

HIGHLIGHTS

First Sponsor Group Limited Debuts IPO On Singapore Stock Exchange



Singapore Prime Minister Lee Visits My Tree House



Hong Leong Finance Crowned ASEAN Finance Champion



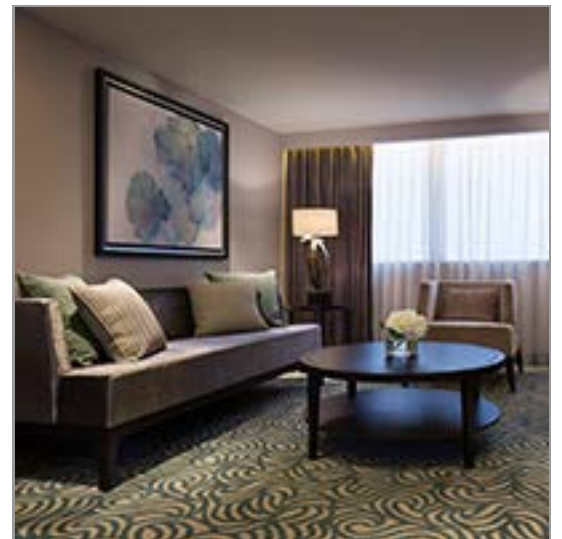
Ask Alfred Children's Concierge Takes Off In US



Former England Footballer Michael Owen In Singapore



Grand Hyatt Taipei Takes Luxury To A New Level



PLUS!



- [Millennium Glasgow In The Thick Of The Action \(left\)](#)
- [Millennium Seoul GM To Wed Korean Celebrity](#)
- [M&C Mid-Autumn Festival Offers From Around The World](#)
- [Hong Leong Group Champions The Arts](#)
- [Grand Millennium KL Thanks Police With Meal Packs](#)

...and more in this issue of Hi Life!

We want to hear from you!

Tell us about your projects, executive appointments, awards and accolades, latest promotions, charity and community outreach programmes, etc.

If you have interesting photos to go along with them, all the better!

Email your stories and pictures to Group Corporate Affairs at hi-life@cdl.com.sg

Visiting Dignitaries

ONE UN



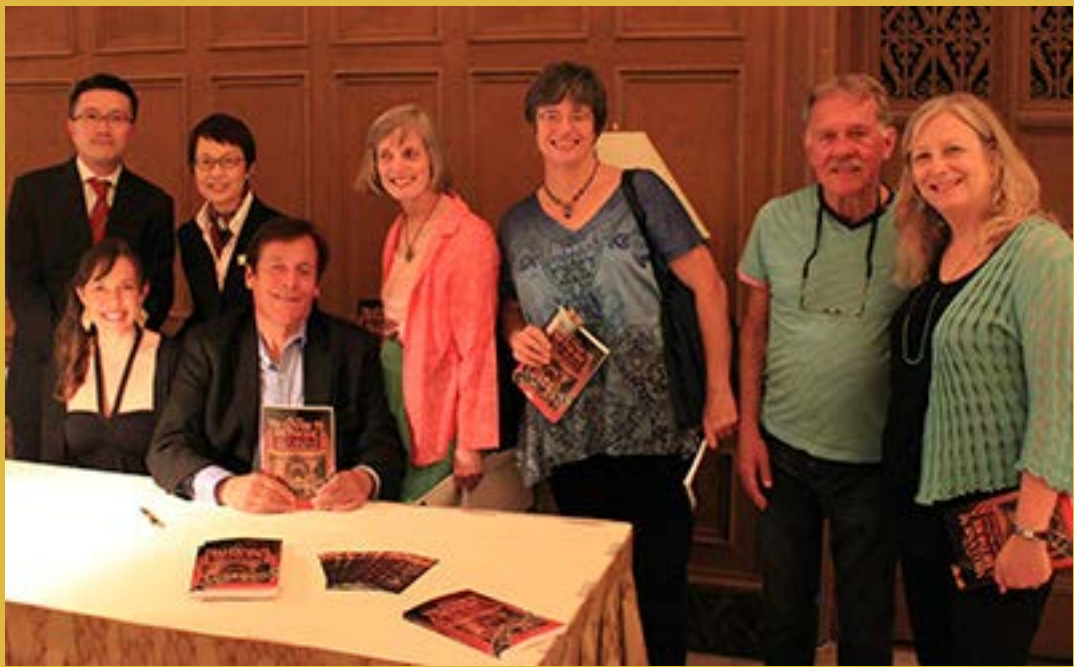
Singapore's Ambassador-at-Large Professor Tommy Koh (right) was recently at ONE UN during the launch of the Ask Alfred Children's Concierge Programme in the US. General Manager Paul Wong welcomed Ambassador Koh, who gamely posed for the camera.

Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur



General Manager Peter Gibbons welcomed VVIPs and dignitaries from the Egyptian Embassy, who were attending an Egyptian Tourism event held at the hotel. (L-R) Mr. Taher Mostafa Ali, Commercial Counsellor – Economic & Commercial Office, Embassy of Egypt in Kuala Lumpur; Dr. Adel El Masry, Director of Egyptian Tourism Office, India; Wife of H.E Ambassador of Egypt; Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Ng Yen Yen, Chairman of Malaysian Tourism Promotion Board; H.E. Ambassador of Egypt, Mr. Salah El Wassimy; Mr. Peter Gibbons, General Manager, Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur; Dato' Hj Azizan Noordin, Deputy Director General of Tourism Malaysia.

Book Signing At Millennium Biltmore



Author Ward Morehouse III (seated with jacket) with Vice President, Operations-North America Colin Wang (left), General Manager Wanda Chan (second from left) and staff from L.A. Conservancy.

The legendary Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles has accommodated celebrities, presidents, dignitaries and esteemed guests for more than 90 years. With such a rich history, a book titled “Millennium Biltmore: A Grand Hotel Born of Hollywood Dreams” has been published about the celebrated hotel.

The book features a chapter highlighting Chairman Kwek’s passion on historic hotels and monuments, as well as the Biltmore’s entertainment history dating back to the Academy of Arts & Sciences being founded in the Crystal Ballroom in 1927.

An exclusive book-signing event was held in the opulent Galleria with author Ward Morehouse III, who has also written several historic books highlighting grand hotels around the world.

Touchdown At The Copthorne London Gatwick!

Copthorne London Gatwick Hotel welcomed the first crew from Norwegian Airlines in time for their inaugural long haul flight from London Gatwick to Los Angeles, which took place on 3 July 2014.

General Manager Lee Richards remarked, “We are incredibly pleased and proud to be the hotel hosting the Norwegian long haul crew. It is as exciting for us as it is for them and being able to share in such a momentous occasion is quite special.”

Norwegian Airlines announced in October 2013 that it intended to revive the budget long haul market with twice weekly flights from London Gatwick to Los Angeles, extending to Fort Lauderdale and then New York following its first venture into long haul in 2013 from Scandinavia to Thailand and the US.



