# THE VOIC

Monthly Newsletter for our Australian Alumni Community

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members & Partners,

Happy New Year! Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous Year of the Dragon!

The month of February started off with many opportunities to meet and engage with our members and friends of Australia.

AAS, together with Malaysian Association in Singapore (MASIS) and Kazakhstan Singapore Business Council welcomed the Year of the Dragon with a prosperous feast which was attended by nearly 50 members. It was great opportunity for our members to meet new friends and build new longstanding friendships.

I was kindly invited by Presidents of Curtin University Alumni Singapore Chapter and UniSA Singapore Alumni Chapter to welcome the Year of the Dragon on 22nd February. It was a fun filled evening and was a great opportunity to spend time with the management committee and members.

On 23rd February, I had to opportunity to attend G'day by the Bay 2024: Transitioning to a New Future hosted by the Australian High Commission in Singapore at Gardens by the Bay. The event was attended by prominent leaders and members of Team Australia. H.E. Allaster Cox underlined the strong complementarity between Australia and Singapore as we transition to a new energy future combining Australia's resources capacity and Singapore's capabilities as a global trading, transport, and finance hub.

I also had the opportunity to represent AAS and meet Hon. Andrew Barr MLA, Chief Minister of the ACT and a delegation of businesses and representatives from Canberra who were visiting to strengthen connections between Singapore and Australia's capital city. Chief Minister Andrew Barr is the longest serving incumbent state or territory leader in Australia.

AAS will be hosting our 69th AGM on 27th March 2024 at the Australian High Commissioner's Residence. I would like to request all our members to sign up at the earliest to avoid disappointment.

If you are an Australian alumnus and want to contribute to our diverse and vibrant community as a Management Committee member, please reach out to us at secretariat@aas.org.sg.

Yours Sincerely,

Kaj

Rajaneesh R Kurup #forwardtogether

## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
AHC Update	<u>2</u>
AAS Mentorship Program	<u>4</u>
Partner Updates	<u>7</u>
Upcoming Events	<u>12</u>
Past Events	<u>17</u>
Social Interest Groups	<u>18</u>
Partner Universities' Call-to-Action	<u>19</u>
Membership Discounts	<u>20</u>





ISSUE 36 | FEBRUARY 2024

# AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION

# Meet the Deputy High Commissioner to Singapore!



International Women's Day is celebrated on 8 March each year as a focal point in honouring the achievements of women and promoting women's rights. What better way to celebrate this than to introduce the AAS community to the new Deputy High Commissioner at the Australian High Commission in Singapore — Ms Emily Follett.



Emily joined Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in 2003, following a short stint as a commercial lawyer in Melbourne. She's had diplomatic postings to Laos, Solomon Islands and the United States and, most recently, headed up DFAT's Agriculture Branch in the Office of Global Trade Negotiations. In this role, she contributed to the Singapore-Australia Green Economy Agreement and the bilateral Food Pact. We've been lucky enough to sit down with Emily and ask her a few questions.

#### What does International Women's Day mean to you?

International Women's Day is a time to celebrate the substantial strides toward gender equality in many places around the world and to renew our personal and collective commitment to overcoming those barriers to equality that persist. It is a time to give thanks to those before us who fought for the more equal opportunities that many women can now enjoy. And it is a time to remember that this progress has not reached all women everywhere. Until women and girls, boys and men everywhere enjoy equal opportunities to participate and lead in all aspects of society and all elements of the economy, International Women's Day needs to be more than a celebration. I hope 2024 ignites a greater appreciation of the magnitude of the task ahead and commitment from government, business and community leaders everywhere to creating the structural and social conditions for gender equality.

#### Is there a particular female figure that inspires you in your work?

Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organization is a formidable woman who I deeply admire. She made an impact as WTO Director-General from the very start, at a time when negotiations were fraught, despite only limited prior engagement in the issues on the table (her background is primarily as a development economist for the World Bank and in finance, including as Finance Minister of Nigeria).

Are you following us on social media? Instagram: @australiainsg #GreatMatesAUSG X: @AusHCSG

LinkedIn: Australian High Commission Singapore Facebook: @AustraliaInSingapore

# AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION Meet the Deputy High Commissioner to Singapore!



Ngozi is the first woman (and first African) to lead the WTO. Her career has been purposeful and impactful, helping to improve the lives of millions, perhaps billions, of people. I am going to be a little bit indulgent (and some may say corny!) here but the other woman who absolutely inspires me in my work is Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Penny Wong. Minister Wong is fiercely intelligent, deeply principled, authentic and empathetic. It is a privilege to work under her.

