

THE 2008 HUMAN RESOURCES FORUM



Held on board the P & O cruise ship, *The Oriana*, the forum is an intensive mix of meetings, seminars, debates and networking opportunities between over two hundred senior HR professionals (who pay nothing to attend) and over fifty suppliers of services to the HR profession (who pay a great deal!).

The ship departed Southampton at 6pm on Wednesday the 7th May and returned at 6am on Saturday, in between it sails to the Guernsey and "parks" there while the forum goes ahead too far away from land to risk swimming and for some of the time surrounded in fog so you could be anywhere!

The mix of good conference sessions interspersed with supplier meetings for the delegates is a tried and trusted formula and the detailed itinerary also puts together delegates and suppliers for breakfast, lunch and dinner meetings as well.

The conference does attract some top quality speakers, including keynote talks this year from Sir Gerry Robinson on Leadership, good solid stuff, one from Ben Saunders called "*Anything is Possible*" who is an Arctic adventurer which was excellent and Anne Lise Kjaer who talked about "emotional consumption" – no further comment required!

It is a great way of networking and researching a wide variety of HR issues in a short but action packed time. If you count the meetings over meals I met with over 35 people in 2½ days which is great but does require stamina too!

Martyn Melvin

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