



EDITOR: BONNIE TAI



## ACTE PENS ALLIANCE WITH ACCOR

**THE** Association of Corporate Travel Executives (ACTE), alongside the Centre for Aviation (CAPA), has struck a deal with AccorHotels to be the official venue partner for the group's Australasia conferences and education forums.

Eight high-level aviation and corporate travel events are on the cards for ACTE in 2017, with the conferences to be held across both Australia and New Zealand.

"We are delighted to partner with AccorHotels for our 2017 program," commented ACTE president Kurt Knackstedt.

"We have carefully selected CBD properties that offer world class amenities, comfort and convenience for our audiences,



which will greatly enhance our education, exhibition and networking activities."

ACTE's events this year attracted some 1,200 attendees including over 300 corporate travel procurement professionals.

The 2017 sessions will focus around senior executives from across Australasia's corporate travel community, which include buyers, suppliers and

intermediaries.

AccorHotels director of sales business travel Elizabeth Georgopoulos said the chosen properties were "well versed in catering to the needs of large conference groups".

The CAPA/ACTE conferences will run from Feb through until Nov 2017, with the sessions held at the Pullman Brisbane King George, Novotel Canberra, Novotel Melbourne on Collins, Mercure Perth, Rockford Hotel, Mercure Auckland and Sofitel Sydney Wentworth.

### Today's issue of BEN

*Business Events News* today has three pages of news.

### AEG Ogden renews BCEC deal



**AEG** Ogden has been reappointed as the manager of the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre for another five years.

Queensland's Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure Jackie Trad said it was "wonderful news that BCEC will again be in these capable hands".

The venue management company looks after various venues throughout Australia, Asia and the Middle East and has managed the Convention Centre since it first opened in 1995.

*BraMoo*

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Explore the new ICC Sydney in the December issue of *travelBulletin*.

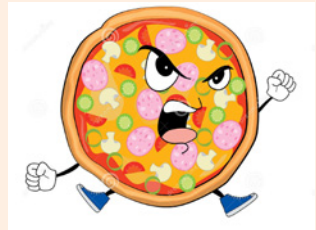
**CLICK HERE** to read **travelBulletin**



■ **A WOMAN** in Massachusetts, US has been issued a trespass notice after she presented a slice of pizza as proof of her legal age to get into a college town bar.

The unidentified woman allegedly slapped the bouncer after he refused her entry, reported *ABC News*.

A nearby police officer who witnessed the incident later got involved after the situation became aggressive.



## MCEC's health win

**THE** 4th International One Health Congress and the 6th Biennial Congress of the International Association for Ecology and Health have this year combined their forces to present a single assembly: One Health EcoHealth 2016.

Taking place at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre this week until Wed, the scientific meeting brings 850 researchers, policy makers and practitioners who are working towards integrated approaches to complex global health issues.

Melbourne Convention Bureau chief executive officer Karen Bollinger said "this congress will be an opportunity to showcase out city's local talent as well as attract global expertise to the state".

## HYATT REGENCY SYDNEY DEBUT

**HYATT** will move to expand its conference business in Australia following the launch of its Hyatt Regency Sydney at Darling Harbour last week.

The rebranding of the former Four Points by Sheraton marks a return to Sydney for the Regency brand and gives Hyatt the biggest hotel in the city.

It will be expanded further later this month when Hyatt opens an adjoining 24-storey tower, adding 220 rooms to the existing 600.

The hotel will also open a rooftop bar, which together with the recently opened ballrooms caps off a \$250 million redevelopment of the property.

Hyatt Hotels Corporation Group President Asia Pacific



David Udell (**pictured**) said the hotel was the largest venue in the city able to host major events and their delegates all under one roof.

"Hyatt has made a major commitment to the conference market," Udell said.

"With this facility we can now use our global resources to cultivate that business and

service it well.

"We want a larger percentage of MICE customers because we have this incredible facility,"

Udell said the timing of the hotel's relaunch was ideal, coming at the same time as the opening of the International Convention Centre Sydney, across Darling Harbour.

"The new centre will bring more focus on conferences and is an opportunity to bring more people to the area - and good neighbours are very important," he said.

Digital projections across the hotel's facade helped mark its launch last week - to view a selection of images on **BEN's** Facebook page, **CLICK HERE**.

## Hilton Bali Resort debut

**HILTON** Bali Resort has this week welcomed its first guests.

Situated atop a 40-metre clifftop in the Nusa Dua area of Bali's southern peninsula, the new 389-room property is located 3.7km from the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre and offers 8,470m<sup>2</sup> of flexible indoor and outdoor event spaces which are perfect for meetings, conferences, banquets and weddings.

