

## Smart idea

**MOST** of us have been to a bountiful Chinese banquet, where the eight to 12 courses keep on coming until you are fit to burst.

Taiwan Tourism's lunch on Tuesday at The Eight modern Chinese Restaurant in Sydney Chinatown's Market City was just such an event.

A feast that began with Peking duck, stir fried lobster and wok seared wagyu, glistening mushrooms and bok choy..... and it kept on coming for the delighted attendees.

Still, there was much left over which The Eight cleverly packed up into separate containers and encouraged the departing guests to take a 'doggy bag.'

My lobster with noodles today was delicious! *Jill*



## Support for Glebe Island Expo

**FOLLOWING** news (**BEN** breaking news Mon) that Sydney's Glebe Island is to host an interim exhibition facility during the redevelopment of the Darling Harbour precinct, **EAAA** general manager Joyce DiMascio said she was pleased at the NSW government's commitment to business continuity.

"Identifying Glebe Island Expo is an important milestone, but even more important now is getting the finer details and speeding up the process as this decision is months overdue," she said.

"There are tens of thousands of people whose income is derived through the staging of exhibitions - the benefits also spill over to hotels, hospitality and retail all over the city....exhibitions and events generate around 2 million visitors a year to Sydney so are crucial to the economy"

The proximity of Glebe Island to the city, DiMascio said, is a good solution for the Sydney International Boat Show, however the relocation of other big events like the Australian International Motor Show may not be suitable.

"The reality is that Sydney needs a dual precinct strategy for major events infrastructure - we welcome the Government's investment in the renewal of Darling Harbour and providing an interim site .

"In the future, we'd like it to also consider improvements to Sydney Olympic Park," she said.

**Diversified Exhibitions** ceo Matt

Pearce said he welcomed the decision to open up Glebe Island but his firm was still not able to begin planning for 2014 events.

"We do not yet know who will design and build the facility which still needs to be put to tender.

"We can surmise that this process will take at least another two or three months and then we are into 2013 before we can give any firm assurances to exhibitors."

Domenic Genua, marketing and events manager for the **Boating Industry Association of NSW**, which owns and organises the Sydney International Boat Show, said Glebe Island could present a workable solution.

"If we were unable to run the event, we'd jeopardise 7,000 jobs," Genua said.

Debbie Evans, ceo of **Reed Exhibitions**, which stages Australia's largest trade exhibition, the Reed Gift Fair, said, "What we need from Infrastructure NSW now is to work very closely and very quickly with the organisers on the detail.

Evans said many international exhibitions and events were staged successfully in temporary structures but it had to be a good looking structure with wow factor.

The Government has appointed Transfield subsidiary APP to run the tender to design, build and operate the interim facility.

DiMascio said EAAA looked forward to working with APP to ensure an optimal outcome from the Glebe Island interim venue.

## BESydney to take on management role

**BUSINESS** Events Sydney (BESydney) is to take on broader responsibility and manage booking enquiries for both the newly announced Glebe Island Expo (see main story) and the Sydney International Convention, Exhibition and Entertainment Precinct (SICEEP) until operators of the new facilities are appointed.

Infrastructure NSW, which is delivering SICEEP for the NSW Government, will recommend the successful proponent in December 2012 and the operator for the interim facility is scheduled to be announced in March 2013.

Infrastructure NSW project director, Tim Parker commented, "BESydney's team has extensive knowledge of the events market and the expertise to oversee both the enquiry and booking process for both Glebe Island Expo and SICEEP.

"BESydney is already bidding on events for 2017 and beyond."

BESydney ceo Lyn Lewis-Smith said her team was pleased to be taking on the extra responsibility.

"BESydney will be a one-stop shop for business events."

She said that exhibitions affected by the SICEEP project would have first right of refusal for bookings of the interim Glebe Island Expo, and that it was also anticipated there would be scope for additional events to be secured for the temporary facility.

## Tangalooma push

**TANGALOOMA** Island Resort, located about an hour north of Brisbane, is today promoting itself as an ideal location for conferences, corporate events, team building and retreats.

The property has a range of special offers available, including a \$45 day delegate deal plus residential delegate discounts, and activities also include whale watching, beachside bonfire gala dinners, and even art classes

See the **last page** of today's **BEN** for more information.

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### SCEC - still the one

IT'S been a year of triumph for the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre and it hasn't ended yet.

