



## Hi, flyers

THERE is good news for those of generous proportions who fly and for those who are seated next to them.



According to the SMH, plane maker Airbus is considering adding an extra two inches to the width of aisle seats on its A320 plane, which is currently 18" wide.

It is a move said to be in response to complaints from airlines, who claim that travellers' expanding waistlines are causing problems.

The downside to making this concession is that there would be a reduction in the width of all the other seats by one inch.

An alternative put forward in the UK, is to charge overweight passengers a 'fat tax', a fine idea for the individual airline coffers but of little comfort to those squeezed in beside them - Jill.

## Luxury in Siem Reap

AFTER a complete rebuild and transformation by architect Bill Bensley, the Shinta Mani Siem Reap in Cambodia has had a soft opening.

A scenic fifteen minute tuk-tuk ride from the hotel, the newly invigorated boutique property has 39 guestrooms and public spaces inspired by the ancient Khmer temples of Angkor Wat.

Guided by Cambodian owner, Sokoun Chanpreda, the resort's philosophy of Open Doors, Open Hearts and continues Shinta Mani's strong commitment to responsible tourism & community outreach with the Development Centre for those less fortunate in the hotel's grounds.

## Hawaiian flies to Brisbane



THE continued strength of the Aussie dollar, greater destination awareness in Hawai'i and an increase in airlift from Australian ports is making this island paradise an even easier and more accessible one to add to the event decision.

Last year 189,069 Australians visited Hawai'i, while this year, 69,867 Aussies had visited by the end of April.

There was a 32% rise in Australian visitors year-on-year between 2010 and 2011, and the increase in numbers up until the end of April this year reflects a 44.2% increase on the same period in 2011.

Added to this Hawaiian Airlines has announced the debut of nonstop flights between Brisbane and Honolulu, with the thrice weekly operation to commence from 28 November this year.

The service will be operated using 262-seat Boeing 767-300ER aircraft with 18 business class seats.

The move will see HA become the only US carrier to fly to the Queensland capital, with the new flights connecting in Hawai'i with same-carrier same-day services to other Hawaiian islands.

"Australians love Hawai'i, and our decision to introduce three

flights per week from Brisbane to Honolulu reflects the strength of the Queensland market," said HA president and ceo, Mark Dunkerley.

Flight HA444 will depart BNE at 6.35pm every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday and arrive in Honolulu at 7.50am the same day.

The return service HA443 will depart Hawaii at 9.45am each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, arriving in Brisbane at 4pm the following day in time for onward connections to destinations across Australia.

## Quicksilver takes a dive

THE London Olympic Games has nothing on Quicksilver's own memorable Sydney 2000 Games Olympic torch experience of carrying the torch under water at the Great Barrier Reef.

Now, in major Quicksilver news they have completed the full acquisition of Pro Dive Cairns, purchasing the remaining shares of the region's leading dive operator and dive school.

And, as the humpback whales head up the coast for their annual 'northern break' there's no finer place for sightings.

## Ben on BEN



Each month Business Manager for inPlace Recruitment, Ben Carnegie, writes his observations from the recruiters perspective to help job hunters find the perfect job.

Ben has over 15 years working in 5 star hotels and the MICE industry and has worked on some of Australia's biggest events.

### WHERE

would Event Management be without networking?

Whenever I attend industry networking

events, I often hear stories of how little time people working in events actually get to attend them.

I have found from experience that those that are the best networkers are those that specifically make the time to attend these events. Next time you see an event you like, block it out in your diary! I personally have made more new contacts, whether for new clients or new candidates, at social functions than anywhere else.

At the end of the day, we all want to work with people we know, like and trust. What better way to do that than discussing absolutely nothing to do with work?

You just never know when these relationships will come in handy and let's face it, event professionals love word of mouth recommendations!

Hope to see you all out there soon!



**SILVERSEA**

Inspire | Indulge | Intrigue

### SILVERSEA CRUISES CORPORATE & INCENTIVE PRESENTATION AND COCKTAIL EVENING

Karen Christensen, General Manager, Director of Sales & Marketing, cordially invites you to a Corporate & Incentive Presentation and Cocktail Evening on Wednesday 18 July, 6pm to 8pm at the Museum of Sydney, Bridge St, Sydney NSW 2000. Please register your interest by calling **1300 306 872** (press 3, press 1) or email [apevents@silversea.com](mailto:apevents@silversea.com)





## Kyoto cultural edge

AS the conference, events and incentive markets continue to grow and the city becomes even more popular with these groups, the Kyoto Convention Bureau report an 11% rise in membership.

