



On reflection

IT OCCURRED to me that having a butler pack and unpack your suitcase



(**BEN** 10 Sep) when staying in a five-star resort may be just terrific when travelling locally or intrastate; what happens if your journey is an international one and you are asked at the ticketing counter whether you packed your own suitcase?

"Err you see, the thing is, the butler did it!"

MEANWHILE when it comes to events of the fragrant kind, they don't come much bigger or more colourful than Floriade, the floral event that attracts some 400,000 visitors.

Now in its 27th year, Floriade is Australia's biggest celebration of spring, where more than one million bulbs strut their stuff in a most becoming manner in Canberra's Commonwealth Park.

Attracting more gardeners, gardening groups and the just plain curious than honey bees to a hive, Floriade 2014 runs from now until 12 Oct.

Who needs a better excuse to hold a conference or meeting at this time of year in the capital?

GUESS who was sitting in front of us on the opening night of 'The King & I' at the Sydney Opera House?

Sofitel Wentworth gm Erkin Aytakin (pictured).

We caught him on camera thoroughly enjoying the performance, as did rest of the audience, who were on their feet clapping and yahooping at the final curtain.

If you think Floriade is colourful, then check out the King & I! Jill



Altogether Perfect win

THE Newcastle, Port Stephens and Hunter Valley business events campaign 'Altogether Perfect' has landed the region its first convention win, organisations involved in the campaign have said.

The Association of Australian Convention Bureaux (AACB) will hold its staff conference at venues in the region next August after a successful pitch by the campaign's marketing body, the groups said.

The conference was expected to see up to 100 delegates and pump \$100,000 into the local economy, they said.

The marketing campaign was launched earlier this year to the tune of \$270,000, with the aim of attracting major conferences and meetings to the area, to boost mid-week occupancy and position the region as an ideal destination for business tourism (**BEN** 16 Jun).

It is a collaborative campaign backed by Newcastle Convention Bureau, Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association and Destination Port Stephens.

Campaign spokesperson Georgia Lazzari said the win showed the team was on the right track.

Pictured from left is Rebecca



Morley from Destination Port Stephens, Cassie Mackay from the Newcastle Convention Bureau and Danny Eather from the Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association.

AACB executive director Andrew Hiebl said the Altogether Perfect campaign would show delegates of its conference what was possible through regional partnership.

Curtin Springs grant

CURTIN Springs Station has won a \$45,680 grant from the NT Government to develop privately guided salt lake tours and paper making workshops.

The funding comes from a \$1.3m Federal and state pool for tourism development and infrastructure, with the station putting forward \$37,000.

Tourism Minister Matt Conlan said the new projects on the million acre cattle station would help attract more tourists to the region.

A peek at Double Bay

THE InterContinental Sydney Double Bay has released a teaser video for the hotel's redesign.

The hotel is set to open in November with restored marble, balconies and a chandelier.

CLICK HERE to view the video.

Four pages today

BEN has two pages of editorial plus full pages from (**click**):

- NT Convention Bureau
- AA Appointments

ben Events Calendar

BEN's calendar details events at various venues across Australia.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@businesseventsnews.com.au.

14-16 SEP

Australian Day Hospital Association National Conference; Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley; adha.asn.au

29 SEP-3 OCT

International Society for Cultural and Activity Research Congress; Allphones Arena, Sydney Olympic Park; www.iscar2014.com

21-23 OCT

Walk21 International Conference on Walking and Liveable Communities; Luna Park Sydney; www.walk21sydney.com

23-25 OCT

Quest Serviced Apartments National Conference 2014; Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

The Christmas Venue Guide

BUSINESS Events News has launched a Christmas Events guide and it's booking out fast, so get in while you can.

The events guide promotes venues perfect for holding Christmas events and festivities, whether it's a decorous cocktail party to farewell the year or a karaoke sing-off of 'Jingle Bells'.

To highlight your venue's unique features to the business events industry and **BEN's** readers and social media channels, email advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au.



business events news

15th September 2014



SHOULD you have gone down to Glebe Island on Saturday, you would have been sure of not only the wang dang doodlest of conventions, the first Sydney Comic Convention, you might even have run into Jill, who took some time out to catch up with an old pal (**pictured**).



Sadly, Alex, the resident **BEN** nerd, couldn't make it, but if you'd like to check out some more photos from the convention, **CLICK HERE** - you may even spot Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island gm Malu Barrios with a hirsute companion.

The event was expected to see 30,000 attendees and featured celebrity guests such as Orlando Bloom, the *SMH* reported.

Apart from ours, one of the best photos has to be the *Daily Telegraph's*, which features the Transformer Bumblebee patiently standing in a queue - **CLICK HERE** to see it.