Onsite amenities include four interconnecting swimming pools, a sand lagoon, a 30-metre waterslide and a Jungle Kid's Club with indoor and outdoor playgrounds.



## 2017 Greater China Showcase

**BUSINESS** Events Australia is inviting interested parties to take part in its 2017 Greater China Showcase, which will this year be in Chengdu.

Designed to deliver access to buyers and provide insights into market trends, next year's program includes face-to-face meetings with agents and corporate buyers as well as a seminar to provide destination knowledge and updates for event agents.

The Business Events Australia Greater China Showcase will be held from 19 to 21 Apr at the Six Senses, Chengdu.

**CLICK HERE** for more information on attending.

## DoubleTree Alice Springs revamp

**DOUBLETREE** by Hilton Alice Springs has completed an extensive renovation of its conference and events facility, resulting in 850m<sup>2</sup> of new flexible function spaces.

All five of its meeting rooms have been fitted with state-of-the-art ceiling lighting, offering several colour options to set desired themes and moods.

Hotel gm Todd Grierson said the recent revamp has "provided guests with more flexibility and control of their event styling".



**BEN ON**  
*BEN*



Each month Business Manager for inPlace Recruitment, **Ben Carnegie**, writes his observations from the recruiter's perspective to help job hunters find the perfect job. Ben has over 15 years working in five-star hotels and the MICE industry and has worked on some of Australia's biggest events.

**2016 comes to a close**

**THIS** year has been a very interesting time for the employment market. Many contributing factors have added to cautious behaviour from the employers perspective including natural and manmade disasters and of course the world recently being 'Trumped', a situation that we all have yet to see the real ramifications of. It has certainly been the first year in many in which the job seekers have had confidence to move without fear of redundancy, at least until late 2016. The end of the year has seen a change in many corporate businesses reducing their numbers in business development and other areas. Front line positions have not escaped either with more companies sending their call centre positions offshore. Across the year, the hottest positions have been in Business Development and Inbound Tourism continues to see a big skills shortage. The bright side is that many businesses already have their plans for staff growth in place already. Watch this space!

**IT'S SHOWTIME FOR ICC**

**THE** International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC Sydney) has launched its opening campaign "It's Showtime", in a bid to attract tourists and businesses from around the world.

Unveiled at IBTM World in Barcelona last week, the push is ahead of the \$1.5b venue's official launch on 20 Dec.

Geoff Donaghy, ceo of ICC Sydney said the multi-platform campaign used theatrical pizzazz to showcase Australia's newest exhibition, convention and entertainment venue.

"The stage is set, the dress rehearsals have been applauded, and we are ready to dazzle," he said.

"We know that ICC Sydney



will fundamentally change the way events are experienced in Sydney, and are committed to ensuring that every event is a show to remember".

The centre's management team, AEG Ogden, has recently completed a full dress rehearsal of 30 events to test the venue, its operations and its people.

To watch a clip, **CLICK HERE**.

**100% Pure NZ dazzles at PCOA**



**TOURISM** New Zealand put on an impressive showing at the PCOA Conference in Brisbane last week, adding Kiwi touches to everything from cocktails to furnishings.

A highlight was a hosted dinner where guests gathered around a custom-designed table in the shape of New Zealand, with a map projected onto its surface.

The NZ team (**pictured**) served healthy juices and "Kiwitinis" to visitors at their stand, along with NZ wines and cheeses.

**Events Calendar**

WELCOME to the *BEN* events calendar.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email [info@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:info@businesseventsnews.com.au)

**21-22 FEB**

AIME 2017; Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre; for more info visit [www.aime.com.au](http://www.aime.com.au)

**6 MAR**

DMS Connect; Ivy Ballroom, Sydney; for details see [www.destinationmarketing.com.au](http://www.destinationmarketing.com.au)

**7 MAR**

DMS Connect; Park Hyatt Melbourne; for details see [www.destinationmarketing.com.au](http://www.destinationmarketing.com.au)

**8-12 MAR**

ITB 2017; Messe Berlin ExpoCenter City; for more info visit: [www.itb-berlin.de](http://www.itb-berlin.de)

**9 MAR**

DMS Connect; The Maritime Room, Auckland; for details see [www.destinationmarketing.com.au](http://www.destinationmarketing.com.au)

**30 APR - 2 MAY**

MEA Conference; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); for more info see: [www.meetingevents.com.au](http://www.meetingevents.com.au)

**14-18 MAY**

ATE 2017; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); details at: [www.tradeevents.australia.com](http://www.tradeevents.australia.com)

**28 JUL**

Get Global - Where the World Meets; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); read more: [www.getglobal.com.au](http://www.getglobal.com.au)

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