber will be promoting a Survival Session on Employment Law with Bell Legal Group on 5<sup>th</sup> August. If you haven't registered already, contact the Chamber office Tuesday to Thursday to do so.

### Call for nominations

The Chamber's Annual General Meeting will be held in September and current financial members are encouraged to nominate for positions on the Management Committee.

Positions available for nomination are:

President  
senior vice- president  
vice-president - membership  
Vice-president – functions  
Vice-president - sponsorship  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
3 Committee members

We would love to see some of our new Broadbeach based members join the committee this year. Nomination forms will be forwarded prior to the AGM.

### Membership

Invoices have been sent out to all members who hold financial year memberships for renewal and for those who wish to take advantage of it, we have implemented a monthly direct debit facility for memberships. Contact Jillian for more information.

## Get the most from your membership

### Surfers Paradise- Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce Membership is rich in opportunities to grow and maintain your business effectively, if you know how to get the most from it!

Getting to the bottom of what you need to know in business can often be the hard part. Add to this finding relevant and useful information or advice that will solve your problems and it becomes a maze of facts and data that most business owners have neither the time nor the specific expertise to wade through.

The Chamber exists to help you solve your problems. There are an enormous amount of business resources available to business and one of the biggest challenges facing the Chamber is helping our members to get the best possible return on their investment.

Below are a few tips to assist you in getting the most from your membership:

- **Encourage as many people as possible from within your business to communicate with the Chamber.** Tell us what you expect from us and what your needs are so we can better serve you.
- **Put as many people as possible from within your organisation on the Chamber's Events e-mailing list, and also our e-mail newsletter circulation.** These two e-mail publications give you a great snapshot of what's going on within the Chamber and the Gold Coast, and also keeps you up-to-date on all of the current business issues and events.
- **Ensure your details are up to date.** We can't keep you up-to-date if we don't have your details. If you change email addresses please put the Chamber on your update list.
- **Take the time to read (or at least "scan") the range of correspondence that Surfers-Broadbeach Chamber sends you, and circulate the material throughout your business.** This will help you and others from within your organisation, to gain a broader knowledge of the areas in which the Chamber can assist or inform you. Reading Chamber communication is the most effective way to find out about new services you can access.

A Surfers-Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce membership is an excellent investment in your business, and in the Gold Coast business community. If you undertake to do the above, you will ensure that your investment continues to deliver benefit to your business well into the future.

Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce values your support and looks forward to your continued membership. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries at [admin@surferschamber.org.au](mailto:admin@surferschamber.org.au).

### Not a member yet?

Why join the Chamber?



In these trying economic times it is more important than ever to connect with other business.

Your Chamber membership has never been more valuable.

A strong effective Chamber of Commerce along the beachfront will ensure that the interests of business operators resonate strongly in future planning and policy initiatives of the governments of the day.

Unity - There is strength in numbers - a collective voice is always louder than a single voice. The Chamber represents members as a group on issues affect us all as a whole.

Effective Lobbying - If the Chamber believes that the precinct will be disadvantaged by Local, State or Federal Government decisions, it will lobby on behalf of members.

Referrals – The Gold Coast is a transient population, with new people visiting or moving here every week. Referrals to member services are offered by Chamber staff and via the Chamber website.

This referral system may be to professional services or suppliers, trade services, potential export contacts or to facilitate joint venture links.

The Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce will be offering lots of opportunities to mix and mingle with our members in 2009 with an enticing calendar of events planned including our popular Annual Presidents Cup Golf Day.

I look forward to catching up with you at our next event. Until then, if there are any issues affecting you and your business and you think the Chamber may be able to help, please contact us on 07 5538 8660 or [admin@surferschamber.org.au](mailto:admin@surferschamber.org.au), [president@surferschamber.org.au](mailto:president@surferschamber.org.au) . Our office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8am to 4pm.

## Rapid Transit

The Queensland Government recently confirmed the Gold Coast Rapid Transit project will be delivered under a disaggregated delivery method with three core packages:

1. Early Works
2. Operator Franchise
3. Civil Assets

Companies interested in finding out more about the project are encouraged to attend an industry briefing on the Gold Coast on 29 July 2009.

The project team are seeking attendance from a range of contractors, specialists and small businesses to suit each component of the delivery method. These include:

- Local medium-sized businesses from the Gold Coast region, including builders, civil works contractors, specialist consultants and public utility installers
- Large civil and building contractors
- Private financiers, including banks and superannuation funds
- Regional and international public transport system operators
- Light rail rolling stock suppliers
- Installers of operational infrastructure, including information technology systems, signals, electricity cabling and track work
- Specialist services, including commercial, legal, probity and transaction management advisors
- Specialist consultancies, including engineers and designers.

