



HKABA  
香港澳洲商會

# NEWSLETTER 2012-3

# 香港澳洲商會

HONG KONG  
AUSTRALIA  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
(VICTORIA CHAPTER)



## In this Newsletter, we:

- Keep you informed of our upcoming events
- Shine the spotlight on our younger members and friends attending the HKABA Young Professionals event
- Provide you with news and updates on Hong Kong

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Daren Yeoh, Vice-President and Editor



## 2012 EVENT CALENDAR

Keep an eye on our upcoming newsletters for dates and details. The following is a snapshot of the planned events for 2012.

- Food and Wine Appreciation Dinner 22 June 2012
- HKTDC Wine Seminar 27 July 2012
- 15th anniversary of HK returning to China July 2012
- Annual Business Awards Gala Dinner 31 August 2012
- Annual General meeting October 2012
- Yum Cha Networking function November 2012
- HK Forum December 2012
- Young Professionals Event September 2012

## HKABA FOOD AND WINE APPRECIATION DINNER

Members are reminded that the popular Food and Wine Appreciation Dinner will be held on 22 June 2012 at Shark Fin House, 131 Lt Bourke Street, Melbourne commencing at 6pm. This is a popular event with Melbournians who love great food, wine and entertainment. We express our appreciation to the following sponsors of the event:





## 2012 HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL WINE AND SPIRITS FAIR SEMINAR – 27 JUNE 2012

A seminar will be held on Wednesday, 27 June 2012 from 12pm to 2pm at the office of Moore Stephens, Level 10, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne to provide information on the 2012 Hong Kong International Wine and Spirits Fair. The Hong Kong International Wine and Spirits Fair (HKIWSF) is one of the most important wine trade exhibitions in Asia. Organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), HKIWSF 2012 is one of the key events for Australian wine exporters and service providers to attend and use as a platform to introduce new wines and promote their existing brands to buyers in Asia.

## HONG KONG AUSTRALIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION BUSINESS AWARDS GALA DINNER – 31 AUGUST 2012

This major event in the Victorian business calendar is happening on 31 August 2012 at the Crown Tower 8 Whiteman Street, Southbank, Vic.

The annual HKABA Business Award is designed to recognise the significant contributions made by Victorian Businesses in increasing trade between Victoria, Hong Kong and Greater China. Be sure to mark this event on your calendar as it is expected to be a big sell out event. Further details will be provided closer to the event.

## THE HONG KONG FORUM – DECEMBER 2012

The 13th Hong Kong Forum will be held on 4 - 5 December 2012. There will also be a side trip to mainland China on 6 – 8 December 2012.

The Hong Kong Forum is the annual flagship event of the Federation. It serves as a platform for associates to gather in Hong Kong to:

- Network with experienced market players from around the world;
- Make and maintain the right business contacts to improve your competitiveness;
- Exchange ideas and information with entrepreneurs at the heart of the Hong Kong/China success story;
- Update your China strategy.



## MEMBERSHIP:

### *INTERVIEW WITH MR GREG FLYNN OF FLYNN'S WINE ESTATE*



#### *Tell us about Flynn's Wines*

Flynn's Wines was established from the ground up by Greg & Natala Flynn. We searched through 43 properties in the Heathcote area before deciding on a 75 acre block of land that seemed to fit most of our criteria. Then set about constructing buildings and putting in post, trellising and vines which we did with our own hands.

Our philosophy was to produce boutique wines that were premium and individual, that reflect our vineyard, Heathcote regionality and our own style. We like to control the process from growing the fruit, making the wine, through to selling the finished bottle. To us it's not a job, we live and breath it and love to involve people who are interested in wine and hopefully supply them with the best experience we can.

#### *Why did you sponsor the HKABA Food and Wine Dinner event?*

When sponsoring the event was offered to us by one of our James Flynn Wine Club members, we thought that it was a terrific opportunity to tell the wider business community about what we do. We thought that this would be a great chance to meet like minded people in business and who love food, wine and life experience. Hopefully as many as possible of the HKABA members will be encouraged to visit our vineyard/winery and book in for lunch and a wine tasting. As we think our main competitive advantage is giving guests a great wine experience.



#### *What do you like about the HKABA?*

There are a number of things we like about the HKABA. The committee members we have met are very motivated people, organised and yet easy to deal with. It's also an organisation that allows small boutique businesses the opportunity to network with other often larger companies and explore the possibilities of export. The members are professional and like minded in that they value life experiences of travel, relationships, and good times including food and wine.

#### *Do you have a message for organizations considering joining the HKABA?*

I would encourage other organisations to join the HKABA for many of the reasons I have talked about here. It is a good opportunity to contact directly other people and businesses for networking reasons and have a good time while doing it.

#### **MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2012**

**Corporate Membership: \$400 (including GST and nomination of 3 members from same company same state)**

**Individual membership: \$150 (including GST)**

**Student membership: \$30 (including GST)**

Please note membership renewal can be made electronically via the Association's website [www.hkaba.com.au](http://www.hkaba.com.au)

#### *Gary Wolff; Membership Committee Chair:*

Please contact me at [gary@wolff.net.au](mailto:gary@wolff.net.au) for any membership inquiries.



