



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news.

The Star to host Logies

THE Star Gold Coast has been named as the new host of the TV WEEK Logie Awards from 2018.

Television's night of nights will be hosted at The Star's newly redeveloped integrated resort in Jul 2018.

The venue features recently refurbished event facilities as well as a luxury suite hotel scheduled to open in a few months.

Star's Pavillon Ballroom can seat 1,100 banquet style or 2,300 in a theatre layout.

The four-year deal will see the awards show move away from Melbourne for the first time in 50 years.

4 SEASONS UNVEILS BALLROOM

FOUR Seasons Hotel Sydney debuted its newly refurbished 683m² ballroom last week with a glitzy launch featuring more than 500 attendees.

The new Grand Ballroom features a contemporary feel, created by Australian architects Bates Smart.

Guests at the event witnessed the reveal of the hotel's new cinematic 4K LED screen, constructed in partnership with event provider AVPartners.

The gigantic screen measures 12 metres by 3.5 metres and features the latest state of the art technology as well as cinematic sound to match.

Four Seasons Hotel Sydney gm Rudolf van Dijk said the new ballroom was a great moment in the hotel's 30-year history.

"What better way to celebrate its grand unveiling than by sharing some of the inventive and memorable experiences we deliver for our events here, from small VIP gatherings to seated



dinners," he said.

Events in the ballroom can cater for 1,000 cocktail style & 520 in a banquet setting.

The space can also be divided into two smaller venues when required.

Guests at the event enjoyed wagyu scotch fillets, Sydney rock oysters and champagne.



Pictured is the Four Seasons Hotel Sydney's new ballroom and, inset are attendees taking in the massive new 4K LED screen.

MEA Skills survey opportunity

MEETINGS & Events Australia (MEA) has released its Australian Workplace Skills Survey for the Events Industry Sector, which has revealed opportunities for growth in the sector, despite 64% of those surveyed saying they need more staff.

Mid-sized organisations (21-50 staff) were most aware of the shortage of skilled staff.

MEA chief executive Robyn Johnson said it was clear many event firms were finding it difficult to fill vacancies & retain staff.

Johnson added the MEA would campaign for the government to invest in new training for the events industry.

The MEA will also expand its professional development program to address the shortages found in the survey.

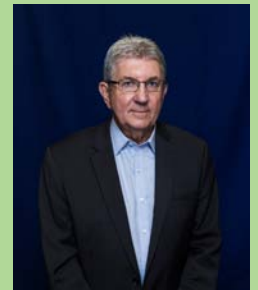
Barron enters AACB Hall of Fame

THE Association of Australian Convention Bureaux (AACB) has inducted Vincent Barron into the AACB Hall of Fame.

Barron was a past president of the convention body and was previously the chief exec of the Tasmanian Convention Bureau between 1993 and 2008.

AACB ceo Andrew Hiebl said "His valuable contribution to the industry and the AACB has been duly recognised."

Between 2008 and 2010, the AACB named the IMEX AACB Vin Barron Award in his honour.





Get up to date with Tassie's MICE scene in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read travelBulletin

PCOA future

PCOA Conf & Exhibition has named researcher Tane Hunter, economist Dr Angus Harvey and musician Will Tait as presenters of The Future is Better Than You Think event on the Gold Coast.

The conf runs 26 to 28 Nov.

Events Calendar

WELCOME to the **BEN** events calendar.

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

13 SEP

Australian Event Awards 2017; The Events Centre, Caloundra, Sunshine Coast; register here: www.eventawards.com.au

14 - 15 SEP

Australian Event Symposium 2017; The Events Centre, Caloundra, Sunshine Coast; register here: www.eventsymposium.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

ICC SYD GOES ALL VR

THE International Convention Centre (ICC Sydney) is claiming to be the first venue of its kind in Australia to launch a virtual reality (VR) video experience.

It will assist conference organisers, event planners, delegates and travellers to get a feel of the venue as they go on an immersive trip in the centre.

ICC Sydney ceo Geoff Donaghy said the move into VR marked another moment of innovation for the centre.

"The new VR experience helps clients get to know the venue and will help us reach our target of running 1,000 events annually by our third year of operation," he said.

ICC Sydney developed the application in partnership with Tourism Australia.

Those wishing to go on a VR experience in the ICC Sydney can do so by downloading the ICC Sydney VR app from the Apple or Android app stores.

CINZ & TNZ tie up

CONVENTIONS and Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) and Tourism NZ have re-signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote MICE offerings on the international stage.

CINZ ceo Sue Sullivan said the coordination would help target the Australian market by working together to maximise opportunities for those in the NZ business events sector.

BEA to hit up IMEX in Oct

BUSINESS Events Australia (BEA) will take a delegation of 24 members of the Australian business events industry to IMEX America in Las Vegas next month.

Exhibiting will be ICC Sydney, MCEC, Qantas and Hyatt Regency Sydney.

The event will be held on 10-12 Oct.

Conf tender

THE Australian Government is tendering for a venue to host the 2018 Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) National Conference on 27-30 May.

AAT is seeking a venue that can hold and accommodate 340 delegates at the same site, which is no more than 1.5 hours from an airport.

Expressions of interest close on 06 Oct.

AFTA TRAVEL PAGES HAS A NEW HOME

CLICK HERE to request a media kit or call 1300 799 220.



THE beloved South Australian tourist icon Larry the Lobster has been passed in at an auction on Fri after the giant crustacean failed to receive any bids.

Larry weighs four tonnes and is 17 metres tall and currently sits out the front of a restaurant and function centre in Kingston SA.

The sculpture is nearly 40 years old and had 'plastic surgery' performed on it in 2006 by Hamish and Andy.

