

# Ideas exchanged 100 feet above Kensington High Street



**BNC member Kate Conway, Head of Events for Tesco, recently organised and chaired an events management networking forum at Virgin's The Roof Gardens.**

Gathering together a healthy cross section of 10 conference and event managers from within The BNC, the purpose of the event was to exchange ideas and discuss a mixed agenda of hot topics, problems areas and burning issues.

In the stylish yet cosy Private Dining Room (that has floor to ceiling windows plus its own terrace with panoramic views over London) the ten top events professionals not only discussed at length a whole variety of subjects but were incredibly helpful and supportive of one another as well.

During the day they-:

- considered best practice for sustainability at events
- shared tips on negotiations
- devised a tips list for ways of working with procurement teams
- discussed trends in catering
- swapped formulas for doing risk assessments

- chatted about tax and VAT implications
- weighed up the differences between delegate management systems
- brainstormed ideas for getting people to network at live events
- agreed about problems with event insurance
- shared tips for generating conference content

.....and at the end of the day they swapped lists of their preferred suppliers, each going home with some fresh ideas to explore and contacts to keep.



A break in the middle of the day was wisely spent in *Babylon*, the Roof Gardens' stylish restaurant. With vistas of London and wow-factor food the group was recharged for more networking.

Many thanks to Alicia Anderson of The Roof Gardens for giving this group a base to network and for providing them with a tour of the indoor and outdoor event spaces. The venue was extremely impressive and the group was well looked after by staff. A particular favourite amongst the ten was the basket of care goodies left on the table in the Private Dining Room. Included inside were tissues, throat lozenges, hand cream and other daily essentials plus a bright red rubber duck! That kind of sums up the venue and its people – thoughtful, organised, bold, unique and memorable.

If you would like to attend a future networking forum please email: [melissaruel@thebnc.co.uk](mailto:melissaruel@thebnc.co.uk)

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