

Hi Life!

A Hong Leong Group e-newsletter
October 2014 (Issue 9)

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For S\$355.5M**



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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

Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hosts Africa Singapore Business Forum 2014

Grand Copthorne Waterfront recently hosted the Africa Singapore Business Forum 2014 which saw an attendance of more than 600 delegates across 25 countries, and saw an increased turnout from the private sector - accounting for 70% of attendees.

Nearly 200 of the delegates stayed at the hotel during the 2-day forum.

Delegates heard from thought leaders from top Africa and Singapore companies, who raised awareness about the vast opportunities in Africa through panel discussions and 13 country presentations.

Organised by the International Enterprise Singapore, this is the third edition of the bi-annual business forum that provides a platform for fostering investment, trade and thought leadership between Africa and Asia.



General Manager, Mr. Benedict Ng welcoming Prime Minister of Burkina Faso, Mr. Beyon Luc Adolphe Tiao when he came to the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel for the Africa Singapore Business Forum 2014.



Mr. Benedict Ng warmly receives Singapore Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam when he came to the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel for the Africa Singapore Business Forum 2014.

Grand Hyatt Taipei Staff Surprises Guests With Flash Mob Boogie

More than 240 employees of the Grand Hyatt Taipei came together in a flash-mob boogie on 16 September as part of the hotel's 24th anniversary celebration. Chefs, housekeepers, bookkeepers, engineers, and even the hotel manager got down to a medley that included "Happy" and "Party Rock," drawing guests from rooms and lobby-side restaurants to witness the five-minute spectacle. Hotel staff started practicing for the faux-spontaneous happening in July and perfected their choreography over eight lessons.

Continuing with the anniversary celebrations, the hotel also held a Family day that featured carnival-like games and entertainment for staff and their families.

The hotel recently emerged from a two-year room renovation project that stripped all 853 rooms and suites to their concrete foundations before refurbishment. With the lobby and two more restaurants on the verge of renovation, the hotel is steering toward a Grand Reopening event and a 25th anniversary next year.



More than 240 employees of Grand Hyatt Taipei came together in a flash-mob boogie as part of the hotel's 24th anniversary celebration.



The hotel also held a Family Day that featured carnival-like games and entertainment for staff and their families.

Millennium Sirih Jakarta Celebrates 20th Anniversary



Millennium Sirih Jakarta held a Hawaiian-themed birthday bash that saw a turnout of more than 150 guests from the corporate and media industry.

Millennium Sirih Jakarta held a Media & Corporate Gathering to celebrate its 20th birthday which was successfully held at the hotel's Pool & Sky Garden on August 29, 2014. The event was attended by over 150 invited guests from the Corporate and Media.

This year, the Media and Corporate Gathering theme was "Hawaiian Night". Hawaiian atmosphere was felt when the guests walked in Pool & Sky Garden. Various entertainments has been prepared to entertain the invited guests such as muscle man, Female DJ, Tahitian dancers, percussion show and a variety of exciting games with lots of prizes.

Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur Hosts Inaugural Wedding Fair



A haute couture fashion show featuring bridal and evening gowns was one of the highlights at Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur's inaugural wedding fair.



The white vintage Jaguar at the entrance of Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur, drew much attention from onlookers and passerbys.

Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur (GMKL) worked with WeddingsMalaysia.com, a one-stop online wedding shop, and hosted its inaugural wedding fair with the theme "Classic Weddings Made Timeless".

The bridal event saw a participation of 13 vendors. It showcased a haute couture fashion show featuring bridal and evening gowns by local up-coming and avant-garde designer, Justin Yap. This fashion show was further complemented by jewellery by renowned jewellers in Kuala Lumpur, SUEN Jewellers.

The fair opened its doors to eagerly waiting couples at 11am. The highlights of the event included a three-piece wedding band performing the entire time. Lucky draws in the form of vouchers from Justin Yap, SUEN Jewellery, other M&C accommodation vouchers were given away to couples that visited the event.

There was a white vintage car dressed for the bridal fair and parked at the entrance of the hotel drawing onlookers and

passerbys. The bridal fair was a big success and the hotel looks forward to having another bridal fair next year with more vendors.

Copthorne Aberdeen Chef In Aberdeen Evening Express



KITCHEN maestro Anupam Kuila originally set out on a very different career path.

Now head chef at the Copthorne Hotel, the young Anupam set his sights on becoming a doctor. Born in a village near Calcutta, India, he had high hopes of a medical career but didn't pass the admission exams. Aged 22, he left home to live with his uncle in Darjeeling.

'Keep dishes as simple as possible'

And it was his uncle who inspired Anupam to become a chef – and after four years of hotel management training that's what he became. "I worked in five-star hotels in India for about seven or eight years and then in 2005 I came to Aberdeen and started working in Thistle Caledonian," he said. His biggest achievement to date is earning a silver medal in the Chef of The Year Awards in 2007.

After joining the Copthorne Hotel last September, Anupam has filled the menu with wonderful bistro style dishes presented to the highest standard.

"We change the menu once a year but every day we have the special of the day, which is something made from local and fresh ingredients. Scotland is really good for fresh meat and fish.

"I try to keep my dishes as simple as possible. That's the best thing," Anupam said. It's Anupam's wife though who rules the kitchen at home and the couple love to try new flavours. "She watches every food programme there is. She could easily be a chef herself – she's a brilliant cook," he said.

Passing on his knowledge is just one of the perks of the job for Anupam, who takes great pride in training the younger chefs who make up his kitchen team.

He added: "I simply love cooking. During every service I go out on the floor and ask my guests how they like the food. When they say it's fabulous, I'm happy."

This article is submitted by Copthorne Aberdeen Hotel. Source: The Aberdeen Evening Express

Cooking Class At Millennium Xiamen



Together with the Xiamen Evening Newspaper, Millennium Harbourview Xiamen launched a cooking class with 12 food lovers selected by the paper. Executive Chef Leon Wen from the hotel's Loong Yuen Chinese Restaurant taught dishes such as Steamed Rice with Cod Fish, and Steamed Prawn with Towel Gourd and Garlic. After the demonstration, participants were invited for a mini cook-off and taste their finished dishes.