### What advice would you give to women considering pursuing a career in diplomacy?

Go for it! A career in diplomacy is a career of variety and adventure. You will have the opportunity to grapple with complex challenges of real consequence to your fellow citizens and neighbours. You will forge incredible friendships with people from around the world. And you will come to understand yourself, your community and your country even better by stepping outside of your comfort zone and learning how other people and governments view you and yours.

### What main change would you like to see for young girls in the next generation?

I want my daughter and all girls around the world to grow up with genuine opportunities to pursue their dreams, whatever these may be. So many things are needed to enable this an end to violence against women and girls; equal access to education from early childhood through university and vocational pathways; access to healthcare including family planning; equal access to sport and recreation, including professional sporting opportunities; equal pay for equivalent work; acceptance by families, societies and governments of girls and women's choices; men and boys taking opportunities to contribute more to caring and other unpaid work; men and boys actively seeking and taking opportunities to promote women's potential and achievements, particularly in leadership and non-traditional fields; and the list goes on...

Australia has made great strides towards gender equality but, as <u>Prime Minister Albanese</u> <u>highlighted recently</u>, the Australian Government is determined to do better. We can all do better — real and lasting social change requires all of us to play a part: governments, workplaces, individuals, sporting clubs, faith and community groups, educational institutions etc. The Australian Government is committed to advancing gender equality and the rights of women and girls at home, in our region and through broader international engagement.

<u>Click here</u> to find out more and also learn about the development of the new International Gender Equality Strategy.

Are you following us on social media? Instagram: @australiainsg #GreatMatesAUSG X: @AusHCSG

LinkedIn: Australian High Commission Singapore Facebook: @AustraliaInSingapore



The Mentorship Program aims to equip AAS members to meet the challenges in entering or already in workforce and to enhance the networking opportunities for participants.

The program will pair a mentor with a mentee. Each mentor and mentee will commit to participate in the program for at least 4 calendar months from September 2023 -February 2024. Each mentor and mentee should commit to meet at least 1 hour each month. The mode of meetings shall be as agreed between the mentors and mentees.

The mentorship programme will cover 3 areas:

Student Mentorship Programme Professional-Entrepreneurship Mentorship Programme Job Opportunities

#### **MENTEE**

For potential mentees, this is a opportunity for you to connect with a mentor who can offer you insight, advice and help you to navigate the next stage/s of your



### JOB OPPORTUNITY

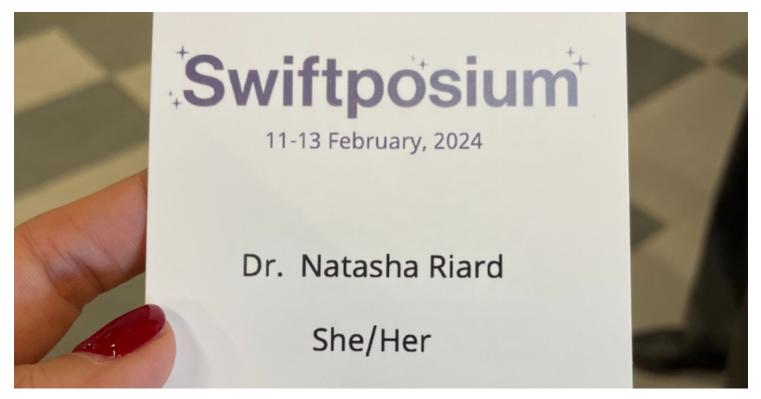
Send us the job posts from your company or details and we will publish it in our newsletters and other channels and distribute to our reach out





Innovative psychology education: Lecturer at James Cook University in Singapore shares about using Taylor Swift lyrics in clinical psychology training





Dr Natasha Riard presents an upcoming research paper about training mental health professionals using Taylor Swift's song lyrics at first-of-its-kind academic conference.

<u>Dr Natasha Riard</u>, Psychology Clinic Manager and Lecturer in Clinical Psychology at James Cook University, Singapore, recently presented at <u>Swiftposium 2024</u> – the first academic conference about American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift – in Melbourne. There, she spoke about an upcoming research paper titled 'Mental Health Pedagogy: The Art and Science of Training Mental Health Workers using Taylor Swift's Lyrics', which showcases her innovative approach to teaching clinical psychology.

Co-written with professor <u>Nigel Marsh</u>, Professor of Clinical Psychology and Director of Professional Programs, the paper discusses the use of Taylor Swift's lyrics in mental health care education and training. It examines how the artist's music, often inspired by real-life experiences and emotions, can be integrated into training for postgraduate clinical psychology interns. The aim is to help the interns become effective therapists using Process-based Therapy (PBT), an approach that focuses on understanding and addressing the underlying processes driving thoughts, emotions, and behaviours.

