



Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news plus a full page from **Stamford Plaza Melbourne**.

PAICE rego

REGISTRATION for New Zealand's Pacific Area Incentives and Conference EXPO (PAICE) is open.

The event aims to connect New Zealand-based event organisers with global operators in the areas of cruising, luxury, destination marketing, catering, venues and planning solutions.

More than 110 exhibitors and 250 qualified buyers have already registered to attend the one-day event.

The annual EXPO will take place at Shed 10, Queens Wharf, Auckland, on 19 Nov.

Email Ally@convenegroup.co.nz for more information about PAICE.

CLICK HERE to register now.

MEA LAUNCHES SCHOLARSHIP

MEETINGS and Events Australia (MEA) has launched the 2019 Ungerboeck Young Professional Scholarship Program.

The scholarship recognises event professionals 30 years of age or younger, with less than three years' experience in the meetings and events industry, who excel in their role and are looking to build on their skills to develop their career in the sector.

One scholarship will be presented to the outstanding candidate from each state and territory, who will have the opportunity to attend **EVOLVE 2020** in the Hunter Valley to develop their skills and network with industry leaders.

Ungerboeck Software International Asia-Pacific Managing Director, Fred Lazerini, said the program was valuable for nurturing and guiding young event professionals.

"Over the many years [we have been involved with the scholarship], we have seen many recipients of this program



go on to achieve great things in the events industry, which is a wonderful legacy for Ungerboeck," he said.

MEA CEO, Robyn Johnson, said the scholarship program was an integral part of the career pathway for young professionals in the events industry.

"I encourage employers to support their team members to apply," she said.

The application process

includes interviews with each applicant by a panel of independent industry event professionals in early Feb who will identify a recipient from each state and territory.

Business Events Tasmania's Taryn Reid, a 2018 scholarship recipient, said it had provided "a great opportunity to network with others in the industry", and highlighted "how fantastic the events industry is".

Table Bay dream job for Smit

SUN International has appointed Jorika Smit (**pictured**) as The Table Bay Hotel, Cape Town's Groups and Events Manager.

The five-star hotel located at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront area of the city boasts multiple meeting and conference spaces from its 10-person capacity business centre boardroom to the 300 capacity ball room.

Smit brings more than a decade's experience in the hotel industry, having started her career as a sales and marketing assistant and conference coordinator at a



Cape Town hotel.

"When I first started my career in hotels, I made it my goal to be part of The Table Bay team," she said.

"Being appointed as Groups and Events Manager is most certainly the highlight of my career."

TCEB eyes Phuket as MICE City

THE Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) has unveiled a strategy to make Phuket a "world-class MICE city".

The city currently boasts 220 convention venues, more than 600 hotels with over 40,000 rooms for delegates, while Phuket International Airport has the capacity to serve more than 18 million passengers a year, with direct flights to major destinations across Asia, the US and Europe.

TCEB President, Chiruit Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, said achieving the goal of transforming Phuket into

a MICE city would require collaboration between the public and private sectors, with communities promoting the events sectors.

"Our thorough studies of data and strategies of Phuket MICE City indicated that Phuket has enjoyed substantial development and has the potential to soar as a leading MICE city like other international destinations," he said.

"Our vision to promote Phuket as the Andaman's rising MICE city and as Asia's key coastal MICE city has never been this clear."



NOT A SNOOZE-FEST

THE Vancouver Convention Centre (VCC) is currently hosting more than 3,300 sleep experts for World Sleep 2019.

With clinical evidence and scientific data being presented at the six-day event, which concludes tomorrow, the conference is proving to be anything but a snooze-fest.

The biannual conference is expected to generate CAD\$17 million in direct spending to the Vancouver economy.

World Sleep Society President, Dr Charles Morin, said this year's event was the largest international sleep meeting ever held.

"This meeting will showcase some of the best sleep researchers in the world, presenting new scientific



findings that will benefit both health care practitioners and the general public," he said.