Established in 1990, James Kent, international marketing manager at the Bureau said, "Kyoto has gone from strength to strength as a business destination.

"It offers event organisers a mix of cutting edge experiences alongside cultural attractions which is unrivalled by other cities.

"We are delighted that more organisations are joining and the addition of the new members will help make the city an even more attractive place to do business."

## Leishing out

ONE of Australia's leading Conference and Event Management companies, Leishman Associates has crossed the Strait from Tasmania recently with the announcement that they have opened a new Melbourne office, to complement their Tasmanian operation that now boasts a team of 17.

Managing director, Paula Leishman, said the opening of a Melbourne office was a huge step for the company, and one that has already proved to be advantageous.

"We already have many clients in Melbourne and having a presence on the ground will help us service them, as well as expand into new markets", she said.

"An interstate office is something we've been considering for a while, so to see this come to light is a real thrill".

This new Leishman office is the first of a series of changes and plans that the firm is bringing into fruition over the next 12 - 18 months for the former Telstra Business Award winners.

"The future of Leishman Associates is definitely looking bright and sparkly, and is something the whole team is really excited about", Leishman added.

## World class show

SOME of Australia's hottest new talent is being promised at this year's Sydney's Event Showcase (15-16 August ) by exhibition organisers, Exhibitions and Trade Fairs (EFT).

Naming Apples & Pears Entertainment as the official entertainment partner of the show, it represents a complete overhaul of the Showcase's Entertainment program.

Jodie Richmond, ceo and gm of EFT, said the new partnership is a fundamental change in the quality of entertainment presented at the Showcase.

"Our market research revealed that corporate entertainment is one of the most vital and memorable facets to event planning and management."

## Hairy crab is back

THE Central Hotel Shanghai is celebrating a new era after emerging from a year-long USD27 million renovation.

Adjacent to Nanjing Road Pedestrian Mall and a premier address for business travellers and tourists, it lies in the heart of the city's downtown shopping and entertainment district.

A Worldhotels affiliate, the Central's iconic Wang Bao He restaurant, celebrated for its Shanghai hairy crab, is a favourite with diners.

The renovation has given a new lease of life to all 313 guestrooms and suites and introducing non-smoking floors and wireless internet.

Also upgraded is the Recreation Centre, with a brand new mini-golf facility, as well as the One Fine spa and beauty salon.

There's an Executive Club floor with its own lounge and restaurant, plus mini-conference rooms, while banquet and conference facilities on the third and fifth to seventh floors have also been newly decorated.

The hotel is offering a promotional rate of USD146 per room per night, valid until 31 August 2012.

## Sunlover's group rates



SUNLOVER Cruises are offering some excellent specials for groups on their fast air-conditioned catamarans to their spacious outer reef activity pontoon.

The group rate of \$119pp for their Moore Reef full day excursion has a saving of 33% on the normal rate of \$180 and includes one person free per 10 paying passengers, one free soft

drink voucher per person, free use of Lycra suits and 20% off Seawalker Helmut and introductory diving.

Similarly, their Fitzroy Island group rate of \$85pp, a saving of 10%, (includes a minimum of 10 paying passengers), one free per 10 paying passengers, plus snorkel equipment and lunch.

The offer is valid until 31 December.

## WIN AN ESCAPE TO EMIRATES WOLGAN VALLEY RESORT & SPA



During the months of June and July, *Business Events News* is giving one lucky reader the chance to win an amazing two-night stay at the exclusive Emirates **Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa** in the Blue Mountains.

The prize includes a two-night stay for two people in a Heritage Suite with breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Non-alcoholic beverages with all meals and selected regional wines and beer with lunch and dinner are also included, as are two outdoor activities each day.

Emirates Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is located on a 4000-acre nature reserve adjacent to the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains and only 190kms from Sydney. The resort offers 40 stand-alone luxury suites, each with its own private verandah & swimming pool.

To enter simply email your answers to each question by 27th July 2012

**Q.4: What are the names of the 2 National Parks that sit either side of Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa?**

Hint: [wolganvalley.com](http://wolganvalley.com)

Email your answers to: [wolgan@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:wolgan@businesseventsnews.com.au)

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## Paris, city of light

A RECENT famil trip to Paris, conducted by DMS and their partner in France "La Fayette Travel" saw four senior event managers experience this extraordinary city.

One of the participants, Carole Parsons of Call Incentives, reports on her experience.