"Such deeply personal lyrics embody common themes experienced by many people as they move from youth to adulthood.



### Innovative psychology education: Lecturer at James Cook University in Singapore shares about using Taylor Swift lyrics in clinical psychology training



This can help clinical psychology students, and other mental health professionals, better understand their clients' psychological world," explains Dr Riard.

The interns involved in the study completed a placement in the University's psychology clinic, with Swift's lyrics being used in their training. Such training taps on the musical phenomenon's highly relatable emotional narratives to enhance the interns' emotional vocabulary and ability to develop a compassionate understanding of their clients' difficulties and emotions. Additionally, exemplars from her storytelling are used to assist in developing their skills in psychological formulation.

"Youth mental health issues have become a major concern in recent years. The negative impact of social media on mental health has been compounded by the disruption caused when governments took public health measures to protect people during the COVID-19 pandemic. For today's youth, this has meant that the path from child to adult has become more difficult and complex than for many previous generations," says Dr Marsh.

"This innovative approach to training not only equips the clinical psychology interns with a comprehensive and meaningful point of reference for understanding their clients, it also provides them with a model for keeping their practice current and relevant throughout their careers," he adds.

Check out <u>Dr Natasha Riard's</u> and <u>Dr Nigel Marsh's</u> staff profiles.

Paper Presentation Riard, N. & Marsh, N.V. (2024, February 11 – 13). Mental Health Pedagogy: The art and science of training mental health workers using Taylor Swift's lyrics [Paper presentation]. Swiftposium, Melbourne. VIC, Australia.

Find out more about our <u>Psychology courses.</u> Find out more about the <u>JCU Singapore Psychology Clinic</u>. Discover further information on <u>areas of research, and research strength at James Cook</u> <u>University in Singapore.</u>

Contacts Dr Natasha Riard <u>natasha.riard@jcu.edu.au</u> Dr Nigel Marsh <u>nigel.marsh@jcu.edu.au</u> Media: Ms Pinky Sibal <u>pinky.sibal@jcu.edu.au</u> / Ms Hoe Shu Rin <u>shurin.hoe@jcu.edu.sg</u>

# PARTNER UPDATES





JCU Conversations is the premier podcast series of James Cook University, Singapore —bringing to you discussions with successful leaders in the industry (across fields such as business, education, sustainability, and more) while offering a deeper understanding of their personal lives, careers, inspirations, and approaches to success. Join our rotating chair of distinguished hosts as we find out: What makes these bright minds tick?







#### JCU Conversations 22: Yun Yuan Tay

Yun Yuan Tay, Head of Asia Pacific at Skyports, shares how automated vehicles have the potential to revolutionise public transportation with a faster, smoother, and safer journey through the skies.

This episode's host: Professor Jason Pomeroy<u>,</u> Founding Principal of Pomeroy Studio and Pomeroy Academy





# Celebrating 30 years of Academic Excellence

through our school values of Achievement, Opportunity and Respect





2 months -18 years



50+ students & teacher nationalities



World Class Facilities



Multiple Pathways: IBPYP, IGCSE, IBDP and HSC



300+ Co-Curricular Activities



Booking a tour is a great way to experience the world-class AIS campus. Contact us at **admissions@ais.com.sg** or call **6517 0247**. For more information, visit **www.ais.com.sg** 

Australian International School Pte Ltd | CPE Registration Number: 199204405H | Period of registration of PEI: 6 July 2023 to 5 July 2027

# 2022-23 Victorian Food and Fibre Export Performance Summary



According to the just released 2022-23 Victorian Food and Fibre Export Performance Summary, Victoria has maintained its position as Australia's leader in premium food and fibre exports.

The report, reveals exports have grown by 7% from the previous year to reach a record \$19.6 billion in 2022-23.

Some of the key takeaways from the report include:

- Victoria maintained its position as Asutralia's largest food and fibre exporter by value, accounting for 24% of the national total.
- Victoria's food and fibre products are exported to key international markets, dominated by North and Southeast Asia.
- Victoria continues to produce a diverse range of high-quality, safe and sustainable produce that is in demand worldwide.
- Victorian exports continue experiencing a rebound from global supply chain disruption issues due to the pandemic.
- China remains Victoria's highest value market. India is the largest market for Victorian food and fibre exports in South Asia.
- Asia received two-thirds of Victoria's food and fibre exports by value with exports growing by 10% last year.