Work

CDL Acquires Prized Historical Site For S\$355.5M In Tokyo



Built in 1933, a historical mansion that used to be the home of Seiko's founder Kintaro Hattori sits on the site in Tokyo that CDL and a US investment firm have purchased.

City Developments Limited (CDL) together with a U.S. based investment firm have acquired, through a jointly established Japanese special purpose company, a prime freehold land site in Tokyo for 30.5 billion yen (approximately S\$355.5 million based on an exchange rate of S\$1 to 85.8 Japanese Yen) from Seiko Holdings Corporation (Seiko). The acquisition comes on the back of CDL's plan to step up its overseas expansion in real estate development.

The expansive 16,815 square metre (sqm) (approximately 4.2 acres) parcel of land is strategically located in the high-end, prestigious residential enclave of the Shirokane area in Tokyo's Minato ward where numerous foreign embassies are situated. Minato ward is also the centre of business activities where the offices of many multinational corporations are

based. This explains the popularity of the highly affluent Minato ward among both locals and the expatriate population.

The site is filled with lush greenery and currently has a mansion located on it which used to be the former residence of Seiko's founder, Mr Kintaro Hattori. Built in 1933, the 1,340 sqm family home was designed by architect Teitaro Takahashi, who also designed a number of renowned properties including the Takashimaya Department Store in Nihonbashi. Steeped in heritage, the site has a long history dating back to the Edo Period and Meiji Period, and during the Taisho-Showa Period, the mansion was reputedly the place where the Constitution of Japan was drafted.

Mr Kwek Leng Beng, CDL Executive Chairman, said, "This acquisition is in line with CDL's strategy to accelerate overseas expansion to supplement our existing operations. Japan is the world's third largest economy and is rebounding due to the positive impact of monetary easing, fiscal stimulus and reforms under Abenomics. The 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo and various economic measures under the growth strategy led by the Abe cabinet are expected to boost the Japanese economy."

Mr Kwek added, "In land-scarce Japan, this is an extremely rare opportunity to acquire a sought after property that is situated on a substantial prime freehold land. Often, such a sizable piece of real estate would take years or even decades to assemble and amalgamate." "

We see potential to develop luxurious, high-end condominiums on this site and plan to conserve Mr Kintaro Hattori's former residence which has rich heritage and immense historical significance. We look forward to applying our expertise towards creating an iconic residential development."

As a leading green developer, CDL has a strong track record in preserving and integrating heritage features in its properties. Examples include Spring Grove, Buckley Classique and the upcoming South Beach project in Singapore.

More details of the redevelopment plans will be revealed in due course.

This is CDL's first landmark acquisition of land for real estate residential development in Japan. CDL's hotel subsidiary, London-listed Millennium & Copthorne Hotels plc (M&C), is completing the construction of its new hotel in Tokyo's prestigious Ginza 5-chome, Chuo-ward. The site was strategically and timely acquired in September 2011. Named Millennium Mitsui Garden Hotel, it is scheduled to officially open in December this year.



Filled with lush greenery, the expansive 16,815 square metre parcel of land is strategically located in the high-end, prestigious residential enclave of Shirokane.

Fretec Embarks On A Youthful Branding Journey

Hong Leong Asia's subsidiary, Henan Xinfei is working towards rejuvenating the Fretec brand, and reconnecting it with the younger generation in China. Fretec's strength is in its anti-bacterial technology and it will continue to develop more innovative and stylish refrigerators. Xinfei is one of China's leading manufacturers of major consumer appliances such as fridges, freezers and air conditioners.

Taking a step forward, for the first time in 24 years, Fretec has engaged Huang Lei (黄磊), a prominent China celebrity to be our brand ambassador. This is to promote the Fretec series of anti-bacterial refrigerators.

Apart from his acting career, Huang Lei is also a lecturer at the prestigious Beijing Film Academy. Furthermore, he is well known as a role model parent and a great cook on the popular reality television show, 'Where is Daddy?' (爸爸去哪儿) in China. On and off screen, he is a meticulous, caring parent and a down-to-earth celebrity who has captured the hearts of many, creating a positive and enduring impression in the minds of viewers.

With the right brand ambassador, Fretec has crafted a series of advertising and brand campaigns to heighten the awareness and to engage with the community over the next twelve months. The new Fretec television commercial with Huang Lei was aired on 27th September 2014 on China's top-rating game show, 'You are the one' (非诚勿扰) on Jiangsu Cable TV.

Please [click here](#) to view the TV commercial.



Chinese celebrity and Frestec's brand ambassador Huang Lei promotes the Libra range of anti-bacterial refrigerators.

Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur Offers New Accommodation Tier

Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur (GMKL) has recently unveiled its latest accommodation tier that combines comfort with top class service.

All 30 rooms in the new "Grand Deluxe" tier offer the latest state-of-the-art room amenities and facilities in the Malaysian capital. The rooms also come with added benefits such as "Plug & Go" Hi-Speed WIFI connectivity, which is amongst the fastest in the city, and complimentary Mini Bar, which includes fruit juices, soft drinks & bottled water that is replenished daily.

Other benefits include breakfast daily at Mill Café, free laundry or pressing services for up to 3 pieces per stay, fresh fruits served daily, free local calls (not inclusive of mobile numbers) and late check out until 2pm.

Thoughtfully presented facilities and amenities in each room will include functional work stations with a "multi-purpose adaptor connections" and spacious bathrooms with separate bathtub and high pressure shower rooms.

Guests will also be able to enjoy floor to ceiling views of the city downtown skylines. The hotel is just a short distance from Kuala Lumpur's famous Petronas Twin Towers, which is connected to the Pavilion Shopping Centre via an air-conditioned walkway.



GMKL's Grand Deluxe rooms feature elegant furnishings within expansive living spaces.



Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr Ng Yen Yen, Chairman of Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board (centre), flanked by Ms. Trudy Moreno, Director of Sales & Marketing and GMKL General Manager Peter Gibbons, officiating the launch of the Grand Deluxe rooms on the 19th Floor with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the launch party on 6th August 2014.

The McCormick Scottsdale Reopens After Summer Renovations



All 125 guest rooms come complete with private balcony or patio, and are renovated in natural tones to reflect a modern and relaxed look.

Formerly the Millennium Resort and Villas Scottsdale, The McCormick Scottsdale has reopened after a six-month renovation. These upgrades come on the heels of renovations to Millennium Harvest House Boulder that was completed in the spring this year, and extensive refurbishments to ONE UN New York and Millennium Hotel Minneapolis in the past two years. These renovations are part of M&C's multi-million dollar investments to upgrade its 14 North American properties.

An idyllic lakeside retreat with stunning views, The McCormick Scottsdale is set on the shores of Camelback Lake, less than half an hour from downtown Phoenix and three miles from Old Town Scottsdale. The hotel is minutes from two championship 18-hole golf courses at The McCormick Ranch Golf Club.

As part of the hotel-wide changes, all 125 guest accommodations along with public spaces including the lobby, outdoor pool and Diamondbacks Lounge were upgraded. Guest rooms and suites offer a modern, relaxed look that reflects local, natural tones, while bathrooms feature contemporary finishes and fixtures. Accommodations come complete with private balcony or patio area overlooking Camelback Mountain, palm tree lined courtyards, or Camelback Lake and McCormick Ranch Golf Club.

Two new poolside cabanas along with new lounge chair cushions throughout the pool area offer a lively pop of color while over at Diamondbacks Lounge, guests will experience a refreshed, laid-back ambiance with beautiful lounge seating and a large copper-top table for communal dining.

"The renovation of The McCormick Scottsdale solidifies our commitment to our North American portfolio," said Matthew T. Mrozinski, President, North America. "Our newly-refreshed property is the only lakeside hotel in the beautiful city of Scottsdale and we look forward to welcoming our guests back just in time for the fall season."



The McCormick Scottsdale is the only lakeside property in Scottsdale, an idyllic retreat in a resort-style setting with breathtaking views of Camelback Lake, and the McDowell and Camelback Mountains. It is also a short drive from Phoenix.

From now through November 30, guests can experience the new rooms at The McCormick Scottsdale by taking advantage of the Fall Into Autumn package with 10 percent off Best Flexible Rates, 10 percent off Food & Beverage and complimentary Wi-Fi.

Congratulations

Grand Copthorne Waterfront Scores In Water Efficiency

Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel (GCW) is proud to receive the Water Efficient Building Hotel Sector (Gold Award) in September 2014. This was awarded by the Singapore Public Utilities Board in recognition of the hotel's efforts in promoting water conservation and efficiency.

In 2013, the hotel received the Water Efficient Building Hotel Sector (Silver Award). This year, the hotel wanted to increase greater awareness of water efficiency and conservation among its employees, guests and business associates in support of water conservation and sustainability. Achieving the Gold certification reinforces the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel's commitment towards conservation of the environment.

General Manager, Mr Benedict Ng says, "The journey has been a very encouraging one so far and we are thankful to our owners and top management for their support. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to our business associates and partners and employees who have done their part to help us to achieve the certification. We have come a long since we embarked on this project two years ago and we are happy with what we have achieved. This has reinforced the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel's commitment towards the environment and made us a more socially responsible organisation."

The hotel has put in place various water efficiency measures such as installing private water meters at key water usage areas, monitoring daily consumption at these usage areas, establishing a fault reporting system to report leaks and water wastage. It uses NEWater for cooling towers and laundry washing. Cards are also displayed in the guestrooms to encourage guests to participate in water conservation through reusing of towels and replacement of bed linen only on alternative days.

Chillers and cooling towers have been converted to a more efficient type. The upcoming initiatives include upgrading the existing water meters to automated meters for remote monitoring.



GCW General Manager, Mr Benedict Ng receiving the Gold award for the Water Efficient Building Hotel Sector from Ms Grace Fu, (Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs).



(L-R) GCW Chief Engineer, Mr Leo Hee Swee, GCW General Manager, Mr Benedict Ng, Ms Grace Fu, (Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs) and GCW Assistant Chief Engineer, Mr Alan Ooi at the Water Efficient Building presentation ceremony.

CDL Recognised For Green Leadership In Asia



For close to two decades, CDL has been living its vision to conserve as it constructs, creating sustainable developments for the built environment. Over the years, it has not only shaped the cityscape with architectural icons and first-of-its-kind eco developments, but has also gained recognition in the global arena as a leader in corporate sustainability.

Top Singapore Corporation on Asia's first sustainability ranking for businesses

Overall Ranking	Company Name	Country	Industry Group
1	Tata Consultancy Services Limited	India	Software & Services
2	City Developments Limited	Singapore	Real Estate
3	Unilever Indonesia Tbk PT	Indonesia	Household & Personal Products
4	United Microelectronics Corporation	Taiwan	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment
5	Lenovo Group Ltd.	Hong Kong	Technology Hardware & Equipment
6	Wipro Ltd.	India	Software & Services
7	LG Electronics Inc.	South Korea	Consumer Durables & Apparel
8	Infosys Ltd.	India	Software & Services
9	HCL Technologies Ltd.	India	Software & Services
10	S-Oil Corp.	South Korea	Energy

CDL emerged as top property developer in Asia and top Singapore corporation in the inaugural Channel NewsAsia Sustainability Ranking for Asia's top businesses. CDL was also ranked second among the top 100 sustainable companies in Asia. These results were announced at the CSR Asia Summit held in Hong Kong on 12 September.

The ranking identifies leading firms in corporate sustainability across 10 Asian economies - China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand. The index lists the top 100 companies with the highest sustainability performance.

Companies included in the Channel NewsAsia Sustainability Ranking are selected based on research provided by

Sustainalytics, an award-winning, global sustainable investment research firm. Sustainalytics' analytical framework broadly addresses three themes: environment, social, and governance. Between 75 and 120 indicators were used to assess each company.