The first crew from Norwegian Airlines chilling out in the Club Lounge at Copthorne London Gatwick Hotel before their long haul flight to Los Angeles

Grand Millennium Sukhumvit Chef Showcases Healthy Desserts On TV

Grand Millennium Sukhumvit's Master Pastry Chef Suchart Watjarasit was a guest-of-honour on TV talk show “Like Story” to showcase his healthy dessert creations. His unique Healthy Dessert collection includes low calories Brownie, Coffee Raisin No-Sugar Added, Sesame Cookie No-Sugar Added and more. Chef Suchart’s healthy dessert concepts are perfect for weight watchers and diabetics who enjoy sweet treats every now and then.



Master Pastry Chef Suchart Watjarasit being interviewed on his healthy dessert creations.

Orchard Hotel Singapore Conducts Fire Evacuation Drill



Orchard Hotel Singapore recently conducted a fire evacuation drill. For the first time, enthusiastic guests from Lufthansa crew participated with hotel staff in the exercise and made it a hugely successful one with a high turnout and efficient evacuation! Thumbs up to the sporting guests who voluntarily joined in!

Enthusiastic Lufthansa crew, who were guests at Orchard Hotel, participated in the fire evacuation drill.

Millennium Glasgow In The Thick Of The Action

The Glasgow Commonwealth Games concluded on a high note on 3 August with fireworks lighting up the sky during the closing ceremony. The 11-day event put Glasgow in the spotlight and Millennium & Copthorne was proud to have a hotel right in the city centre.

Located in George Square, one of the city’s most historic areas, the 116-room Millennium Glasgow offers guests traditional charm, contemporary amenities, warm and friendly service and delicious dining options.

The hotel is just opposite the Queen Street Railway Station and has a selection of high-end restaurants and retail outlets nearby. It also offers corporate clients a good choice of studio and executive suites and meeting facilities. Its six conference rooms can each facilitate groups from between six and 40 delegates for conferences, dinners and smaller meetings.



Millennium Hotel Glasgow

Grand Millennium KL's Ramadan “Rumah Kampung”



Grand Millennium KL's miniature version of a traditional “Rumah Kampung”, which is found in many parts of Malaysia.

In an effort to create the traditional Malay Homestay feel for the guests in the hotel, Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur went all out to erect a miniature version of a traditional “Rumah Kampung” in the Lobby area during Ramadan to engage guests and visitors alike in the traditions and culture of Malaysia. The highlight was the “teh tarik” stall manned by an in-house chef who took it upon himself to entertain guests and visitors with a daily tarik demonstration, between 6pm to 8pm.

Tree House Celebrates Guinness World Record Achievement



Guest-of-Honour, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, addressed residents of Tree House condominium at the celebratory event to mark its entry into the Guinness Book of Records for having the largest vertical garden in the world.



(Anti-clockwise from top left) Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources; Mayor of the North West District and MP for Bukit Panjang Constituency, Dr Teo Ho Pin; CDL Group General Manager, Mr Chia Ngiang Hong; and CDL CEO Mr Grant Kelley, join in to applaud as the commemorative plaque to mark Tree House's Guinness world record feat is unveiled.



It's one for the green and happy memories as (from L-R) Dr Teo Ho Pin, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Mr Grant Kelley and Mr Chia Ngiang Hong pose with props against the stunning backdrop of the record-breaking, 24-storey vertical garden.

Residents of CDL's Tree House condominium – which recently set a new Guinness World Record for having the largest vertical garden – came together for a celebratory event to mark the development's record-breaking achievement on 20 July 2014.

The stunning 24-storey, 2,289sqm eye-catching vertical garden at Tree House has caught the imagination of many in the Upper Bukit Timah and Chestnut Avenue area since its completion in 2013.

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, was the Guest-of-Honour at the event to commemorate this feat. He was joined by Special Guest Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of the North West District and MP for Bukit Panjang Constituency.

Organised by CDL for the homeowners of Tree House condominium, over 1,000 residents were in a visibly jubilant mood as they made their way down to the condominium's poolside and club house and joined the celebrations in full force with their families. The festivities hit a high as Dr Balakrishnan unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark Tree House's Guinness world record achievement.

The carnival-like mood continued through as jovial residents mingled with neighbours and took the opportunity to pose for photos and 'selfies' with both Dr Balakrishnan and Dr Teo, who gamely obliged as they mingled and chatted with the crowd. A sumptuous buffet spread was prepared, together with pop-corn and candy floss stations which delighted both young and old; balloon sculptors who wow-ed the children with their imaginative creations; a string quartet who entertained the crowd, and photo booths where residents could pose with props and take snapshots to remember the celebration by.

Dr Balakrishnan and Dr Teo also went on a tour of Tree House, led by CDL's Head of Green Building, Mr Allen Ang, where they learnt about the record-breaking vertical garden's design concept, construction methodology and maintenance needs.

Minister for National Development drops by Tree House

Tree House condominium also played host to Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Minister for National Development, who came by the development for a private visit on 18 July. Mr Khaw, who was joined by the National Parks' Board (NParks) CEO, Mr Kenneth Er as well as a team of NParks personnel, was hosted by CDL CEO Mr Grant Kelley and CDL Group General Manager, Mr Chia Ngiang Hong.

Mr Khaw and the NParks team were briefed about Tree House and its record-breaking vertical garden by CDL Head of Green Building, Mr Allen Ang.

The entourage took the opportunity to understand more about the vertical garden – as well as Tree House's other green features, like its herb garden – as they were brought on a walkabout to view the development's grounds and to learn about the vertical garden's journey from conceptualisation to realisation.

Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Minister for National Development (centre), visited Tree House to view its vertical garden and to learn about its concept and maintenance needs. Mr Khaw was hosted by (from L-R) Mr Allen Ang, CDL Head of Green Building; Mr Chia Ngiang Hong, CDL Group General Manager; Mr Kenneth Er, NParks CEO; Mr Grant Kelley, CDL CEO; Ms Esther An, CDL Chief Sustainability Officer and Mr Daniel T'ng, CDL Executive Vice President, Property and Facilities Management.



PM Lee Visits My Tree House



Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong shook hands with young book lovers, who were delighted to see him, during his visit to My Tree House children's library at the launch of the national Speak Mandarin Campaign 2014.

In conjunction with the launch of the national Speak Mandarin Campaign 2014 on 5 July, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong paid a visit to My Tree House – World's 1st Green Library for Kids, situated at the Central Public Library. While touring My Tree House, Mr Lee had the opportunity to witness parents and children participating in story-telling sessions, a puppet-making workshop and other activities.

For the visitors at the Central Public Library who were there when Mr Lee visited, it was a welcome, pleasant surprise. Both parents and children took the opportunity to pose for photos and chat with the Prime Minister, who obliged, putting smiles on the faces of all who were present.

