



## DH piles it on

### AN UPDATE

on what is going on behind



the hoardings that screen the demolition of the former Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre, (referred to as 'the old buildings') is revealed in Darling Harbour Live NEWS.

It reports that the piling, which involves excavation down into the rock base and the placement of steel cages and concrete into the ground for the new venues, is now well underway.

With around 1,000 piles to be drilled for the three new venues, the foundation works will continue until Q3 2014.

Next month the first tower cranes arrive to build the new exhibition centre and theatre.

On site they report achieving a number of positive sustainability outcomes, including exceeding a recycling target of 90% of the demolition materials.

An on-site concrete crusher reduced the number of trucks required by over 2,500, cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by around 443 tonnes, while around 40% of the concrete from the old venues will be used to build the new ones.



## Top incentive destinations

**MILAN**, Monaco and the UAE have been identified as the most popular EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa) locations for incentives and meetings in the most recent Destination Index released by DMC Pacific World.

Pacific World says Milan's current popularity is due to improved infrastructure at the airport as well as new hotels, while next year's Expo 2015 is also changing the image of the Italian city.

The second top meeting and event destination in the region is South France-Monaco, followed by the United Arab Emirates.

More incentives are going to Dubai due to new air routes, new gala event venues and the

expansion of Visa on Arrival facilities, Pacific World said.

The Destination Index also for the first time gives insight into US locations, with Florida identified as the number one destination requested by the global meetings industry in the USA.

The number two US destination in the report was Arizona (where the 2015 Super Bowl will be held), followed by San Diego.

And in Asia the Pacific World index identified South Korea as a hot spot, with both Seoul and Busan achieving prominence.

Pacific World said it's identified a large demand for meetings in Korea from the pharmaceutical sector; incentives with meetings and special events during international conferences, with an increasing interest from Australia, UK, USA and Brazil.

The number two destination in Asia was Indonesia, followed by Hong Kong, Pacific World said.

## WA Aspire winners

**THE** Western Australian winners of the Perth Convention Bureau annual Aspire awards have been announced.

There were 55 applicants for the 10 awards, with funding totalling \$57,000 across the 10.

Winners included Dr Kara Yopak and Winthrop Professor Shaun Collin from the University of Western Australia, who will use the funding to bid for the international Sharks Conference to be held in Perth in 2018.

Other winners included Rebecca Cassells, a community landcare officer, who won the City of Mandurah scholarship.

For more, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Marriott invites you

**MARRIOTT'S** Global Sales

Mission 2014 – Discover A World of Opportunity - is heading down under next month and is inviting everyone to meet and network with their hotel representatives from across the world and to win some luxurious prizes, including a trip to South Africa for two, courtesy of Protea Hotels and South African Airways.

With much to discover, Marriott will present "Creating the Future of Travel" and introduce "The Future of Meetings".

Being held at the Melbourne Marriott Hotel 29 July and at the Sydney Harbour Marriott 31 July, the mission kicks off with a travel agent breakfast followed by a trade show which runs from 10am to 5pm.

Each day will be followed by an African inspired cocktail party to celebrate the recent addition of Protea Hotels to the Marriott global portfolio.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register.

## A Tropical Recipe for Event Success!

**Business Events Cairns & Great Barrier Reef invites you to attend our annual showcase and discover the tropical recipe for event success.**

**BRISBANE**  
 Tuesday 22 July 2014, 12:00pm – 2:00pm  
 Customs House, 399 Queen Street

**SYDNEY**  
 Wednesday 23 July 2014, 12:00pm – 2:00pm  
 Star Room, above IMAX, Darling Harbour

**MELBOURNE**  
 Friday 25 July 2014, 12:00pm – 2:00pm  
 Eureka 89, 7 Riverside Quay, Southbank

A cocktail lunch will be served.  
**PLUS** one lucky guest at each event will **WIN** a trip for two to Cairns & Great Barrier Reef.

[Click here to attend!](#)

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# business events news

23rd June 2014

## Be inspired by the Territory

### NORTHERN

Territory is holding another Alice Stampede mega-familiarisation event from 10 to 13 Jul in Alice Springs.

There are up to 20 places for pre-qualified conference and event planners on the famil, which is a joint initiative

of the Alice Springs Convention Centre and the Northern Territory Convention Bureau (NTCB), as well as being supported by various operators and suppliers.

One highlight would be the Lasseters Camel Cup with guests enjoying time in the VIP Camel Cage area, with other features including a function at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station, site inspections of business infrastructure and accommodation and a gala dinner at the Centre, NTCB said.