Register now to attend the industry briefing.

### Event details

Date: 29 July 2009

Location: Courtyard by Marriott Surfers Paradise Resort  
Surfers Paradise Boulevard, corner Hanlan Street  
Surfers Paradise, Queensland 4217

Time: 11am

Registration will commence at 11am.

Briefing will begin at 11.30am.

All prospective attendees must register online, including those organisations who have previously registered an interest with the project.

[Register to attend the industry briefing.](#)

### Need more information?

Contact the Transaction Services team:

Phone: 1800 967 377 (freecall) - select option 3  
+ 61 7 5555 4604 International

Email: [gcrt\\_transactionservices@transport.qld.gov.au](mailto:gcrt_transactionservices@transport.qld.gov.au)

## Chamber Functions



### 11<sup>th</sup> June – Marina Village, River End Cavill Mall Surfers Paradise

It was one of the coldest nights on the coast but we still had a great turn out to the new Marina Village venue which opened just days prior.

75 members and guests enjoyed a great night of networking and catching up, with delicious finger food and a free cocktail on arrival.

Our raffle was as popular as ever and Clive van Deventer from Wyndham VRAP was the lucky winner of a \$100 dining voucher to Melbas on the Park and Rowena Howe of Surfers Paradise Alliance picked up some double passes to the Gold Coast Turf Club members section during August.

Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**“You Can Do It!”**  
Business entrepreneur and best-selling author, Bob Ansett needs little introduction.

### Business in Paradise Lunch with Bob Ansett Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Broadbeach Room, Sofitel

64 members and guests joined us at the Sofitel to hear guest speaker - business man, author and Ocober ambassador - Bob Ansett.

Attendees enjoyed a stunning two course lunch with wine and were enthralled by Bob's inspirational talk on how “You Can Do It” just like he did.

Craig Scott from Low Cost IT was the highest bidder for a framed, signed 2009 Lions jersey donated by HostPlus with proceeds going to Life Education for which Bob Ansett is an ambassador. Rob Salyer from Institute of Business Leaders picked up a gift voucher for Oasis Shopping Centre in our business card draw.

*If you have a venue and would like to host a Chamber function, contact Jillian to discuss further.*

## Survival Sessions

The Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce have put together a calendar of informative boardroom briefings hosted by our member companies to help business weather the current economic storm. These sessions are FREE to members and only \$25 for non-members. If you have not received a complete calendar, please let contact our office on 07 5538 8660 or at [admin@surferschamber.org.au](mailto:admin@surferschamber.org.au)

## Coming Up

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - 12.00pm to 2.00pm**



### Cashflow Solutions

Wayne Ward NAB Cashflow Solutions Specialist will give you the knowledge to free up Cashflow from your business during these challenging times, and Nathalie Hesse, Head of Treasury QLD will do a brief presentation on current market conditions and options available to mitigate interest and exchange rate risk during these volatile market conditions.

Question time will be available at the end of the presentations. A light lunch will be served so bookings are essential.

**VENUE:** NAB Boardroom  
27 Scarborough Street  
Southport QLD 4215

*\*Limited to 24 people*

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August - 12.30pm to 2.30pm**



### Employment Law

The area of Workplace Relations and Employment Law is a dynamic field of legal practice and business management.

The introduction of the Australian Governments recent legislative changes is an example of this constantly changing area of law. It is imperative that businesses keep up to date with employment laws.

Lunch will be provided

**Venue:** Bell Legal Group  
Level 4, 91 Upton Street  
Bundall QLD 4217

*\*Limited to 20 people*

### Other Events



### IT'S ON AGAIN - The 3rd annual Hinterland Gateway Festival Luncheon - Friday 21st August 2009

Imagine yourself in the natural and picturesque surrounds of 'Coolibah Downs' enjoying soft live entertainment in good company. Spread before you is the finest food and wine produced on the Gold Coast and Hinterland. Succulent prawns, Sarabah Wines and award winning Witches Chase Cheeses, truly culinary delights. Relax and enjoy this rewarding experience.

[Click here for more](#)



### Gold Coast Tourism & Gold Coast City Council proudly present 'Going Green'

A panel event featuring speakers from Green Globe, Ecotourism Australia, Eco Biz, AAA Green Star and QTIC, facilitated by Michael Grosvenor.

