



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news, plus a full page from:

- AA Appointments

Sofitel NZ MICE offer

SOFITEL Auckland Viaduct Harbour is offering full day conference packages at \$85pp for events held before 31 Aug with complimentary valet parking and room upgrades.

Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa has business events rates starting from \$295 per room for functions held between now and 24 Jun and 01 Sep and 16 Dec.

Pullman SYD Airport

DUBBED as 'Sydney's newest business playground', Pullman Sydney Airport has officially opened its doors to guests.

The five-star, 229-room property is 600 metres from the domestic terminal and 3km from the International Airport.

ICC Sydney's China vision

WITH the Chinese government relaxing its control over the formation and management of trade associations, more and more are looking overseas to hold their meetings, said ICC Sydney boss Geoff Donaghy (pictured).

"Traditionally the majority of business events from China have been incentive meetings," he said, "yet as the nation allows trade associations increased freedom, we predict significant growth in China's meetings industry, generating evolutionary change in the global business events industry."

Donaghy remarked that the change taking place in the Chinese market represents a "huge opportunity" to host an increasing number of business events from the region.

"As the market continues to



evolve, it is vital that we as destinations can adapt to meet these developments by ensuring we are able to fully tailor events to meet a range of new client needs."

ICC Sydney will open in Dec and is poised to generate around \$5 billion in economic benefits for NSW over 25 years.

Wellington win

WELLINGTON will play host to 650 international scholars in 2019 for the XXIII Annual Conference of the International Research Society for Public Management.

The event will be held across three venues: TSB Bank Arena, Shed 6 and at the Victoria University Campus.

The joint bid was submitted by Victoria University of Wellington, Tourism New Zealand and Business Events Wellington.

San Francisco rises as MICE destination

SAN Francisco has superseded New York as the most popular US city for Australian business travellers, according to recent data released by American Express Global Business Travel.

The rise seems to be driven by the strong links between Australia's technology sector and Silicon Valley, as well as improved flight connectivity.

The stats revealed a downward trend in Australian business travel to China over the past 12 months, with Shanghai falling from the sixth to tenth most popular city and Beijing has dropped out of the top 10 rankings.

This is likely influenced by the slowdown in the Chinese economy and a wane in their demand for Australian resources.

Singapore remains the top city for MICE travel followed by Auckland, Hong Kong, Bangkok and London.

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business events news

9th June 2016

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Le Meridien to SG

LE MERIDIEN hotel will return to Singapore after nearly a decade, following an extensive renovation of the hotel.

"We are excited to welcome Le Méridien back to Singapore with a property that can truly represent the new direction of the brand," said Stephen Ho, president, APAC, Starwood Hotels and Resorts.

The 191-key property features a duplex penthouse suite with its own rooftop garden and infinity pool, 243m² of versatile function space and a 198m² pillar-less ballroom.



FEELING tipsy after only a few drinks? Now you've got an excuse backed by science.

A team of researchers, along with a Bristol University professor, have discovered that wine served in larger glasses led people to consume more of it.

Professor Marcus Munafò and his team watched as a venue in Cambridge switched the glasses it served wine in, alternating between the 300ml standard size, the larger 370ml and the smaller 250ml glasses.

Wine sales increased by nearly 10% when the larger glasses were used - even when the amount of wine per glass was the same.

Full findings of the study can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Meet Eventbrite's new GM

EVENTBRITE is expanding its Australian operations, this week appointing Phil Silverstone (pictured right) to lead and drive the company's local strategy in the newly created role of general manager.

Silverstone's appointment comes as the local arm of the company enters into a new phase of growth, with group ceo Julia Hartz commenting "Phil will be key to ensuring [the company] delivers a strong localised offering by continuing to build a team of local experts".



Collaboration is key

THE Association of Australian Convention Bureaux (AACB) has identified conventions and exhibitions as key to medical research, in a submission to the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board this week.

AACB ceo Andrew Hiebl said that the association's submission drew the advisory board's attention to the role business events play in bringing medical researchers together.

Australia has seen decline of association meetings over recent years, said Hiebl, slipping from 2.3% in 2014 to 2% in 2015.

"In contrast, ICCA reports show that the total number of these int'l events have grown by 5% over the same period.

"If we do not reverse our decline in hosting international conventions and their delegates, Australia will not maximise its medical research investment, making it less effective than it ought to be," he said.

Sebel Manly Beach

SEBEL Manly Beach has introduced a winter conferencing deal, with full day delegate packages starting from just \$81 per person.

The offer is available for events booked and held between now and 30 Sep.