Now comes the news that they have won the Best Venue prize in the Australian Event Awards.

Announced on Friday night at a gala dinner in Sydney, Centre chief executive Ton van Amerongen said of the award: "We've been setting new standards in Australia's event industry for almost 25 years and we have no intention of resting on our laurels."

"As we head towards our silver anniversary in 2013 we plan to make sure each event we host is among the best Sydney has experienced."

### WIN A \$100 PREPAID VISA CARD!



This week **BEN** has teamed up with **inPlace Recruitment** to celebrate the launch of their new travel recruitment website, by giving three readers the chance to win a \$100 prepaid Visa card to spend online or in a store of their choice!

For your chance to win, be the first person to send in the correct answer to the daily question below.

**Find the missing word in this statement:**  
**People. Integrity.**

Email your answer to [comp@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:comp@businesseventsnews.com.au)  
Hint! Visit [www.inplacerecruitment.com.au](http://www.inplacerecruitment.com.au)  
Congratulations to Monday's lucky winner **Akbar Muliono** from the Canberra Convention Bureau.



## Consider Chile!

**CHILE** ranks among the most diverse countries in the world regarding climate and landscapes, a land of contrasts: arid deserts, high mountains, eternal glaciers and people, mainly of mixed native-European blood.

Chile's geography provides a unique difference from other destinations in the world; the highlight is its tri-continental location with territories in The Americas, Oceania and even Antarctica.

It is a long and narrow country which goes from 90 to 470 km wide and its length is 4,330 km.

Making it easy to experience this special place, Condor Travel Chile has created several incentive programs in the southern part of the country.

One of these is the breathtaking Torres del Paine National Park, located in the lower end of the Chilean Patagonia, 147 km from the city of Puerto Natales.

Designated a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 1978, the park was created in May 1959, and it is part of the National System of Protected Wild Areas

### MEA Roadshow 20 Sep

**MEA** members are reminded that the MEA National Roadshow is being held tomorrow, Thursday 20 September at Event Cinemas, 505-525 George Street, Sydney, from 5-7pm.

At this complimentary event you'll hear all the latest MEA news and have the opportunity to provide valuable input in how the association can grow and prosper in NSW.

Following the meeting there will be opportunity to network with fellow members.

For info or to book see [www.meetingsevents.com.au](http://www.meetingsevents.com.au).



of the Chilean State.

Here accommodation ranges from camping - living the experience of direct contact with the famous granite spires - through to luxury hotels, in locations where you wake up with the mountain in front of your room window.

One of the expedition alternatives includes sailing the Serrano River in kayaks or in small boats, viewing the stunning Última Esperanza Sound in Puerto Natales, sailing through the Bernardo O'Higgins National Park and taking in extraordinarily beautiful spots like the Serrano and Balmaceda Glaciers.

Torres del Paine offers surprises at every step and while trekking, it is not unusual to see amazing wildlife such as eagles and condors, flamencos, swans, guanacos, foxes, and if you are lucky, the Chilean cougar.

For program suggestions for incentive reward and group travel go to Nemonic Concepts, Condor Travel's local representatives – [www.nemonic.com.au](http://www.nemonic.com.au)



### BOEING, Boeing, gone!

Michael O'Leary, the controversial head of Irish budget airline pioneer RyanAir, not only called one of his passengers "stupid" he also refused to compensate her when she was charged what seems to be an excessive amount for forgetting to print boarding passes for her family's return flight on his airline.

The blunder cost her the huge amount of 300 Euro (about \$387).

Seems it's wiser to print your boarding passes before leaving home, as RyanAir charges 60 euros per ticket to print them out at the airport.

"She wrote to me last week asking for compensation and a gesture of good will," said O'Leary, "to which we have replied, politely but firmly, thank you, but it was your \*\*\*\*-up."

### Port Stephens winner

#### CONGRATULATIONS to

Rosemary Ferrari from Meetings and Events Australia who is the **Business Events News** winner of a holiday to Salamander Shores, Port Stephens.

Ferrari's prize includes two night's accommodation for two in a Bayview Room, full buffet breakfast daily and a \$100 dining voucher to Shoreline Steakhouse.

Her winning entry soloquised - *Bayview rooms, Salamander Shores, the perfect place to take a work pause.*

*Spot a whale, you just might, all that ocean. No office in sight"*





## Thriving Taiwan increases Oz visitors

**A TIMELY** visit to Australia this week by a delegation of Taiwan Tourism officials follows announcements of a marked increase in visitor arrivals and the news that several key players in the international hotel sector plan to

substantially invest in the destination over the next few years.

