



### Today's issue of BEN

**Business Events News** today has three pages of news and the latest **BEN** Christmas Venue Guide on **page four**.

### Mövenpick incentive

**MÖVENPICK** Hotels is offering a host of extra benefits when an event is booked between now and 30 Sep.

Additional perks include complimentary room for every 20 paying rooms; free wi-fi; complimentary use of one free LCD projector with screen and much more.

See **page two** for more info.

### Accor appoints gm

**ACCORHOTELS** has appointed Craig Reaume to the position of general manager at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth.

Reaume brings to the table more than 25 years' experience across some of the world's leading hotel brands.

## New chief exec for MEA

**ROBYN** Johnson (pictured) has been named Meetings & Events Australia's (MEA) new ceo replacing outgoing chief exec Linda Gaunt.

"The Board of MEA are very much looking forward to working with Robyn to connect



with members and develop a new and meaningful range of membership benefits," commented Simon Baggs, chair of the MEA board.

"A new logo, graphic look and feel, and website are already well underway as MEA prepares to deliver on its exciting digital strategy," he said.

Johnson will work with the board to develop a new strategic plan to maximise member benefits and revitalise the group's existing programs.

### DMS Fusion p'ship

**FUSION** will now represent DMS' portfolio of international destinations to the Melbourne MICE market.

Group director Mary-Jane Devine commented "having worked previously with DMS for four years in Sydney before moving to Melbourne, DMS sparked my passion for sales representation and I am thrilled to be representing DMS' incredible international portfolio of DMCS".

### Aria 10 wk shutdown

**CELEBRITY** chef Matt Moran will close his signature restaurant Aria in Sydney for a 10-week refurbishment from 21 Aug.

A new timber ceiling will be added, alongside a new grill, furnishings and more.

### Q'town C&I roadshow

**THE** Queenstown Conferences and Incentives Roadshow is coming to Sydney on 15 Sep.

Hosted at the Museum of Contemporary Art on George Street, the expo will showcase some of the very best the destination has to offer.

It will run from 5:30-7:30pm.

Register your attendance by emailing Jana Kingston at [janak@queenstownNZ.nz](mailto:janak@queenstownNZ.nz).

### Pan Pacific PCO offer

**BOOK** an event at Pan Pacific Perth between now and 09 Sep and go into the draw to win an ultimate fashion experience at the 2016 Telstra Perth Fashion Festival next month.

The prize package includes flights for two to Perth from the nearest capital city and VIP tickets to the WA fashion label, Empire Rose's 20th Anniversary Show at Fashion Paramount on 24 Sep.

**CLICK HERE** for more details.

## light up YOUR NEXT EVENT

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# business events news

18th August 2016

## HK MICE arrivals uptick

**OVERNIGHT** MICE arrivals to Hong Kong from Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific have jumped 9.8% to 24,725 between Jan and Jun, compared to the prior corresponding period.

Of the other long-haul markets, MICE visitors from Europe, Africa and the Middle East to Hong Kong totalled 89,025 (+10.7%), followed by delegates from the Americas at 65,414 (+7.9%).

Hong Kong Tourism Board regional director Andrew Clark said he is "pleased with the positive growth in the sector and says conferences, in particular, are experiencing solid figures.

"Event organisers are becoming more aware of Hong Kong as a

value-driven destination.

"Hotels also play a role. They're becoming more competitive with both their rates and added value offerings," he said.

Clark said the destination also offers an "exciting city escape for the incentive traveller".

"The city does sky-high dining exceptionally well, the plethora of flagship hotels offer a distinct level of luxury and what a lot of people don't know is that it's so easy to escape the hustle and bustle," he added.

### Brisbane Pop-up 2016

**NETWORK** and meet representatives from more than 70 hotels and venues at the Brisbane Pop-Up.

Held on 31 Aug from 11:30am - 2pm at the Brisbane City Hall Auditorium at King George Square, the lunch-time event will feature prize giveaways from each of the exhibitors present on the day.

Exhibitors who will be showing on the day include Oaks Charlotte Towers, Alex Perry Hotel & Apartments, Airtrain, MCI Australia, Staging Connections and much more.

