



## Heavenly experiences

**DINING** in the style of Emperors on ducks tongues, steamed swan egg clam with garlic sauce, bamboo fungus and black flossy moss, we ended our first evening in Shanghai.



Not, as expected, at the Grand Hyatt Pudong but at the two tower, lotus-topped, Westin Shanghai in the Bund Centre.

With the Grand Hyatt's 555 rooms at capacity, the hotel business in Shanghai is so buoyant it has a constant occupancy rate of 80+% - enough to make a Aussie hotel gm weep.

Looking out of the window from my stylish hotel room with its dominating 'heavenly bed,' the spires and towers of modern Pudong on the east side of the Huangpu River helps to put some perspective on the fact that we arrived here in the dark.

In the middle of Pudong's financial and trade zone, Shanghai Tower J-Hotel is being build, a structure that will on completion in 2014, be the city's tallest building (632 metres in height and 128 stories).

It's interesting to note that in 1983 Shanghai had just forty 20 storey buildings.

Today, that number is a staggering 30,000.

Put into perspective, that's roughly one high rise building for every individual in Goulburn!

More fascinating tall Shanghai tales and true this Friday. *Jill*

## NZ govt passes NZICC bill

**THE** passing of the New Zealand International Convention Centre (NZICC) legislation in the New Zealand Parliament yesterday has been welcomed by SKYCITY Entertainment Group Limited.

This in effect will see SKYCITY invest \$402 million to design, build, own and operate the New Zealand International Convention Centre in Auckland.

The announcement comes after many years of negotiation with the NZ government and SKYCITY chief executive Nigel Morrison said, "We are delighted to now be

able to move ahead with this very exciting development."

The legislation extends SKYCITY's Auckland Casino licence to 2048 and provides for an increase in gaming product.

"The NZICC will drive economic growth, jobs, high value international tourism and will become a catalyst for further tourism and entertainment development in the 'Victoria' precinct and the Auckland CBD," Morrison said.

SKYCITY is fully funding the project, meaning that the NZICC will be delivered without requiring funding from taxpayers or Auckland ratepayers.

Morrison said about 1000 construction jobs will be created along with SKYCITY employing an extra 800 Kiwis when the NZICC is fully operational.

Based on current anticipated timelines and an approximate three-year construction period, the target date for completion of the NZICC is 30 September 2017.

## SEC @ Glebe Island

**DELEGATES** to the 2013 Event and Exhibition Association of Australasia (EEAA) conference will see Sydney's new interim facilities up close on Mon 25 Nov during the EEAA Welcome Reception.

The event will be held aboard the *John Cadman 2* which will include Glebe Island on its route as it cruises the harbour.

Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island (SEC&GI) gm Malu Barrios said it will be an ideal opportunity to showcase features of the interim facilities including the venue's convenient location.

## Industry jobs in BEN

**TODAY'S** issue of *Business Events News* features a full page of events industry jobs from **AA Appointments** on **page four**.

## Setting the PAICE

**TOURISM** Australia (TA) will showcase 30 exhibitors today at Auckland's PAICE Expo, with 2013 marking the sixth year that it's has been involved with the event.

TA NZ gm Jenny Aitken said "the business case for staging a conference or incentive event in Australia is strong," with the country having a distinguished record as a "world class host".

## BECA grant confirmed

**BUSINESS** Events Council of Australia will proceed with a major research project on the value of the business events industry (**BEN** 02 Aug) after receiving confirmation that the incoming federal government will honour the commitment.

The \$110,000 project was one of the 2013 round of T-QUAL grants under review by the newly responsible minister Andrew Robb.

## Crown NSW go-ahead

**THE** NSW government has confirmed "binding agreements" with Crown Resorts Limited, which will see the much-anticipated Crown hotel completed on Sydney's Barangaroo precinct by 2019.

The deal sees Crown commit to building a "six star iconic hotel resort" which will offer standard rooms and suites, premium suites, villas and super villas, spa facilities, multiple signature restaurants with celebrity chefs, a destination cocktail bar and outdoor meeting and convention environments, along with a VIP gaming facility.

Crown chairman James Packer said he was "going to do everything I can to try and make Crown Sydney the best hotel in the world".