Dunedin conferences

INTERNATIONAL conferences in Dunedin are reportedly on the rise, according to the region's tourism body.

For the year to June, 22% of conference delegates into the area were international, including Australia, Tourism Dunedin said.

Recent examples included the Fifth Global Botanic Gardens Congress which saw almost 350 people attend, it said.

BESydney ceo for UTS

BUSINESS Events Sydney (BESydney) ceo Lyn Lewis-Smith has been appointed to the University of Technology (UTS) business school advisory board.

Lewis-Smith said she looked forward to sharing her experiences in the business events sector to further the university's objectives.

Tuckerbox.tv launch

A NEW online channel has launched which will explore the links between agriculture, food production and tourism, as well as the visitor spend generated from these areas.

Called tuckerbox.tv, Tourism Western Australia said the channel would launch in January and was looking for industry content, with episodes sharing the stories of producers, cellar door operators, food and wine events and agricultural regions.

CLICK HERE for more information.

High in the STUDIO

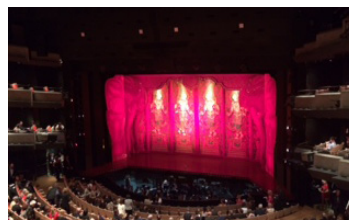


THE highest event space in Sydney has been unveiled, as has its name, STUDIO.

The Trippas White Group launched the venue last week, situated at the top of Sydney Tower, after a million dollar refurbishment.

The venue can hold up to 200 people.

Something wonderful



THE King & I opened on Thursday evening and is, according to Opera Australia, already breaking all box office records with more than \$8.4m worth of tickets sold for the Sydney season – the highest for any show ever staged at the Sydney Opera House.

Australia's favourite leading lady, Lisa McCune, plays English governess Anna Leonowens opposite internationally acclaimed baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes as the King.

BEN was among the opening night audience, courtesy of the Pullman Quay Grand Sydney Harbour, joining a group of the hotel's corporate clients for pre-dinner canapés and drinks in its newly launched Quadrant Restaurant.

Associate director of sales and host George Beeby said the Pullman was ideally placed for corporates and organisers to take their guests to the opera or theatre for pre and post entertaining and overnight stays.

"Post performance, we often see artists from the shows winding down here."

Highly recommended, this lavish production of *The King and I*, which runs until 01 Nov, will leave you spoilt for choice of tunes to hum.

Shall we dance?



Hotel Highlight The Imperial New Delhi

IF THE walls of The Imperial hotel in New Delhi could speak, they would talk of a glorious past, of a time when Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, Mahatama Gandhi, Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Lord Mountbatten met in congenial conditions to discuss the partition of India and the creation of Pakistan, and of a time when the Nehru family had a permanent suite here.

Built in the 1930s, the striking 24 king palms that lead up to the hotel's porch are an integral part of the design by architect, D.J. Blomfield, an associate of Edwin Lutyens, whose finest monuments were part of Lutyens' grand vision of the capital city's original master plan.

When it opened, the grand hotel presented a unique blend of Victorian, old colonial and Art Deco styles.

Today, following a period when it fell into disrepair, it has been restored in a manner befitting a hotel which, it is said, could be included in a list of such greats as The Strand Hotel in Rangoon, Raffles Hotel in Singapore and The Great Eastern & The Oriental in Calcutta.

For corporate events, there are a number of luxurious and well-appointed rooms for 20 to 50 guests – the preferred choice for closed-door meetings, private get-togethers and small dinner events, while the spacious gardens are ideal for formal dinners and parties.

With its red-turbaned waiters, silver tea service, tableware from London, Italian marble floors and Burmese teak furniture, the aura of an early 19th century English manor sits well in the heart of Imperial Delhi.



CONTACT US:

Publisher Editor Deputy editor
Bruce Piper Jill Varley Alex Walls

For advertising enquiries email Sean Harrigan & Katrina Ford at: 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 & Pharmacy Daily.

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

INVITATION

We are excited to bring the NT to your backyard and share the wide range of options for Business Events in the Territory.

DISCOVER why the NT should be the destination for your next event.

CONNECT with the local expert to professionally plan your event.

INSPIRE yourself with unique possibilities and connections the NT can provide you and your next business event.