Business Leadership in Sustainability Winner at inaugural WorldGBC Asia Pacific Regional Network Leadership Awards in Green Building

CDL was recognised as a business leader in sustainability at the inaugural World Green Building Council (WorldGBC)'s Asia Pacific Regional Network Leadership Awards in Green Building. As one of the three winners, CDL was chosen from a field of 55 companies for its commitment to integrate sustainability into its business model.

The Business Leadership in Sustainability award acknowledges leadership in corporate social responsibility, with emphasis on policies and programs that reduce and reverse the impact of the organisation's business practices on the environment.

To highlight its corporate social responsibility focus and efforts, CDL has also just launched a new video on its website and it can be viewed at: <http://www.cdl.com.sg/csr>.



Guest-of-Honour Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (second from the right) presenting the trophy award to CDL Group General Manager Mr. Chia Ngiang Hong (far right). Also present at the award ceremony are WorldGBC's Chief Executive Officer Ms. Jane Henley, and President of Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC) Mr. Ng Eng Kiong.

Philippine President Adds Heritage Hotel Manila GM To Foreign Chamber Council

Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino III recently administered the oath of office to a new set of officers of the Foreign Chamber Council of the Philippines, Inc. (FCCP) in a simple ceremony held at the President's Hall of Malacañang Palace on Wednesday.

Among the new officers is Heritage Hotel General Manager Mr Eddie Yeo.

The FCCP serves as a partner of Philippine businesses, government, and social institutions. It acts as a source of information, and provides access to foreign business groups through its member countries.

The council holds conferences and other activities that aim to inform and educate business leaders and government officials in promoting environmental protection to attain a sustainable economy.

The FCCP is composed of nine countries — Finland, France, India, Israel, Spain, Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, and Turkey.



Pictured here at the President Hall of the Malacañan Palace is Heritage Hotel Manila General Manager Mr. Eddie Yeo (third from right) taking his oath with fellow new FCCP officers from President Benigno S. Aquino (in white shirt).

Korean Government Honours Millennium Seoul Hilton Chef



Honoured by the Korean government for his culinary talent, Chef Park is a tour de force in the kitchen.

Seasons, Millennium Seoul Hilton's acclaimed French restaurant, is pleased to announce that Executive Chef Hyo Nam Park has been designated by the Korean government as an Artisanal Craftsman for his incredible culinary talent.

An artisan is a skilled craft worker who hand makes things that are functional or decorative.

To commemorate this honor, Seasons will offer a special Artisanal Menu, crafted by Chef Park. Available to the public throughout the month of October, this gastronomic feast will highlight Chef Park's culinary skills at their best.

Dishes such as Seared Scallops with Crisp Potato and Green Leaves in a Truffle Vinaigrette; Steamed Lobster with Spinach Ravioli in a Crustacean Saffron Cappuccino Sauce; and 'Hanwoo' Tenderloin in Perigounine Sauce served with Green Asparagus and Idaho Potato Puree will be served.

The exclusive Artisanal Menu is priced at KW150,000 per person and the menu is subject to change.

Chef Park is no doubt a tour de force in the kitchen who has received prestigious honours and accolades, including the Order of Agricultural Merit from France, and being inducted as a Lufthansa Star Chef (along with celebrated chefs Paul Bocuse, Hemant Oberoi, and Susur Lee).

Chef Park's signature cooking style laces French cooking with subtle Korean accents. His unequalled originality blends traditional with modern – a manifestation of his commitment to culinary innovation and perfection.

M&C Middle East is Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) Certified

Grand Millennium Al Wahda, Grand Millennium Dubai and Kingsgate Abu Dhabi have all been accredited with the certificates ISO 14001:2004 for its environmental management system, and OHSAS 18001:2007 for developing occupational health and safety management system in compliance with the international standards.

The certificates that were presented by Director of United Registrar of Systems (ME FZC) Dr. Neelesh Sinha, demonstrate the committed efforts of the leaders and employees to regularly maintain and improve the service quality, competitive and reputation of the respective hotel.



Team Grand Millennium Al Wahda with General Manager Mr. Atef Elias (second from left), and Director of United Registrar of Systems (ME FZC) Dr. Neelesh Sinha (third from left).



Team Grand Millennium Dubai with General Manager Peter Mansourian (third from left), and Dr. Neelesh Sinha (second from right).



Team Kingsgate Abu Dhabi with General Manager Mr Tarek Al Sherif (standing back row, centre, in between the two certificates) and members of the engineering and housekeeping departments.

St. Regis Singapore, JW Marriott Hong Kong Hit Asia's Top 25 Conference Hotel List

Both The St. Regis Singapore and JW Marriott Hong Kong have once again made it to the Top 25 Conference Hotels 2014 list by SmartTravelAsia.com 2014 Best in Travel Poll.

The St. Regis Singapore stands at the 7th spot this year from its 10th placing in 2013. The luxury hotel was also ranked at no. 12 for both Top 25 Business Hotels and Top 25 Spa Hotels & Resorts lists respectively.

JW Marriott Hong Kong has won this award for six consecutive years. It took the 18th spot this year.

SmartTravelAsia.com 2014 Best in Travel Poll is presently in its 10th year, and is a distillation of the readers' perceptions and favourite travel brands. The votes were based on substantial hands-on travel experience with 12 annual air trips that took place from May to July this year.



Smart Travel Asia Editor Mr. Vijay Verghese (left) with Managing Director of The St. Regis Singapore Mr. Frank Beck.



JW Marriott Hotel General Manager Mr. Mark Conklin (left) with Mr. Vijay Verghese.

Francis Kan, General Manager, Millennium Hotel Chengdu



Mr. Francis Kan has been appointed the new General Manager of Millennium Hotel Chengdu starting 22 September 2014.

Mr. Kan joins Millennium & Copthorne Hotels with over two decades of experience in management of hotel operations and he has held many key positions with international hotel chains including Marriott, Shangri-La and the Hilton.

