

THE VOICE

Monthly Newsletter for our Australian Alumni Community

ISSUE 64 | JUNE 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Partners,

Welcome to the June Newsletter.

Also, a big welcome to Singapore to our new Patron, Australian High Commission, **H.E. Robyn Mudie**. She arrived in Singapore at the beginning of May, following H.E. Allaster Cox's departure at the end of April. She is a very experienced diplomat having been the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam and the High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and Maldives. She is a proud graduate of the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and also has a Graduate Diploma in Foreign Affairs and Trade from ANU.

On 8th June, along with some my AAS Management Committee team, I was proud to present ourselves to Ms Mudie at the High Commission. To check out our Patron's profile, please take a look inside this month's Newsletter.

Events

This month, in partnership with our Term Sponsors, CPA Australia and Odin Tax & Mortgage, we held an Australian Tax Update Night, focusing on the recent Federal Budget 2026, at CPA's office. It included dinner and most importantly, some timely Australian tax advice.

Our Business Council held two luncheons this month. The first of these luncheon was hosted by Tribeca at Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee's office. H.E. Mudie took the opportunity to attend as our special guest, marking her first official event with us. The second luncheon hosted by Cushman & Wakefield also had some special guests, including the Ambassadors from Japan, Türkiye and Indonesia.

Upcoming Events

If you are interested in the inner workings of the Singapore Government, AAS and REACH are organising a lunchtime **tour of Parliament House** on 15th July. The highlight of the tour will be a fireside chat with Speaker of Parliament, Mr Seah Kian Peng, a UNSW alumnus. Spots are limited and are exclusively for AAS members that are Singaporeans. Please check that out and sign up.

Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Er

Andrew Er
#forwardtogether



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Meet Australia's New High Commissioner to Singapore: H.E. Robyn Mudie



1. We understand that you attended the University of Adelaide (now known as Adelaide University). Tell us about what you studied there and a little about your experience?

I graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts, Honours. I focused my studies on the history and politics of Southeast Asia and developed a particular interest in Vietnam, something that stayed with me as I moved into my career with Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Looking back, my time at the University of Adelaide was a formative period in my life. It opened my eyes to the importance of Southeast Asia to Australia's place in the world. It also gave me an early introduction to foreign policy, and sparked my interest in a career in diplomacy. That curiosity later led me to pursue a Master of Southeast Asian Studies from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom, where I further deepened my understanding of our region.

The journey from studying Southeast Asia to representing Australia in the region has come full circle with my appointment as Australian High Commissioner to Singapore.

I was delighted to learn that two fellow University of Adelaide alumni, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam and Mr Ong Teng Cheong, have served as President of Singapore.

2. You have been in the diplomatic corps for some years and have also been stationed in Southeast Asia. Tell us about your experience?

I joined DFAT in 1990, over 36 years ago. During my long career I have been posted to six different locations around the world, beginning with Hanoi in 1993, and moving on to two postings at Australia's missions to the United Nations in New York and Geneva, where I gained valuable experience in multilateral diplomacy. I was then posted as High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and Maldives, broadening my knowledge of the Indo-Pacific region, before returning to Vietnam as Ambassador from 2019-2022, and now coming to Singapore.

The world has changed dramatically during my diplomatic career, but the importance of our region to Australia has not. Australia's security and prosperity are intrinsically linked to Southeast Asia. Our connections with countries in the region, including Singapore, go beyond geography. We have enduring ties across family, business, education, tourism and more. Our close education ties, built over many decades, play a vital role, helping to build connections and understanding between people and communities. They reinforce how closely our prosperity, security, and futures are intertwined.

I have been fortunate to work on many aspects of Australia's engagement with Southeast Asia. This has included supporting Australia's role as ASEAN's oldest Dialogue Partner, and one



of the first Comprehensive Strategic Partners, strengthening trade and investment, and more recently working with regional partners on sustainable development and the region's climate transition.

