

Global Village

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NEWS

Dive with intent

OrcaNation, previously known as Orca Scuba, is a dive company with a difference focussed on conservation and sustainability. OrcaNation has become the exclusive dive partner of a number of luxury resorts in South East Asia, with an aim to educate and inform divers about the importance of looking after the world's oceans. The company has a vision to set up an international network of dive operations that will commit to protecting and restoring the world's marine ecosystems with projects such as sea grass planting and reef clean ups.

orcanation.org



Skip the plastic bottles

Refill My Bottle is a new app that shows users where they can refill a bottle when on the move with clean, drinkable water for free, or a minimal fee. The app aims to combat the detrimental effect that single-use plastic water bottles are having on the earth. It was founded in Bali and now shows over 750 refill locations in more than nine countries. refillmybottle.com



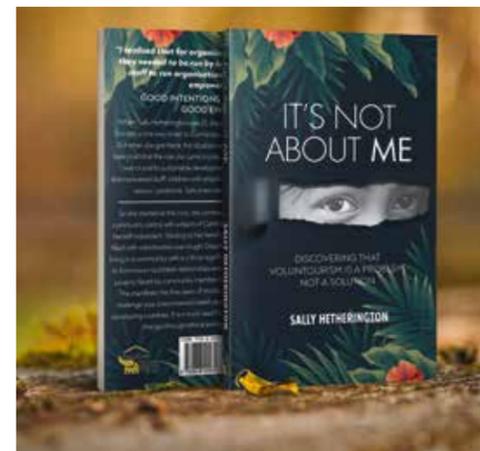
APT One Tomorrow

Cruising and travel company APT Travel Group (ATG) has formalised its philanthropic initiatives with the establishment of its charitable foundation 'One Tomorrow'. The new foundation, chaired by ATG group director Robert McGeary and managed by philanthropy specialist Madeleine Curtain, will continue to support a range of local and international charities. These include initiatives from Rural Aid, Cancer Council and Red Cross. One Tomorrow will also support a number of grassroots programs and humanitarian aid projects. aptravelgroup.com



Devil's advocates

Thanks to a joint conservation effort between Aussie Ark, Rewilding Australia, Parks Australia and Australian National University, 40 eastern quolls have been released back into the wild at Booderee National Park, NSW. The endangered marsupial has been extinct on mainland Australia since the 1960s due to predatory foxes and cats, as well as culling by humans and disease. But recent successful breeding programs show signs of a hopeful return for the native animal. From 28 – 30 October, Aussie Ark, together with Australian Geographic, will be hosting a three-day captive breeding program encounter. Guests can enjoy a unique, hands-on experience with eastern quolls and Tasmanian devils, staying at 'Devils Retreat' in Barrington Tops, NSW. aussieark.org.au



Voluntourism: the right way

Though the intentions of voluntourism programs and those who participate in them are virtuous, the actual impact can often be largely negative on the local communities involved. Sally Hetherington learned this first-hand when she bought a one-way ticket to Cambodia at the age of 25, hoping to make a difference. *It's Not About Me* is Sally's manifesto after she witnessed the harm that voluntourism programs had on communities in Cambodia. The book sets out to challenge preconceived beliefs about the best ways to help developing countries, and offers more sustainable and ethical alternatives. itsnotaboutmebook.com