Eileen Tan, General Manager, M Hotel Chengdu

Ms. Eileen Tan has been appointed the new General Manager of M Hotel Chengdu. She replaces Mr. Sunny Ng who resigned to pursue other career interests.

Ms. Tan brings with her more than 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry, including Millennium & Copthorne Hotels as well as the Accor Group.

She also has extensive experience in various positions of hotel management and operations.



Copthorne Hotel Auckland Chef Wins the Judges Over

Chef Deanne Pereira from Copthorne GHotel Auckland, HarbourCity won the judges with two award-winning dishes at the recent Culinary Fare competition held in Auckland, New Zealand. She won Silver for a main dish, and was named the overall winner of the competition.

Organised by the Restaurant Association of New Zealand, the annual culinary battle draws hundreds of new and experienced participants across New Zealand to pit their talents. The Culinary Fare also provides a platform to celebrate excellence and encourages people to raise the bar of standards in our sector.

The first dish prepared was hot main: a herb crusted lamb rack with braised lamb and spinach tortellini, blanched baby carrots, purple potato puree, and pinot noir jus. Not only did it taste delicious, the presentation had the second highest score in this category, giving Deanne the Silver medal.

Her second dish consisted of crispy skin salmon with saffron infused fondant potatoes, fennel and leek confit, butter tossed kale, orange and dill sauce, and julienned bell peppers for garnish along with balsamic flakes and micro greens. This dish won the judges over and was named the overall winner of the competition.

"I trained under some of Copthorne Hotel Harbourcity's top chefs who helped me broaden my horizons of the culinary world," said Chef Deanne.



Play

Korean Actor Lee Min Ho At Grand Hyatt Taipei

Korean actor Lee Min Ho recently stayed at the Grand Hyatt Taipei while he was in the Taiwan capital for a fan-meeting event sponsored by OSIM, an electrical and household appliance company. He is currently the ambassador for the brand's massage chairs.

The actor who is also a singer and model, stayed at the hotel's Presidential Suite worth NT\$200,000 (US\$8,400) per night. He was given the royal treatment during his 3 days 2 nights stay including a Korean-speaking personal butler, a rabbit-designed welcome cake to mark his birth year (according to the Chinese zodiac), and even personalised bed linens and bathrobes that have his name embroidered on them.

In addition to Taiwanese local culinary delights, the hotel also served the Korean celebrity a Cantonese Barbecued Goose, a signature dish at the hotel's Pearl Liang restaurant. Lee Min Ho is best known for his leading roles in Korean hit drama series Boys Over Flowers (2009), City Hunter (2011) and The Heirs (2013). The upcoming film Gangnam Blues will feature him in his first leading role on the big screen.



Korean actor Lee Min Ho taking a group photo with his fans during his fan-meeting session in Taipei.



During his stay at the Grand Hyatt Taipei, he was given the royal treatment that includes a Korean-speaking personal butler, as well as personalised bed linens and bathrobes with his name embroidered on them.

New Zealand Triumph Riders Motorcycle Show At Copthorne Rotorua



A Copthorne Rotorua staff stands proudly next to a Triumph Motorcycle in the hotel lobby.

Copthorne Rotorua recently hosted The Triumph Riders Motorcycle Show together with The Triumph Riders Motorcycle Club of New Zealand. Triumph Motorcycles is the largest British motorcycle manufacturer, established in 1984.

The 70-odd motorcycles were on display on the hotel grounds as part of the club's third annual general meeting.

For a gold coin donation, motorcycle enthusiasts and curious locals were able to view the Triumph bikes. The donations go towards supporting St John Ambulance.

According to Sue Dyson, a Triumph Riders member, the display includes old bikes "that you have to kick-start and some that have been stripped back and completely rebuilt."

Motorcycle enthusiasts also had a chance to view the new 2014 Triumph Commander motorcycle.

"It's a brand new release and normally you would have to go to Tauranga or Hamilton to see something new like that, so it's really exciting to have it here in Rotorua. We love our bikes and want to show them off to the public," said Ms Dyson.

The national club has more than 200 members with 20 of them living within the Bay of Plenty.



More than 70 Triumph Motorcycles on display at the grounds of Copthorne Rotorua.

Orchard Hotel Hosts Party For Lufthansa Air Crew



Pictured here by the poolside is General Manager Riaz Mahmood (fifth from left) with Orchard Hotel staff and Lufthansa Air Crew for a Mid-Autumn celebration.

Millennium Phuket Patong Sponsors Happiness Concert



Millennium Phuket Patong General Manager Ms. Esther Wai (front, right) with Patong's new Mayor Ms. Chalermluck Keksab (front, left) during an appreciation ceremony at the concert.

Millennium Resort Phuket Patong was among the main sponsors of the first Patong Beach Music Happiness concert held on 13 September 2014. The hotel sponsored 20 rooms for the performing artists at the concert.

The concert is part of the Thai military campaign to boost happiness among Thai people following the military coup that happened in Thailand earlier this year. Thailand has experienced 12 military coups since the country's absolute monarchy ended in 1932.

The "Return Happiness To Thai People" campaign includes free concerts, free food and a flurry of carnival-like entertainment and events.

Millennium Xiamen Recognises Its Staff Trainers

A recognition Activity was held by the Millennium Harbourview Hotel Xiamen Training Department to thank its trainers who conduct regular staff training in each department in the past year.

Hotel General Manager Mr. Simon Jim presented the certificates of appreciation to each trainer and praised them for their selfless commitment and contribution towards each department.



Proud staff trainers of Millennium Xiamen with their certificates of appreciation from the hotel.

Grand Millennium Sukhumvit Participates In Thai Sports Day



Showing the team spirit: The soccer team of Grand Millennium Sukhumvit led by Director of Human Resources Ms. Parichart Khemsri (far right) and Training Manager Ms. Melanie Goenchanart (far left) joined the sports day event hosted by Thai Hotel Association at the Royal Thai Army Stadium. There were 39 hotels that participated and the atmosphere was charged with enthusiasm and fun.

