



## Hidden Gem

I HAD breakfast with the British Lions on Wednesday



– well, not exactly with them but certainly with some of their supporters during an overnight stay at Fraser Suites.

The boutique Kent Street Sydney hotel, which was at capacity occupancy, said their experience is similar to other hotels across the city.

Its no secret the British and Irish Lions tours are providing a much needed boost to what had become a flagging British in-bound market, while the financial benefit for the Australia economy is expected to reach in the order of \$500 million.

Not only is the Fraser Suites a bit of a hidden gem, tucked away in Kent Street, where guests enjoy free wifi, my stay in one of the elegant apartments with floor to ceiling windows, made a night at the opera to see Verdi's The Forces of Destiny that much more perfect knowing that a bed was just a short distance away - Jill.

## Luxperience winner

**CONGRATULATIONS** to

Karolina Molenda from Absolute Edge Events who is the winner of a three night stay for two people including breakfast at Six Senses Qing Cheng Mountain China, courtesy of Luxperience.

Molenda correctly answered the two daily questions asked in **BEN** last week and responded with a creative answer to 'tell us in 25 words or less what has been your favourite luxury travel experience and why?'

She said: *My favourite luxury travel experience was visiting qualia in Queensland, as it is Australian, super lush and private, with amazing views in a majestic setting.*

## Govt agrees on four contracts



**THE** NSW Government agreed yesterday upon four contracts to create an interim exhibition centre at Glebe Island, paving the way for early site works to begin this month, according to Infrastructure NSW project director Tim Parker.

Currently in the process of being signed by all parties, the "Sydney Exhibition Centre at Glebe Island" promises a pavilion-style fully serviced exhibition space of 20,000 square metre; options for an additional 5,000 square metres for temporary expansion for larger public exhibitions and trade show; event-related food and beverage facilities, such as pop-up cafes and restaurants; back of house facilities, such as a loading-dock, storage and waste management.

Infrastructure NSW is the agency managing the delivery of the new facilities, and Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority is managing the operations.

The following contracts have been secured: Leading international events company, GL Events, for supply of the 20,000 square metre, high quality hard-walled exhibition structure.

International operator, AEG Ogden, will operate the interim facilities and also operate the new facilities at Darling Harbour when they open at the end of 2016.

As managing contractor Lend Lease will deliver the entire site works including pouring a 26,000 square metre slab as the first step for building the pavilion-style

structure.

Pacific Pontoons to build a temporary ferry wharf at Glebe Island.

Access to the site will be by ferry and shuttle bus on event days only.

In addition a 5,000sqm structure will allow for the temporary expansion of the facility to accommodate larger events that need more space.

There are currently more than 120 events holding space at the interim facility.

## TEQ's new logo

**TOURISM** and Events

Queensland (TEQ) unveiled its new corporate logo this week.

The new creative concept showcases a sun flare as a letter 'Q' while the colours reflect the many aspects of Queensland's landscape.

The logo is to be progressively rolled out, starting in Australia and across TEQ's network over the next few months.

Coinciding with the roll out, TEQ email addresses have switched to a new @queensland domain.

For more information visit: [www.te.queensland.com](http://www.te.queensland.com).



## RSVP TNQ Roadshow

**REMEMBER** to get your registration in for the important TNQ roadshow at - [www.businesseventscairns.org.au/trade-activities/regional-showcase-2013](http://www.businesseventscairns.org.au/trade-activities/regional-showcase-2013)

# A TROPICAL PLATTER OF EVENTS

Business Events Cairns & Great Barrier Reef invites you to attend our annual showcase and get a taste of events Tropical North Queensland style

**MELBOURNE**  
 Tues 30 July 2013, 12-2pm Eureka 89  
 7 Riverside Quay, Southbank

**SYDNEY**  
 Wed 31 July 2013, 5:30-7:30pm  
 Ivy Sunroom, 330 George Street

**BRISBANE**  
 Fri 2 August 2013, 12-2pm  
 Brisbane City Hall, King George Square

A cocktail lunch and tropical tasting display will be served at each event

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

BUSINESS EVENTS  
 CAIRNS & GREAT BARRIER REEF  
 The natural place to meet





## Open house at MCEC

**THE** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) is opening its doors to the public for its Open House Melbourne on Sunday 28 July. Visitors will



learn about its fascinating design with tours led by Woods Bago.

Take a peek into the southern hemisphere's largest kitchen with underground tours hosted by MCEC's executive chef Tony Panetta and uncover how the

in-house team can cook for up to 10,000 visitors.