Read the full report here:





### Addressing Vision Loss in the Ageing Population: A Look at Vietnam



Vision loss is a global concern that has a profound impact on the lives of millions of older people. According to the World Health Organization, there are currently 2.2 billion people worldwide living with vision impairment, and a staggering 1.1 billion of those cases could have been avoided. Among these individuals, older people bear the brunt, with approximately 73% of avoidable vision loss cases occurring in this population group. This amounts to 800 million older people who are affected today. If urgent action is not taken, this number is projected to rise to 1.28 billion by 2050, primarily in low and middle-income countries.

Unfortunately, existing health and social disparities contribute to the disproportionate burden of vision loss faced by older people, especially among older women and disadvantaged groups. Older women, in particular, account for 56% of vision loss cases in the second half of life.

The Fred Hollows Foundation and the International Federation of Ageing have released a new report that emphasizes the need for collaboration between the vision and ageing sectors. The report, titled "Connecting Healthy Ageing and Vision," sheds light on the far-reaching impacts of vision loss on individuals and societies. It underscores the critical role vision plays in healthy ageing and calls for immediate action to prevent the increased risk of mortality, cognitive decline, falls, and depression associated with vision loss. It is crucial to recognize that while many eye conditions become more prevalent with age, blindness is not an inevitable part of ageing.

This new report is very timely now that the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030) is unfolding so that vision is not forgotten in countries' efforts to improve the lives of older people, their families, and communities. It provides an overview of the eye health of older people and the actions needed to ensure that vision is protected and restored in older age. To turn this evidence into practice, The Fred Hollows Foundation is also implementing a series of innovative projects in five different countries, including two in Asia: Vietnam and China.



Vietnam is experiencing an accelerated ageing process compared to most other nations, with projections indicating that over 25% of the population will be aged 60 years or older by 2050. As such, it is crucial for Vietnam to take action to improve the eye health of its growing older population and reap the benefits of increased longevity.

In 2020, Vietnam faced a concerning situation with a cataract surgical rate of only 3,200, falling far below the recommended range of 4,000-5,000 cataract surgeries per one million population annually. The urgency to address this unmet need is further exacerbated by the growing ageing population.



### Addressing Vision Loss in the Ageing Population: A Look at Vietnam



Older people's associations play an important role in community life in Vietnam. The Fred Hollows Foundation and its partners have launched a pilot project in Quang Nam province, located in central Vietnam. This initiative aims to incorporate eye care into the programs of inter-generational self-help clubs, which have a membership rate of 90% among individuals aged 60 years and older in the province. By raising awareness about eye care and improving access to eye care services, including screenings, examinations, provision of glasses, and subsidized treatment, the project aims to benefit the 5,220 club members and other older individuals in the community. By fostering partnerships and cooperation among relevant stakeholders, this project seeks to create a comprehensive approach to protect and restore vision in the ageing population.

Addressing vision loss among older populations requires collaborative efforts from the ageing and eye health sectors. The Fred Hollows Foundation, in partnership with its partners and various stakeholders, is taking the lead in implementing innovative pilot projects like the one in Vietnam. By integrating eye care into existing community structures and fostering collaboration, these initiatives enhance access to eye care services, improve treatment outcomes, and raise awareness about the importance of vision for healthy ageing. Through these collective efforts, we can meet the unmet needs of millions of older people with vision loss, empowering them to lead fulfilling and independent lives. It is imperative that we act now to eliminate avoidable blindness in later life and ensure that current and future generations of older people can fully embrace the benefits of increased longevity.

For more information, you can access the "Connecting Healthy Ageing and Vision" report at <u>https://www.hollows.org/au/latest/healthy-ageing</u> or contact Priyanka Agarwal at The Fred Hollows Foundation at <u>pagarwal@hollows.org</u>

#### Author:

Dr. Vânia de la Fuente-Núñez, a medical doctor and anthropologist, currently works as the Healthy Ageing Senior Advisor at The Fred Hollows Foundation. Previously she worked for the World Health Organization (WHO) for close to a decade, leading WHO's capacity building efforts on healthy ageing, including the development of policies and programs for older people, and innovative learning programs across countries and regions. She also spearheaded WHO's Global Campaign to Combat Ageism, addressing negative attitudes and discrimination against individuals on the basis of their age. Previously, Vânia worked with NGOs and research institutes in high- and low- income countries, including Spain, Senegal, and The Gambia.

