



Olympics time

ONE singular sensation - the London Olympic Games opening ceremony.



Didn't it bring back memories of Sydney 2000?

Assuming we were all of an age to watch or attend!

So energising, so inspirational, so eventful.

And so many top Australian corporate executives will be heading to London this week that Qantas has created a special lounge at the Sofitel London for its Platinum One frequent flyers - the lucky so and sos! - Jill.

Christchurch unveiled

A NEW convention centre is expected to be one of the centrepieces of a blueprint for Christchurch to be revealed this afternoon in New Zealand.

Prime Minister John Key said the new CBD will be a "very liveable" city centre, having been created by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority.

Key features will include the location of the convention centre and a new stadium as well as various distinct precincts including an advanced technology hub.

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Melbourne wins AIDS conference

THE largest medical conference ever held in Australia - AIDS 2014 - is to be hosted in Melbourne.

Estimated to generate \$80 million for the Victorian economy and attract more than 14,000 delegates to the city, the International AIDS Conference Globe was officially passed to Melbourne, at the closing ceremony of AIDS 2012 in Washington, DC, on Friday by city mayor Vincent C. Gray to the Victorian Minister for Health David Davis and the AIDS 2014 co-chairs, International Aids Society president Noble Laureate Francoise Barre-Sinoussi and Professor Sharon Lewin, director of the Infectious Diseases Unit at Melbourne's Alfred Hospital.

Joining the distinguished group was Commonwealth Health Minister, Tania Plibersek and former US President, Bill Clinton.

Davis said the closing ceremony was an opportunity to showcase Melbourne's unique international offerings and why it is a fitting choice for the next International AIDS Conference.

"The Asia-Pacific region has the largest geographic area and experts from the region have a

unique perspective on the HIV epidemic," Davis said.

Professor Sharon Lewin said the timing of the upcoming conference, the first to be held in the Asia-Pacific region since 2004, is integral in the broader international HIV/AIDS context.

"2015 has been identified by the United Nations as the target for specific HIV/AIDS treatments and new millennium goals so AIDS 2014 will provide an important opportunity for researchers, scientists, doctors, business leaders and government to come together and assess these pressing priorities," she said.

The Melbourne Convention + Visitors Bureau (MCVB) led the bid process in securing Melbourne as the host city for AIDS 2014, a six-day event (20 - 25 July 2014), to be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC).

MCVB ceo, Karen Bolinger said the International AIDS Conference was among the most significant and esteemed medical events in the world and only the beginning in terms of Melbourne's impressive international conference line-up.

"The next two and a half years will see Melbourne host seven major international conferences including the World Diabetes Conference and the International Congress of Paediatrics in 2013, and the World Congress of Cardiology and the World Cancer Congress in 2014, leaving little doubt in our extraordinary biotech and medical capabilities," Bolinger said.

Cosmos website pics

COSMOS is giving readers the chance to win a 16 day tour with flights for two people to America.

Simply send a photo of yourself with a celebrity to *Business Events News* along with a blurb about how you met them to be in with a chance to win this amazing prize - see the ad left for details.

Rubie gets promoted

FRASERS Hospitality has announced the promotion of Matthew Rubie to the position of general manager, Australia.

Commencing with Frasers Hospitality as general manager Fraser Suites Sydney, in his new position Rubie will oversee all of the group's operations in Australia.

Most recently Rubie worked with The Toga Group, as area hotel manager for the ACT.



Ben on BEN



Each month Business Manager for inPlace Recruitment, Ben Carnegie, writes his observations from the recruiters perspective to help job hunters find the perfect job.

Ben has over 15 years working in 5 star hotels and the MICE industry and has worked on some of Australia's biggest events.

THE new financial year is upon us! Are you ready should your dream job be just around the corner?



Recruitment within the Events industry goes through many different channels whether by word of mouth, direct advertising or through recruitment agents.

Regardless of the way you hear about a job, the interview process moves very quickly. As the job market has started slowly for this new financial year, we are finding that many job seekers aren't well prepared.

Now is the time to be getting your resume updated, as once the jobs do arrive, if you haven't spent this time updating, you're already a step behind the rest.

When putting your resume together, always include specific dates of employment, role titles and responsibilities and achievements from each role.

You want your application to scream "PICK ME".

You've got 10 seconds to make that impression, on paper, work in your favour!

Happy writing!



business events news

30th July 2012



GETTING branded!

Yomna Khallaf, 20, an Egyptian athlete and a member of Egypt's synchronised swimming team, has claimed she had to buy her own Olympic kit after her national Olympic committee handed out fake Nike gear to participants.

The Egyptian Olympic Committee reportedly chose a vendor who supplied counterfeit clothing bearing the Nike brand.

Khallaf shared her concerns via Twitter, tweeting, "It's so frustrating that we had to pay an extra 2000 pounds to have other proper stuff to wear so that we can look OK, not even good."

BCEC shortlisted



BRISBANE Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) has been shortlisted in the prestigious international Convention & Incentive Travel (C&IT) Awards for the title of Worldwide Convention Centre Team of the Year, the only Australian venue to do so.

The Excellence Awards are organised and awarded annually by London based C&IT to celebrate the very best of international conferences, meetings and incentive events.

The announcement will be made at an awards ceremony on 27 September at London's Natural History Museum when the Centre will be up against two of the world's leading convention centres in the Worldwide Convention Centre Team category - ExCel London and SECC Glasgow.

BCEC general manager Bob O'Keefe said to even be a contender in such a highly sought after international award was an honour and recognition of the Centre's team for its experience, expertise and professionalism.

Stamford iGuest

IT'S not just another app - a new smartphone application from Stamford has been designed specifically based on guest feedback.

