

THE VANUATU VIBE

Planning a trip up our way? Here are some of the events and activities that are coming up in the next few months.

JULY

19th-20th

FANLA ARTS FESTIVAL

Ambrym Island. Rom Dance performance, grade taking ceremonies, magic shows and a delicious island feast.

Contact Isaiah Bong on +678 48405/48710

24th

CHILDREN'S DAY

Public Holiday

28th

TELECOM VANUATU ROUND ISLAND RELAY

Contact: Joe lautu, Vanuatu Tourism Office. Tel: +678 22685/ 22515.

Email: trade@tourism.vu

29th

VANUATU GAME FISHING

3 Species Challenge - Sponsored by Nautilus Fishing & Watersports.

30th

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Public Holiday.

AUGUST

8th - 12th

VANUATU GOLF OPEN

Contact Peter Cleal +678 22084.

DTBA

BACK TO MY ROOTS NORTH AMBRYM MINI ARTS FESTIVAL , OLAL

Contact Napong on +678 48585.

French speakers call Chief Joshua on +678 48631.

DTBA

VANUATU AGRICULTURE SHOW

Contact John Aruhuri. Tel: +678 27543, Fax: +678 27542.

Email: vancci@vanuatu.com.vu

15th

ASSUMPTION DAY

Public Holiday.

25th

LA PISTE BLEU - PORT VILA

Contact: Alice Willie. Tel: +678 22211, Fax: +678 25011.

Email: unelco@unelco.com.vu



Australian Representative: Level 1, 427 Chapel Street, South Yarra 3141, Melbourne

Ph: 03 9826 4677, Fax: 03 9804 7068

Vanuatu Office: Whitesands Vanuatu, BP 870 Port Vila, Efate Republic of Vanuatu

Ph: +678 22 125, Fax: +678 24 650 Visit us at www.whitesandsvanuatu.com

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PANDANUS

Newsletter of the White Sands Resort & Residences.

The Pacific's Most Exciting Place to Live, Relax and Play



TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF

Welcome to this inaugural issue of Pandanus- the first of what will become a regular update on the progress being made at White Sands Resort and Residences in Vanuatu.

As you'll read, the past few months have been action packed and eventful.

DID YOU KNOW...

The leaves of the Pandanus plant play an important role in Vanuatu. They are used to comfort people when they gather or when they sleep. They are also very special gifts often presented in large quantities at weddings and other important ceremonies as a symbol of wealth.



COMING TO THE FORE

Here is a quick update on some significant milestones achieved to date - all excellent signs that White Sands is progressing very well indeed.

- 1 RTJ II Shapers have commenced shaping of the course and have currently cut and shaped the driving range, as well as cut and cleared holes 1, 2 & 3. The Civil Contractors have cleared holes 4 - 18 in advance of RTJ's 'shapers' forming the finished contours.
- 2 We will soon be opening a sales office in the heart of Port Vila with the appointment of First National Agents as Master Agents. They will have responsibility for the running of this office as well as helping to market the project world wide.



DID YOU KNOW...
In 1606 a Spanish expedition led by explorers Luis Vaéz de Torres and Pedro Fernández de Quirós became the first Europeans to reach the islands which they believed to be part of Terra Australis. Vanuatu is, in fact, an archipelago of 83 islands.

DREAM CREATION HAS BEGUN

The year for us to date has been exceedingly busy, and eventful. It began in earnest on February 8th with the official ground breaking ceremony. This, in turn, marked the commencement of construction.

It was significant that the Prime Minister, plus the Ministers of Finance and Tourism, took part in this important event. It symbolised their continued support and commitment to this significant project and allowed them to publicly voice their praise and encouragement.

At the official reception it was also announced that Australian-owned development investor Larkfield Estate has joined the overall development team. Their coming on board is both a great endorsement of the project and further stimulates the increasing recognition and interest White Sands is generating.

HIVE OF ACTIVITY

Since the opening ceremony, progress on site has been significant. Kramers Engineers, ERM landscape planners (from Australia), D & D Entreprise, Geomap Surveyors, and of course Robert Trent Jones Jnr have been busy in a variety of ways. Their respective attentions have been focussed on finalising plans and guiding the civil machinery in cutting roads, laying of the residential infrastructure (phone/broadband, power, water and waste) for Stage One, and of course the earthworks for the golf course.

Accompanying Robert on site was Robert Trent Jones's Regional Development Director Mike Kahler. It will be, says Robert Jnr, the realization of his father's dream of building a course in Vanuatu.

Robert Jnr will be the inaugural Club Chairman and is already scheduled to come and open the course. Your invitation to the opening will be sent closer to the event.



DID YOU KNOW...
Vanuatu was the source of inspiration for author James Michener's *Tales of the South Pacific*. This, in turn, moved composers Rogers and Hammerstein to pen their Broadway and movie classic *South Pacific*.



VANUATU LOCAL NEWS...

The Tourism sector is booming in Vanuatu, with 5 years of unprecedented growth in visitor numbers. While Vanuatu is a world away when it comes to forgetting the day to day - it is becoming more and more recognised as a wonderful tourist destination. Regular airline and cruise services are already in place with these growing all the time. With Air Vanuatu - The local international airline, operating jointly with Qantas from Australia, providing

SALES PROGRESS

Stage One is 60% sold out with only 30 lots remaining. The plan is to complete Stage One with the creation of The Founders Club - representing those who came in at the earliest stage of the development. Commensurate with the quality of the resort, the Club will provide members with significant benefits. Not least, we are planning an exclusive Founders only invitation to join Robert Jnr in a tour of the course and private celebration dinner. Complete details on the Founders Club will come in the next newsletter.

BY DESIGN

A number of owners have expressed intent to start designing their homes now. We encourage you to talk with Bruce Henderson Architects (the project architects) about the various options that are, or will be, on offer. We are asking that no residence construction commence work prior to August 10.

GROWTH RECOGNITION

At the close of Stage One, we anticipate that the price list will increase based on the 30% per annum growth being experienced in Vanuatu for the last 5 years (Source: First National Vanuatu).

DID YOU KNOW...
Robert Trent Jones Senior was the subject of countless articles, the most significant of which was *The New Yorker* profile in August 4, 1951, which credited him with establishing the profession of golf course architecture on a higher level of public awareness.

return flights in and out of Port Vila, Australia, New Zealand, Noumea, Fiji and Solomon Islands. Air Pacific - The Fijian international airline provides return flights in and out of Port Vila, via Fiji onward to Australia, New Zealand, Tongatapu, Tahiti, Honiara, USA and Canada. And most recently Pacific Blue - the Virgin international airline provides return flights in and out of Port Vila via Australia and New Zealand. P&O Cruises have also recently announced 80 annual cruise ship stopovers in Port Vila, with ocean liners from the wider Pacific and around the world.