I was very fortunate to learn Vietnamese prior to my first posting, a skill I have retained ever since. My language skills deepened my understanding of Vietnam, and laid the basis for strong and lasting relationships there, but they have also demonstrated my commitment to understanding and working with regional partners more broadly, including during my two UN postings, and more recently when I was managing Australia's relationships with the Mekong. There is no doubt in my mind that regional language skills are a vital part of Australia's diplomacy.

3. What have you enjoyed most about your job as a High Commissioner?

My interest in Southeast Asia began early, through a scholarship exchange to Thailand immediately after I had finished school. This sparked my first interest in Southeast Asia and eventually drew me to Vietnam and a career in DFAT. By the end of my first posting to Hanoi, I was thoroughly hooked to life as a diplomat.

Now, as High Commissioner to Singapore, I feel very privileged to represent Australia at an important time in our relationship. Presenting my credentials in May 2026 was a special milestone, and I am particularly honoured to be the first woman in this role since 1990.

A key focus of my work will be to advance our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership 2.0 (CSP2.0). At its heart, diplomacy is about what drew me to this profession in the first place - working with people and building connections. I look forward to working with our partners in Singapore to take forward CSP 2.0.



4. I know this is not your first time here, but what are your impressions of Singapore this time around? What are a couple of fun facts about you?

Singapore is a remarkable country. When I am not working or attending events, I have enjoyed visiting local landmarks such as the Maxwell Food

Centre, Tekka Centre and the Singapore Botanic Gardens, while also attending events such as the Australian Food Fair at Cold Storage.

Like many newcomers to Singapore, I have embraced local favourites, including chicken rice and kaya toast, as part of getting to know the country and its culture. As a long-time student of Southeast Asian history, I have also explored local museums, exhibitions and historical sites that offer deeper insight into Singapore's remarkable journey from independence to present day and future ambitions.

I have enjoyed doing all this with my family. I have two sons, one of whom is here with me in Singapore before beginning university studies in Australia next year. I am pleased my husband, Jon, and our adorable Jack Russell Terrier, Tuppence, have joined me for this latest chapter abroad.



5. What initial message would you like to send to our members?

I would like to reiterate the importance of education as a practical and proven way to reduce disadvantage and support sustained economic growth.

Higher education is Australia's fourth-largest export, valued at \$54 billion in 2024. Australia is proud of the contribution our institutions have made to the development of this region, which is so important to Australia's future.

But beyond the statistics, it is ultimately about individual experiences. Each of you decided to gain an Aussie education and, in doing so, became part of the connection between our two countries. Your experiences and networks continue to strengthen that link in meaningful ways.

Australia values the role we have played, even in a small way, in your journeys. I look forward to meeting many of you at future AAS events and would like to take this opportunity to thank AAS for the work they do in maintaining the connections between Australia and Singapore.

KHIN ZARNI KO KO MURDOCH UNIVERSITY



KHIN ZARNI KO KO, ALUMNA OF MURDOCH UNIVERSITY, GRADUATED IN 2019 WITH A DEGREE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT. WITH AN ACADEMIC FOUNDATION THAT ALSO INCLUDES HEALTH SCIENCES, KHIN HAS BUILT A MULTIFACETED CAREER IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY—BEGINNING IN CLINICAL PRACTICE BEFORE MOVING INTO CORPORATE HEALTHCARE, WHERE SHE NOW LEADS EDUCATIONAL AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR MEDICAL INNOVATIONS IN SINGAPORE.



OUTSIDE OF HER CORPORATE CAREER, KHIN IS WELL-KNOWN FOR HER WORK IN FASHION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH. CROWNED MISS MYANMAR EARLIER IN HER JOURNEY, SHE HAS GRACED RUNWAYS ACROSS ASIA AND CONTINUES TO USE FASHION AS A PLATFORM FOR ADVOCACY. HER VOLUNTEER WORK INCLUDES GROOMING AND RUNWAY COACHING FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS THROUGH SINGAPORE FASHION RUNWAY, AS WELL AS ORGANIZING WELLNESS AND BEAUTY SESSIONS FOR CANCER PATIENTS UNDER THE “BEAUTY FOR A CAUSE” INITIATIVE—RAISING FUNDS AND AWARENESS FOR BREAST CANCER.