Boasting a vast collection of eco-themed books and e-books, My Tree House offers a multi-sensory learning experience for children through The Knowledge Tree – a shadow play wall through which children can learn about the environment and energy conservation, as well as The Weather Stump, through which budding meteorologists can discover Singapore's temperature, rainfall and wind speed "live" with real-time weather information provided by the Meteorological Service Singapore.

Awarded Green Mark Platinum certification by the Building and Construction Authority for its numerous green building features, My Tree House was one of CDL's two 'green' gifts to the nation in commemoration of its 50th anniversary in 2013, the other being the CDL Green Gallery @ Singapore Botanic Gardens.

Through My Tree House, CDL and the National Library Board hope to cultivate children's interest in environmental conservation through reading, and engaging in green activities with the aim of nurturing them into environmentally-conscious adults.

Ask Alfred Children's Concierge Programme Launches In US

In conjunction with National Teddy Bear Picnic Day, Millennium hotels across the U.S. celebrated the debut of Millennium & Copthorne’s Ask Alfred Children’s Concierge Programme. From picnics and teddy bear treats to lawn games and dances, each property designed its own unique event to commemorate Ask Alfred’s first day.



Millennium Bostonian's Bear-filled fountain

Millennium Bostonian set the stage for National Teddy Bear Picnic Day with red and white checkered tables by the “bear-filled” outdoor fountain, hosting some 70 children. The programme featured story time, magic acts and Millennium Bostonian’s Teddy Bear Dance; however, the kids were most delighted with “celebrity” visits from the Boston Fire Department and two famous bears: Boston Bruins mascot “Blades” and Yogi Bear who served them “tea.” Young guests each brought along a teddy bear to donate and were thrilled when Alfred gifted them with a teddy to take home. In total, 260 teddy bears were collected for donation to the fire department and Project Smile along with 75 colouring books and crayons.

In true Times Square style, **Millennium Broadway** created a faux “Teddy Bear Street Fair,” complete with face painting, balloon animals, and street carts of popcorn and cotton candy, which put smiles on children’s faces. Mini cupcakes by Baked by Melissa were slightly overshadowed by the signature (and edible) Ask Alfred cake, making children wonder if the tasty treat was real or not! On the East Side, **ONE UN** wowed kids with their United Nations theme, adorable bear cookies and a smiling bear cupcake display!



Millennium Broadway's Ask Alfred cake



Excited children posing with Paddington Bear, Care Bear and Winnie the Pooh.

Over in Chicago, **Millennium Knickerbocker** hosted an elegant picnic with bear-themed treats. With its gold dome ceiling and illuminated dance floor, the hotel’s historic Crystal Ballroom served as a magical venue for children to meet Paddington Bear, Care Bear and Winnie the Pooh. Activities included dancing, cupcake decorating and a Chicago Trolley ride.

And, in the entertainment capital of the world, Hollywood Harry “produced and directed” a Teddy Bear Picnic Production with neighbourhood friends at **Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles**.



The Teddy Bear Picnic Production “produced” by “cele-bear-ty” Hollywood Harry.

Grand Hyatt Taipei Takes Luxury To A New Level

The Grand Hyatt Taipei has completed work on the first phase of its landmark renovation, unveiling 853 new rooms and suites designed to pay homage to Eastern and Western cultural influences. The hotel's redevelopment of its rooms and suites is its most significant overhaul since opening in 1990.

Beyond this first phase, the hotel will embark on a complete renovation of four of its nine restaurants, its grand club facilities, the outdoor façade, as well as behind-the-scenes infrastructural systems from air-conditioning to electrical. The final touches to the hotel will be completed in the spring of 2015, leading up to the Grand Hyatt Taipei's 25th Anniversary.

The hotel's new rooms showcase a marriage of Western and Chinese styles in the use of light-coloured timber interiors and marble bathrooms with walk-in showers or tubs. Guest rooms range in size from 33 and 40 square meters for grand and deluxe rooms to more than 83 square meters for an executive suite. The stunning new presidential suite commands more than 221 square meters and offers up stunning views of the iconic Taipei 101 Tower.

"This renovation is tantamount to a ground-up rebuild," said Mr Kai Speth, the hotel's general manager. "Once the work is done, the hotel will have the unique distinction of becoming the oldest yet newest luxury hotel in Taipei."

"When this hotel opened in 1990, we sparked development all over the Xinyi District," he said. "Today, as we steer toward a grand re-opening, our ambitions are no less lofty for Taipei, and all of Taiwan."



Millennium Harvest House Boulder Completes Renovation



Cluster General Manager Colin Wang and Millennium Harvest House General Manager Marty Rosenthal enjoying the gardens.

Millennium Harvest House Boulder has experienced very positive and exciting changes since the completion of a multi-million dollar renovation. Together with staff from the corporate office, everyone has been working hard to promote and sell the improved Millennium Harvest House property.

Stephanie Hu, Stephanie Eppler and Stephanie Strickland teamed up with Millennium Harvest House Boulder's Jami Paronto, Natalia Mendiola and Lauren Bothwell, visiting clients all through the Boulder and Metro area. Colin Wang, Patricia Armstrong, and Ann Vacarella also had a strong presence preparing for the Client Reveal Event.

The hotel also had great help making the Harvest House look its best with the help of Min Min Wong, Meghna Patel and Sam Dyess Photography, in correspondence with our own Executive Committee, to showcase our wonderful improvements. Overall, the Millennium Harvest House renovation has triggered high spirits among guests, staff and visitors.

Opening Of Café 395 At Millennium Seoul Hilton

Following a three-month-long renovation, Café 395 will welcome diners with an emphasis on the finest and freshest ingredients.

Commanding each section (salads, seafood, Korean cuisine, Chinese cuisine, Italian cuisine, French cuisine, grill, desserts and much more) are seasoned chefs who are specialists in those types of food. The open-style kitchen concept brings life and energy to the restaurant, while also providing entertainment to diners as chefs cook up the buffet offerings.



Café 395 offers Western specialties as well as Asian specialties including Korean, Japanese and Chinese.

Spotlight On Hong Leong Group’s Haze Measures



During the interview that was held in the Premier Suite, Orchard Hotel General Manager Mr. Riaz Mahmood said the hotel’s F&B business is likely to increase as guests are more likely to stay in if the haze hits.



Singapore may have been spared the brunt of the haze so far, but Orchard Hotel takes precautions with outdoor operations such as the concierge service (above).

Following the announcement of Hong Leong Group’s haze measures last month, Hong Leong Finance (HLF) and Orchard Hotel Singapore found themselves in the television spotlight on Singapore’s English and Mandarin channels - Channel NewsAsia, Channel 8, and Channel U.

They were both selected to represent the Group’s preparations to ensure business continuity and the health safety of staff, customers and guests. Interviews and filming were shot on-location at both sites.