On check-in, a password and username is provided to activate the account, the key features of which include being able to arrange meals, snacks or any special hotel requirements the guest needs delivered to their room.

It can be set to do wake up calls, 'do not disturb' functions, listen to voice messages and even track the customer's bill.

Other benefits include instant access to flight arrival and departure times, contact numbers for airlines & embassies, the ability to find local attraction details, transportation options and even local restaurants.

Stamford Hotels and Resorts deputy chief operating officer, Jon Foo a frequent traveller himself said, "At Stamford Sydney Airport we live the life of our business and leisure travellers and want to continually evolve and develop better tools to make the journey smoother.

"Time is something we are all short of so by developing iGuest we have deleted the need for waiting for things to happen, we give you power at your fingertips", said Foo.

Compatible with iPhone's and iPad's, it is free to download from the App store or online at www.stamford.com.au.

Swissôtel Hotel Sanya

THE first golf resort in China for Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts, the Swissôtel Sanya, is to be built on Hainan Island.

As China's only tropical resort destination, the deluxe hotel, which includes one of the most exclusive 18-hole golf courses in the region it will be located in the southern most part of Hainan Island.

Part of a large scale mixed-use development at the 267 hectare Dragon Valley Resort, it is scheduled to open in 2015.

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Stay and play golf

CROWNE Plaza Hunter Valley has introduced a *Stay and Play* package to appeal to corporate golfers and die-hard enthusiasts.

Designed to give guests a chance to flex their tee box muscles during an escape to the picturesque Hunter Valley, it is available from Sunday to Thursday until 31 December.

Prices start from \$280 per night for two adults and include two rounds of golf with golf cart hire, as well as deluxe room accommodation and a full buffet breakfast at the hotel's Redsalt Restaurant.

Larger groups can take



advantage of the *Stay and Play* package that offers four adults luxury accommodation in a 2-bedroom villa plus four rounds of golf with golf cart hire, and a full buffet breakfast from \$360/night.

Stretching for almost 6,000 metres, the 18-hole championship course lies within

the 4.5-star resort's picturesque grounds and is located a stone's throw from the Hunter Valley's world-renowned

vineyards and cellar doors.

Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley general manager David Bark said: "The course is very user-friendly and manages to strike the perfect balance between being challenging, yet achievable".

Virgin lands Ireland

LYNNE Ireland has been appointed as regional sales director Australia for Virgin Limited Edition, through her company, Inspired Luxury.

Ireland will be responsible for driving sales and marketing within the Australia market and will report to Janet Hoolohan, group sales & marketing director for Virgin Limited Edition, based in the London Head Office.

Lynne's role will focus on recognised luxury travel specialists and incentive houses to increase reservations for the Virgin Limited Edition collection.

Hoolohan commented: "This is an important development for Virgin Limited Edition as we seek to expand awareness within the Australian market.



We are looking forward to Lynne joining the team and using her wealth of experience and knowledge to help drive our business expansion in such an increasingly important market."

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business events news

30th July 2012

Sydney celebrates

BUSINESS Events Sydney says it's achieved one of its most successful financial years ever, with 103 business events secured worth about \$226 million to the NSW state economy.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, George Souris, said the outcome was up 21% on the previous year, the "third highest economic delivery in the organisation's history," and a good indicator that a target of doubling tourism spending by 2020 was "ambitious and achievable".

BESydney ceo Lyn Lewis-Smith said the result was a success based on long-term relationships across the incentive and association sectors, the strong support of stakeholders and her expert team.

Lewis-Smith said the focus was on high profile or high yield events, or those linked to the state govt's priority sectors.

"Beyond the visitor economy, we are also securing events that will help drive the state's knowledge economy," she said.

Naturally stimulating

LEONIE Belbin, Kingfisher Bay Resort's business development manager, said the fact that Fraser Island was formed more than two million years ago makes it a 'natural' when it comes to the meetings industry.

"Fraser's natural phenomena, like the annual Humpback Whale migration helps stimulate ideas and creativity.

"We work very closely with clients to custom-design recreational & partner programs and group activities - using these natural environmental elements to full effect.

"The island also provides the perfect backdrop for adventure-based team building challenges.

See frasermeetings.com.au.



Cruise to the GC



A proposal that could see an additional 264,500 visitors to the Gold Coast by 2018 has been put forward by a Singapore firm to fund a \$4.9 billion cruise ship, residential, marine and tourist precinct on the Broadwater, the *Gold Coast News* reported.

The company, Sembawang of Singapore said it would independently fund the project, to be called Wavebreak and have it completed in time for the Commonwealth Games.

Included in the precinct would be two cruise ship terminals, 12 superyacht berths, a 400 berth marina and a Fisherman's Wharf-style trawler centre among its marine infrastructure.

Tourism facilities including 1500 hotel rooms - from four to six stars - while an aquarium, theatre and casino are also proposed.

"The project would be one of the largest undertaken on Australia's Eastern seaboard," the firm said.

Wavebreak would provide apartments, shopping and dining facilities.

GCB gets green

GREEN Globe, the worldwide sustainability system has announced certification of the German Convention Bureau GCB, in Frankfurt.

Green Globe Certification's ceo, Guido Bauer, said: "We are extremely pleased to certify and partner with the GCB.

"The German conference sector is playing a key role in the shift towards eco-friendly business," he said.

Alderton joins Heritage

JOANNE (Jo) Alderton has been appointed as conference and events manager for New Zealand's Rutherford Hotel Nelson, a Heritage Hotel.

She has over a decade of experience in hotels, beginning with Heritage Christchurch in 1999.

Alderton joins the Rutherford Hotel as the development of the new purpose built conference centre adjoining the property is well under way.



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