



Gold Coast charities benefit from Jerry Schwartz's first foray into Queensland hotels – Charity Event marks take-over of Surfers Paradise Hilton

24 May 2019: The takeover of the Surfers Paradise Hilton earlier this month by Australia's largest private hotel investor, Dr Jerry Schwartz, will be marked today by a major charity event, with a range of charities provided rooms to use for fund raising to support local causes.

Charities involved in today's gala event include Rosies, the Smith Family, Oz Harvest, Paradise Kids/Hopewell Hospice, Humour Foundation/Clown Doctors, Orange Sky Homelessness, Gold Coast Hospital Foundation & Romac.

Dr Schwartz completed his first foray into Queensland hotel property with settlement of the \$70 million purchase of the five-star Hilton Surfers Paradise from the Chinese group, Ja Feng at the start of May.

The Hilton Surfers Paradise is the Schwartz Family Company's 14th hotel in Australia. It will join 11 hotels in NSW – including Sydney's first international five-star hotel since 2000, the Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour – and one each in the ACT and Victoria.

The Hilton Surfers Paradise is one of the Gold Coast's newest luxury hotels, with Dr Schwartz's purchase including the 169-room hotel and management rights for 220 apartment-style residences. The accommodation is complemented by an impressive range of facilities including four restaurants and bars, a spa, extensive conference and function facilities, four pools, a large outdoor deck area and car parking.

"It has become a tradition to mark our entry into new markets by holding a charity event, as it is important to give back to charities that do so much to support the local community," said Dr Schwartz.

"The fact that we can align this to Hilton's 100th anniversary adds to the occasion, but principally this is all about highlighting our support for the Gold Coast community.

"Previous fundraisers in Sydney have seen the charities raise in excess of \$250,000 and we already know that incentives like our celebration event can raise tens of thousands of dollars for charities, so it is a very positive initiative.

"This was a big decision for our company to invest in the Gold Coast, but I have had plenty of opportunity to 'test' the market, having purchased an apartment on the Gold Coast two years ago and been a regular visitor with my family," said Dr Schwartz.

"I've been impressed by the development of tourism infrastructure in recent years, and the seamless staging of the events such as the Commonwealth Games.

“The Gold Coast rightfully owns the title of Australia’s premier family, couples and groups market because its beaches, natural attractions, theme parks, events, restaurants and nightlife provide a complete tourism package that is attractive to both the domestic and international travellers.

“It’s a tremendously vibrant destination that combines world-class beaches with a touch of Las Vegas pizzazz. It all adds up to making the Gold Coast Australia’s ‘entertainment and events capital’.

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