Michael Grosvenor is an urban planning consultant, freelance writer and author of Sustainable Living For Dummies (2007) and Sustainable Australian Travel For Dummies (2009).

This event will provide local tourism operators with a range of information on how to become accredited as an eco friendly/green product.

**When:** Tuesday 21 July 2009

**Time:** 3pm—5pm panel event

5pm—6pm optional tour, trade show and networking

**Where:** Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort

**RSVP:** [membership@gctourism.com](mailto:membership@gctourism.com)

Kindly supported by the Surfers Paradise Marriott, one of the Gold Coast's leading conference and incentive venues, the Marriott prides itself on offering environmentally sustainable and carbon neutral conferences and events.

Marriott Chief Engineer, Steven Coombes will also be available at the event to provide first hand information as to what this resort has done, and the results they have achieved.

This a FREE event and places are strictly limited so don't miss this special event, register now!

## Surfers Paradise Police



### Radio project increases Surfers CBD safety

A new inter-venue radio project is set to revolutionise Surfers Paradise CBD safety for party goers.

The concept, relates to the Inter-venue Radio Communication Network, and was initiated by Surfers Paradise Licensed Venue Association (SPLVA) and the Queensland Police Service, supported by Gold Coast City Council's Safety Camera Network and Gold Coast Management of Public Intoxication Project (MPIP) operating the Chill Out Zone.

The aims of the project are to afford security providers within the many nightclubs the ability to directly communicate with each other, the council's camera network and police at Surfers Paradise, thereby increasing safety and awareness.

Security staff at participating venues will have access to a restricted band hand-held radio enabling them to communicate potential threats or actual violence to the camera network and police.

Local police welcomed the introduction of the radio initiative, with officers thankful for the open lines of communication to be introduced with security staff.

Acting Chief Superintendent Jim Keogh believes the program will enhance safety in the licensed venue precinct.

"Security staff play a vital role in maintaining safety within the CBD of Surfers Paradise. They will be communicating with the Gold Coast City Council Safety Camera Network and police in Surfers Paradise, which will assist officers in responding to specific issues."

He also reminds party-goers that anyone misbehaving or displaying violent or anti-social behaviour in the Surfers Paradise CBD will be identifiable by the Closed Circuit Television cameras in and around the area.

"The council's cameras, together with the very valuable addition of the radio project will ensure the rapid response from police to anyone acting inappropriately or illegally. This project focuses on progressing the current public safety strategies in Surfers by enhancing communication to and amongst licensed venues," Acting Chief Superintendent Keogh said.

President of the Surfers Paradise Licensed Venue Association Lino Girardi said that by using these radios, the security providers would be able to reduce risk to patrons by sharing information about identified trouble-makers and repeat offenders.

"Not only can we reduce alcohol-related harm, we can also reduce alcohol-related risk. It's an extremely valuable tool in decreasing risks of harm," Mr Girardi said.

Mr Girardi said he was extremely heartened by the response and enthusiasm from licensed venues in the Surfers Paradise CBD, stating that there were a number of different clubs, multiple security companies and numerous other groups involved.

Craig Missen, owner of a number of licensed venues on the Gold Coast said he believed that the initiative would make a significant impact to reduce any incidents in the night club precinct.

Also included in the network will be the 'Chill Out Zone', which provides respite, recovery and medical attention to revellers requiring 'time out' or assistance.

"It's a huge step in improving safety and amenity to the thousands of partygoers who come to Surfers Paradise by identifying any potential troublemakers," Chill Out Zone Co-ordinator Angela Driscoll said.

The inter-venue radio project goes online this week.



**Councillor Susie Douglas**  
**Division 7**  
**Gold Coast City Council**

#### **Surfers Paradise Special Precinct status**

Gold Coast City Council has begun the process of identifying the unique social and economic issues which affect Surfers Paradise, in order to develop an action plan to effectively address these issues. A similar 'special precinct status' has been given to Fortitude Valley in Brisbane. It allows the precinct to have strengthened laws regarding noise attenuation so that the clubs and residents can live in harmony.

In Surfers Paradise we will be looking to have the extra laws to not only address noise but also to address littering, policing, commercial opportunities on the beach, transport solutions etc.