Grand Millennium Sukhumvit Ice Bucket Challenge



Accepting the challenge by Carlsberg (Sweden) CEO Mark Jensen, Grand Millennium Sukhumvit General Manager Thomas Christiansen (third from right) and members of the hotel management dumped buckets of ice water over their heads.

The hotel passes the challenge on to Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur GM Peter Gibbons, M Hotel Singapore GM Cecilia Lim, and Adrian Tan of M&C Singapore.

JW Marriott Hong Kong Take Staff On A Summer Boat Trip

A total of 44 associates from JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong were treated to an exciting boat trip on 27 August as part of the yearly recreational activities organised by the Human Resources Department.

Sailing along the Sai Kung Peninsula, also popularly known as the "Back Garden of Hong Kong", the associates had a wonderful time cruising along a cluster of beautiful islands, catching wonderful sights of the diverse geological features, sea caves and scenic coastlines.

The rest of the day was spent on the boat playing card games, singing karaoke, sun-bathing and water sports like wakeboarding, banana boat ride, and a thrilling water slide. Everyone had an enjoyable time and it was a perfect end to the amazing summer season.



JW Marriott Hong Kong took 44 of their staff on a boat trip as part of the hotel's yearly team-bonding recreational activity.

Life At Beiing Riviera



Residents having a swinging good time at the Beijing Riviera Country Club.

It was a swinging good time at the Beijing Riviera Country Club when it held a party that continued into the wee hours with music, dancing and drinking.

Among the highlights was a sumptuous spread from a range of different cuisines such as wraps, sushi, sausages and kebabs. There was even a Qi Gong performance from the Chinese Health Association that saw much spontaneous participation from the residents.

The Beijing Riviera Country Club also hosts regular events such as darts which is very popular especially with the men. One wonders if it also has to do with the free beer with every order of beer which runs on the same day as the darts activity!

Meals & Deals

Hong Leong Finance Celebratory Fixed Deposits

Hong Leong Finance is celebrating its recent win as the "ASEAN Finance Company of the Year 2014" with new fixed deposits of up to 1.35% per annum for all of its customers.

Earlier in July, 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 at the Singapore Marina Bay Sands Convention Centre.



HONG LEONG FINANCE
Established since 1961

ASEAN Finance Company of the Year 2014

A winning service for our patrons

“We have again received recognition for service that meets our clients' personal and business needs. This citation from *Asian Banking and Finance Retail Banking Awards*, for 'unique, innovative, effective and dynamic service', spotlights the customer-oriented culture that we embrace. With our 28 branches, including 8 SME Centres @ Hong Leong Finance, we provide a decentralised and yet integrated financial service network which offers quality and convenience to our valued patrons wherever they reside or work.”

Ian Macdonald
President



Our comprehensive range of services includes:
• COMMERCIAL LOANS • PERSONAL LOANS • CORPORATE FINANCE • DEPOSITS

Deposit Insurance Scheme: Singapore dollar deposits of non-bank depositors are insured by the Singapore Deposit Insurance Corporation, for up to S\$50,000 in aggregate per depositor per Scheme member by law.

Let's Celebrate!

Deposit Amount	Interest Rates (p.a.)	
	12-Month	18-Month
S\$25,000 to <S\$100,000	1.20%	1.25%
S\$100,000 to <S\$500,000	1.25%	1.28%
S\$500,000 to <S\$750,000	1.28%	1.30%
S\$750,000 and Above	1.30%	1.35%

Visit hlf.com.sg or call 6579 6777 for more information.

For new placements and renewals of Fixed Deposits. No premature withdrawal penalty and no interest will be payable if the deposit placement is not held to maturity. Promotional interest rates are subject to change without prior notice. Other terms & conditions apply.

Fixed Deposits
up to
1.35%
p.a.

Dining Delights At Grand Copthorne Waterfront



Pontini's first-ever Italian Brunch Buffet.

Enrapture Your Senses With Pontini's First-Ever Italian Brunch Buffet

Available on Saturdays and Public Holidays, 12pm to 4pm
Adult: S\$48++ Child: S\$24++

Brace yourself up for a sensational Italian experience as Pontini's Chef, Daniele Sarno unveils a brand new Italian brunch buffet featuring a plethora of antipasti, breads, soup, main courses and desserts from various regions in Italy. A feast for the senses, the buffet will feature Italian specialties executed skilfully using the finest ingredients from Italy. Indulge in Piedmont style braised beef brisket, potato fondant in herb gravy and oven-baked Norwegian salmon mignon in pistachio crust. Dazzle your senses with an impressive showmanship as our team of chefs whip up the pastas à la minute at the live station. For a perfect finale, indulge in freshly brewed coffee or

tea and take your pick from the ensemble of intoxicating desserts.

Pontini is also presenting an **Autumn Truffle Extravaganza** from now till 30 November 2014. Relish Chef Daniele's unique creations featuring fresh White Alba and Black Norcia truffles such as grilled Porcino mushrooms, creamy polenta 'crochetta' and Lombardy Italian Bitto cheese fondue with white truffle, handmade Garganelli pasta, Italian pork sausage, chestnut and Autumnal "Norcia" black truffle and more.

For all of the above dining pleasures, please call +65 6233 1100 or email dining.gcw@millenniumhotels.com

Café Brio's Launches First-Ever High Tea Barbecue Buffet

Every Saturday, 2pm to 5pm

Diners who enjoy barbecue are in for a treat! Tempt your palate with unlimited servings of satay, chicken wing, fried dough fritter, sweet corn, Taiwanese sausage and tau pok with bean sprouts prepared à la minute on the open charcoal-fired grill. Indulge in a smorgasbord of Asian and Western favourites such as nasi lemak, baked prawn with mango in filo pastry, freshly made handroll, California maki, dim sum and more. For a sweet finale, tuck into heavenly desserts such as Nyonya kueh, strawberry flan, oreo cheesecake, and amini cupcake tower.