Filming took place at Orchard Hotel’s Premier Suite, entrance, concierge, lobby and the pool. General Manager Mr. Riaz Mahmood said, “In spite of our best laid plans, challenges will arise. For example, some employees particularly those with respiratory issues, may find it difficult coming to work. So we will have to double up on our staffing and everything else because this is a very busy hotel. From a business standpoint, I do not envisage too many room cancellations, perhaps with the odd one here and there with delayed flights.”

Hong Leong Finance had the opportunity to feature its newly-renovated branch at Jurong West, one of HLF’s 28 across Singapore. Branch Manager Mr. Elvin Ng said they have installed air purifiers and prepared sufficient masks for employees to use. He also said that HLF has adequate business continuity plans in place if they notice more staffs taking sick leave as a result of the haze.



Branch Manager Mr. Elvin Ng said that HLF has adequate business continuity plans in place if more staff take sick leave.



HLF has installed air purifiers and prepared sufficient masks for employees to use.

Copthorne Oriental Bay Holds Executive Housekeeper's Conference

Copthorne Hotel Wellington Oriental Bay recently hosted a 2-day conference for 15 of the company's executive housekeepers. The conference provided a platform for the New Zealand-based staff to develop working relationships, share information and develop and refine standard operating procedures.

New concepts were introduced including sharing recent ratings from third party online travel agents, which was a humbling yet uplifting experience. These ratings by the hotel guests include service level received, cleanliness of the room and value for money amongst many other criteria. These ratings compare and rank each hotel with its competitor set of hotels allowing each property to see themselves from a guests' perspective and track feedback in real time. It further demonstrated the significant impact our people have on our business and the attendees reaffirmed their commitment to utilise each other's skills and experience to ensure New Zealand stays ahead of the game in offering guests Outstanding Service Experience.



Executive Housekeeper's from Millennium, Copthorne and Kingsgate Hotels New Zealand attend the conference at Copthorne Hotel Wellington Oriental Bay.

Congratulations

Hong Leong Group Champions The Arts

Over 340 individuals and organisations were lauded at the recent 2014 Patron of the Arts Award for donations that helped shape Singapore's arts landscape. Among them were Hong Leong Group's member entities – Hong Leong Foundation, City Developments Limited (CDL) and Hong Leong Holdings. Mr. Kwek Leng Beng, the Group's Executive Chairman, was one of the 91 individuals recognised for their arts donation.

Both the Foundation and CDL were honoured for their eighth and fourth consecutive Distinguished Patron of the Arts Awards respectively, the highest recognition accorded to arts patrons.

“Our long term aim is to help create a thriving arts scene for all Singaporeans to enjoy. By supporting local budding talents and promoting the development of the various arts, we hope to inspire and encourage the mutual exchange and sharing of artistic and cultural experiences that will open minds and allow the freedom of thought and creativity,” said Hong Leong Foundation spokesman Mr. Kwek Eik Sheng. Some of the Foundation's long-term beneficiaries include The Esplanade, The Singapore Lyric Theatre, and TheatreWorks.

Since the 1990s, CDL has been contributing towards building Singapore's cultural heritage through its support of various photography and sculpture programmes, including its signature arts initiatives such as the biennial CDL Singapore Sculpture Award and CDL Singapore Young Photographer Award. In 2013, CDL commissioned and installed its sixth public sculpture – the winning work from the 3rd CDL Singapore Sculpture Award in 2007, titled “All the Essentially Essential” – at Raffles Place Park, as well as organised the 5th CDL Singapore Sculpture Award and Exhibition.

Hong Leong Holdings received the Supporter of the Arts Award for its sustained contribution to the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

According to the Singapore National Arts Council which gives out the annual awards, total contribution this year amounted to S\$32.2 million.



Mr. Grant Kelley, CDL CEO, receiving the Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award on behalf of CDL from Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, Lawrence Wong.



Mr Kwek Eik Sheng, CDL Chief Strategy Officer, receiving the Distinguished Patron of the Arts Awards on behalf of Hong Leong Foundation.

Hong Leong Finance Crowned ASEAN Finance Champion



Ms. Yet Pek Yeen, HLF's Vice President and Head for Marketing Services, receiving the award from Mr. Tim Charlton, Editor-in-Chief of Asian Banking & Finance magazine

Hong Leong Finance (HLF) has clinched the crown as the top finance company in the region, winning the “ASEAN Finance Company of the Year 2014” award.

The Singapore-listed company beat Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand finance companies to win the award which was presented at the Asian Banking and Finance Retail Banking Awards 2014 (ABF) event recently.

The awards recognise best performances and practices that enhance the banking and financial services sector in Asia. Assessment of the industry’s nominations is based on three key criteria: uniqueness and innovation, effectiveness, and dynamism. The winners were screened by key partners of the Big Four auditing firms – KPMG, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, and PricewaterhouseCoopers. ABF is organised by Charlton Media.

HLF is also a three-time consecutive winner of the “Singapore Finance Company of the Year” award by ABF for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013. “We are honoured to win this prestigious ASEAN Finance Company Award as we were up against companies in the region,” said Hong Leong Finance Senior Executive Vice President, Mr. Ang Tang Chor. “

We are also humbled by the recognition, and will continue to strive and serve our customers and the community with dedication. This award certainly gives us a further boost to do even better,” said Mr. Ang.

To complement its wide network of 28 branches island-wide in Singapore, HLF has also expanded its SME Centres @ Hong Leong Finance to eight to provide convenient one-stop financial services to both consumers and businesses.

As at December 2013, Hong Leong Finance’s shareholders’ funds stood at S\$1.65 billion with S\$9.91 billion in deposits and S\$9.19 billion in loans. HLF is Singapore’s largest finance company.

Copthorne Sheffield Receives TripAdvisor Certificate Of Excellence

The Copthorne Sheffield recently received a TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence award. The accolade, which honours hospitality excellence, is given only to establishments that consistently achieve outstanding traveller reviews on TripAdvisor, and is extended to qualifying businesses worldwide.

“Winning the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for a second year is a true source of pride for the entire team at The Copthorne Sheffield and we would like to thank all of our valued guests who took the time to complete a review on TripAdvisor,” said Copthorne Sheffield’s General Manager Trevor Vels. “There is no greater seal of approval and confirmation of our staff’s efforts than being recognised by one’s customers. With the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence based on customer reviews, the accolade is a remarkable vote of confidence to our business and our continued commitment to service excellence and personal hospitality levels.”



Copthorne Hotel Sheffield

JW Marriott's Flint Grill & Bar Among Top 10 Hong Kong Restaurants



Flint Grill & Bar is listed among the Top 10 Hong Kong Restaurants 2014. It was also awarded China's Wine List of the Year.

Flint Grill & Bar in JW Marriott Hong Kong was voted Top 10 Hong Kong Restaurants 2014 by WOM Guide, one of Hong Kong's leading online food magazine and restaurant guides. The judging panels included over 50 trade professionals, writers, connoisseurs, and the WOM Guide editorial team.