*I have been to Paris many times but wanted to renew my acquaintance and to experience the thrill of simply 'being in Paris.'*

*Cyril de Fontenay of La Fayette Travel who was our host and 'magician,' understands our market extremely well and the need to provide enough of the traditional to satisfy one's expectations.*

*This was well covered by a cruise and dinner on the Seine, with the Tour Eiffel at the start/*

*end point.*

*We had a fun ride in Citroen 'Deux Chevaux' vehicles through the streets of Paris and Montmartre, not only a fun way to travel but an experience where we were looked on by tourists as a tourist attraction ourselves.*

*We were introduced to Bercy with its old wine storage warehouses, boutiques, cafes and restaurants and to Les Pavilions de Bercy; in the same area, a classic funfair in three themed pavilions around a streetscape of cobbled streets.*

*The owner has collected vintage fairground art and memorabilia while in L'Alcazara we had a memorable dinner in this venue with a bar and a music scene that will please those wanting to dance and to be 'seen' in this hip-happening place.*

*The Vaux-le-Viscomte Chateau, a truly beautiful chateau filled with history; it was the inspiration for Versailles and is available for all sorts of corporate events.*

*A lot less crowded than Versailles, it makes a great day visit from Paris which we combined with a lovely country lunch.*

Contact DMS via email at [info@destinationmarketing.com.au](mailto:info@destinationmarketing.com.au).

## Western Premier is Best

**BEST** Western Australia's first Best Western Premier Hotel has opened in Melbourne's Kew, joining a total of 14 Best Western Plus properties.

Rob Anderson, ceo of Best Western Australasia, said "We're sure guests will be delighted with the distinct style and personalised service offered to them by the new Best Western Premier 115 Kew.

"As our first Premier property in Australia, we are thrilled with the quality of this property".

The 112-room hotel is conveniently located ten minutes from the Melbourne CBD and is flanked by Hawthorn to its south, and Balwyn to its east.

## Stepping up

AS the Adelaide Convention Centre's (ACC) partnership with Foodbank SA and OzHarvest enters its fourth year, disadvantaged and homeless South Australians have received more than 50,000 meals from the Centre.



One of OzHarvest's first partners in the State, helping them with its first trial food drop, the Centre has been acknowledged with a South Australian Governor's Award.

ACC ceo Alec Gilbert said, "Meals are prepared fresh by the Centre for each client event with any leftover meals collected by OzHarvest Adelaide within two hours.

"Foodbank SA works a little differently.

"We prepare and freeze surplus soups and meals from events when we have an unexpected drop in numbers.

"The Centre can produce thousands of meals every day so we take the responsibility of food waste and food safety very seriously."

## HKCEC new MD

**MONICA** Lee-Muller, who had held the position of deputy managing director at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) since 2007, will assume the role of managing director of the HKCEC & operating company, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre Management Ltd, effective 1 July.

During her 18-year tenure, she has led the team in securing numerous world renowned events.



**STARWOOD** Hotels & Resorts Worldwide is storming through Greater China with a milestone 103 hotels open and in operation and another 100 signed hotels.

With China being Starwood's second largest market outside of the United States, the hotel group opened 11 hotels in 2012 and expects to open another 13 hotels by the year's end.

## Silversea's new ship

**IN** shipping news, the Silversea Group have purchased Canodros S.A., the premier Ecuadorian tourism company that operates in the Galapagos Islands and the upmarket expedition ship, *Galapagos Explorer II*.



The all-suite, 100-guest vessel will join Silversea's ultra-luxury fleet of six ships next year, after undergoing a major refurb in September, including giving it a new name, modifications to ensure its consistency with the standards of the Silversea fleet.

In the meantime the 4077-ton, stylishly elegant mega-yacht *Galapagos Explorer II* will continue on its planned schedule of cruises and will continue to be operated by Canodros.

All of its 50 spacious suites feature ocean views and 24 include private balconies.

Public spaces showcases a restaurant, piano bar, library and internet station, main lounge, outdoor bar, two outdoor whirlpools, and a marine observation deck.

## Be creative & win a 2 night stay at Novotel Melbourne St Kilda



This week, *Business Events News* is giving readers the chance to win two night's accommodation in a superior bayview room for two adults plus full buffet breakfast and car parking courtesy of **Novotel Melbourne St Kilda**.

Novotel Melbourne St Kilda, located opposite St Kilda beach and 6km from the city centre is a venue in a class of its own. Choose from 12 versatile function spaces which can cater for up to 300 delegates.

Featuring state of the art facilities, modern decor & pillarless layouts the venue and its location make Novotel Melbourne St Kilda the perfect choice for your next event.

To win send your creative answer to: [comp@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:comp@businesseventsnews.com.au)

**In 25 words or less tell us what makes the Novotel Melbourne St Kilda a great destination for meetings & conferences...**

Hint: [novotelstkilda.com.au](http://novotelstkilda.com.au)  
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