## What does \$20 mean to you?

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# business events news

13th November 2013

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Rate includes free Wi-Fi and broadband

## Hawaii is nice for MICE!



**NINE** MICE industry professionals recently took part in a "Meet Hawaii Famil" which included an experience with world renowned *Iron Chef* Morimoto from the iconic Japanese culinary TV competition.

The trip was hosted by Hawaii Tourism Oceania in partnership with Hawaiian Airlines, and saw the group travel to magical Maui where they stayed at Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa and

Wailea Beach Marriott.

They were also among the first Australian travel industry professionals to see the brand new luxury Andaz Maui at Wailea.

Activities on Maui included ziplining and a Molokini Snorkel tour, while they also visited unique venues including the Ali'i Lavender Farm, O'o Farm and Sugar Beach Venue, Gannon's Estate and the Marilyn Monroe House.

Moving onto Oahu they stayed at the newly renovated Turtle Bay Resort, Sheraton Waikiki and the MODERN Honolulu, where they dined at Morimoto's restaurant.

Other attractions visited included the Polynesian Cultural Center, Kualoa Ranch, USS Missouri and the Pacific Aviation Museum along with other offsite venues such as Iolani Palace.

**Pictured** above at the Modern Honolulu are, from left: Lawrence Sattrukalsinghe, Hawaiian Airlines; Holly Ballard, Hawaii Tourism Oceania; Paul Reitberger, Conference Resources; Karen O'Connor, the Totem Group; Pamela Small, Destination Event Management; Ema Roadcap, Platinum Travel Corporation; Iron Chef Morimoto; Mandy Slovitt, ciEvents, Erin Gissane, CCM Travel; Tiffany Smith, Anywhere Travel; and Caitlin O'Keefe of DNA Marketing.

## DMS 2014 workshops

**DMS** Destination Marketing Services has announced the dates for its 2014 workshops, which will take place in Sydney on Thu 13 Feb and in Melbourne just before AIME, on Mon 17 Feb.

## IACC sets 2014 goals

**MARK** Cooper, ceo of the International Association of Conference Centres (IACC), says a key goal going forward is the development of the IACC Institute, a certification program for conference centre operators.

Laying out plans for the future, he said IACC will also step up its presence and participation in industry trade shows in 2014 to include AIBTM- Chicago, CIBTM Beijing, IMEX Frankfurt, AIBTM Orlando, IMEX Las Vegas, and EIBTM Barcelona.

A key focus will be Educating Meeting Planners at IACC's Camp-Fire sessions at MPI's conference in February, a move consistent with the association's goals to increase and strengthen awareness and membership.

Plans are also in the works for IACC to partner with noted hospitality schools, such as the SKEMA Business School which has offices in France, China, and the USA.

IACC recently opened three new strategically located offices in Chicago, Brussels and Singapore.

## Pines time out offer

**EACH** corporate quotation at RACV Royal Pines Resort on the Gold Coast will include a \$200 gift voucher from teambuilding company Time Out Adventures.

Options include riding on self-balancing Segways, laser clay-shooting, walking on water in Ozboobles, or starring in a Bobbing Heads personalised video.



## crumbs!

**HERE'S** a tip for those taking part in a Port Stephens conference.

Check out Kaya, a dingo who is helping to save an endangered Australian bird.

The smart five-year-old female who lives at the Oakvale Farm and Fauna World has been taught to step in paint and then on a blank canvas in front of visitors to the park.

Her colourful paw-prints are sold to support the conservation of the bush stone-curlew, a nocturnal, ground-dwelling bird in danger of extinction on the Australian east coast.

Oakvale Farm owner, Kent Sansom says Kaya, who lives by herself because she doesn't get on well with the other dingoes, is a hit with visitors.

"Dingoes are a social animal so we needed to think of a way to keep her stimulated and content.

"Positive reinforcement such as a food reward provides Kaya with mental stimulation.

"She is a unique and beautiful animal and this is an interesting way for people to see how intelligent the dingo is."



## STAMFORD SWEETENS THE DEAL FOR EVENTS

Find out how your next function at Stamford Grand or Stamford Plaza Adelaide can be sweetened with extras.

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for further information.

## EXPERIENCE THE MERCURE SYDNEY CHRISTMAS

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## HK's \$B exhibition industry

A new economic impact study released on the 2012 Hong Kong exhibition industry reveals that it was responsible for a substantial HK\$40.8 billion of expenditure in Hong Kong, a rise of 14% from the figures for 2010 and a 6.7%

compound annual growth rate since 2010.