Visit our website at www.hollows.org if you are interested to find out more or contact our Regional Philanthropy Lead,

Priyanka Agarwal at <u>pagarwal@hollows.org</u>

# UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH BEACH CLEAN UP by OCEAN PURPOSE PROJECT



# AAS CYCLING INTEREST GROUP MONTHLY MEETUP SATURDAY, 23 MARCH 2024 | 6.30AM SGT

For more information and to Register, please scan the Whatsapp QR Code and join the AAS Cycling Social Interest Group below.



LINK

# AAS 69th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Wednesday, 27 March 2023 | 6.30pm - 9.30pm SGT Residence of Australian High Commissioner 9 White House Park, Singapore 257605



#### Itinerary:

- 6.30pm Registration starts
- 7.00pm Start of AAS 69th Annual General Meeting
- 7.05pm Opening Address by Australian High Commissioner & AAS Patron H.E. Allaster Cox
- 7.10pm Welcome Speech & Annual Report by AAS President, Mr Rajaneesh Kurup
- 7.15pm Financial Report by Hon Treasurer, Mr Michael Aw
- 7.25pm Activities Report by Chair of Events, Ms Maribel Colmenares
- 7.35pm Membership report by Chair of Membership, Ms Dipanti Das
- 7.45pm Election of Management Committee Members and an Auditor
- 8.15pm Discussion on any other business
- 8.45pm End of AAS 69th Annual General Meeting
- 9.00pm Networking and departure from AHC

#### Agenda:

- 1 To receive the Annual Report
- 2 To receive last year's AGM Meeting Minutes
- 3 To receive the Statement of Accounts for the previous financial year
- 4 To elect Management Committee Members and an Auditor

5 - To consider any resolution, motion or proposal that has been properly tabled as part of the agenda for the meeting

6 - To discuss general business for which prior written notice has been received two weeks before AGM in accordance with Article IX(2) of AAS Constitution

# AAS members (Life, Ordinary & authorized representative of Institutions) with Active membership may attend & vote during the meeting.

#### AAS Associate members may also attend but will not be allowed to vote.

At the meeting, members will have the opportunity to:

- find out about Australian Alumni Singapore's operations and finances
- ask questions about the operations and finances of Australian Alumni Singapore
- speak about any items on the agenda
- vote on any resolutions proposed

#### At the meeting, members will be asked to vote to:

- accept the minutes of the last annual general meeting
- accept the annual financial statements
- elect committee members
- appoint an auditor

Please kindly register via <u>Glueup</u> no later than 6pm on Wednesday, 13 March 2024.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Thursday, 14 March 2024



Organised by **RMIT Alumni Singapore (RMITAS)** and co-hosted by **Octave Institute, Forward 2024: Navigating Tomorrow's Landscape** is a thought-leadership event that discusses the rapidly evolving landscape of trends, industries, skills and jobs shaping the future.

To be held on 14 March 2024, this is an excellent opportunity for mid-senior level alumni members to come together and hear from industry experts offering valuable insights on transformative technologies, socio-economic shifts, and latest trends impacting businesses and societies today. From AI and automation revolutionising industries, to diversity and sustainability becoming a cornerstone of corporate strategy, **Forward 2024** highlights the pivotal role of forward-thinking and possibilities in thriving amidst change. **Forward 2024** also serves as a compass for understanding the evolving job market dynamics. Discussions will touch on the impact of technological advancements on employment landscapes, the emergence of new job roles and the evolution of businesses as we navigate the new world.

#### **Exclusive for RMIT Alumni Members**

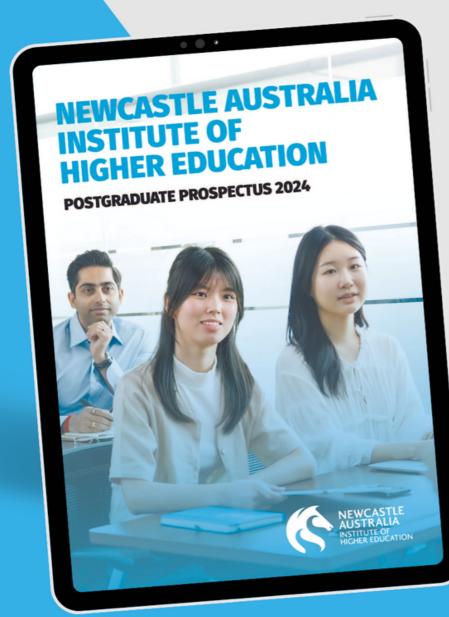
Look forward to a fruitful evening of networking and learning opportunities among fellow RMIT alumni members comprising senior leaders, corporate professionals and industry practitioners. **Forward 2024** aims to inform and educate, and also to inspire actionable steps towards a future that is inclusive, innovative and sustainable.