Flint Grill & Bar was also recently awarded China's Wine List of the Year. Launched in Australia in 1994 and introduced last year in Greater China, the objective of the awards is to recognise China's finest establishments that offer an excellent selection of wines to accompany outstanding menus. Flint was awarded "2 glasses" rating for having an excellent wine list.

Grand Copthorne Waterfront's "Employee of the Year"

The National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), the Food Drinks and Allied Workers' Union (FDAWU) and the Singapore Hotel Association (SHA) recently held a ceremony to honour the best in the hospitality industry. The ceremony saw 54 outstanding hotel employees receive Employee of the Year awards, the highest number to date since the awards were launched in 1985. Bartender Tan Yee Leong from Grand Copthorne Waterfront Singapore was among the selected few who attained the esteemed award.



(L-R) Grand Copthorne Waterfront's General Manager Benedict Ng with Bartender Tan Yee Leong and Assistant Director of Food & Beverage Ryan Regodon.

Michael Owen At The St. Regis Singapore



Former football celebrity Michael Owen in the King Cole Suite at The St. Regis Singapore.

Former English footballer Michael Owen was recently in Singapore for the “GOAL! All The Way” campaign, which was held in conjunction with the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil. This campaign offered shoppers with the exclusive opportunity to meet with the football star. While in town, Mr Owen stayed in the Caroline Astor Suite at The St. Regis Singapore.

The Wisma Brunch with Michael Owen event was held in the majestic John Jacob Ballroom where guests enjoyed a Western buffet spread with Mr Owen in attendance. Mr Owen also conducted exclusive interviews and photo shoots with popular local magazine titles such as Esquire Singapore and I-Weekly, in the elegant and opulent King Cole Suite.

Millennium Seoul Hilton GM Weds Korean Actress

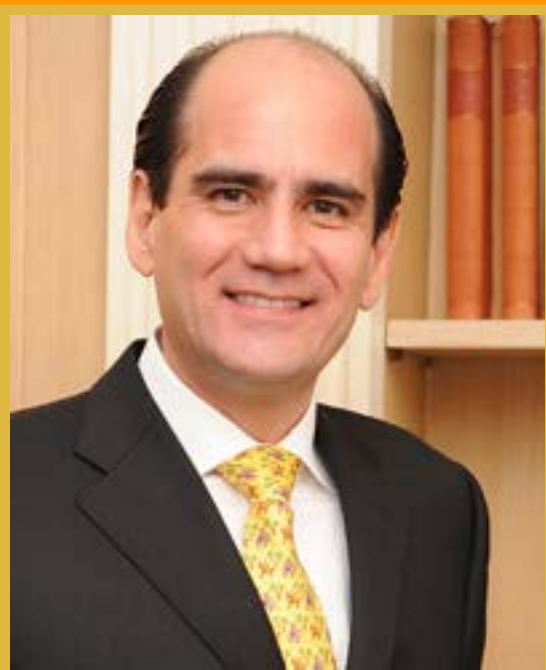
Hi Life is happy to announce that Millennium Seoul Hilton General Manager, Mr. Eric Swanson will be marrying Korean actress Jeon Soo Kyeong of the 2013 film “Marriage Blue”. The couple, who has been dating for about four years, will be tying the knot on September 22 at the hotel itself. A turnout of 500 guests is expected

The two met through mutual friends in October 2010. Their love grew further while Ms. Jeon was fighting thyroid cancer and Mr. Swanson stayed by her side. In earlier media reports, Ms. Jeon revealed that she admires Mr. Swanson for his caring nature and generosity.

Mr. Swanson joined M&C in July 2006, and has been with the hotel for more than 8 years. He is the son of the late Cho Chang-su, a famous Korean folklorist who was a curator at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. Mr. Swanson has been actively giving back to society, and was awarded an honorary citizenship of Seoul in 2009. He served as a judge at the Seoul Tourism Awards in June 2009 and has helped the underprivileged through the Korea Welfare Foundation.

Ms. Jeon is currently playing Matron "Mamma" Morton in the musical "Chicago" at the D-CUBE Arts Center in Guro-gu, Seoul. She also teaches music at Seoul Arts College.

Congratulations to the lovely couple! Hi Life wishes the couple a blissful marriage.



Grand Millennium Sukhumvit Welcomes Hollywood Jewellery Designer



Thomas Christiansen (far left), General Manager of Grand Millennium Sukhumvit gave a warm welcome to Hollywood jewellery designer Jannik Olander (centre) a Danish-born jewellery designer and founder of Los Angeles-based Nialaya Jewelry during his interview with Thai local press and media about his charity project for underprivileged children at Sarnelli Orphanage House in Nong Kai, the Northeastern province of Thailand.

Marriott Business Council Hong Kong Badminton Competition

Associates from JW Marriott as well as 34 other associates from Renaissance Harbour View, SkyCity Marriott, Courtyard Hong Kong, Courtyard Sha Tin, Ritz Carlton and the Regional Office, recently participated in the Marriott Business Council Hong Kong badminton competition at the Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Sports Center. The friendly tournament included both men’s and women’s singles competitions. After a series of intense matches, JW Marriott’s very own Kevin Yung from Flint Grill & Bar emerged the champion in the men’s singles tournament!



Mr. Kevin Yung (left) receiving his prize from Mr. Michael Müller, General Manager of Hong Kong SkyCity Marriott Hotel.

Cocktails With Orchard Hotel’s General Manager

Orchard Hotel Singapore recently hosted a General Manager’s Cocktail session to show appreciation towards loyal guests and clients. This regular cocktail session is held every month and allows management and staff to mingle and interact with guests and clients. At the recent cocktail session, award-winning Hua Ting Masterchef Lap Fai demonstrated the art of making snow skin mooncakes in front of guests and later invited them to taste the Millennium Mooncakes by Hua Ting.



(L-R) Michelle Isidro, Guest Relations Manager; Ad Broere, Guest; Ian Soh, Front Office Manager; Cecilia Peralta, Guest; Joy Faber, Executive Assistant Manager and Quam Kponton, Assistant Front Office Manager.

Meals & Deals

M&C Mid-Autumn Festival Offers From Around The World

Celebrated on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month, the Mid-Autumn Festival is a major event on the Chinese calendar, which pays tribute to the moon. Also known as the Mooncake Festival, the moon is believed to be the biggest and brightest during this time.

This Mid-Autumn Festival, celebrate with Millennium & Copthorne Hotels’ mooncakes from around the world.



Mini Snow Skin Mooncakes from Orchard Hotel Singapore.



Baked Mooncakes from Millennium Harbourview Hotel Xiamen.

Orchard Hotel Singapore

From 1 August to 8 September 2014, enjoy premium baked and snowskin mooncakes created by “Asian Cuisine Chef of The Year 2014” Masterchef Lap Fai and his talented culinary team.