This amount represents 2.0% of Hong Kong's overall GDP, an exceptionally strong contribution from an industry that often slips under the radar of the city's major performers.

Fiscal benefits, which are those taken by the government in the form of taxes on salaries, profits and passenger movements for people and companies involved in the exhibition industry, amounted to around HK\$1.4 billion for 2012.

Also assessed were the employment opportunities generated by the exhibition industry, estimated to provide 69,600 full time equivalent jobs.

Chairman of the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Industry Association (HKECIA) Daniel Cheung said the study shows its direct link with Hong Kong's wider prosperity.

"The expenditure and employment opportunities benefit not just exhibition industry players such as venue operators, exhibition organisers and stand contractors, but also hotels, retail, F&B, advertising and other sectors," he said.

### Luxperience grows

**NEXT** year's Luxperience luxury travel showcase will move to Pier 2/3 at Sydney's Walsh Bay, in order to cope with an expected doubling in size.

The organisers cited strong interest from exhibitors following this year's show, with Luxperience 2014 taking place 31 Aug-03 Sep.

### WIN an overnight getaway



This week, **BEN** and **Novotel Sydney Parramatta** are giving you the chance to win an overnight stay for two in a luxurious Superior King room and a buffet breakfast in Two Forks restaurant.

Novotel Sydney Parramatta has completed a room's refurbishment to compliment their rebranding. The hotel has 11 meeting spaces including a pillar less ballroom that fits up to 550 people. Situated just 24km from Sydney CBD and local attractions like Riverside Theatres, Sydney Olympic Park, Wet 'n' Wild and many others just moments away.

For your chance to win, email your answer to the question below by Fri 15th Nov to: [comp@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:comp@businesseventsnews.com.au)

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### CONTACT US:

Publisher: Bruce Piper  
Editor: Jill Varley

For advertising enquiries email Christie-Lee: [advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au)

P: 1300 799 220 F: 1300 799 221

PO Box 1010 Epping, NSW, 1710

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## GC's new parklands

**GOLD** Coast Mayor Tom Tate and chairman of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority Gary Baildon have unveiled plans for almost three hectares of new parklands to be created as part of the city's preparations to stage the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Stage 3 of the \$10.5 million of the Broadwater Parklands will feature a regional boat ramp and pontoons, new community building, events space, public amenities and will serve as a significant Commonwealth Games legacy project.

Future enhancements could also include new foreshore pathways, children's playground and a youth precinct.

## Dreamtime SIA deal

**TOURISM** Australia has announced Singapore Airlines as the second airline partner and gold sponsor for its upcoming *Dreamtime 2013* event.

SIA will provide flights for delegates from key Asian markets including Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore as part of the sponsorship, with about 100 key international business events decision makers and media converging on Melbourne from 09-13 Dec before heading off to locations around Australia such as Adelaide, Cairns, the Gold Coast, Sydney and Uluru.

Platinum sponsor Virgin Australia is the other airline partner for *Dreamtime 2013*.



## Panasonic launches smallest ever Lumix camera

**PANASONIC** has launched its smallest ever LUMIX G Series camera, the LUMIX DMC-GM1.

This pocket sized camera uses the latest Compact System Camera (CSC) technology in a tiny package.

Panasonic says the standout feature of the 16 megapixel DMC-GM1 is its image quality, coupled with a suite of innovative features, including a retractable

interchangeable lens, built-in flash and Wi-Fi functionality. The Wi-Fi feature means you can instantly share your images using the free Panasonic Image App for iOS/Android smartphones/tablets. Features include:

- ◆ 16MP Live MOS sensor
- ◆ Built-in WiFi (no NFC)
- ◆ 3.0-inch, 1036K dot touch-sensitive LCD
- ◆ 1080 HD video recording at 60i/30p
- ◆ Built-in pop-up flash
- ◆ 1/16,000 maximum shutter speed (with all-electronic shutter)
- ◆ Focus peaking
- ◆ Picture-in-picture

magnification for manual focus

- ◆ Micro HDMI output
- ◆ Magnesium-alloy shell with aluminium top and bottom plates

The DMC-GM1 debuts with a new kit lens, the LUMIX G VARIO 12-32mm/F3.5-5.6 ASPH/MEGA OIS that offers a 35mm focal length equivalent of 24-64mm. This wide angle standard zoom lens has an compact profile, sturdy metal construction



and a retractable design.