Go behind the scenes of MCEC's Plenary and stand on the same stage as international performers and renowned leaders like Neil Young, The Jacksons, Arnold Schwarzenegger and His Holiness the Dalai Lama, then watch the space transform and experience its leading technology.

MCEC will run Open House Melbourne social media competitions and encourage visitors to tag @MCEC and use the #MCEC and #LOVEOHM hashtags on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

## Take the challenge

A ropes adventure park which has opened in Yarramundi, on the Grose River in the Hawkesbury region of NSW, has more than 110 different challenges and activities, some reaching as high as 25 metres from the ground.

Described as the largest ever built in Australia and an hour's drive from Sydney, the Trees Adventure "River Challenge" course joins its highly successful Victorian based park as the latest attraction in the group.

Nic Dansin the co-owner and course designer, described the course as completely different to Belgrave Park in Victoria with a course that stretches over 400 metres through 100 year old river gums.

Offering six levels of difficulty – from beginner to the true extreme adventurer, safety and protecting the environment are two primary goals of the Park; with both sites carefully selected and surveyed by arborists to ensure tree health and ongoing wellbeing.

"Our safety procedures, inductions and harnessing are state of the art and at the leading edge of international standards," Dansin said.

See - [treesadventure.com.au](http://treesadventure.com.au).

## Morton joins Mercure



**PAUL** Morton has joined Mercure Cairns Harbourside as its new general manager.

Morton who has worked with Accor in many roles and locations, and across its portfolio of brands will also become the Accor Hotel Group's Indigenous Champion in Queensland, helping guide, direct and promote sustainable relationships and Accor's ongoing commitment to improving Indigenous employment and relations in the region through its pioneering 'Indigenous employment program and reconciliation action plan'.

# Advertise in BEN

- Cost Effective • Targeted • Easy

For details call us today: 1300 799 220



## Touching Tigerair



**THE** rebranding of Tiger Airways Australia to Tigerair and an enhanced new look has been announced with the rollout of the airline's first aircraft flying under the new Tigerair colours.

Ceo Rob Sharp said, the new look will be progressively reflected across the business through every customer touch point and represents a new era for the low cost airline which aims to connect more Australians to more of Australia.

The rebrand to Tigerair is group-wide and comes just days before the joint venture with Virgin is expected to be finalised.

Sharp went on to say, "The news is much more than just a fresh coat of paint and a new logo - it is the start of the revival of our airline here in Australia and should be seen as reinforcement of our commitment towards continuous innovation and improvement.

"The strategic repositioning of the brand will assist us through a significant period of growth over the coming years," he said.



**IN** a world with a population estimated to reach eight billion by 2025, the question of how insects could be used as a food source was under discussion by a panel of experts in the Netherlands recently.

With 70% of agriculture land being used for livestock, eventually the demand for livestock will be too great for the land available, said Marcel Dicke, chair and head of the Laboratory of Entomology at Wageningen University in the Netherlands.

Eventually, Dicke said, people would have to turn to other, more sustainable sources of food - however icky they may be.

For two million people, insects aren't just a source of food, they're a delicacy, much like lobster and escargot are to Western culture and societies have been eating and surviving on bugs for thousands of years.

Beetles it was revealed are the most widely consumed insects, accounting for nearly a third of insects eaten.

Don't say you haven't been warned!

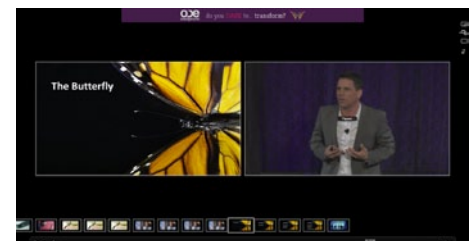


## Head in the Cloud

**IN** response to a growing demand for hybrid events, a briefcase-sized technology which facilitates both live or on-demand webcasting - the Cloud Recorder - was officially launched by AV1 Media, at the DARE Speaker Showcase on 5 June at Doltone House Hyde Park.

"We understand the frustrations that event planners have faced with webcasting in the past.

"Our priority is to make it easier. "We can synchronise



presentations & footage on the go.

"There is no longer any need to upload PowerPoint or Keynote slides ahead of time," explained production manager, Rob King, who is spearheading this new service.



## Tasting Hong Kong

### HONG

Kong was the flavour of the week when Virgin Atlantic, Starwood Hotels & Resorts, DMS Destination Marketing Services and Pacific World Asia co-

sponsored an intimate yum cha inspired luncheon at The Eight Restaurant in Sydney yesterday.

The lunch highlighted Hong Kong as a key conference and incentive destination and the ease of access with Virgin Atlantic's direct daily flights.