New flavours: Milk Tea Lotus Paste with Melon Seeds, Mini Yam Snow Skin Lotus Paste with Champagne and Mini Snow Skin Mango Paste with Preserved Mango

Millennium Mooncakes by Hua Ting will be on display and available for sampling at the Mooncake Booth in Orchard Hotel’s Lobby from 12noon to 8pm daily from 1 August to 8 September 2014. Enjoy 20% early bird discount for orders before 15 August 2014.

For enquiries and orders, please call +65 6739 6577 or email mooncake.ohs@millenniumhotels.com.

** Prices are subject to existing government taxes including GST.*

The St. Regis Singapore

Indulge in five palatable flavours of Yan Ting’s snowskin mooncake assortment – Pure ‘Mao Shan Wang’ Durian Indulgence, Chocolate Royal Liqueur Truffle, Black Sesame and Melon Seeds Crunch, Chestnut Cravings and Red Dates and Wolfberries Delight. There are also baked mooncakes for purists who enjoy the classics.

Enjoy Early Bird Special at a reduction of 5% from 1 to 18 August 2014.

For more information on mooncakes, please call Yan Ting at +65 6506 6887, email yanting@stregis.com or visit www.yantingrestaurant.com/midautumn.

Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta

Celebrate the Mid-Autumn festival with Millennium Hotel Jakarta’s exquisitely crafted mooncakes. A thoughtful gift for your family and friends this celestial mid-autumn festival.

Only Rp. 328.000++ per box (Consist of 4 pieces).

Get 20% off for every purchase of 5 boxes.

For enquiries and orders, please call (021) 230 3636 Ext. 1715 or email: fbsecretary.msj@millenniumhotels.com

JW Marriott Hong Kong

From now to 6 September 2014, award-winning Man Ho Chinese Restaurant is offering their signature Mini Traditional White Lotus Seed Paste with Egg Yolk mooncakes. This is complemented by four premium teas, which include Iron Buddha, Jasmine, Pu-erh, and Chrysanthemum. Each flavour is presented in a new elegantly-designed gift box with six individually-wrapped mooncakes to ensure optimum freshness.

For convenient gift options, mooncake vouchers are also available. Collection period for mooncakes is from 11 August to 6 September 2014.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Millennium Harbourview Hotel Xiamen

The Millennium Harbourview Hotel Xiamen is delighted to present two kinds of Mooncakes in celebration of the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival – the Moon Flower with four pieces of mooncake and the Premium Mooncake with eight mini pieces of mooncake. There are also gift vouchers, gift baskets and gift cards available.

For more details, call (86 592) 202 3333-6616/6696/6128 or email fmb@millenniumxiamen.com or sales@millenniumxiamen.com

Grand Millennium Beijing

Grand Millennium Beijing’s two distinctive choices of exquisite mooncakes packed in specially designed boxes make the perfect gift for friends and family.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Singapore Hotels Celebrate National Day

9 August marks Singapore's 49th birthday. In celebration of the nation's big day, Millennium & Copthorne's Singapore hotels are rolling out special promotions for the special occasion.

Orchard Hotel

Commemorate Singapore's 49 years of independence at Orchard Hotel Singapore, with Orchard Café's special S\$4.90 promotion – exclusively from 1 to 17 August 2014!

Birthday Special: Every 3rd diner enjoys the "Straits Cuisine" Buffet at only S\$4.90!

Indian Roti Prata 49: Fans of Roti Prata will be spoilt for choice at the homemade prata station with 49 varieties of sweet and savoury pleasures ranging from Chocolate, Banana Nutella, Durian, Cranberry, Mushroom Cheese, Beef Pastrami, Bacon, Salmon Salsa and more!!

King of Fruits: During dinner, indulge in free flow of heavenly durians at our King of Fruits Station specially set up at Alfresco Dining with the much-loved durian season's best picks – served up fresh!

Start calling your foodie buddies to enjoy these mouth-watering treats; book your table in threes and head down to Orchard Café! For reservations and information, please call 6739 6565 or email orchardcafe.ohs@millenniumhotels.com.

National Day Buffet is served daily at Orchard Café Only from 1 to 17 August 2014 at \$4.90 for every 3rd diner :

Buffet Lunch 12:00pm – 02:30pm

Adult : \$48.00, Child : \$24.00

Buffet Dinner 06:00pm – 10:00pm

Adult : \$68.00, Child : \$34.00

All prices are subject to service charge and prevailing government taxes.



Savour Straits Cuisine favourites at Orchard Café.

Grand Copthorne Waterfront



Be awed by the Spectacular Tropical Fruit Garden at Café Brio's.

From 8 to 10 August 2014, celebrate Singapore's 49th Birthday at Café Brio's and be awed by the extensive array of international and iconic local delights and Tropical Fruit Garden. Indulge in seafood, wok-fried chilli crab, pan-seared cod fillet and more. S\$70 (adult) / S\$35 (child)

Specially crafted National Day Cocktail and Mocktails are available at S\$4.90.

For reservations, please call +65 6233 1100 or email dining.gcw@millenniumhotels.com. Alternatively, [make a reservation online](#).

Copthorne King's Singapore

For the month of August, revel in the festivities and enjoy specially crafted National Day Cocktails and Mocktails at Connections Lounge.

Strawberry Daiquiri (Cocktail)

Price: S\$14.50++

Spirit of Singapore (Mocktail)

Price: S\$11.50++

Tiger Beer Promotion: Purchase a mug of Tiger Beer at S\$4.90 from 4pm till 9pm!

For enquiries and reservations, please call +65 6318 3161 or email connections@millenniumhotels.com

* *Connections Lounge is closed every Sunday for private events.*



Specially crafted National Day Cocktails and Mocktails available at Connections Lounge in August.

Indulge At JW Marriott HK



Marriott Café

Flint Grill & Bar offers one of the finest dining venues to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or any special occasion with the family and friends. From now to 30 September 2014, the restaurant is offering a unique wining and dining package at *HK\$988 per person, which includes a four-course dinner menu, comprising some of Head Chef, Sven Wunram's delightful culinary creations; one complimentary bottle of Ayala Champagne and a cocktail class by Mixologist, Bryson Rivera; all to complement a memorable evening. If it is a birthday celebration, the birthday guest dines for free and enjoys a complimentary cake as well.

*Subject to 10% service charge. Package is applicable to a minimum of 4 guests and maximum 8 guests. Other terms and conditions may apply.