KHIN IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE ASEAN FASHION DESIGNERS SHOWCASE (AFDS), WHERE SHE SERVES AS A LEAD MODEL AND ADVOCATES FOR SUSTAINABLE FASHION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE . THROUGH HER EFFORTS, SHE HAS PROUDLY REPRESENTED SINGAPORE AND ASEAN ON BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PLATFORMS, USING FASHION AS A BRIDGE TO FOSTER INCLUSIVITY, CREATIVITY, AND COLLABORATION.

- SHE IS STEPPING TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF SPONSORSHIP AT THE AUSTRALIAN ALUMNI SINGAPORE, TO BUILD MEANINGFUL PARTNERSHIPS THAT CREATE VALUE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY.

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SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT,
SINGAPORE



15 July 2026, Wednesday



12.00pm to 2.00pm

*Registration for the tour starts at 11.45am.
Lunch is provided.*



The Parliament House

1 Parliament Pl, Singapore 178880

REGISTER AT: go.gov.sg/reach-aas-parl-2026

Registration closes by **3 July 2026, Friday.**



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18th July 2026 (Saturday)
10am – 2pm
(Registration from 9.30am)



Level 13, PLQ 3
2 Tanjong Katong Road
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THAT MATTER

KEY TOPICS. EXPERT INSIGHTS. PRACTICAL TAKEAWAYS.

Distribution Framework

- **Distributing** estate intentionally
- Planning framework
- Choice of distribution

Legal Perspectives

- **Protecting** estate legally
- Estate dispute risks
- Common pitfalls

Financial Strategies

- **Optimising** estate financially
- Legacy instruments
- Insurance structuring

Investment Stewardship

- **Growing** estate sustainably
- Wealth diversification
- Portfolio resilience

Philanthropy and Giving

- **Giving** estate purposefully
- Charitable planning
- Impact creation



Jason Thian
Managing Director
Credence Legacy



Richard Siaw
Managing Director
R. S. Solomon LLC



Emily Zhang
Senior Manager
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Darius Foo
Senior Director
Lion Global Investors



Ivan Chin
CEO
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Saturday, 29 August 2026 | Marina Bay Sands Event Plaza

Save the Date!

Be part of the Heartstrings Walk 2026 at Marina Bay Sands, where volunteers, corporates, and community members come together for a meaningful day of walking, climbing, and creating positive change.

Heartstrings Walk

(Non-competitive community walk)

Flag-off time: 7.00pm

Corporate Registration Fee:

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Enjoy the sunset beauty of Marina Bay on a leisurely walk that celebrates community spirit. Stroll with colleagues, friends and family meaningfully along Singapore's stunning waterfront, where every step strengthens bonds and makes a difference to the communities in need.

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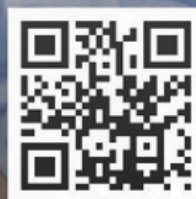


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Study: Brief mindfulness meditation increases risk-taking behaviour



A new study has found that brief mindfulness-based meditation can increase risk-taking behaviour, challenging the common assumption that mindfulness primarily encourages caution and restraint. The researchers also share how this finding can affect decision-making across different groups, such as first responders, healthcare workers, finance professionals and clinical populations.

calculus by which people weigh risk against reward,” explained lead researcher [Associate Professor Lucy Tan](#), Associate Professor in Clinical Psychology at JCU in Singapore.

“The findings challenge the common perception of mindfulness as purely calming or caution-inducing, suggesting instead that it may shift how people perceive and respond to risk,” she added.

Testing how mindfulness shapes risk-taking

The researchers conducted two experiments involving 300 participants each from the United Kingdom (UK) and Singapore.¹ Across both experiments, participants who completed the mindfulness meditation consistently took greater risks than those in the control groups.

To understand why this happened, the researchers applied computational modelling to analyse how participants made decisions during the tasks. They found that mindfulness specifically changed how strongly they reacted to potential negative outcomes, instead of altering how participants learned from feedback or estimated risk.