On arrival in Hong Kong, Pacific World is there to showcase the sites of this vibrant city.

Starwood Hong Kong has an extensive portfolio of properties catering to all budgets and includes The W Hong Kong, The Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel and Towers and Le Meridien



Cyberport.

At the event David Dymott won a jam packed Virgin Atlantic goodie bag and Gloria Nykl was the winner of two confirmed return tickets to Hong Kong with Virgin Atlantic, airport transfers and a half day city tour courtesy of Pacific World and a three night stay with breakfast included at The W Hong Kong, courtesy of Starwood Hotels & Resorts.

**Pictured** alongside Virgin, with their drumkits in hand are: David Dymott, Catherine Sinnett, Katerina Perrakis, Rosa Frigel, Lyn Tyson, Marissa Fernandez, Julie Bohatko, Kathy Padamitriou, Michael Walker and Gloria Nykl.

## Wellington's seismic rumblings

**THE** Wellington Town Hall is due to close in late August in order to undergo a \$43.7 million seismic strengthening, while out on the waterfront Shed 6, Wellington's newest venue is under redevelopment with an expected August opening date.

Prior to the closure the New Zealand Nurses Organisation Primary Healthcare Nurses Conference being held 2-4 August, at both the Town Hall and across in the Michael Fowler Centre, will be the last conference.

Similarly, the VISA Wellington on a Plate, Fisher & Paykel Masterclass, with demonstrations and wine matches from top chefs are being held 10-11 August, will be the last event.

Positively Wellington Venues responsible for the management of Shed 6 and other versatile venues such as the Michael Fowler Centre, TSB Bank Arena, St James Theatre and the Opera House, is totally refitting the architecturally designed Shed 6 which will have a capacity for everything from an intimate board meeting to a large-scale rock concert.



## NZ winter specials



**HILTON** Auckland has a winter special for non-residential meetings, for companies booking small or larger meetings.

Conferences will enjoy a range of benefits from complimentary valet parking to lunch in FISH restaurant.

The more delegates who join the meeting, the more benefits the company organiser will be rewarded.

Book by 31 July for meetings by 31 August to [sales.auckland@hilton.com](mailto:sales.auckland@hilton.com).

**MEANWHILE** The Hilton Lake Taupo has a winter residential meeting special.

The 24 hour delegate package includes morning and afternoon tea, buffet lunch and dinner in Bistro Lago plus day use of meeting room and accommodation in guest room or deluxe room for \$229pp in twin share or \$299pp in single occupancy.

Book and stay before the 30 Sep at - [sales.laketaupo@hilton.com](mailto:sales.laketaupo@hilton.com).



The Gold Coast is famous for fun, but it's also a world-class conference and exhibition destination, Gold Coast Business Event's (GCBE) passionate team help to create unforgettable experiences and take the stress out of bidding, planning, promoting and staging domestic or international business events on the Gold Coast.

A division of Gold Coast Tourism Corporation, GCBE offers impeccable knowledge and an extensive network of Gold Coast venues and service providers to deliver a world-class meeting, incentive, conference and exhibition experience.

GCBE specialises in creating and presenting compelling bids and can assist with research, sourcing proposals and hosting site inspections.

Planning is also made easy with the help of GCBE, with up-to-date and obligation free information on venues, accommodation and service providers freely available.

And if a familiarisation trip is required, GCBE can assist, taking the guesswork out of finding the right venue.

To help promote each event and attract maximum delegate attendance, GCBE can arrange letters of invitation, official welcomes and assist with promotional materials.

GCBE can also offer onsite support for events with pre and post touring suggestions, shopping vouchers and the soon to be launched Gold Coast Traveller iPhone App including visitor information, maps and discounts to local attractions.

With GCBE on the Gold Coast, it's a winning combination of famous attractions & expertise that delivers the perfect result.

Attracting twice as many delegates as most other Queensland destinations, a Gold Coast Business Event is nothing like you expect and everything you're looking for - [GoldCoastBusinessEvents.com](http://GoldCoastBusinessEvents.com).

### CONTACT US:

Publisher  
Bruce Piper  
Editor  
Jill Varley  
Contributors  
Chantel Housler  
Advertising:  
[advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au)

P: 1300 799 220  
F: 1300 799 221

PO Box 1010 Epping, NSW, 1710

Business Events News is part of the Travel Daily group of publications which also include: Travel Daily, Cruise Weekly and Pharmacy Daily.

Disclaimer: While every care has been taken in the preparation of **Travel Daily** no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. **BEN** takes no responsibility for the opinions of its contributors. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed.