

EDITOR: BONNIE TAI



SYDNEY HOSTS AMWAY FOR THIRD TIME

SYDNEY is this week playing host to the Amway China Leadership Seminar - one of the largest Asian business events to visit the city in recent years.

It is the third time Amway China has chosen Sydney as the host city for its seminar program, having formerly held its 2005 and 2011 event in the NSW capital.

More than 8,000 delegates are in attendance, with this latest visit marking almost 30,000 Amway China delegates to the state over the past 12 years.

"They will have visited Sydney three times, which is more than any other city in the world including Paris, New York,



Munich and Hawaii," said NSW Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events Stuart Ayres.

BESydney chief executive officer Lyn Lewis-Smith said Amway China's return to Sydney "is testament to the success of previous events and the city

and state's strong and unique destination offering".

"We are extremely honoured to have the opportunity to continue to work with them to bring events to Sydney that deliver such exceptional business results and

experiences for Sydney," said Lewis-Smith.

The leadership team will embark on an array of bucket-list experiences including scuba diving, dolphin watching, BridgeClimb, shopping, fine dining and an excursion to Port Stephens.

BESydney partners involved in the mammoth event include Luna Park, Shangri-La, Australian National Maritime Museum, Sheraton on the Park, Featherdale Wildlife Park and many more.

Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news.

Margaret River Centre revamp

THE Margaret River Cultural Centre in Western Australia is set to receive a makeover after receiving a \$3.05 million grant from the state government's Royalties for Regions program.

A new multi-purpose performance and convention space is planned alongside construction of a central foyer, kitchen and expo area as well as a full AV equipment fitout.

Gilbert joins BCD M&E as VP

BCD Meetings & Events has appointed John Gilbert as its new vice president Life Sciences Centre of Excellence (LSCOE).

Based in the US, Gilbert has spent the last 20 years working within the life sciences field and has held positions within inVentiv Health, GSK, Wyeth and Yamanouchi Pharma.

"As we further develop our global footprint in the Life Sciences, I look forward to producing solutions for global clients," Gilbert said on his latest appointment.

DFAT events tender

THE Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is on the look out for an events management organisation to undertake an array of projects including the Australia Awards Welcome and Farewell Celebrations.

An estimate of 12 events per year will be held by DFAT at a total cost of \$800,000 plus GST.

The bid winner will be responsible for sourcing and liaising with venues, speaker management, looking after budgets and much more.

The tender closes 09 Feb. **CLICK HERE** for more information.



■ **QUINCE**, an upscale restaurant located in San Francisco, has begun serving its dishes atop an iPad.

Inspired by the city's tech boom, Quince's famed 'A Dog in Search of Gold' dish, which is comprised of crispy white truffle croquettes, is now arranged over a video of a dog hunting for truffles in a forest.



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STRIKING GOLD AT GOLDFIELDS

Incentives Spotlight

SET amongst dramatic cliffs and rugged terrain is Goldfields Mining Centre, a historic reserve in Cromwell New Zealand where visitors are thrown back in time to learn more about the region's rich gold mining history.

Located just an hour's drive from neighbouring Queenstown, the centre offers two facilities which serve as meeting venues as well as an array of experiences such as gold panning and tours through the old Chinese mining village.

A standout attraction at the historic hub is the Goldfields Jet experience, a 40-minute thrill ride which takes passengers on an invigorating journey through the Kawarau Gorge.

Operating on the eastern end of the Kawarau River, the experience also gives passengers the chance to absorb the awe-inspiring sights of the orchards and vineyards which surround the area.



In between exhilarating 360 degree turns and high-speed blasts past jagged cliff faces and massive boulders, the jet operator gives insightful commentary on the history of the area, pointing out significant sites along the way.

Afterwards, a visit to the Wild Earth

Kitchen (located on site) for a meal is a must-do.

The restaurant is a foodie's dream, with its entire menu of regional foods prepared on-the-spot within retired French oak Pinot Noir wine barrels.

Wild Earth's signature dish is The Oak Stave, which is a chef's selection of five tasting dishes

paired with five award-winning wines, designed especially for sharing.

Daily wine tastings are also available at the Cellar Door, giving visitors a chance to sample the Wild Earth range which includes Pinot Noir, Rose, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay

and Reisling.

For more information on planning a function at Goldfields Mining Centre visit www.goldfieldsmining.co.nz.



World Ocean Summit

BALI will play host to the fourth World Ocean Summit.

Held over 22-24 Feb, the conference aims to lead the discussion on how the capital and private sector could drive scalable and sustainable investment in the ocean.

The conference will be hosted at the Sofitel Bali Nusa Dua Beach Resort.

For details, **CLICK HERE**.



NEW APPOINTMENT

LEON Hatton-Jones (**pictured**) has been appointed as the InterContinental Fiji Golf Resort & Spa's new executive chef.

Hatton-Jones brings to the table more than 20 years of culinary experience, having worked for a number of five star restaurants and has also served as a competitor and judge for culinary competitions including Unilever Master of Time Chef and the 2015 African Culinary Cup.

He will lead the culinary team and be responsible for specialty dining restaurants onsite including Navo, Sanasana, Toba Bar & Grill and Kama Lounge, as well as oversee catering for InterContinental Meetings and other specialised dining experiences at the resort.



Hilton Vietnam debut

HILTON has penned a management agreement with Victory Hotel Joint Stock Company to open a new dual branded property.

The Hilton Hanoi West Lake features 240 rooms and suites, while the DoubleTree by Hilton Hanoi West Lake offers 320 rooms and suites.

Scheduled to open by 2020, the hotels features a combined 2,993m² worth of flexible meeting spaces.

The latest signing means the hotel giant now has a total of six hotels in the pipeline across Vietnam including Ho Chi Min City and Da Nang.

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