#### **Night rider bus**

Speaking of transport solutions, I have been able to secure funding from the transport levy to start a 'night rider bus'. This will be an opportunity for Translink to come to the table with Council to run a bus east/west late on Friday and Saturday nights. The idea is for the stops in Nerang, Ashmore etc to have taxis available to complete the journey home (at a much lesser cost than catching a taxi all the way home).

Regards  
Cr Susie Douglas



**Councillor Eddy Sarroff**  
**Division 10**  
**Chair Corporate Governance & Finance Committee**  
**Gold Coast City Council**

#### **Council Budget**

On Thursday, 18 June, Council handed down its 15th budget. This is a responsible budget which delivers on roads, transport and social infrastructure while maintaining our high level of services.

In terms of the \$1.3 billion budget, the global financial crisis has posed a unique challenge in framing this year's budget. Our city has continued to grow and at a time when we need to provide more infrastructure to accommodate this growth, Council's revenue stream has been significantly impacted.

The key feature of this budget was the inclusion of a \$90 million stimulus package which supports local industry and encourages ongoing business investment and at the same time creates much-needed job opportunities. Council has also ensured that the 10 per cent discount for early rate payment has been retained.

Transport infrastructure also features heavily in this budget and transport initiatives have increased by almost \$80 million. This also represents Council's commitment to the rapid transport project.

In Division 10, works will proceed on the redevelopment of Kurrawa Pratten parklands. Another important project earmarked in this budget is drainage infrastructure and considerable works will be undertaken within the division.

Your feedback is always welcome, so remember to email any projects that may be dear to your heart.

Feel free to contact me at the office on 5581 6171 or via email at [Division10@goldcoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:Division10@goldcoast.qld.gov.au)

Regards  
Cr Eddy Sarroff



**From the desk of John-Paul Langbroek**  
**State Member for Surfers Paradise**  
**LNP Shadow Education Minister**

### **State Budget Bad for Gold Coast Business**

Increased taxes. Job cuts. Incomplete infrastructure funding. While we didn't ask for any these Budget blows, we got them anyway thanks to the Bligh-Fraser Budget. Premier Bligh and her Labor colleagues have condemned Queensland to at least a decade of debt of \$85 billion, with a compounding daily interest bill of \$14 million.

The Budget revealed overall land tax had now reached the record load of \$1.047 billion, which is a drastic 29.7% increase from previous figures. For a Premier who went to an election only a few months ago, drumming to her politically rhetorical beat of 'jobs, jobs, jobs', it is difficult to understand how she plans to justify a land tax increase which will cost jobs rather than create them.

As a city dependent on travel for its tourism operations, food and goods shipping and general transport, the implications of the new taxes and charges from Labor's Budget for the Gold Coast will add more fuel to the proverbial fire. We have been hit by a double blow with the introduction of the State's first fuel tax of 9.2 cents/litre as well as new registration fees costing up to \$113 more than last year.

In my previous column back in May, I expressed my disappointment in the myriad of conditions attached to the Federal Government's proposed funding for the rapid transit system in its Budget. Now the State Budget has been handed down, confirming what we already knew - \$135 million will be contributed by the State Government towards the project. Nevertheless, the fact of the matter is that a \$700 million black-hole still exists in the budget.

Surfers Paradise, Broadbeach and the Gold Coast generally, urgently need a rapid transit system and I hope investors will see the long-term benefits the project will have for the Coast. However, if the bureaucratic contingencies and financial ineptitude of this Labor Government continues, we cannot expect to be riding rapid transit any time soon.

### **State School Neglect Concealed by Federal Labor 'Funding'**

Since this newsletter's last issue, the latest round of BER money from the Federal Government's 'School Pride' funding program have been released. While any funding which supports our schools is duly welcomed, the money should be used for actual projects rather than being siphoned off by the Labor State Government's planning or exorbitantly high building construction fees. The recently announced 'School Pride' funding for schools within my Electorate should be used to provide better resources for these schools, instead much of it will disappear in repairs and basic maintenance that the Bligh Government has neglected and under resourced for years.

**Ray Stevens MP**  
**Shadow Minister for Housing Accessibility & Public Works**  
**State Member for Robina**



### **Shocking State Budget**

As predicted the Bligh Labor Government handed down the worst State Budget in Queensland's history with a blowout of \$85.5 Billion over the next four years. This Government has plunged the State into debt that equates to \$10 million per day in interest payments and expert fiscal management is needed to rid the State of debt which will not come to fruition with this current Government.