Heading the delegation, the president of Golden Foundation Tours, Jean Change is joined by the deputy secretary general of the Taiwan Visitors Association, Sophia Yeh and the director of Taiwan Tourism Bureau (TTB) - Singapore, Australia & New Zealand, Arthur Hsieh.

Workshops began yesterday at the Hilton Sydney and will be held at the Sofitel on Collins in Melbourne on Thursday.

The scheduled hotel developments in Taiwan are the result of a marked increase in tourists visiting the country and include international hotel groups such as Le Meridien, Fullon Hotels & Resorts, Sheraton and Caesar Park Hotel & Resorts.

Australian visitor arrival figures to Taiwan, released this week by the Taiwan Tourism Bureau, show a total of 4,588 visited last month.

This moderate increase over the 4,563 visitor tally in Aug 2011 helped push figures for the Jan-



Aug 2012 period to 49,000.

TTB marketing representative Australia & New Zealand, Pearl Lee, attributed the increase to an ever-building awareness for the destination at both consumer and trade levels which is consistent with the national tourist office's ongoing promotion drive.

## WA's South West rocks

**WITH** so many choices for event planners to choose from, it is not always easy to pick one.

Western Australia's South West region says it has the locations to hold extraordinary events in an area teeming with options for memorable conferences, exceptional incentives and engaging team building activities.

What's more, the regional Business Tourism Officer can help planners save time and make a decision.

To get their new 24 page, ASW Conference Planner's & Incentive Guide for 2012 / 2013, contact Australia's South West on [mice@australiassouthwest.com](mailto:mice@australiassouthwest.com)



## Connect via the Klowd

**HERE'S** an interesting new twist on the boring old PowerPoint presentation – an app that allows you to 'connect' with your audience (literally) and measure their response while you present.

SlideKlowd, developed by Klowd.com, offers a service that creates connections between the presenter and the audience on their mobile devices or internet browsers.

Here's how it works.

When the audience enters an event key, it creates a connection between the presenter and the devices used by the audience.

SlideKlowd offers apps for iOS and Android devices.

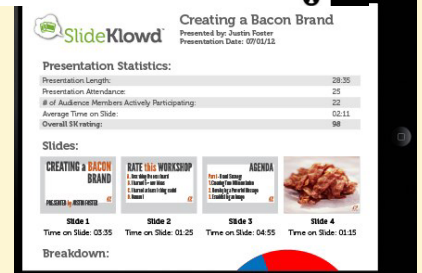
Once connected, the presenter knows who is attending.

He or she can also tell the level of engagement and if the audience are doing other things.

The service collects individual and overall information about each of the presenter's slides.

The presenter can get thumbs up or down from the audience, with all data being captured and compiled into an analytics report.

SlideKlowd is easy to use and



provides a fresh take on presentations.

The presenter gets real-time feedback.

The audience can be anywhere, as long as they have a mobile device. The company will soon integrate Twitter to offer a new way to share a presentation.

For more information and a demonstration, visit the website at [www.klowd.com](http://www.klowd.com).

To check out the latest tech news for small business visit Tony Wragg's TechTalk at:

[www.tonystechtalk.com.au](http://www.tonystechtalk.com.au)

Story adapted from an article in TechCrunch.



## Strange bedfellows

**SOFITEL** Auckland Viaduct Harbour, not beyond immersing their guests in the local culture and arts of the city, is now in the Company of Strangers.

All part of a creative partnership with this hot New Zealand fashion label, which will see the two collaborate on a series of bespoke events including fashion shows, art installations and more.

The label is helmed by designer Sara Aspinall, who has quickly built a reputation amongst style stalkers for high fashion clothing, vintage leather bags and jewellery.

## Portfolio appointment

**TOURISM** Portfolio has announced the appointment of Susanna Boyd as Business Development Manager.

Susanna has more than a decade's experience in travel and tourism, and moves from her most recent role as Client Relationship Manager with World Travel Professionals.

"Our business continues to rapidly expand and Susanna's knowledge and experience will only further enhance our presence in the market," said the firm's md, Donna Kessler.