**CLICK HERE** to register.

### SA hospitality #1

**SOUTH** Australia has been named number one destination for food and wine in Australia in a survey conducted by travel site [lastminute.com](http://lastminute.com).

## Meet the buyers sesh

**SPECIAL** Meet the Buyers sessions will take place on both days at MICE Asia Pacific 2016.

The VIP luncheon and networking events provide a great opportunity for buyers to discuss potential business opportunities with attendees.

Confirmed participants include representatives from Reed Exhibitions, MP International, amcasia!, Exhibition at Conference & Exhibition Management Services, BCD Meetings, Events Singapore and many more.

To attend as a VIP for exclusive business networking sessions with the exhibitors, contact [marketing@miceasiaexhibition.com](mailto:marketing@miceasiaexhibition.com).

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## Singapore's MICE play

**SINGAPORE** Tourism Board (STB) corralled some of its closest suppliers and MICE travel specialists together for its annual MasterMICE networking event in Sydney and Melbourne this week.

A dozen representatives from Singapore's top hotels and resorts including Marina Bay Sands, Shangri-La Singapore and Sofitel Sentosa were on hand to update guests on the latest developments at their properties including conference space, events and forthcoming attractions throughout the year.

The occasion also marked the announcement of a group incentive where agents can earn SG\$1600 for each 100 pax within



groups of 20 or more if they book to stay in Singapore. For details call STB on (02) 9290 2888.

**Pictured** at the event are Meliana Halim, MICE manager Oceania STB (left), and Sharon Lam, area director, Oceania Singapore Tourism Board.

THE  
EVENT  
SHOW

SYDNEY 1 AUGUST 20-26 2016

## The Event Show – 7 Days Till Doors Open

Google Event Tech keynote, Peter Jones revealing his special event secrets, exhibitors, practical seminar sessions, showcase events, **EVENT Pitch**, all these elements combine over two days at Royal Randwick Sydney for **THE EVENT SHOW 2016**.

Limited seats remain for our keynote sessions. One day passes are \$95, two-day passes are \$145 & ClubMEA passes are \$65. To make sure you don't miss out, go to **THE EVENT SHOW website** to see more and book your seat.

Meetings & Events

MÖVENPICK  
Hotels & Resorts

Meetings at Mövenpick  be rewarded

Book before 30 September for events  
**UNTIL DECEMBER 2016**  
and enjoy great benefits

[learn more](#)







# business events news

18th August 2016

## CINZ's Sydney soiree



**A NEW** hotel complete with its own rainforest and aquarium is set to debut in Dubai in 2018.

The five-star Rosemont Hotel and Residences property will contain its public areas within a five storey podium, inside of which holds an array of exotic plants, an artificial beach, streams teaming with fish and an aquarium in the ceiling.

And if that wasn't ambitious enough, new CGI renderings released reveal interesting additions to the property such as a brontosaurus roaming through the lush greenery of the rain forest and a whale shark in the tank (pictured).



**THE** teams from Conventions & Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) and Air New Zealand hosted a get together with suppliers at Air New Zealand's stunning Sydney headquarters last night.

With the backdrop of the Opera House and Harbour Bridge in site, the occasion was an opportunity to recap on the success of MEETINGS2016, the largest annual event in New Zealand that brings together over 190 companies to promote the destination and its conference and incentive capabilities.

Speaking with **BEN**, CINZ chief executive officer Sue Sullivan said that New Zealand is a destination that's booming for the MICE market.

Dates for the 2017 event are confirmed, running from 31 May to 1 Jun at the ASB Showgrounds in Auckland with a range of pre and post activities for buyers and exhibitors available.

**Pictured** at the event (from left): Mike Plener, executive producer Business Connector; Kirstie Dyer-Grose, bdm, Air New Zealand; Sue Sullivan, ceo, CINZ; Franz Mascarenhas, managing director, The Langham Auckland.

## Partner Up

The low down on tech in the events world

### What catering style suits your event?

**FOOD** has a special place at all events; it brings people together in a fun and engaging way, and will give your guests a culinary experience to remember. The catering at an event can make up a large portion of your budget, so you want to make sure you're choosing the right type of catering style for your event type. When matched with creative audiovisual elements, your choice of catering can further create a wow factor.