For reservations, please call +65 6233 1100 or email dining.gcw@millenniumhotels.com



High Tea Barbecue Buffet at Café Brio's.

October Promotions At Copthorne King's



Celebrate Princess Terrace's 44th anniversary and pay S\$4.40 when you dine with 2 other paying adults.

Celebrate Princess Terrace's 44th Anniversary

Enjoy the buffet at an unbeatable price of S\$4.40++ when you dine with two other adults. Embark on a gastronomic adventure with chilli crab and a plethora of perennial favourites including kerabu chicken, Hokkien prawn mee soup, char kway teow and more. Chilli crabs are only available during dinner in October.

For reservations, call +65 6318 3168 or email princessterrace@millenniumhotels.com. Alternatively, you may make a reservation online.

Hairy Crab Affair at Tien Court

The Hairy Crab season is back! Titillate your taste buds with steamed hairy crabs and satiate your cravings with the crustacean's sweet flesh and creamy luscious roe. For reservations, please call +65 6318 3193 / 198 or email tiencourt@millenniumhotels.com.

Oktoberfest and Halloween at Connections

Connections comes alive with decadent German food, live entertainment and fun-filled activities. Enjoy a complimentary choice of boiled veal and pork bratwurst with mustard and sauerkraut or roasted pork knuckle with mashed potatoes with every 5 bottles of Erdinger beer during October.

Celebrate Halloween with us on 31 October! Come clad in your spookiest costume and stand a chance to win the Best Dressed Award. Attractive prizes will be given to the Top 3 Best Dressed Couple. Enjoy 20% off hard liquor.

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



Come clad in your spookiest costume and celebrate Halloween at Connections.

An Oktober Fiesta At Orchard Hotel Singapore

A promotional image for the Oktober Fiesta at Orchard Hotel Singapore. It features a wooden background with a red maple leaf in the top left and bottom right. In the center, there is a photograph of a plate of food including a large rack of ribs, corn on the cob, a salad, and a grilled banana. To the left of the plate are two glasses of beer and a copper beer dispenser. To the right of the photograph, the text "OKTOBER FIESTA" is written in white and red. Below this, a list of food items is provided, followed by a call to action.

OKTOBER FIESTA

Have a bite of the world's biggest funfair at Orchard Café with a choice of **Veal, Cheese, Chicken & Pork German Sausages, Spicy Baby Pork Ribs, Lamb Kebabs, BBQ Chicken, Marinated Minute Steaks,** and many more!

Get ready your carnival gear this October!

For reservations and information, please call +65 6739 6565 or email orchardcafe.ohs@millenniumhotels.com.

St. Regis Singapore Celebrates 80 Years Of Bloody Mary



The cocktail Bloody Mary turns 80

Come join The St. Regis Singapore as they celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Bloody Mary cocktail this October.

Perfected 80 years ago at The King Cole Bar at The St. Regis New York, the Red Snapper or Bloody Mary as it has come to be known, has become one of the most popular drinks in cocktail culture and brunch around the world.

The hotel will present a series of epicurean delights at Brasserie Les Saveurs, LaBrezza and the Astor Bar to showcase the storied legacy of the Bloody Mary Ritual. To learn more about the brunch offerings or make a reservation, please visit www.stregissingapore.com/bloodymary or www.stregis-bloodymary80.com.

A Tea-Themed Gourmet At Millennium Harbourview Xiamen

Millennium Harbourview Xiamen's Loong Yuen Chinese Restaurant has rolled out a tea-themed gourmet for the healthy enjoyment of all customers. By incorporating tea into dishes, the freshness and original taste of various ingredients are preserved with a slight tea fragrance, making dishes more tasteful and nutritious.

Some tea of the tea-infused dishes include Double-boiled Pork with Honeysuckle Flower Soup, Fried Shrimp with Oolong Tea, Fried Cubed Beef with Oolong Tea and Deep-fried Spare Ribs with Jasmine.

This gourmet spread is valid throughout October 2014 lunch and dinner. For reservations, please contact 86 592 2023333-6696 or email fnb@millenniumxiamen.com.



A spread of tea-infused dishes such as Fried Shrimp with Oolong Tea await the healthy food connoisseur at Loong Yuen Chinese Restaurant.

Simply Fresh New Zealand Seafood At JW Marriott Hong Kong



A delightful array of sustainable seafood from New Zealand will be available at the Fish Bar to whet the appetites of all seafood lovers.

The JW culinary team is pleased to introduce a delightful array of quality New Zealand sustainable seafood at the Fish Bar from 9 October to 2 November 2014.

Diners may select their favourite seafood from the live tank, which includes oysters raw on shell as well as rock lobster, little clams and mussels - steamed to perfection and served with delicious condiments. In addition, an impressive variety of sustainable fish will also be available; each prepared whole on charcoal barbecue and accompanied with potato salad, mixed greens and New Zealand avocado oil dressing. An excellent selection of wines imported from New Zealand is also available to complement an exquisite dining experience.

For reservations and more information, please contact +85 2 2810 8366.

Lighting Up Lives At Assisi Hospice's Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration



CSC volunteers lighting up Assisi Hospice with smiles and laughter as they perform their "Flower" dance.

City Sunshine Club (CSC) volunteers had a memorable experience celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival at Assisi Hospice in Singapore on the evening of 2 September, as they brought joy and warmth to the inpatients and patients of its Home Care and Day Care.

This is the seventh year that CSC has organised the Mid-Autumn Festival celebration to spread the festive spirit at Assisi Hospice.

Joining in the celebration were CDL Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Grant Kelley; Group General Manager Mr. Chia Ngiang Hong and Chief Sustainability Officer Ms. Esther An, who distributed paper lanterns and mooncakes as they visited the patients alongside Assisi Hospice's CEO A/Prof. Premarani Kannusamy and accompanying staff.

Besides distributing mooncakes and lanterns, there were a series of performances lined up to brighten up the evening.



