



BOLINGER JOINS ICESAP BOARD

MELBOURNE Convention Bureau (MCB) ceo Karen Bolinger has joined the Incentive Conference and Event Society Asia Pacific (ICESAP) advisory board.

Bolinger (**pictured**) fills the void left by Jeannie Lim, executive director of the Singapore Tourism Board, who stepped down from the advisory board at the end of 2016 after a three-year term.

ICESAP has also appointed AccorHotels vp sales for Asia Pacific Kerry Healy to the advisory board.

Healy will bring her expertise in driving awareness of ICESAP's newly launched Agency Accreditation Scheme, which was brought to market with the support of AccorHotels as principal partner.

Commenting on the two appointments, ICESAP president Nigel Gaunt said both women would bring an enormous



amount of experience to the advisory board.

"Our aim is to rotate advisory board positions on a two-year cycle and there will be two members leaving at the end of 2017 which will lead to further appointments later in 2017," Gaunt said.

ICESAP has also announced that Erica Hegarty will assume

the position of regional vp for South East Asia.

Hegarty is currently head of sales Asia Pacific at Pacific World based in Singapore.

Today's issue of BEN
Business Events News today has two pages of news.

Have a drink with Luna Park

LUNA Park will play host to the Drinks Industry Show on 27 Jun.

Thirty exhibitors will take over the Sydney theme park with 20 industry speakers, workshops, master classes and exclusive spirit tasting forums, with some sessions open to the public.

The show will be held in the Crystal Palace event venue.

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Hilton Fiji opens events space

HILTON Fiji Beach Resort & Spa has opened a new venue designed to cater to the growing MICE market that is attracted to Fiji.

Located on private beachfront, the new venue caters for up to 240 guests and features a waterfront restaurant, bar and pool complex which can handle dinners or pre- or post-event cocktail functions.

Martin Rogers, gm of Hilton Fiji Beach Resort & Spa, said the space was designed to cater to the growing meetings and incentive market taking place in Fiji.



AVPartners clocks up 10 yrs

AVPARTNERS has celebrated its 10th anniversary of providing A/V solutions to the industry.

Launched in 2007, the firm has grown to 13 venues nationally and over 200 staff.

Managing partner at AVPartners, Andrew Hackett, said everyone was proud of how far the company had come in the past decade.

"Where we are today is a testament to the trust our venues place in our team."

Looking for a convenient location on the Northern Beaches for your next meeting or corporate event?

Take a look at Balgowlah RSL's newly renovated function areas including The Wine Room and the Seaforth Function Centre.

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See what outside the square incentive ideas Asia has to offer in the June issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read **travelBulletin**

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

20 - 21 JUL

The Travel Industry Exhibition & Conference; Luna Park Sydney; register here: travelindustryexpo.com.au

25 - 26 JUL

The Travel Industry Exhibition & Conference; MCEC Melbourne; register here: travelindustryexpo.com.au

28 JUL

Get Global – Where the World Meets; International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC); read more: www.getglobal.com.au

17 - 20 SEP

Luxperience; Australian Technology Park, Sydney; registrations now open: www.luxperience.com.au

25 - 27 OCT

ITB Asia; Marina Bay Sands, Singapore; for details and to register visit: www.itb-asia.com

26 - 28 NOV

PCOA Conference; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; details here: www.pco.asn.au

BECA MEETS POLLIES

INDUSTRY leaders and members of the Business Events Council of Australia (BECA) last week met with parliamentarians at a Business Events Meets Parliament session in Canberra.

Matthew Hingerty, chair of BECA, said it had been a successful inaugural event with good attendance from both parties and engagement on growing the industry.

“We look forward to hosting this event annually with the aim of continually raising awareness of the quiet-achiever of the Australian economy, that is

business events,” he said.

Taking place at Parliament House, both sides of the discussion agreed to share information that could assist departments in leveraging from future business events.

Featured at the meeting was a board-level discussion with senior politicians to highlight policy priorities of the industry.

The program concluded a roundtable event that was attended by staff from Tourism Australia, Austrade, DFAT, the Prime Minister's Office, and other government departments.

ICC Sydney Retail event

OVER 2,000 delegates are expected to pass through the doors when the ICC Sydney hosts the 2017 Online Retailer Expo and Conference on 26-27 Jul.

Billed as Australia's largest technology-driven retail event, there will be over 70 speakers from retailers such as Ikea, Google and Canon.

Now in its ninth year, the conference will feature over 100 suppliers on the trade show floor.

C2 Melbourne Launch event

THE Melbourne Convention Bureau will officially launch the C2 Melbourne event next week after successfully luring the event from Montreal (**BEN** 29 May).

MCB will announce suppliers, key partners and the speakers who will engage in tech, marketing, arts and leadership.

The organisers will announce C2's venue, which is dubbed as an “unique and surprising location”.

Evt the future

WELLINGTON-based event app developer ShowGizmo has partnered with Eventing the Future (ETF) to digitalise the event.

The two-day conference is one of NZ's main events for the conference industry.

ShowGizmo's app will allow delegates to connect with each other while accessing schedules & more.



IT MIGHT not be the next big thing in event catering, but an enterprising New Zealander is offering a motorised ride-on esky for those who like their pre-event cocktails on the move. Presented as a motorised “chilly bin” in the local lingo, the contraption seats four people and has a top speed of 15km/h.

Features include a stereo system, LED lighting, an air horn and a 100-litre capacity for drinks.

It's for sale for NZ\$1,500, reports stuff.co.nz, but it doesn't have any brakes.

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