Here are some of the most popular:

#### Banquet Dinner

A banquet style dinner is a more formal, sit down catering style. It usually includes a set amount of courses, three for example; entree, main, and dessert. Everyone at the table gets their food at the same time and you can spread out activities such as speeches, awards, entertainment or dancing in between courses. Banquet dinners are a great opportunity to dazzle your guests with pin-spotlight lighting on their tables, which can also be coloured to match your brand or theme.

#### Cocktail

A cocktail style of catering means your guests have the opportunity to mingle and network while finger food gets served around the room. It's a

great way for more people to interact and network with each other throughout the event, and an optimal choice for adding music to complement the atmosphere.

#### Food Stations

More and more we are seeing special food stations set up in event spaces. This could mean a dessert bar, a juice station, or a tapas section. Guests make their own way to each station and choose what they like. Food stations can be set up to go along with a more traditional style of catering such as a banquet, or as stand alone catering. Creative lighting and theming can help enhance food stations, creating further appeal.

Whatever you decide, we're sure your event will be a hit! Talk to us for more ideas.

Jarum Rolfe is the partner at RACV Royal Pines Resort with AVPartners, which creates integrated event experiences



through combining state of the art audiovisual technology, unrivalled expertise and a highly-tailored approach. [www.avpartners.com](http://www.avpartners.com)

### PARKROYAL lounges

**PARKROYAL** Parramatta in western Sydney will debut its very first hotel club lounge and club rooms, following a \$25m revamp.

It is understood to be the first of its kind in the region, offering business executives and leisure travellers the same conveniences that the Sydney CBD offers.

Club guests will experience priority check-in and check-out, complimentary breakfast, drinks, canapes and refreshments throughout the day.

### Nat networking day

**THE** Australian Institute of Management will attempt a Guinness World Record in two weeks for the title of 'most people attending a business speed networking event'.

A total of seven simultaneous events will take place on 29 Aug across Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra, Darwin and Cairns.

Tickets begin at \$55 for AIM members and \$75 for non members - **CLICK HERE** for more.

**Business Events News** is Australia's newest online publication dedicated to the vibrant meetings, incentives, conferences and events sector.

Sign up for a free subscription at [www.busesseventsnews.com.au](http://www.busesseventsnews.com.au).

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# CHRISTMAS VENUE GUIDE



**business events news**  
presents

Looking for a Christmas venue or staff celebration?  
**Business Events News** guide to 2016/17 Christmas venues is the place to showcase!  
To feature here email [advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@businesseventsnews.com.au).

## **The Langham** Melbourne, VIC

The Christmas countdown has begun.

Enjoy the festivities with colleagues, family and friends with all your favourite festive trimmings, including roast turkey, fresh seafood, chefs carving station, Yule log, Christmas mince pies, crème Brule with popping candy, Christmas plum pudding and more.

For details please contact the catering department on  
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[www.langhamhotels.com](http://www.langhamhotels.com)



## **Holiday Inn Old Sydney** The Rocks, Sydney, NSW

Holiday Inn Old Sydney offers a unique rooftop venue for your end of year festive celebrations. Our roof top deck showcases iconic views of Sydney Harbour, the Rocks precinct and the city skyline. Be a part of a rich historical experience in an intimate setting for your next event, and let our dedicated team assist in creating a memorable event in one of Sydney's most spectacular hidden gems.

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## **Pan Pacific Perth** Perth, WA

Celebrate the festive season and host a private Christmas party to remember, with a choice of elegant venues, including Origins, Montereys, and our opulent ballrooms. Indulge in our array of festive set or buffet menus and savour the traditional tastes of the festive season, perfectly paired with contemporary Yuletide treats.

Our professional event planners will be on hand to create a truly magical affair. Speak with them today on (08) 9224 7722 or email [events.ppper@panpacific.com](mailto:events.ppper@panpacific.com)  
[www.panpacific.com](http://www.panpacific.com)



## **The Westin Melbourne** Melbourne, VIC

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