CDL CEO Mr. Grant Kelley (left); Assisi Hospice CEO A/Prof. Premarani Kannusamy (third from the right); CDL Group General Manager Mr. Chia Ngiang Hong (second from the right); and President of CSC Ms. Foo Chui Mui getting ready to distribute paper lanterns and mooncakes to add a festive touch to the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Singapore PM Lee Makes Mooncakes With Hua Ting Master Chef



Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (centre) was a picture of concentration as he made snow skin mooncakes with Hua Ting's Master Chef Lap Fai (left).

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong was a picture of concentration as he and Member of Parliament Mr Sitoh Yih Pin had a go at making snow skin mooncakes with Hua Ting Restaurant's Master Chef Lap Fai at the Mid-Autumn Festival Celebrations at Potong Pasir Community Club (CC).

PM Lee was the guest-of-honour at the event on Sunday (September 7), where he officially opened the Viriya Family Service Centre at the CC.

Yesterday (Monday) PM Lee later commented on his Facebook page that making moon cakes was harder than it looked.

Orchard Hotel Singapore, part of Millennium & Copthorne Hotels, supported the Festival celebrations by donating its Millennium Mooncakes for the event, which was attended by residents of Potong Pasir.

During this year's Mid-Autumn Festival, Millennium Mooncakes by Hua Ting have also been donated to St. Andrew's Nursing Home and Blossom Seeds

Limited, a non-profit organisation that helps the less fortunate in Singapore, for their Mid-Autumn Festival fundraising event.



PM Lee delights in his successful mooncake attempt while Singapore Member of Parliament Mr. Sitoh Yih Pin (second from right) continues with the help of Orchard Hotel's Executive Assistant Manager Winnie Low (extreme right).



Sharing Mid-Autumn cheer: Management and staff from Millennium & Copthorne Hotels donated Millennium Mooncakes to the less fortunate at St. Andrew's Nursing Home.

St. Regis Singapore Brings Families Together With Mooncake-Making Charity Event

In line with Family Traditions at St. Regis programme, The St. Regis Singapore invited business partners and their families for A Cherished Mid-Autumn Fete, A Family Traditions at St. Regis Festivity, a family-oriented mooncake-making charity event on 30th August 2014.

With the aim of giving back to society in celebration of the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival, The St. Regis Singapore made contributions to international aid organisation, UNICEF, Check Out for Children (COFC), a Starwood Hotels & Resorts' adopted charity, as well as to more than 250 elderly at local beneficiary NTUC Eldercare Co-op Limited



It was a hands-on activity as families and their children had their faces and elbows in flour while making mooncakes.



Children gazed in awe as a St. Regis Chef taught them the intricate art of mooncake-making.

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

HONG LEONG FOUNDATION BUILDS SINGAPORE HERITAGE



Singapore's top museum, the Asian Civilisations Museum, focuses on enhancing its building to increase its accessibility to the general public, while fostering greater understanding among different communities.

Part of the museum's revamp includes the expansion of the China Gallery, a project supported by the donations of Hong Leong Foundation, and the single largest cash donation that the museum has received to date. The donation is part of the Foundation's ongoing efforts to promote the understanding and appreciation of Chinese art and culture.

Fujian or Hokkien culture is especially meaningful for Hong Leong Group Singapore, as the Group's founder, the late Kwek Hong Png, hailed from the region. Born in 1913 in the Tung Ann (Tongan) district of Fujian, Mr Kwek struck out on his own at the tender age of 16, and came to Singapore to build his fortune. "Usually when people think of Hokkien, they think about the food or the language," said Mr Kwek Leng Beng, son of the elder Kwek, and Executive Chairman of Hong Leong Group. "But Fujian is also about fine art and rich culture. We want to bring this aspect closer to Singaporeans through this project."

Hong Leong Foundation's contribution of nearly S\$8 million to the Singapore Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) has helped make it to the top of the ranks as the top museum in Singapore at the 2014 TripAdvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards.

ACM also ranks ninth in Asia for museums, and is the only Singapore museum ranked among Asia's top 10 museums, coming up just behind Hong Kong's Museum of History (ranked 8th).

TripAdvisor describes the ACM as "the first museum in the region to present a broad yet integrated perspective of pan-Asian cultures and civilisations".

Currently undergoing a revamp, ACM will focus on enhancing its building to better promote greater cultural understanding among different communities. The museum will also focus on enhancing its building to increase its accessibility to the general public.



The museum's ongoing revamp includes the expansion of the China Gallery into a 3-level space approximately 900 sqm, adding a new modern wing to the classical frontage of ACM.



Pictured here is the interior of the existing Kwek Hong Png Gallery which houses regional specialties from Fujian such as longyan wood furniture and the museum's collection of blanc de chine porcelain from Dehua – one of the best in the world.



The China Gallery which is named after the late Mr. Kwek, will expand into a 3-level space covering approximately 900 sqm, adding a new modern wing to the otherwise classical frontage of the ACM.

It will also yield more gallery space to allow for the acquisition of artefacts for ACM's Fujian collection. Highlights will include regional specialties from Fujian such as longyan wood furniture and the museum's collection of blanc de chine porcelain from Dehua - one of the best in the world.

The Hokkiens are the largest Chinese dialect group in Singapore, constituting around 40% of the Chinese Singaporean population. They originated from the southern parts of the Fujian province, including Xiamen, Zhangzhou and Quanzhou. The early Hokkiens were key to Singapore's development into a regional trading hub, being actively involved in the early trading at the Singapore River.

"In uncertain times, remembering the toil of our forefathers can not only be a source of inspiration, but encouragement as well," said Mr Kwek. "Heritage is a part of our society that cannot be forgotten. By working with the Asian Civilisations Museum, we hope to be able to inform and educate future generations about the roots of our forefathers." The revamp of ACM is expected to be completed in the latter half of 2015.

The Travellers' Choice awards honour top travel spots worldwide based on millions of reviews and opinions from TripAdvisor travellers. Award winners were determined using an algorithm that took into account the quantity and quality of reviews for museums worldwide, gathered over a 12-month period.



The China Gallery is named after Hong Leong Group founder, the late Kwek Hong Png.

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