VENUES

Monday 13 Oct, 12:00-2:00pm - BRISBANE:

Sofitel Brisbane - Odeon Room - 249 Turbot St | Brisbane QLD 4000

Tuesday 14 Oct, 7:30-9:30am - CANBERRA:

Sage Restaurant - Gorman House Arts Centre/ Batman St | Braddon ACT 2612

Tuesday 14 Oct, 5:30-7:30pm - SYDNEY:

The Slip Inn Sydney - Sand & Garden Bars - 111 Sussex St | Sydney NSW 2000

Wednesday 15 Oct, 5:30-7:30pm - MELBOURNE:

MCG - Premiership Dining Room - enter via Gate 6, use elevators 14 and 15 and go to level 2 | Brunton Ave | Richmond VIC 3002

Thursday 16 Oct, 12:30-2:30pm - ADELAIDE:

Chianti Classico - Gallo Nero Private Dining Room - 160 Hutt Street | Adelaide SA 5000

Friday 17 Oct, 12:00-2:00pm - PERTH:

The George - London Room - 216 St Georges Terrace | Perth WA 6000

KEY NT BUSINESS EVENT SUPPLIERS

Alice Springs Convention Centre

Darwin Convention Centre

Darwin Turf Club (BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Fusion Exhibition and Hire Services

Great Southern Rail (BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Hilton group ((BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Kakadu Tourism (BNE,SYD, MEL ONLY)

Toga Hotels

SKYCITY Darwin

Voyages

**WIN AN
NT ADVENTURE
FOR TWO**

Attend the event at any city to be eligible to win!



FOR ALL THE BEST VACANCIES VISIT www.aaappointments.com/aus

NSW & ACT - 02 9231 6377 - apply@aaappointments.com.au

VIC, WA & SA - 03 9670 2577 - recruit@aaappointments.com.au

QLD - 07 3229 9600 - employment@aaappointments.com.au

**READY FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?
TRAVEL INDUSTRY RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST
LOCATION: SYDNEY
SALARY PACKAGE – CIRCA \$70K+BONUSES**

Having just landed a major account, AA is expanding once again. As such we are currently hiring a talented consultant to service the needs of our top client accounts. Your role will include interviewing candidates and assessing their career opportunities, matching and short listing talent to specific vacancies, reference-checking, account management and business development.

You will enjoy an excellent base salary plus bonus structure, as well as on the job and professional training, as well as an annual 5 star conference and other team perks such as shopping vouchers & additional time off.

Ideally you will come from a strong corporate or retail travel consulting background, with strong communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to work well in a team.

Want to know more? Contact our MD today 02 9231 6377 or send your application directly to adriana@aaaappointments.com.au

**ROLL UP FOR THE WORLD'S BEST EVENTS
CORPORATE EVENT DIRECTOR
SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE OTE \$90K+**

Fancy managing some of the most prestigious Events in the business? If your experience lies within conference and incentive program management and you have managed event teams, this is a rare opportunity to join an industry leader. You'll be well versed in the creation and delivery of unique, motivational and exciting events for corporate clients, including incentive groups, conferences and launches. This is the role everyone wants!

***** EXCITING LEADERSHIP ROLE ***
CORPORATE OPERATIONS MANAGER/TEAM LEADER
SYDNEY
EXEC SALARY PACKAGE \$\$\$**

Feel at home in this corporate office where you will be overseeing a team of multi skilled consultants. You will need proven leadership skills and have exceptional knowledge of corporate travel, training & development and client relationship management. This role allows you to take full management control of your team and manage future growth and development. Current Team Leader/Operations experience essential along with GDS knowledge.

***HOT* CORPORATE GROUP/EVENTS
CORPORATE GROUP CONSULTANT
SYDNEY – SALARY UP TO \$60K +**

This is an exciting opportunity to move into the exciting world of group and events travel. Working for a global TMC in their MICE space. You will have the opportunity to work on some global events and often being invited to attend on the ground. Lovely offices situated in the CBD, close to transport. Getting to work will be a breeze. If you have 2 years experience in group travel or corporate travel, sabre preferred and want to move to an exciting new role, apply today.

**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT?
GROUPS CONSULTANT
MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$60K (DOE)**

We have an exciting opportunity to step up into the MICE industry. This well know events company is looking a strong retail consultant to join their successful team. You will be booking pre and post accommodation, as well as tours and add-on's for client booked onto events. This role will see you earning a sensational salary and working Monday to Friday hours only. If you have at least 4 years leisure consulting experience and experience using either Galileo, Amadeus or Sabre then we want to hear from you!

**EVENT COORDINATOR REQUIRED
EVENT MANAGER**

MELBOURNE - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$60K (DOE)
Exciting new Event Manager Role just called in! This rare opportunity will see you moving into a well - established MICE Travel Company and working as a dedicated Event Coordinator. Assisting clients in organising their tailor made incentives, events and group travel arrangements; you will be responsible for budget management, proposals, sourcing of rates and more. Working Monday – Friday hours only you will be paid a high base salary in line with your experientel Make the move today and never look back!