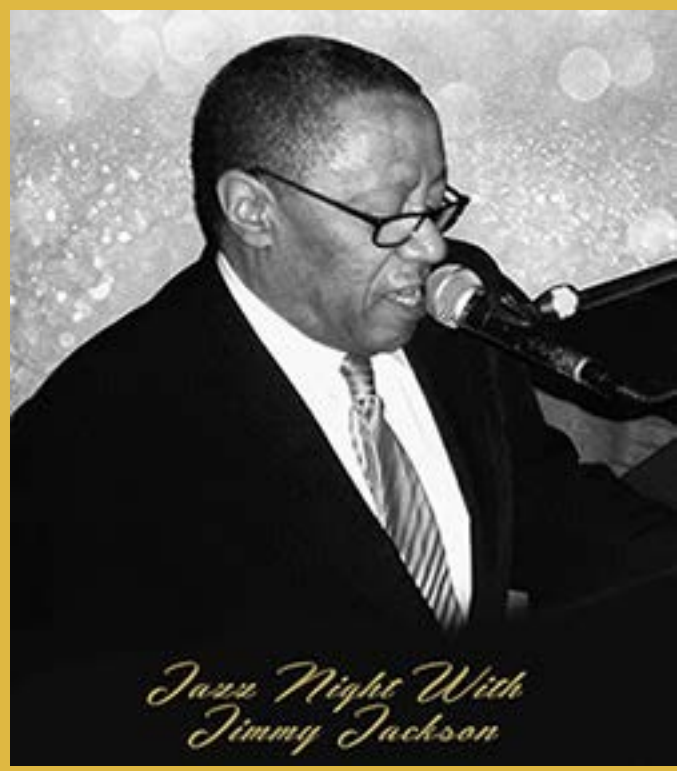
Back by popular demand, **Marriott Café** welcomes the best of Sai Kung Seafood to the dinner buffet once again, from 11 to 31 August. Indulge in a wide selection of dishes inspired by one of Hong Kong's famous seafood villages; from Crispy Salted Squid, Steamed Crab to "Typhoon-shelter" style Wok-fried Mantis with Garlic.

Jazz Nights At Millennium Abu Dhabi

From 1 to 17 August, legendary performer Jimmy Jackson will be performing at the Cristal Bar in Millennium Hotel Abu Dhabi. Pop into the Cristal Bar for some smooth grooves and ragtime rhythms.

Open daily from 5pm to 2am.

For reservations, please call +971 2 614 6000.



New World Millennium Hong Kong Introduces Noodle Power



Noodle Power Set Lunch

This summer, Sagano of New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel is serving up an authentic Japanese cold noodle set lunch to cool diners down amid the summer heat.

Mr. Masahiko Noka, head chef at Sagano, is delighted to introduce the Noodle Power Set Lunch with three flavours of cold noodles for selection – egg, plum or green tea, served on ice in a container with an appetising dipping sauce. To complement the cold noodles, Sagano also offers a choice of sushi course and a hot dish in the lunch set, in which the assorted tempura as well as the salmon, sea urchin and salmon roe sushi rice are highly recommended. The set lunch also comes with a big clam clear soup and choice of fresh fruit or ice cream.

The Noodle Power Set Lunch is available until 29 August 2014 from noon to 2.30 p.m., from Monday through Friday (except public holidays), and priced at HKD318 per person.

For a taste of Sagano's authentic Japanese cold noodles, please call +852 2313 4215, or simply drop by the restaurant on the first floor of New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel, 72 Mody Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon.

** Price is subject to 10 percent service charge. The promotional price is not applicable to any discount privilege. Free parking (lunch: two hours).*

Millennium Bostonian Hotel Boston Rows For AccesSportAmerica



(On right) Yeiker Ortiz, Ultimate Valet; Robert Rivers, General Manager; Albert Tsatyuran, Director Of Engineering; Nelson Dumet, Ultimate Valet; Honourary Captain from AccesSportAmerica. (On left) Dmitri Morris, Group Sales Manager; Noah Smith, Housekeeping Manager; Nilan Rivers, Third Year Participant, Daughter of GM Robert Rivers.

The Millennium Bostonian Hotel recently teamed up with AccesSportAmerica to participate in the 2014 Mayor's Cup Regatta on the Charles River. The annual race benefits AccesSportAmerica, a non-profit organisation that gets people with disabilities involved in high-challenge sports. There were several teams of eight in Hawaiian outrigger canoes all with an AccesSport athlete on board. The Millennium Bostonian team was decked to the theme of "Make way for Ducklings".

Refreshed CDL E-Generation Challenge A Hit With Youths



The 360 youth participants flagged off and concluded the CDL E-Generation Challenge 2014 at City Square Mall, Singapore's First Eco-mall. Teams enthusiastically wrote and decorated their eco pledges on recycled paper as they penned down the environmental lessons learnt from the games.

On 12 July, some 360 youths from 13 tertiary institutions participated in the CDL E-Generation Challenge 2014, a five-hour eco-adventure around the city and civic district.

Now into its fifth year, the CDL E-Generation Challenge 2014 is designed as an “ecotainment” outreach initiative for youths aged 17 to 25 years old, to foster eco-consciousness. The inaugural competition in 2010 saw over 260 youths participating. To date, the CDL E-Generation Challenge has reached out to some 1,800 youths.

CDL Chief Sustainability Officer, Ms Esther An, said, “There are mounting concerns over acute environmental issues. Our youths must be equipped with the eco-knowledge to drive change for more sustainable lifestyle habits and choices. With greater awareness, we hope to cultivate proactive young advocates who will drive green consumerism in the near future.”

This year's theme – “Out of Time” – sought to bring to the fore environmental issues through an interactive and educational gameplay which incorporated a real-life “Escape Room” experience for the first time.

Participants were flagged off from City Square Mall, Singapore's First Eco-mall. Along the way, they had to “escape” from an impending climate catastrophe by solving logic puzzles, riddles and tasks that revolved around sustainability themes such as Deforestation, Biodiversity, Recycling, Pollution, Waste and Energy. They were also rewarded for proactive eco-habits such as recycling their task materials after use. In addition, a mobile app was introduced into the gameplay as a navigational tool to reduce the use of paper.

The CDL E-Generation Challenge 2014 was supported by the Building and Construction Authority, National Environment Agency, and the National Parks Board. Event partners included City Square Mall, ECO Singapore and Star Horizon Learning.



At one of the game stations, teams had to figure out how to retrieve a cork containing a code wedged in a glass bottle. Against the backdrop of the Singapore River, where this game was played, youths learnt how they could do their part in recycling waste to curb pollution and keep our water sources clean and safe.



The highlight of the CDL E-Generation Challenge 2014 had to be the specially configured “Escape Rooms” where participants had to solve riddles and puzzles made out of recycled materials, while being “locked up” in an enclosed space. Once the correct keyword was obtained, teams could then successfully “escape” the room.

Bangkok Chef Charity Gala Dinner 2014

For the 5th consecutive year, Executive Chef Pierre Andre Hauss of Grand Millennium Sukhumvit joined other celebrated executive chefs from five-star establishments in Thailand to cook the 10-course gastronomic extravaganza at the 2014 Bangkok Chefs Charity Gala Dinner & Auction.

This annual culinary gala was presided over by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, with proceeds going towards schools under Her Royal Highness's Patronage as well as disadvantaged children in the remote areas of Thailand.

This year, Executive Chef Pierre Andre Hauss paired up with Executive Pastry Chef Claus Olsen of the Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok. They were responsible for the event's dessert course – Manjari Chocolate Frost With Yuzu, Calamansi Liquid Sorbet And Chocolate Snow. This year's Thai-inspired theme prompted both chefs to source fruit grown in the country, such as lemons from the Royal Project.