Register now at <u>https://forward2024.eventbrite.sg/</u> to gain insights in navigating 2024! A wonderful evening awaits you.



A WHOLLY OWNED ENTITY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

# **OUR BROCHURE**





# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT AND POLICY



Advance your career with a healthy dose of practical skills needed to become an effective leader in the health industry.



Scan to apply for May's intake!







#### For more information, visit newcastleaustralia.edu.sg

Main Campus: 100 Victoria Street, #13-01/02, National Library Building, Singapore 188064 230 Victoria Street, #04-09/10, Bugis Junction Towers, Singapore 188024 Tel: +65 6221 3306 | Fax: +65 6221 3307 | Email: Singapore-enquiry@newcastle.edu.au CPE Reg No: 200603214N | Validity: 23/03/2022 - 22/03/2024 CRICOS Provider 00109J | Program Code 40259



# **PAST EVENTS**



Wednesday, 21 February 2024

# AAS Lunar New Year Prosperous Feast





AAS collaborated with MASIS (Malaysian Association in Singapore) and KSBC (Kazakhstan Singapore Business Council) to have a Lunar New Year Hotpot Dinner at Fufu Pot, Plaza Singapura on 21 February.

We enjoyed a Feng Shui session on how to improve the energy of our homes with Master Alex Low, followed by delicious hotpot dinner and happy mingle session with both our old and new friends!



# PAST EVENTS



Friday, 23 February 2024

# Australia's G'day by the Bay 2024



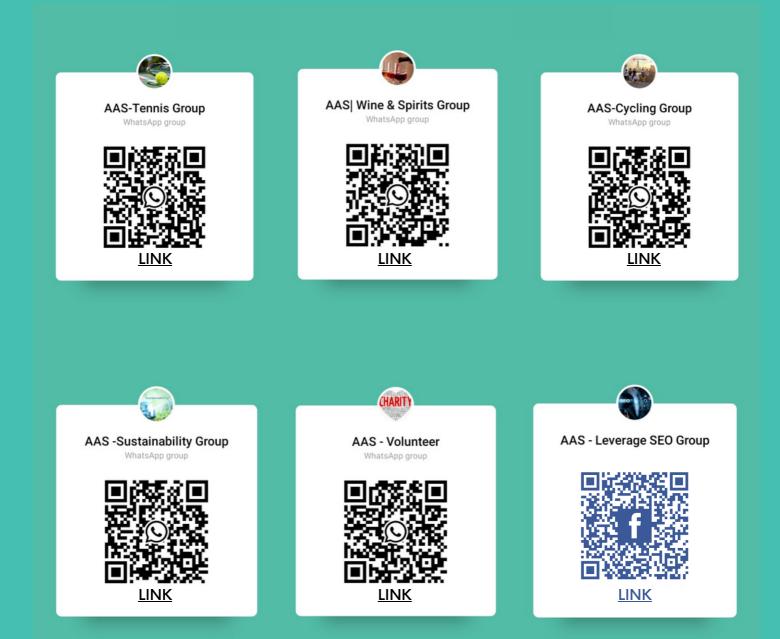
Monday, 26 February 2024

# Meeting with Chief Minister for the Australian Capital Territory, Andrew Barr



# SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS

# Scan or click the link to join & connect with like minded AAS members



If you would like to form and lead an interest group, please feel free to contact <u>secretariat@aas.org.sg</u>



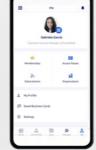
- If you are a new user, register you Glue Up account directly on the app.
  - Otherwise, simply log in to your existing account.
  - Start exploring My Glue app!
  - Check the following 3 slides to understand how you should proceed based on your user status.

### How to get the mobile app?

Download it on







Click <u>HERE</u> to learn more about GlueUp.

# Organisational Resilience in the New Normal



#### THE "NEW NORMAL"

As Governments, businesses and societies begin to adapt to the post-COVID 19 pandemic environment, organisations continue to evolve in a complex operating climate impacting daily operations, assurance to stakeholders and creating a sense of uncertainty. Left unchecked, these may materialise into potential undesirable consequences causing unnecessary disruption or leading to a crisis in their organisation.

Navigating through these complexities require trained and experienced professionals to ensure such threats do not become a reality and if they ever do, organisations must be ready to implement well tested contingency and response plans to recover from and resume critical operations.

It is a proven and well documented fact when organisations that are resilient and equipped to manage risks not only stand a higher chance of survival in their respective competitive fields but emerge stronger and ready to take on potential opportunities left behind by others who are not as well prepared.