There will be a sneak peek at the new Reception area and Health Centre at Lasseters, which is scheduled to open in August, while the famil will also include networking with local business event professionals, as well as a Business Forum to highlight local companies and organisations of relevance.

Participants will be provided with flights from their nearest



capital city, accommodation, special events and experiences, all meals and "an awakening to the opportunities that this truly unique region offers."

PCOs, incentive buyers and event planners from the corporate, association and government sectors are invited to participate by **CLICKING HERE**.

### ITE&MICE 2015

**DETAILS** have been released for next year's ITE&MICE Hong Kong exhibition, which will take place 11-14 Jun 2015 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The show aims to cover travel trade, MICE and corporate travel and "affluent FIT" under a single roof by running separate streams of seminars, programs, visitor promotions and supporting partner organisations.

This year's ITE&MICE event, which wrapped up earlier this month, saw 12,308 trade and corporate visitors on the trade days, while more than 75,000 consumers attended on the public days of the show.

There were 650 exhibitors from across the globe this year and around 120 seminars on the trade and public days, with the show supported by the China National Tourism Administration, Hong Kong Tourism Board, Macau Government Tourist Office and the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong.

Exhibitor space can now be booked for next year's event - for details see [www.itehk.com](http://www.itehk.com).

## Gippsland's new look

**DESTINATION** Gippsland has developed a new business events website to meet the growing demands of the conference organiser market.

The new website allows users to search through conference venues, destination highlights, packages and itineraries, as well as distances from Melbourne.

The initiative would further growth of its \$35 million per year business events and conference market, Destination Gippsland said - for more, **CLICK HERE**.

## New for Christchurch

**VENUE** manager Vbase has opened its newest function space 'ilex' in Christchurch, NZ.

The visually striking \$16.4 million centre, located in the heart of Christchurch's Botanic Gardens, has a multi-purpose function room ideal for weddings, cocktail parties, dinners and meetings.



With its riverside location providing unparalleled indoor and outdoor entertaining opportunities, it has seating for up to 160 people.

A café with seating for 60 provides an option for evening events.

Vbase chairman and Christchurch City councillor Jamie Gough described it as a truly a unique space, saying: "To manage it along with our other venues, CBS Canterbury Arena, AMI Stadium, and Air Force Museum is a real honour."

**CLICK HERE** for details.



**TWO** new skyscrapers to be built in the central Chinese metropolis of Wuhan will also help purify the city's polluted environment.

Known as the Phoenix Towers, the project designed by British firm Chetwoods Architects consists of adjacent kilometre-high spires, and ground is expected to be broken by the end of the year once the project is approved by the government.

According to its website, the project will span 47 hectares and cost an estimated £1.2 billion.

The towers have been designed to incorporate elements from traditional Chinese culture, which together represent the phoenix - "feng" and "huang", a pair of mythical Chinese birds.

The feng, or "male" tower, will supply renewable energy to the huang, or "female" tower, a "softer" space with cafés, restaurants and a 100-storey vertical garden.

The towers will power themselves with green energy technologies such as solar cell cladding, "suspended air gardens" and "waste recycling via biomass boilers."

The feng tower will be fitted with wind turbines, and it will use solar power to suck polluted lake water up through an advanced filtration system.

## Pooling resources

**AFTER** a \$250,000 refurbishment, Sheraton Mirage Resort & Spa Gold Coast has reopened its Oasis swimming pool.

The enhancement of the pool and immediate surrounding areas follows an extensive \$26m renovations of the resort and lagoons, which also placed emphasis on reducing the pool's energy and water consumption.

## Picken for Shangri-La

**TANE** Picken has been appointed as the new resident manager of Shangri-La Rasa Sentosa Resort and Spa in Singapore.

Picken has more than 13 years' experience in China, Africa, the Middle East, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand and was most recently the cluster director for business development for a five star establishment in Thailand.

He will assist general manager Ben Bousnina in managing daily operations at the 454 room Rasa Sentosa Resort and Spa.

## Sales Manager - Aurora Expeditions

We are looking for a talented Sales Manager to:

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- Lead a small & highly effective team of sales consultants to the next level

Aurora Expeditions is a company specialising in expedition cruises and trekking adventures to remote and wild destinations such as Antarctica, the Arctic, Alaska, Ecuador, the Kimberley, Nepal, Bhutan and Patagonia.