Participating executive chefs from five-star establishments in Thailand with Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn (centre).

Grand Millennium KL Thanks Police With Meal Packs

Hotel staff of Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur braced the heat and honked their way through the busy streets of Kuala Lumpur to thank the Malaysian Traffic Police for their work commitment.

The hotel teamed up with the Xtreme Freedom Bikers Club to distribute “buka puasa” or iftar meal packs to traffic officers on duty.

Mr. Peter Gibbons, General Manager, flagged off the biker convoy, which saw a gathering of some 30 bikers, hotel staff as well as some traffic police personnel joining this ride to help the hotel staff personally hand deliver meal packs at designated areas as proposed by the traffic police HQ. This group of 30 were split into two smaller groups to accommodate easier manoeuvring on the streets and to cover more ground namely along Jalan Sultan Ismail, Jalan Pudu and Jalan Chow Kit and Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman.

Mr Gibbons, commented that “this was a small effort on the hotel’s part to reach out in a small way and say thank you to the traffic policemen, who are on call 365 days a year. It also showcased our responsibility as a group and to foster synergy amongst the community and the traffic police.”

A total of 180 meal packs were delivered in these areas and also at the Headquarters. The hotel also personally presented a cake to the Traffic Police Chief, ACP Mohd Nadzri bin Hussain, a 5kg Chocolate Date cake, made by Executive Chef, Laurent Lherrison and a special memento of this event, a T-shirt at the Headquarters. The bikers and staff were then treated to a buka puasa meal at the hotel.



General Manager Peter Gibbons (holding flag) flagging off the Xtreme Free Bikers Club members as they deliver meal packs to traffic officers on duty.



General Manager Peter Gibbons (centre) cutting the 5kg Chocolate Date Cake, which was presented to ACP Mohd Nadzri bin Hussain (second from left), Chief Traffic Police Kuala Lumpur at the Traffic Police headquarters.

Millennium Sirih Jakarta Holds "Spirit of Togetherness"

Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta recently broke fast with orphans from Putra Putri Nusa Foundation. With the theme "Spirit of Togetherness", the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) event was part of the hotel's commitment to assist and support children who are less fortunate.

During the Iftar party, the children were entertained with special performances such as a puppet show and a radio talk show. The culinary team from Millennium Sirih Jakarta prepared a wide variety of special dishes, which everyone enjoyed. Each child also received a special gift from the hotel.



The management team of Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta with orphans from Putra Putri Nusa Foundation.

Getting to Know You

In each issue, we cast the spotlight on one of the business sectors that make up the global world of the Hong Leong Group



Front row (from left): FSGL Independent Director Mr. Yee Chia Hsing; Singapore Exchange CFO Mr. Chng Lay Chew; Hong Leong Group Executive Chairman Mr. Kwek Leng Beng; Tai Tak Executive Vice President Mr. Alvin Ho; FSGL Non-Executive Chairman Mr. Wong Hong Ren; FSGL Group CEO Mr. Neo Teck Pheng. Other FSGL senior management standing at the back are CEO of Guangdong Operations Mr. Shu Zhen (4th from left); Group CFO Ms. Lee Sau Hun (6th from left); Independent Director Ms. Chan Ting (5th from right); CEO of Chengdu Operations Mr. Wang Gongyi (2nd from right).



Striking the gong is senior management from FSGL, Tai Tak, Hong Leong Group and the Singapore Exchange.



FSGL's IPO booth at Raffles Place. Copies of FSGL's prospectus were available at the booth for retail investors.



The 196-room M Hotel Chengdu, which soft opened in September 2013, is one of FSGL's many projects in China.

Key Officers

Group Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Neo Teck Pheng

Group Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Lee Sau Hun

Group Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Sun Gang

Chief Executive Officer (Chengdu Operations)
Mr. Wang Gongyi

Chief Executive Officer (Guangdong Operations)
Mr. Shu Zhen

Chief Executive Officer (Shanghai Operations)
Ms. Zhang Jing

Registered Office

Clifton House, 75 Fort Street
P.O. Box 1350
Grand Cayman KY1-1108
Cayman Islands

Tel: +65 6436 4920

Fax: +65 6438 3170

FIRST SPONSOR MAKES ITS DEBUT ON THE SINGAPORE EXCHANGE

Chinese residential and commercial property developer and owner First Sponsor Group Limited (FSGL) has recently made its listing debut on the Singapore Exchange on 22 July 2014. Established in late 2007, the Group is supported by both its established key controlling shareholders Hong Leong Group Singapore, through its shareholding interests in Millennium & Copthorne Hotels plc (M&C UK), and Tai Tak Estates Sendirian Berhad.

FSGL has three key operating segments in China, namely property development, property holding and property financing. The Group develops residential and commercial developments in tier-two cities in China, mainly in Chengdu and Dongguan. Its property holding business segment consists of hotel ownership and operations as well as investment properties held for rental income. FSGL's property financing business segment is carried out primarily through secured entrusted loan arrangements, with a particular focus in Shanghai.

FSGL has developed a number of projects in China, including Chengdu Cityspring, a mixed-use residential and commercial development, including the 196-room M Hotel Chengdu, which soft opened in September 2013, in the

Gaoxin District, Chengdu, Sichuan province. The group is also currently developing Millennium Waterfront, a mixed-use residential and commercial development, which will include the proposed Millennium Waterfront Chengdu Hotel, in Chengdu's Wenjiang District.

FSGL had on 29 April 2014 contracted to acquire a plot of land with a site area of 37,104 square metres in Dongguan's Wanjiang District, which forms part of the Star of East River Project. When fully developed, this project will comprise mainly offices, a retail mall and residential units with a total gross floor area of 337,646 square metres. The project is situated within the new city centre of Dongguan in which a number of financial institutions are located and an international business zone will be developed. The group is pursuing a number of pipeline projects to develop mixed-use developments in Dongguan, Guangdong province and Chengdu.

To drive its future growth, the Group plans to focus on growing its property development business in Chengdu and Dongguan, with selective expansion into other high growth markets. FSGL will continue to focus on mass market residential property developments and grow its portfolio of long-term properties held for income. The Group is also looking to grow its affiliation with M&C UK and expand its property financing business in China.



The group is also currently developing Millennium Waterfront, a mixed-use residential and commercial development, which will include the proposed Millennium Waterfront Chengdu Hotel, in Chengdu's Wenjiang District.

Hi Life! is produced by Group Corporate Affairs.

Join our mailing list by sending your name, company and email address to hi-life@cdl.com.sg

Group Corporate Affairs

Hong Leong Group

9 Raffles Place, #36-00 Republic Plaza, Singapore 048619

Tel: +65 6428 9309

Fax: +65 6534 3060

Email: hlgca@cdl.com.sg

Website: <http://www.hongleong.com.sg>