### **Sale of State Assets**

The sell off of the State assets in a depressed market has reinforced the dire state the Government finances are in. Queensland Motorways, Forestry Queensland, Abbot Point Coal Terminal and Queensland Rails Coal and Freight arms are to be sold. This is on top of Golden Casket and the retail arm of Energex that has been previously sold by the Bligh Labor Government. These are all significant assets and I am seriously concerned that the State will never be in a position to pay back the debt it has racked up.

### **Fuel Subsidy**

On Tuesday 30 June at 12pm the cost of fuel in Queensland increased due to the Bligh Labor Government removing the fuel subsidy. This means a 9.2 cent a litre increase and will directly affect every commodity available including groceries, essential services such as water, rates & electricity (this is on top of the 30% increase already) and any auxiliary services.

### **Tourism**

Tourism has been badly hit by the Global financial crisis and I have been pressuring the Government to concentrate on the New Zealand market which accounts for 26% of our international visitors and domestic drive tourism which accounts for 66% of visitors to the Gold Coast. Hopefully they will respond with extra funding for these niche markets to protect our vulnerable tourism industry which contributes \$3 billion to the Gold Coast economy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Surfers Paradise/Broadbeach Chamber of Commerce for inviting me to contribute to this June edition of their newsletter.

Please feel free to visit my website at [www.mermaidray.com](http://www.mermaidray.com) or contact my office on ph 5592 0071 if you have any State issues you might like to discuss.

Best Wishes

**Ray Stevens MP**  
**Shadow Minister for Tourism, Fair Trading and Racing**  
**State Member for Mermaid Beach**

# Business Update



CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE &  
INDUSTRY  
QUEENSLAND

### **CCIQ: Representing your interests**

It has been an extremely busy week in respect to representational activities of the CCIQ. This past seven days the following meetings have taken place:

- The President met with the Prime Minister at the Lodge in Canberra to discuss the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme, Stimulus measures to boost economic growth, industrial relations.
- The President and the General Manager of Policy met with the Premier's Chief of Staff to discuss what can be done to reduce the burden of business regulation.

- The President and the General Manager of Policy met with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition to discuss the State Budget, Asset Sales, Government Efficiency, Fuel Subsidy, Payroll Tax and Electricity Prices.

For further information or to raise an issue for future representations please contact CCIQ's policy team at [policy@cciq.com.au](mailto:policy@cciq.com.au).

### **Award modernisation win for Restaurant & Catering Industry**

On 29 May the Deputy Prime Minister wrote to the President of the AIRC indicating that she had amended the current award modernisation request issued under Part 10A of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 to now require the AIRC to create a separate award for the restaurant and catering industry.

This was a great win for Chamber of Commerce & Industry Queensland members in this industry sector and was achieved by ongoing combined ACCI and CCIQ advocacy. CCIQ will continue to lobby the Government to make further changes to its award modernisation request, to address other industry concerns, such as in general retail and community pharmacy operations, due to continued concerns over increased costs and inflexibilities in their modern award.

For further information or to share your views on the award modernisation process please contact CCIQ's policy team at [policy@cciq.com.au](mailto:policy@cciq.com.au).

### **Labour Force Statistics**

The ABS has today released the labour force figures for June 2009 and a brief summary is provided below for your information.

#### **National**

It would appear that the shift from full-time to part-time employment has continued, albeit at a slower rate. This suggests that whilst employers have been working hard to retain staff in the current economic downturn via revised working arrangements, they may have limited capacity remaining to keep staff by shifting them to part-time employment.

#### **Key Figures (Seasonally Adjusted)**

- Employment decreased by 21,400 to 10,762,500. Full-time employment decreased by 21,900 to 7,611,800 and part-time employment increased by 400 to 3,150,600.
- Unemployment increased by 7,400 to 662,900. The number of persons looking for full-time work increased by 13,000 to 500,900 and the number of persons looking for part-time work decreased by 5,600 to 162,100.
- The unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage point to 5.8%.
- The participation rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 65.3%.

#### **Queensland**

The Queensland figures varied from the national figures in that full-time employment rose slightly whilst part-time employment fell quite significantly. This suggests that some Queensland businesses which had previously shifted employees from a full-time basis to a part-time basis may now have been forced to make the hard decision to reduce the size of their workforce.

#### **Key Figures (Seasonally Adjusted)**

- Employment decreased by 13,500 to 2,211,800. Full-time employment rose slightly by 2,900 to 1,603,200 while part-time employment fell by 16,400 to 608,600.
- Unemployment increased by 1,700 to 127,000 and the unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage point to 5.4%.
- The participation rate decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 67.2%.