The analysis revealed that mindfulness primarily reduced Loss Aversion – a psychological tendency where people weigh potential losses more heavily than equivalent gains. For example, someone would rather have a guaranteed win of \$50 than gamble for a potential gain of \$100, due to the greater fear of losing.

“In other words, participants who underwent mindfulness meditation became less emotionally affected by the possibility of losing, making them more willing to continue taking risks,” explained Associate Professor Tan.

Who these findings can impact

The findings highlight the complex ways mindfulness can influence cognition and behaviour. For example, rather than simply making people calmer or less impulsive, mindfulness may also alter how individuals evaluate uncertain situations and balance risks against rewards.

“That’s not to say that reduced loss aversion is always negative,” clarified Associate Professor Tan. “In some situations – such as investing, entrepreneurship or high-pressure decision-making – being less emotionally reactive to setbacks could support more objective choices.”

She noted that the findings may be particularly relevant for professionals whose work involves making high-stakes decisions under pressure, such as investors, traders, surgeons, pilots and first responders; as well as individuals with certain psychiatric conditions.

“The first group that comes to mind is **anyone who manages money for a living** – investors, traders, fund managers. Loss aversion is already well-known as one of the messiest cognitive biases in financial decision-making, and this paper shows that even a single five-minute meditation can chip away at it. That’s not a small thing. Someone who meditates regularly before making portfolio decisions may be operating with a consistently different risk threshold without ever realising it.”

Dr Tan also shared about **high-stakes professionals** such as surgeons, pilots, first-responders. “These are people who already operate under enormous pressure, and where a certain kind of over-caution can be the dangerous thing. In these situations, reduced loss aversion isn’t obviously bad. It might actually be the edge that keeps them decisive when it counts,” she said.

Most research suggests that mindfulness (the practice of paying attention to the present moment with awareness and without judgment) helps people become calmer, more self-aware, and less impulsive. However, a recent study found that mindfulness can actually increase one’s propensity for risk-taking – in the short term.

The study, titled [Brief mindfulness meditation increases risk-taking behaviour](#), found that even a brief five-minute mindfulness meditation session can influence how people make decisions under uncertainty.

“The key lies in how mindfulness affects loss aversion – a deeply ingrained psychological tendency where people fear potential losses far more than they value equivalent gains. By cultivating present-moment awareness and a non-judgmental stance toward experience, mindfulness appears to reduce the emotional weight people assign to negative outcomes. As a result, practitioners become less reactive to the prospect of losing, lowering the psychological barrier to risk-taking. Rather than simply calming the mind, mindfulness reshapes the very

Study: Brief mindfulness meditation increases risk-taking behaviour

The findings may also raise important considerations for **clinical groups**. Conditions such as ADHD, addiction and borderline personality disorder are already closely linked to impulsivity and risk-taking, and mindfulness-based interventions are commonly used in therapeutic settings.

"It doesn't mean mindfulness is wrong for these patients," said Associate Professor Tan. "But it probably means we can't keep treating it as a one-size intervention without asking sharper questions about what it's doing."

Associate Professor Tan also raised the importance of better understanding the cognitive effects of mindfulness practices, especially as brief meditation exercises become increasingly common in workplaces, schools and digital wellness platforms.

Why these findings matter

"Most people – individuals, organisations, governments – are using mindfulness as if its effects are well understood, and they're not," said Associate Professor Tan.

"For healthcare workers and mental health professionals, what's valuable here is not just the finding itself, but understanding the mechanism behind it," she added. "The computational modelling showed that mindfulness specifically reduced loss aversion. It opens up more targeted questions about which patients may benefit most, in which contexts, and towards which outcomes."

"And for organisations and governments, the stakes are arguably the highest – because scale amplifies everything. Workplace mindfulness programmes, national wellbeing campaigns, meditation apps with tens of millions of users – the fact that this effect held across both UK and Singaporean samples suggests it's not culturally specific. That's a lot of people quietly having their relationship to loss and risk reshaped, often with no awareness that this is happening. That's exactly why research like this needs to move out of academic journals and into the rooms where these programmes are being designed and funded," she added.