The DMC-GM1 will be available in Australia in December. Pricing is RRP \$999 for the camera which is sold as a kit with the LUMIX G VARIO 12-32mm/F3.5-5.6 ASPH/MEGA OIS lens.

*Story adapted from an article in Wired.*

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

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





## TIME FOR A CHANGE? PUT YOUR CAREER IN THE EXPERT HANDS OF AA APPOINTMENTS

### ROLL UP FOR THE BIGGEST EVENTS

#### CORPORATE EVENTS DIRECTOR

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE OTE \$90K+

If your experience lies within conference & incentive program management and you have managed event teams, this is a rare opportunity to join an industry leader. You'll be well versed in the creation and delivery of unique, motivational and exciting events for corporate clients, including incentive groups, conferences and launches. This is the role everyone wants!

### PREMIUM EVENTS

#### CONFERENCE & INCENTIVE EVENTS MANAGER

SYDNEY – GENEROUS SALARY PACKAGE

Bring your wealth of experience to this program management team and add an edge of creativity and innovation to the design & delivery of the product. Extensive background in incentive travel & event management is essential, as well as bring a passionate leader of people with the motivation to drive team performance and service delivery to VIP clientele.

### DON'T LET THIS ONE SLIP BY

#### CORPORATE TMC - HEAD OF GROUPS

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$85K

Take the lead role within a brilliant travel operation, bringing your corporate knowledge and leadership skills. We're looking for someone who can manage workflows, statistics, KPI's and staff appraisals. You'll be a flexible 'can do' leader who is able to lead by example. Your positive approach and knowledge will bring a breath of fresh air in to the team and secure your future.

### LOVE RETAINING ACCOUNTS?

#### CLIENT RELATIONSHIP MANAGER

PERTH - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$90K

As Client Relationship Manager you will be responsible for managing a portfolio of high profile clients. Key objectives include growing revenues, increasing margins and retaining the business. To do this, you will have a thorough knowledge of corporate travel as well as the professional communication & negotiation skills to deal with managers at all levels up to executives.

### DEAL IN LARGE NUMBERS

#### LEISURE GROUPS CONSULTANT

SYDNEY BASED - SALARY PKGE \$70K (DOE)

One of the global leaders in the travel industry is looking for a talented consultant to join their leisure group's team. The company offers excellent career progression and a lucrative incentive program. From sporting groups, wedding groups, school trip and end of year events the variety in this role will be endless. If you have 12 months experience in group travel, strong GDS skills and strong organisational skills. Don't hesitate and apply for your dream role today.

### GLOBAL PCO

#### CORPORATE EVENTS/GROUPS CONSULTANT

SYDNEY BASED - SALARY PACKAGE \$65K

This is your golden opportunity to move away from traditional consulting and try something different. Work for one of the global leaders in corporate travel in their MICE space. You will be responsible for booking groups, conferences, meeting and events. Your day will be full of variety and exciting new challenges. If you have 2 years experience in corporate travel, strong GDS skills and are looking for a new challenge. Make the move today.

### ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET

#### ENTERTAINMENT/SPORTS GROUPS CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE (INNER) - SALARY PACKAGE \$80K (OTE)

Rare opportunity exists for a competent corporate groups consultant with a passion for media/TV, fashion, sports or music touring groups. Working for this travel leader, you will not believe your luck scoring one of the most sought after roles in Melbourne. You will be responsible for all of the travel and logistics for a variety of clients. No request is too far fetched in this amazing travel company. Solid group travel and ticketing experience essential.

### VARIETY AT ITS BEST

#### LEISURE GROUPS TRAVEL CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE - SALARY PACKAGE TO \$70K (DOE)

Not sure if you prefer groups, leisure or incentive travel? Looking for a role that will offer you a mix of all of the above? This well established corporate travel company is seeking a competent travel professional with experience coordinating groups / events with passenger numbers between 500 – 2000. This role is very hands on so additional leisure travel requests and incentive travel on the side is all part and parcel. Great career progression opportunities.

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