#### **Regional**

As with the state labour force data, it is evident that there has been a shift from full-time to part-time employment. This indicates that businesses are altering employee working hours in an attempt to retain staff.

The regional unemployment rates are:

- Brisbane - 4.6%
- Ipswich - 4.7%
- Gold Coast - 5.7%
- Sunshine Coast - 9.8%
- West Moreton - 4.6%
- Wide Bay & Burnett - 10.0%
- Mackay & Fitzroy (includes Rockhampton and Gladstone) - 4.1%
- Darling Downs & South West - 1.8%
- Northern & North West - 4.5%
- Far North - 9.1%



**broadbeach**  
distinctly different

#### **Broadbeach Restaurant Week 17-26 July 2009**

The concept is a hit in New York, London and Melbourne now you can experience, 'Broadbeach Restaurant Week'. The inaugural Broadbeach Restaurant Week will be held from the 17th to the 26th of July 2009.

Broadbeach is the dining Mecca of the Gold Coast and what better place to cater for a world class dining festival than right here at the centre of it all.

Customers will have the opportunity to dine in participating Broadbeach restaurants which will all offer three course dinners for \$35 and or \$55 over ten massive nights this will mean you can dine around and know exactly what you're paying!

See the full list of more than 30 participating Broadbeach Restaurants and their menus by [clicking here](#)

#### **Broadbeach Blends of Jazz Festival 21-23 August 2009**

The Broadbeach Blends of Jazz Festival is a three day free music festival featuring an abundance of live jazz music throughout Broadbeach. The festival showcases live musicians on outdoor stages and venues throughout the Broadbeach precinct.

Broadbeach is the perfect place to combine world class Jazz with multi-award winning restaurants so make a weekend of it and stay in the precinct so you can enjoy the village atmosphere, spend some time soaking up the fantastic festival feel.



# Surfers Paradise

## A L L I A N C E

It's July already, with the mid-year school holidays in full swing with visitors from both Australia and abroad to be found walking around the streets of Surfers Paradise.

However with the colder weather you can't help but turn your thoughts to the beginning of spring and the warmer months ahead. A further reason to be excited about the start of spring, besides the weather is the fact that September will mark another exciting event for Surfers Paradise.

Iconic cultural event Tastes of the Gold Coast will be adding an extra European element to its itinerary this September, as Surfers Paradise based entry - the inaugural Eurofest- will be launched as the closing date on the festivals calendar. Eurofest will be a celebration of Pan European food and wine as well as a showcase of the Gold Coast's cultural diversity, making it an exciting new addition to Tastes of the Gold Coast, which is entering its fifth year.

Surfers Paradise Alliance is partnering with Tastes of the Gold Coast organisers to bring this premier event to the precinct, a development that reflects the areas increasing cultural maturity. I see Eurofest as a festival that signifies the cultural diversity and culinary heritage of Surfers Paradise I also feel that its inclusion as the final event on the Tastes of the Gold Coast calendar is indication of the festivals potential.

Surfers Paradise Alliance will be partnering with the precincts many European restaurants to present an authentic event, whose flavours, colours and smells will remind visitors of being in the middle of a market in the heart of an Italian town. I am excited about the launch of the inaugural Eurofest as part of Tastes of the Gold Coast and its inclusion of Surfers Paradise as part of the festival Surfers Paradise is the dining hub of the Gold Coast with a depth and breadth of ethnic cuisine, fine dining and cafes unmatched anywhere else the opportunity to showcase this aspect of the precinct to visitors will be fantastic.

Also keep your eye out for the Tastes of Gold Coast Raffle which will see a lucky winner receive the prize of a fabulous dinner party for 12 people with all produce matching wines, crockery, equipment and wait staff provided. Dinner will be served at the winner's home or agreed location sponsored by the Gold Coast Arts Centre and Gold Coast Convention Exhibition Centre.

Total value of this prize is \$2500. Entries close on the 13th September with tickets \$10. Visit [www.tastesofgoldcoast.com.au](http://www.tastesofgoldcoast.com.au) for more details.

So mark Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September in your diaries for what will be a fantastic day of food and fun. Eurofest will be held in Neil Shannon Park (rooftop of Bruce Bishop Carpark) in the heart of Surfers Paradise.



**eurofest**  
surfersparadise

For more information visit [www.surfersparadise.com](http://www.surfersparadise.com)

**Rowena Howe**  
CEO  
Surfers Paradise Alliance