The researchers hope future studies will explore whether different types of mindfulness practices produce similar effects, how long these behavioural changes last, and how mindfulness influences risk-taking in real-world settings beyond laboratory tasks.

About the Experiments

The researchers conducted two experiments involving 300 participants each from the United Kingdom (UK) and Singapore. In both studies, participants first completed one of three five-minute activities:

- a guided mindfulness meditation focused on breathing,
- a control exercise encouraging participants to immerse themselves in their thoughts and emotions,
- or a puzzle task.

Participants then completed established behavioural risk-taking tasks designed to simulate decisions involving uncertain rewards and potential losses.

In the first experiment, conducted online with participants in the UK, researchers used the Balloon Analogue Risk Task. Participants inflated virtual balloons to earn money, with each pump increasing both the reward and the risk of the balloon exploding and wiping out their earnings for that round.

The second experiment, conducted in person in Singapore, used the Bomb Risk Elicitation Task, where participants selected boxes containing rewards while trying to avoid a hidden "bomb" that would erase their winnings.

PAPER

Tan, L.B.G., Golubickis, M. & Macrae, C.N. Brief mindfulness meditation increases risk-taking behavior. *Sci Rep* 16, 6760 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-026-37597-6>

Check out Associate Professor Lucy Tan's staff and research profiles [here](#).

Find out more about our [Psychology courses](#).

Discover further information on [areas of research, and research strength at James Cook University in Singapore](#).

Find out more about the [Singapore campus of James Cook University](#).

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Media: Ms Pinky Sibal pinky.sibal@jcu.edu.au / Ms Hoe Shu Rin shurin.hoe@jcu.edu.au



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?

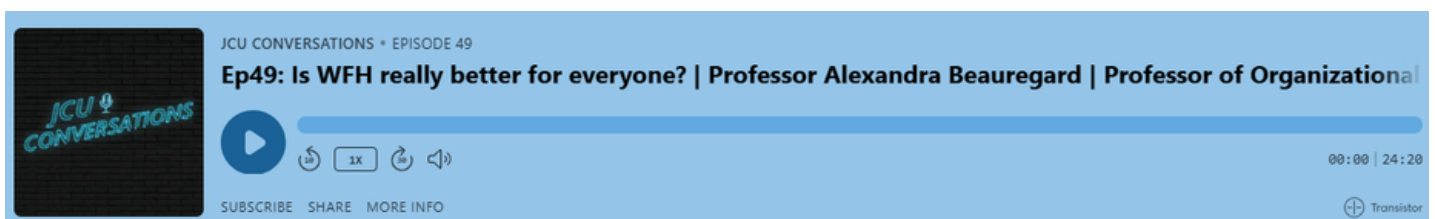
Latest ▾



JCU Conversations 49: Alexandra Beauregard

Hybrid work is reshaping how organisations design jobs, manage performance, and support employee well-being. But while flexible work brings along advantages, it also raises important questions about boundaries, isolation, and what effective work arrangements really look like in practice. Join Professor Alexandra Beauregard, Professor of Organizational Psychology at Birkbeck, University of London, as she shares about the evolving nature of work.

This episode's host: Professor Eddy Ng, the Smith Professor of Equity and Inclusion in Business at Queen's University and Visiting Professor at James Cook University.





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- If you have mentoring experience, please share more with us at point of application
- If you have no mentoring experience, please complete a foundational mentoring programme such as Mentoring 101 by [MentoringSG](#), and share with us at point of application
- Beyond your mentorship guidance, JCU students are also supported through Employability Support Services; Career Advisor; Career Talk; **Employability Workshops**; Resume; Interview Skills; Job Search Techniques; Industry Relevant Soft Skills; **Internships**; **Mentorship Matters**; Employment Support Services; Career Fairs; **Career Portal**; Recruitment Drives

AAS and JCU has formed a partnership to this esteemed value-added program. For Australian Alumni Singapore members, please register your interest through [Australian Alumni Singapore](#) via this [form](#). You can also scan the QR Code below to register



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TrustCapital Advisors Investment Management Pte Ltd is a private equity real estate firm founded in Singapore in 2009 with a Capital Markets Services License from the Monetary Authority of Singapore. The firm has completed over AUD 4.0 billion in transactions and has investment entities established in Australia, Malaysia and Singapore.