Warwick Rebrand

WARWICK International Hotels will now be known as Warwick Hotels & Resorts following a complete company-wide rebrand.

In the Asia-Pacific region key properties that will undergo rebranding are Warwick Le Lagon Vanuatu and Warwick Fiji.

In addition to the new name and logo change, the rebadge will also see staff uniforms refreshed, new colour schemes revealed and new facades unveiled.

TCEB launches Thailand Connect

THE Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) has launched a Thailand CONNECT Welcome Package, which highlights the country's MICE capabilities.

The contents of the package include a Bangkok MICE Map which spans five major venues and key attractions in Bangkok; a USB drive card; seven-day free wi-fi use; a BTS pass loaded with THB100, plus a guidebook filled with discounts on products and services.

Hawaii regos open

REGISTRATIONS to attend this year's Hawaii Tourism Conference are now open.

Hosted at the Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu, the conference will bring together key suppliers, operators, policy makers and leaders in a format of networking and sharing.

The Hawaii Tourism Conference will be held from 26-30 Sep.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register.

Jupiters new venue

JUPITERS Hotel & Casino on the Gold Coast has unveiled its newest dining venue: Garden Kitchen and Bar.

At 740m² in size, the restaurant's lawn area serves as a flexible multi-purpose space suitable for an array of events and functions.

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Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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Editor: Bruce Piper info@businesseventsnews.com.au

Contributors: Guy Dundas, Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan and Magda Herdzik advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@businesseventsnews.com.au





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STEP UP INTO THIS GREAT ROLE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE BRISBANE – SALARY PKG UP TO \$65K

Love the thrill of the chase? Looking to take your hospitality sales career to the next level. Here's your chance. This Brisbane based boutique hotel is looking for a successful business executive to join them focusing on conference and events. Variety will be the key to this role as you identify new opportunities and build relationships across a variety of market segments. Your strong negotiation skills and ability to close the deal will see you successfully achieve sales targets and increase hotel revenue.

DON'T MISS THE EVENT OF THE YEAR GROUPS & EVENTS TRAVEL CONSULTANTS SYDNEY– TOP SALARY PACKAGE DOE

Award winning Global TMC has recently won a new account so is looking for a new team of travel experts. Work in a cool industry, assisting VIP/Celebrity clients secure all air and land elements; from extensions to equipment logistics to emergency bookings; this role has it all! If you have min 2 yrs corp/groups exp, solid GDS/airfare/ticketing knowledge & problem solving skills then you will enjoy top salary pkg, endless incentives, renowned training, M-F only & 5* famils. Work hard, play hard in this fast paced but rewarding team.

ROLE OUT THE RED CARPET CORPORATE CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE (INNER) – SALARY PKG UP TO \$80K (OTE)

Have you ever dreamed of being one with the stars, receiving VIP invitations to all the big events, meet the big names in both the sports and entertainment industry, and all this while making a name for yourself? Dream no more, we have the job for you! You will be servicing only VIP clients, working Monday to Friday hours and have the opportunity to earn an incredible salary! Sound like the perfect opportunity for you, Apply! Min. 3 years travel consulting experience. Galileo experience favored.

COOL, HIP AND HAPPENING HOTEL BANQUET AND EVENTS MANAGER SYDNEY

SALARY PACKAGE TO \$75K

This premium, trendy international hotel group has just refurbished their exciting events space. As a result, they are now looking for a personable, results driven Events and Banquet operations manager to manage the execution of amazing corporate product launches, stunning banquets, conferences and events, as well as private high profile weddings and parties. Previous hotel MICE operations experience is essential. Don't delay, this job won't last long!

BIG MONEY IN EVENT SALES BDM – EVENTS SYDNEY

SALARY PACKAGE - \$110K PLUS

Are you working in a sales role but want to earn uncapped commission? If you consider yourself a consummate professional in Sales, preferably event sales, we have a prestigious new role available now with one of the most Dynamic PCO's in the business. Targeting direct clients, you must be driven by winning new business and achieving targets. OTE over \$100K in the first year. Don't delay, apply today!

FLASHING LIGHTS AND RED CARPETS ENTERTAINMENT AND CORPORATE CONSULTANT MELBOURNE (INNER) – SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$65K

If you love the glitz and glam of the entertainment industry and you want to meet all the celebrities then don't miss out on this amazing opportunity. Working within a friendly and funky team with modern and trendy offices you'll feel right at home from the moment you walk in. You'll be creating itineraries and organising travel for some of the biggest names around. Providing 5 star service you'll have the chance to put your consulting skills to the test. You'll need a minimum of 3 years of corporate travel experience.