Post-pandemic, more businesses, governments and key stakeholders will be requiring a greater adoption of business continuity and crisis management plans and procedures. Is your organisation ready?

#### WHY CLIENTS CHOOSE US

Clients want to partner with us because:

- We simplify resilience and continuity
- We "hand hold" you to develop your resilience plans (some say we do everything for them) at your pace
- We work with organisations of all sizes and maturity phases (i.e., regardless if it's a full programme or to review existing components)
- More importantly, our specialists are field-tested with actual planning, execution and response experience across multiple sectors (yet we don't charge sky high rates)

#### **INFINITY CONTINUITY**

We're an independent organisational resilience consultancy and training practice with a core focus in emergency preparedness, business continuity and crisis management. Established since 2013, our goal is to enable governments and businesses to achieve organisational resilience through customised solutions specific to our clients' needs, goals and strategy

Our services can be broadly categorised (but not limited to) as follows:

- Business Continuity and Crisis Management:
- Resilience and readiness assessment
- Programme and policy development
- Business impact analysis and risk assessment
- Business continuity, emergency response and crisis management plan(s) development
- Training and awareness workshops
- Readiness tests and exercises
- Programme maintenance
- BCM and crisis management audits

Talk to us today at (65) 66796231 or email us <u>Enquiries@infinitycontinuity.com</u>, or simply visit our website at at <u>http://www.infinitycontinuity.com</u> to find out

how we can partner with you!

# LATEST NETWORKING BUSINESS CARD -SUSTAINABLE, VERSATILE AND FEATURE-RICH



### PREMIUM COMBO

Upgrade your account to showcase product photos, video and use NFC to share your business card with 1 tap for only USS13.50 as AAS member! (You save USS4.50!)

#### ENTERPRISE

Manage entire organisation's business cards from a central platform;

Consolidate business cards scanned by your employees and integrate with your company database.

**WhatsApp "AAS"** to +65 97891560 and get 25% discount off Premium & Enterprise plans.

### RADAR, QR, WHATSAPP

Turn on Radar to find contacts you want to network with; You can also share your digital card via QR, WhatsApp, SMS, email or more.

### PERSONAL CRM

Scan your paper cards and organise them on AWS for easy retrieval 24/7.

### SUSTAINABLE

Never worry about running out of business cards and save the environment.



Zapkad is a free digital business card with more features than any other digital cards in the world!





# **Global Talent or General Skilled Migration / Business Migration?**

The Australian Government announced that the planning level for the 2023-24 permanent Migration Program will be set at 190,000 places, with 137,100 places for the *Skill* stream.

On 24 August 2023, the Department of Home Affairs published additional information on how the State and Territory allocations has been distributed. Below is the nomination allocation table, which can also be found on the <u>Home Affairs website</u>.

2023-24 State and Territory nomination allocations			
State	Skilled Nominated (Subclass 190) visa	Skilled Work Regional (Subclass 491) visa	Business Innovation and Investment Program (BIIP)*
ACT	600	600	0
NSW	2,650	1,500	0
NT	250	400	0
QLD	900	650	0
SA	1,100	1,200	0
TAS	600	600	0
VIC	2,700	600	0
WA	1,500	850	0
Total	10,300	6,400	0

#### Subclass 189/190 visas – General Skilled Migration

The State and Territory allocation levels has been reduced back to pre-pandemic levels. Potential applicants can expect a reduction in the number of invitations issued by the state/territory governments, as well as longer waiting time and increased competition.

#### Subclass 188 visas – Business Migration

You will also note that there is no current allocation to any state or territory government for the business innovation and investor visa programme. The Department advised that this is because it has enough applications on-hand to meet the 2023–24 planning level for the BIIP.

#### Subclass 858 – Global Talent Visa

In contrast, Global Talent visa program has been allocated 5,000 places for 2023-24 program year. The GTI program offers direct permanent residency and does not depend on any points system, skilled occupation list, State or Territory nomination.

Although the threshold to be invited to apply for the GTI visa is much higher than that of the GSM program. It may be the only pathway for very senior technical leaders, executives or entrepreneurs in the target sectors who are over 45. With the global talent visa, although the age limit is 55, candidates who can provide strong evidence of actual or potential but realistic extraordinary contribution to Australia may still be granted a global talent visa even if they are over 55.

We have helped highly skilled migrants secure the Global Talent visa who thought they were only eligible for the business skilled migration or employer nominated / general skilled migration programmes.

Whether you are onshore or offshore, <u>get in contact with us</u> to find out if you're eligible for the Global Talent visa pathway and let us help you secure your future in Australia.