The Sales Manager role will:

- Manage all aspects of the Aurora Expeditions' sales function
- Lead its small team of sales consultants
- Include a 'hands-on' component with some consultant responsibilities

This is a permanent, part-time role reporting to the CEO  
To obtain a full position description or apply for this role, please send your cover letter and CV via email to [annef@auroraexpeditions.com.au](mailto:annef@auroraexpeditions.com.au)





# business events news

23rd June 2014

## CONTACT US:

Editor  
Jill Varley

Contributor/Coordinator  
Alex Walls

Advertising:  
[advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au)

P: 1300 799 220

F: 1300 799 221

PO Box 1010 Epping, NSW,  
1710

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## Extreme golf in ZQN



**A PAR** three golf hole nestled at 4,500 ft in high country tussocks, reached by helicopter, has opened above Queenstown in NZ.

The challenging altitude course with four tees grew from the extreme golf that the Over the Top helicopter company has been offering for some years.

Over The Top ceo Louise Patterson said the business had been driving using eco balls off mountain tops and guests often suggested a green to aim for would be ideal, with a range of packages for individuals and groups now available - email [heligolf@flynz.co.nz](mailto:heligolf@flynz.co.nz).

## Starring roles at Hair Expo



**WHEN** The Star partnered with Reed Exhibitions to host three gala events and a wrap party for Hair Expo 2014, the major exhibition was held at the Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island, 7 – 9 June.

For the first time, these two venues were utilised to provide something different to previous years, whilst ensuring ease of access for the 10,000 national and international Expo attendees who flooded into Sydney.

Over the three nights, The Star Event Centre hosted 5,400 guests at their legendary gala evenings whilst Glebe Island hosted 150 exhibitors with more than \$1.6 million spent on hairdressing supplies during the weekend.

Amelia Coote-Harris, Hair

Expo Australia event director at Reed Exhibitions said "Hosting Hair Expo and the evening gala events in new venues gave them an injection of innovation that worked to pique the interest of exhibitors, attendees and guests this year.

"The option to use both properties – one ideally suited to large-scale exhibitions and one perfectly suited to all other styles of large events – the ultimate result for a successful Hair Expo."

Transport was a key concern, but the close proximity of The Star and Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island eased the transport pressure with complimentary buses and ferries to The Star's wharf for the 10,000 attendees.



## Getting to Know: Vietnam

by: Jill Varley

**THE** fact that Vietnam Airlines flies directly into Ho Chi Minh City, more commonly known as Saigon, is moving this intriguing destination into front line consideration for meeting and event planners.

Here the city's History Museum, built in 1927 has gardens where events for up to 300 can be held, while the imposing Opera House hosts dinners for up to 70. An event held in the French-style Vietnam Museum needs only lighting to bring its gardens and war era features to life, while dinners can also be held in the former Presidential Palace.

You can sip cocktails in Saigon's hippest and highest nightclub, Chill, be entertained in colonial splendor in the Fine Arts Museum and have pre-dinner drinks at the French inspired, 100-year-old Au Manoir De Khai Villa. From Saigon, the Cu Chi Tunnels, once the operational headquarters for the Vietcong guerillas, are a must see experience.

In Nha Trang, a half hour flight north of Saigon, the InterContinental Nha Trang Resort Hotel is IHG's newest 5-star property in Vietnam, joining the InterContinental Asiana Saigon, the InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort and the InterContinental Hanoi Westlake Hotel, all with sizeable function spaces. From the beach at Nha Trang you can cycle through the Vietnamese countryside, visit mat weavers, call in on a local market and stop for a traditional breakfast.

Continuing northwards to Danang, drive to the UNESCO recognised town of Hoi An for a market tour and a cooking course with world recognised foodie Miss Vy. I guarantee you won't have seen a conference centre like that found at the 5-star+ InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula or a lead-in room that's larger than most hotel suites.

A one-hour flight north is Hanoi, the cultural capital of Vietnam, with its broad boulevards and French-inspired architecture. Hold an event at the historic Confucian Temple of Literature (you'll need to talk to Destination Asia to gain exclusive access).

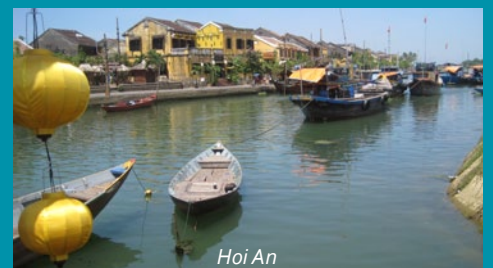
Halong Bay, with its limestone casts and coastal scenery is another itinerary must and a night spent onboard a Paradise Luxury Cruise boat, visiting caves and fishing villages and holding a dinner on a remote beach, is another aspect of Vietnam's diversity.



InterContinental Sun Peninsula Conference Centre



Halong Bay



Hoi An