The event is one of 17 international conferences to be held at the VCC this year, with Jun's Women Deliver attracting the largest delegate group.



EVENT organisers in the Western Australian city of Bunbury set a high bar with their first Go Geo Street Pole Vault event in Mar, significantly boosting visitor numbers.

On the back of the successful inaugural leap of faith, the city council has provided a grant \$30,000 to bring Australia's high-flyers back for a second run and jump up Victoria Street.

Organisers said the 2020 will be more than "just a pole vaulting competition" when it returns on 11 Jan.

EEAA Awards

NOMINATIONS for the Exhibition and Event Association of Australasia (EEAA) Awards for Excellence close this week.

The Awards recognise success across 20 categories covering shows, venues, suppliers and marketing, as well as individual and team honours.

Entries must be for events or initiatives that occurred between 01 Oct 2018 and 30 Sep 2019, with the deadline for submission 5pm on Fri 27 Sep, with finalists to be announced in Nov, ahead of the Awards night at Mural Hall Melbourne on 04 Dec.

Partner Up

The low down on tech in the events world



What is trending in audiovisual technology?

AUDIOVISUAL Technology plays an integral role in the delivery of business events and is an industry that is growing rapidly and constantly evolving. In 2019, the focus is on the significant improvements to existing technology and the growth of this technology within events.

Here are four ongoing trends and how they influence business events:

Remote Presenting

Considering the evolution of the workplace to include those who work remotely or at various locations, it is no surprise that remote presenting, live streaming, and video conferencing have become key components of corporate events. Software integration, accessibility, high-speed dedicated internet, flawless HD video and crystal-clear audio are now crucial elements that can make or break an event's success.

LED screens

LED screens are not at all new, but there are several significant improvements to the technology making it a crowd-pleasing favourite for events. With fine pixel pitch ratios delivering

unprecedented high-resolution visuals, panels that link together seamlessly in breathtaking ultra-wide formats, lightweight versatility, brightness control, and increasing affordability, LED screen technology is cementing its position as an event necessity.

Virtual Reality

Virtual Reality has turned a corner in recent years and is no longer considered a luxury item for gamers. It now has implications for use by event organisers as a tool for event planning and engaging guests. This may be from conducting virtual event 'walk-throughs' in the design phase to promoting client branding and providing immersive event experiences.

Digital Signage

The move towards digital signage is one-part sustainability in the shift away from paper and other materials, one-part innovation as digital signage is a flexible medium to display client information. From branding and advertising to seating organisation, directions and more, digital signage provides endless possibilities with which former signage options simply cannot compare.

Jarum Rolfe is the Partner at RACV Royal Pines Resort for AVPartners, which creates integrated event experiences through combining state-of-the-art audiovisual technology, unrivalled expertise and a highly-tailored approach. www.avpartners.com





Special event
accommodation rates
from **\$235** per night

BOOK YOUR NEXT MEETING AND DRINKS ARE ON US!

Book and hold your event before **30 November 2019** and enjoy post meeting drinks on us! Pricing starts from **\$80.00 per person** and is inclusive of a Full Day Delegate Package as well as:

- **FREE** WIFI for delegates during your meeting
- **FREE** valet parking for two cars for the event duration
- **DISCOUNTED** valet parking for all delegates at \$40 per vehicle, per day

Plus, **Exclusive Stamford Spring offer*** when you book 20 or more delegates!

- Book 20 or more delegates and receive \$150 bar tab
- Book 40 or more delegates and receive \$300 bar tab
- Book 60 or more delegates and receive \$450 bar tab



*Terms and conditions apply. 111 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

ENQUIRE FOR YOUR NEXT MEETING NOW >>>

www.stamford.com.au/spm ✉ events@spm.stamford.com.au ☎ 03 9659 1000

CATERING 2 GO
is your one-stop catering
solution in Melbourne

FIND OUT MORE >>>