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## business events news

19th September 2012

### Star struck Maxine wins

**STAR** struck in so many ways!

A mega response to the 'Share your celebrity moment with **Business Events News**' comp has culminated in a win by travel agent Maxine McKeon from Harvey World Travel in Erina NSW.

The competition, run together with **BEN's** sister publications **Cruise Weekly** and **Travel Daily** had a major prize of a trip for two to America courtesy of Cosmos, including a 16 day Route 66 tour and economy class flights.



**Pictured** here with Maxine McKeon is the retired American astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the second man to walk on the moon - very appropriate for a Cosmos comp.

### Grand Juna Wuxi conf

**WORLDHOTEL** Grand Juna Wuxi, a new 370-room property with a state-of-the-art convention and exhibition centre in Tai Hu Lake New City, played host recently to Asia-Pacific hoteliers from the Worldhotels global network of independent hotels.

The occasion was the Worldhotels Dragon's Peak Conference 2012 at which some fifty general managers, directors of sales and marketing from across Greater China, Singapore, Australia, Japan and India networked at the group's first branded hotel in China.

In conjunction with the official opening of the host Worldhotel Grand Juna Wuxi, the hoteliers also went 'green' in support of needy children during the conference.

In Australia the Worldhotels portfolio includes Stamford and the Tabcorp properties including Jupiters on the Gold Coast and Sydney's The Star.

## Another Club Med for China



**ARGUABLY** in one of the most beautiful places on the planet, Club Med is poised to open its second resort in China next year in Guilin.

Set within a 46 hectare park haven and fifty picture-perfect mountains, it is due to open in early 2013.

Currently undergoing a stunning transformation, the resort lies on the banks of the Li River, between Guilin and Yangshuo in south China, around 800 km north west of Hong Kong.

Club Med says that the resort will appeal to families, couples and also conference groups.

"Club Med Guilin is spread over a spacious scenic park, with plenty of secluded meeting and function spaces - with some very special dining spots, including a cave setting as well as lakeside and outdoor banquet options.

"It will certainly make for a memorable group dinner or event," a spokesperson said.

The resort has 329 guest rooms, three bars and three swimming pools including a peaceful child-free 'zen pool'.

It's located in a UNESCO World Heritage park, with local attractions including the Reed Flute Cave, Elephant Trunk Hill or cruising along the Li River.

Club Med Guilin will be open for reservations from 01 Nov, for travel from May 2013.

### Keystone expands

**FOLLOWING** what they describe as a hugely successful twelve years of operation, Sydney-based "lifestyle and hospitality" firm, the Keystone Group, has launched a new chapter in their history.

It's an occasion marked by the expansion of their portfolio with the opening of The Newtown Hotel as well as Sweethearts Rooftop Barbecue atop Sugarmill in Kings Cross, next month.

These openings follow a strong year of growth taking their venue portfolio to 12 iconic destinations that employs over 800 staff.

John Duncan, group MD, said: "We are all about prime position and we spend a lot of time researching an area to make sure we nail the best location possible."

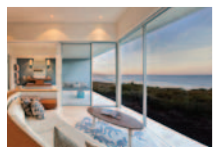
Proof of this is their Newtown Hotel, which has undergone a complete restoration bringing the 1885 building and its original facade back to its former glory.

The venue will feature a 'very traditional' old school Newtown pub, Greek inspired eatery - The Animal - replete with a private dining room in the form of a funky retro caravan, and a cinema room for up to 30 people.

The rooftop barbecue, called Sweetheart's, will have a casual, backyard party feel with eskies, grills and a real Aussie playlist.

See [thekeystonegroup.com.au](http://thekeystonegroup.com.au).

### Win a luxury stay at Southern Ocean Lodge



During the months of August and September, **Business Events News** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win an amazing two-night stay at the exclusive Southern Ocean Lodge, Kangaroo Island courtesy of **Baillie Lodges**.

The prize includes two-nights accommodation for two people in a Flinders Suite with breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, open bar with premium wines and spirits, in-suite bar, signature experiences and return island airport transfers.

To be in the running simply answer the 17 questions and the final creative answer which will be featured in **BEN** on 21 September.

The person who answers ALL the questions and has the most creative response will win.

Email your answers to:

[baillielodges@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:baillielodges@businesseventsnews.com.au)

**Q17: Name two of the five suite categories available at Southern Ocean Lodge**

Hint: [www.southernoceanlodge.com.au](http://www.southernoceanlodge.com.au)

Click here for Terms and Conditions

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