AAS Members who engages Ashton Legal for professional immigration services will enjoy Exclusive Discounts.

# AAS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



Enjoy 10% off selected wines on The Cellar with exclusive discount code AAS10



# TEMPUS TWO

# MAKING AUSTRALIAN GINHISTORY





Get ready to achieve the smile of your dreams today! AAS is happy to share this perk we secured for you and your family.

At Invisalign, we believe in the power of a great smile to transform your future, and that's why we use digital technology and innovative experiences to help people move forward in life.

With the Invisalign clear aligner system, we revolutionized the orthodontic

industry, providing patients with a series of clear, custom-made aligners for teeth straightening.

We have, together with our doctor partners, treated over 15 million patients worldwide.

Our partner clinic Q&M is excited to extend their services to AAS members and their families at selected clinics!

- You can enjoy an oral check-up, including scaling polishing, iTero intra-oral scan, 1 X-Ray and assessment for just \$108.
- You will also benefit from Invisalign package starting at just \$3,800 including a whitening kit!



Don't wait any longer - **register now through the QR code on the poster** and take advantage of this amazing opportunity. Your family members can enjoy it too, so spread the word and let's achieve those dream smiles together!

### LET'S GET THOSE SMILES SHINING!

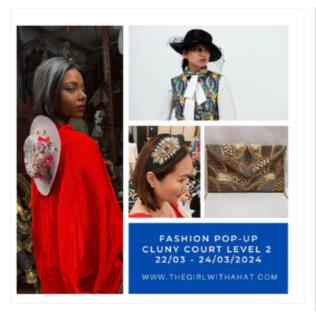


<u>https://thegirlwithahat.com/</u>

<u> https://www.facebook.com/the</u> <u>girlwithahat</u>



<u>https://www.instagram.com/the</u>



22 to 24 March 2024 Fashion Pop Up at Cluny Court -Level 2

Welcome to our refreshing Fashion Pop Up

- Fri- 10:00AM to 07:00PM
- Sat- 10:00AM to 07:00PM
- Sun- 10:00AM to 05:30PM

# 26 to 28 April 2024 BOUTIQUE FAIRS - F1 Pit Building

Boutique Fairs Singapore: The Spring Summer 2024 Edition Information Location : 1 Republic Blvd, Singapore 038975

This events are highly anticipated among both local shoppers and international tourists as the BFS community works hard to launch exclusive collections at Boutiques. We will be glad to welcome you at our booth shared with the talented Jenny Ragnwaldh Couture





Exclusive Offer for Australian Alumni Singapore members

You face tells a story. Make it a beautiful one.

# 20% OFF

All Ala Carte Services

Scar Reduction Photodynamic Back Treatment from**\$130-270**  Renaza Signature Facial **\$180**  OxyGeneo+ 3 in 1 Facial *with* Tripollar **\$630** 

renaza



# renaza

Your Ultimate One-Stop Beauty Destination



#### T&Cs:

- This offer is available exclusively to Australian Alumni Singapore members only
- 20% discount is applicable for all ala carte prices on the service menu.
- Prior appointment is required to enjoy the discounts.
- During online or phone bookings, please use the code "AAS members" to unlock your privileges.
- Payment is due at the time of service.
- This offer cannot be combined with any other ongoing promotions, discounts, or vouchers.

#### Outlets:

#05-08 The Heeren (Facial & Nails) | © 8182 5811

#B2-23 Marina Bay Link Mall (Facial) (Sala) 9522



www.renaza.com



Diamond professionals specializing in engagement rings, wedding bands, jewellery restoration, and ready-made diamond and gemstone jewellery.



# **OUR PROMISE**

- Upgrade/exchange policy of diamond bought from us with certificates only from 0.30ct - 2.99ct
- At any time, return your diamond bought from us and receive 80% cash back. (after deduction of GST)
- 1st upgrade receive 100% of your original purchase price and just pay the difference.

FOLLOW, LIKE & SHARE

OC @ DEROCKSSG

# VISIT US & ENQUIRE NOW

WWW.DEROCKS.COM.SG INFO@DEROCKS.COM.SG

# 5% OFF THIRSTY.COM.SG, THE LATEST BENEFIT FOR AAS MEMBERS!



YOU CAN NOW GET 5% OFF ALL YOUR PURCHASES FROM OUR PARTNER, <u>THIRSTY.COM.SG</u>

VISIT THE LINK <u>HTTPS://WWW.THIRSTY.COM.SG/AAS</u> OR USE THE CODE "AAS" AT CHECKOUT TO GET THE 5% DISCOUNT BENEFIT!



in