## HKABA YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GATHERING

The HKABA Victoria Chapter held the first of two annual Young Professional Networking Events on 8 May 2012 at the luxurious Regent Club Spa on 206 Bourke St Melbourne. We were delighted to have more than 50 guests joining us at the event. We were pleased to discover many new faces at the networking event.

The purpose of the event was to provide our up-and-coming professionals the opportunity to build new networks and to discover how HKABA can help them and their businesses in achieving their business and personal objectives.

Emily Pang (General Committee Member) provided her perspective on the importance of business networking, which attendees found very insightful. Toby Fon (Young Professionals Group Chairman) echoed Emily's sentiments and was able to back this up with a success story. In particular, Toby explained that he secured a role with Westpac Bank through contacts developed from participating in HKABA activities and events.

In a relaxing atmosphere, our guests were entertained at the exclusive Regent Club Spa and were treated to finger food and drinks throughout the evening. The Young Professional Networking Event attendees were also treated to a delightful surprise.



Chailie Ho, an up-and-coming fashion designer from Hong Kong, fresh from showcasing her collection at the Mercedes Fashion Show in Sydney, was in attendance. Chailie shared her insights and valuable fashion tips with the group. Some attendees were even lucky enough to snap up limited collection fashion items during the night. The HKABA Victoria Chapter would like to express our appreciation to the HKTDC and the Regent Club Spa for their support in making the first Young Professional Networking Event of 2012 so enjoyable and so successful, and we look forward to another successful event in September when we launch our very popular Speed Networking Event.

Special thanks to HKABA Young Professionals Group Chairman, Mr Toby Fon for his contribution of this article on this special event.





## SPONSORSHIP

We extend our warmest welcome to our sponsors in 2012.

2012 proves to be another exciting year for the Victoria Chapter of the HKABA with many exciting events planned throughout the year and we look forward to your continued support.

Should you be considering a sponsorship opportunity with us, a range of sponsorship packages is available to suit your individual needs. For further details, please contact Gary Cheung on 03 9671 7602 or email: [garcheung@deloitte.com.au](mailto:garcheung@deloitte.com.au)



Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Sydney)



*Jeanswest*



**MOORE STEPHENS**  
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS



## NEWS AND UPDATES

### *Hong Kong Ranked World's Most Competitive Economy*

Hong Kong has been ranked the world's most competitive economy for the second consecutive year according to the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) "World Competitiveness Yearbook" 2012

To read more click on the following link: [http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem\\_\\_92.php](http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__92.php)

### *15th Anniversary Celebrations*

There are a number of events in the pipeline to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

To read more click on the following link: [http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem\\_\\_91.php](http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__91.php)

### *Hong Kong's First Quarter GDP Grows 0.4%*

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government recently released the First Quarter Economic Report 2012, together with the preliminary figures on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the first quarter of 2012.

To read more click on the following link: [http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem\\_\\_90.php](http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__90.php)

### *Foreign Currency Reserves at US\$295.6 Billion*

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced today that the official foreign currency reserve assets of Hong Kong

amounted to US\$295.6 billion as at the end of April 2012 (end March 2012: US\$294.6 billion).

To read more click on the following link: [http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem\\_\\_89.php](http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__89.php)

### *Secretary for Justice welcomes decision of Hague Conference to establish Asia Pacific Regional Office in Hong Kong*

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Wong Yan Lung, SC, today (April 27) warmly welcomed the endorsement by the Council on General Affairs and Policy of the Hague Conference on Private International Law at its meeting from April 17 to 20, 2012 of the establishment of an Asia Pacific Regional Office in Hong Kong.

To read more click on the following link: [http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem\\_\\_87.php](http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__87.php)

### *The Chief Executive has approved Chairmanship of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx)*

The Chief Executive has approved Mr Chow Chung-kong's appointment as Chairman of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx) with immediate effect.

To read more click on the following link: [http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem\\_\\_88.php](http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__88.php)



### *Federal Budget 2012/2013*

We were told that this would be a tough budget, and the Government's mantra has held true. The Treasurer has had the unenviable task of choosing between multiple deserving reforms, while delivering a \$1.5 billion budget surplus in the face of plummeting tax receipts.

In terms of the broader economic narrative, the return to budget surplus is intended to demonstrate the Australian economy's full recovery from the global financial crisis. But the economic data shows the limitations of this recovery. Many industries continue to experience slow growth, and certain regions, such as Victoria, are already growing at below trend rates. The Government's response to this is to structure a budget that is designed to spread the benefits of the resources boom.

To read a summary on the Federal Budget, click on the following link:

<http://moorestephensresources.com.au/articles/664/1/Federal-Budget-201213---Executive-Summary/Page1.html>

### *Draft LAFHA legislation released*

Treasury released the draft legislation in respect of the changes to Living Away From Home Allowances (LAFHA) on 15 May 2012.

To read more click on the following link: <http://moorestephensresources.com.au/articles/677/1/Draft-LAFHA-legislation-released--More-bad-news-little-good-news/Page1.html>