



## Song of India

WITH new Air India Boeing Dreamliner



787s flying into new markets across the globe including Italy, the US, Australia and, in a second region for the UK, Birmingham, Air India is set for international growth.

Now operating four times weekly between Birmingham Airport and New Delhi, the improved services means the city is also looking to build its growing Indian tourist market.

Similarly, Australia is laying out the welcoming mat for an expected influx of tourists and lucrative conference business, in the run up to the arrival of the airline's maiden Dreamliner flight from New Delhi to Sydney and Melbourne on 29 August.

Australia already ranks among the top ten source destinations for inbound tourists to India and Sydney's hosting of the 2013 Regional Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Conference in October with an expected 1000 delegates, and a forerunner to securing further strong conference business, will hopefully swings things our way - Jill.

## Crown Napier deal

THE Crown Hotel Napier, which overlooks the waterfront in the historic New Zealand village of Ahuriri, has a conference deal with a difference.

Book a new, full day conference with catering and for the first five bookings received, enjoy one free night stay in a studio premium suite and a 50% discount on your conference room hire.

The Crown, with flexible meeting space, has 43 elegantly appointed guest suites ranging from studios to two and three bedroom luxury apartments.

In addition, there is a new and opulent Globe Theatre which seats 45 people.

See [www.thecrownnapier.co.nz](http://www.thecrownnapier.co.nz).

## Clock in at the office\*

OFFICE\*, a tradeshow and professional development event, is

coming to Australia for the first time on 16-17 October at the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Now in its fourth year in the UK, office\*, is designed for those who manage offices and need to be in the know about new and innovative local products, services and business solutions.

The new trade show will provide access to the best names in office supplies, management, business travel, accommodation, health and safety, event management,

**office\***

16-17 OCTOBER 2013 SYDNEY 1-2 MAY 2014 MELBOURNE

\*PERSONAL ASSISTANT  
 \*OFFICE MANAGER  
 \*EXECUTIVE SUPPORT

facilities management, training and recruitment.

There will also be show-only deals on business essentials helping office professionals squeeze more out of the annual budget.

In addition, a strong professional development program with some of Australia's top training and development experts will be held with seminars touching on a range of topics from virtual assistants to office politics.

An impressive list of inspirational keynote speakers include Donna Coulling, personal assistant to celebrities Helena Bonham Carter, Rachel Weisz, and Ita Buttrose.

An Interactive Theatre will feature live product demonstrations and educational sessions.

Entry is free for industry visitors who pre-register or pay \$20 at the door.

To find out more information visit [www.officeshow.com.au](http://www.officeshow.com.au).

## Four Seasons appoints



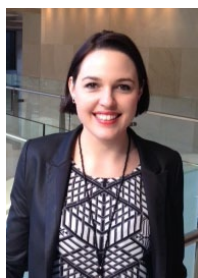
TONY Coveney who arrived in Sydney from the Four Seasons Dublin, has been appointed as director of rooms at the Four Seasons Sydney.

In his new role, Coveney will lead a team of 150 staff and oversee the activities of key guest-facing departments such as the Concierge, Guest Services, Front Desk, Housekeeping, and the Executive Club.

Also joining the Four Seasons Sydney is Charlotte Martelli as group sales manager.

Previously with the Hilton Hotel Sydney, she looked after both the group and corporate markets for the past eighteen months.

As a New Zealand native, Charlotte has also worked for Wellington Convention Centre.



## Travco appoints Nemonic



AUSTRALIAN-BASED Nemonic Concepts has been appointed the Australasian representative for Travco Group with a regional network that includes offices in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Muscat.

Sue Wallace, Nemonic Concepts said of the tourism operation, which began over three decades ago, they have the ability to cut through the red tape for pcos.

"The exclusive cultural and adventure experiences with Travco are incomparable and their excellent infrastructure will help deliver one of the most memorable and seamless Arabian Gulf experiences.

"One day guests could be enjoying an evening in a private box at Meydan Racetrack in Dubai, experiencing the thrill of viewing Formula One Grand Prix racing in Abu Dhabi or taking a journey back into time with the tales of One Thousand and One Nights on a dhow cruise through the fjords of Musandam in Oman," she said.

## MCEC pours it on with De Bortoli

AT a food and wine hour at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) on 8 August, De Bortoli Wines joined four regional producers, to announce the naming of a sparkling wine especially for MCEC.

De Bortoli's chief winemaker Steve Webber said "As one of our largest customers, MCEC has poured more than 13,000 bottles of our wine in the past year, so it was fitting that we work with them on their own labelled sparkling wine from the Yarra Valley.

"Having worked with them for the last five years we're thankful for their support in showcasing our wines to visitors from around the world."

MCEC executive chef Tony Panetta designed a special canapé menu for the evening using ingredients from suppliers in four Victorian regions, matched with De Bortoli wines.

"We're spoilt in Victoria with such incredible produce and our food and wine hour was an example of how our kitchen team work with suppliers and source ingredients straight from the farm to create our dishes in-house," Panetta said.



# business events news

21st August 2013

## Politics & small business

A SURVEY conducted by the Victoria Tourism Industry Council (VTIC) has indicated that



wage costs, business taxes and government charges are the biggest challenges faced by the tourism and events industry.

The latest quarterly business sentiment survey says 68% of respondents nominated wage costs as a moderate or significant constraint on their business.

VTIC ce Dianne Smith says, "It is not surprising that wage costs are the most significant challenge for our members at the moment, given the 24 hour, seven day a week nature of our industry.

"For some operators, keeping up with wage requirements makes running a successful business really difficult.

"We urge both parties to take this into consideration in the upcoming federal election," she said and urged small businesses across Australia to support

the Small Business, Too Big To Ignore campaign to help raise the voice of small

businesses across Australia.

"It is time for government to recognise how significant our industry is and reflect this through proper resourcing of government departments and a better understanding of how our sector works," she said.

### Angsana Bintan deal

THE Angsana Resort on Bintan Island has a fabulous Corporate Getaway Package, offering large meeting and event spaces, professional staff and a Greg Norman-designed golf course.

Book a full day meeting package for 10 delegates or more by 22 Dec and enjoy a choice of three add-ons from a smorgasbord such as delegate gifts, room upgrades, pre-dinner drinks package, transfers & more - 02 9411 5576 or [sales-sydney@angsana.com](mailto:sales-sydney@angsana.com).

## NZ courts India leaders

HAVING identified India as an emerging market providing enormous opportunity for NZ, last week Tourism New Zealand hosted a group of key Indian travel industry leaders on a week-long tour of both the North and South Islands.

With the aim to significantly grow Indian visitor numbers in line with emerging growth markets, the educational highlighted high-end accommodation, restaurants and attractions, visiting Wellington, Christchurch, Queenstown, Milford Sound and Auckland.

Tourism NZ's regional manager of South and South East Asia, Mischa Mannix-Opie, says the visit is part of Tourism New Zealand's work to build both awareness and travel connections to New Zealand, to accelerate the growth of quality visitor arrivals.

"We see this famil as an opportunity to showcase New Zealand in a modern and refreshed way, to help ignite these industry leaders interest in developing new itineraries to sell destination New Zealand to their customers," she says.

The five travel company ceos were co-hosted by Azahar Hamid, regional senior vp, South Asia and Middle East for Malaysia Airlines.



FOR a week in July BEN ran a 'BLUE MAN GROUP' competition for readers to win a double pass to this wildly popular theatrical production that combines electrifying music, sensational technology, comedy and multimedia theatrics.

As fate would have it the tickets were won by Ben Carnegie, inPlace Recruitment's business manager, who also happens to write his observations from the recruiter's perspective, in our 'Ben on BEN' monthly column.

Following the performance Ben reported back that it was unlike any performance he had ever seen.

"The visual effects were fantastic and the percussion used anything they could get their hands on," he enthused.



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# business events news

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## Wellington: open for business

**WELLINGTON'S** visitor industry is open for business following the 6.6 magnitude earthquake that struck central New Zealand on Friday 16 August.

The city and its central business district have come through Friday afternoon's quake mostly unscathed.

Positively Wellington Tourism (PWT) chief executive David Perks says visitor services are fully operational in Wellington, with transport services, major hotels, key venues and attractions all operating as normal.

"It's back to business as usual for Wellington with all major utilities and infrastructure inspected and cleared for public use," he said.

Visitors have not, and are not, expected to be significantly disrupted.

"Wellington's newest waterfront

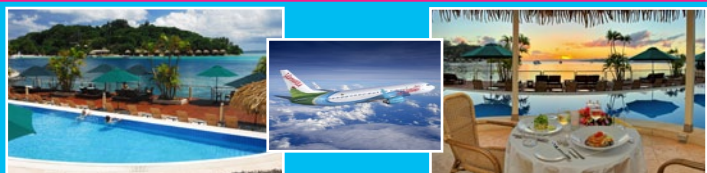


venue, Shed6, opens its doors tomorrow, and we look forward to a full house on Saturday when the Wallabies take on the All Blacks at Westpac Stadium."

Saturday's match combined with the final weekend of Te Papa's Australasian exclusive Warhol: Immortal and Visa Wellington On a Plate culinary festival gives both Wellingtonians and visitors to the city plenty to celebrate.

If you have concerns about any forward bookings, please contact your operator directly, says Positively Wellington Tourism.

## WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO VANUATU



During the months of August and September, **BEN** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win an amazing holiday for two people to Vanuatu, courtesy of **Air Vanuatu** and the **Grand Hotel & Casino**.

The prize includes Air Vanuatu return airfares from Syd/Bne/Mel to Port Vila, and five nights accommodation in a Harbour View Room including breakfast daily at the Grand Hotel and Casino.

Air Vanuatu offers daily flights from Australia, just over 3 hours away. Complimentary inflight service and the friendliest smiles in the Pacific!

Grand Hotel and Casino offers a relaxing yet sophisticated setting, in a prime waterfront location in the heart of Port Vila. The hotel is central to Port Vila's business and entertainment district and just 200 metres to the markets. The Grand's business facilities cater well for small groups and conferences. With water views from every room, the hotel also features an outdoor pool, Aromessence Day Spa, Crystals Restaurant and Hemisphere Bar. The Grand Casino also offers the very best in gaming facilities.

**Q5. Is the average flight time to Port Vila from Sydney less than 4 hours?**

Email each of the daily questions and the final creative response by Friday 20 September to:

[vanuatu@businessesnews.com.au](mailto:vanuatu@businessesnews.com.au)

Click here for terms & conditions

Hint: [www.airvanuatu.com](http://www.airvanuatu.com)



TONY WRAGG'S

# techTALK

Technology made simple for small business

## iPhone 5S expected in September

Apple's new iPhone range is expected to be on sale as soon as September.

Sources say we should expect an updated iPhone 5 (the 5S) along with a cheaper, plastic model (the 5C) available in several colours.

Apple has unveiled a new handset every year since it announced the first iPhone in 2007.

The first four models – iPhone, iPhone 3G, iPhone 3GS and the iPhone 4 – were all unveiled in June and went on sale around a week or so later.

The iPhone 5S is rumoured to have internet speeds around ten times as fast as 3G.

It is also poised to be released with a built-in fingerprint scanner and look identical to the current iPhone 5 – but include a faster processor and updated camera.

The 5S will run iOS 7 the major new version of Apple's iPad and



iPhone software launched in June.

Apple has reportedly adopted dual-LED flash for its rear-facing camera, which means that circular flash is now pill-shaped, and many believe the iPhone 5S camera has been improved from the 8-megapixels in the iPhone 5, likely to 12-megapixels.

*Story adapted from articles in Mailonline & T3 magazine.*

*To check out the latest tech news for small business*

*visit Tony Wragg's TechTalk at: [www.tonymystechtalk.com.au](http://www.tonymystechtalk.com.au).*



## Swiss-Belhotel enters NZ market

**SWISS-BELHOTEL** International is to fully rebrand the former Coronet Peak Hotel to the Swiss-Belresort Coronet Peak and introduce new professional standards of operations & service.

The group also plans to conduct an extensive upgrade of the property to raise its classification to a high-quality four-star resort.

This will include the introduction of additional conference and meeting space and outdoor hot tubs.

"Queenstown is an immensely popular destination in both the summer and winter months, with June to September seeing droves of snowboarders and skiers descend upon Coronet Peak's 280 skiable hectares and extensive, state-of-the-art snowmaking installations," a spokesman said.

When completed, the resort will feature extensive leisure facilities including Queenstown's only ten-pin bowling alley.

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# business events news

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## ABEE and Sydney's Event Showcase 2013 highlights

**BUSINESS** Events News took part in last week's ABEE/Sydney's Event Showcase at the Sydney Exhibition Centre, with these exclusive photos taken during the event - more at [facebook.com/BusEvNews](https://www.facebook.com/BusEvNews).

**RIGHT:**

EEAA director Joyce DiMascio (second from right) with Terri-Ann, Alexandra and Crystal from the Australian Turf Club.



**ABOVE:** Peter and Ben from inPlace Recruitment enjoying the fabulous new format of the **Business Events News** stand.



**ABOVE:** Exhibitors and buyers playing Lasershoot at the Chateau Elan at The Vintage stand, a resort located in the heart of the Hunter Valley wine country.

**RIGHT:** Tim Jack Adams, GREENX and Emma Cao, Destination Tweed enjoyed their time at the Party After Dark on Wednesday night at The Ivy.



**RIGHT:**

Karolina and Claryssa strutting their stuff on the Broadway Meets Vegas stand.



**BELOW:** Stuart Katzen, Eventify; Nick Maynard, Maui Jim and Carla Teixeira, Hamilton Island looking cool in Maui Jim sunnies.



**LEFT:** Cooking up a storm at the Interactive Kitchen.



**RIGHT:** Having a great time networking and catching up with friends at the Party After Dark following the first day at ABEE are Mark Sarian, Babylon Consulting with Cath and Andrew Colville from World Stage Expo.