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July 2026

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LEAD WITH CONFIDENCE WITH OUR MONTHLY SERIES

2 July | Thursday

Public Practice Development Program: Going Concern in an Era of Geopolitical Uncertainty

16 July | Thursday

Personal Effectiveness and Leadership Series: Strategic Rapport Building for Business Leaders

21 July | Tuesday

Dinner Talk Series: Divergence in a Two-Speed World – Global FX Repricing



STRENGTHEN TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

29 July | Wednesday

Accounting for Cryptocurrency

30 July | Thursday

Impairment of Assets

Understanding Variable Capital Company (VCC) on Accounting, Tax and Compliance

GET FUTURE READY WITH DATA

Certificate in Data Analytics and Business Intelligence (using Excel and Power BI)

26-31 July | 2.00pm – 5.30pm | 14 CPD hours

Rather than using worksheets and formulae in cells that are the foundation of traditional Excel, the course uses Power Query, Power Pivot and DAX which are the same enterprise level tools (in Excel) as used in Power BI desktop. You will learn to easily adapt what you practiced in Excel to working in Power BI.



JUNE 2026

SPOTLIGHT



Cert No. : EDU-3-3226
Validity : 12/06/2026 - 11/06/2027



WE ARE EDUTRUST CERTIFIED!

A new milestone worth celebrating – Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education has been awarded the **EduTrust Provisional Certification**.

The EduTrust Certification Scheme, administered by SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG), serves as a mark of quality for Private Education Institutions in Singapore. Achieving this certification reflects our commitment to strong governance, student protection, and the continuous enhancement of our academic and operational standards.

We thank our staff, students, and partners for being part of this journey and look forward to continuing to provide a high-quality Australian education experience in Singapore.



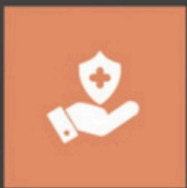
5 MASTER'S PROGRAMS (PART-TIME/HYBRID):



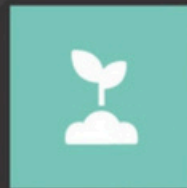
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MUAS VOLUNTEERS: MILK & DIAPERS PROGRAMME

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) Singapore supports over 3,700 Friends-in-Need, regardless of race, nationality or religion. In partnership with SSVP Singapore again in 2026, MUAS volunteers will be assisting in packing milk and diapers supplies for the Milk and Diapers Programme next month.



For those who'd like to contribute funds for this cause, you may refer to the details below:



A Gift Today. A Life Changed Forever.



<https://ssvpltd.org/milk-diapers-programme>

6801 7480 donate@ssvpltd.org



SSVP Ltd.

Affiliate of
Society of St Vincent de Paul
(National Council of Singapore)



AAS Business Council Luncheon Series

10 Jun 2026 | hosted by Tribeca at Hogan Lovells office



It was a great fortune for the Business Council that our Patron H.E. Robyn Mudie, attended the luncheon hosted by Tribeca at the Hogan Lovells office in OUE Bayfront. Ms Mudie was welcomed and introduced by our President, Mr Andrew Er and Council of Advisor member, Phil Forrest AM. The session included presentations from Tribeca's Mr Scott Clements and Mr Susanta Mazumdar. Also attending the lunch was the new Senior Trade Commissioner, Ms Amelia Walsh.

AAS Business Council Luncheon Series

25 Jun 2026 | Cushman & Wakefield



SUPPORTING OUR PARTNERS: ODIN X CPA X AAS EVENT

15 JUNE AT CPA AUSTRALIA'S OFFICE IN RAFFLES PLACE



LATEST NEWS

On 12 May at 7:30pm, the Australian Treasurer Jim Chalmers announced one of the most consequential budgets in recent years. AAS, CPAA and Odin Tax & Mortgage hosted our tax update, focusing on some of the budget's most important elements and potential impacts. Mr Pau Lam from Odin, expertly reviewed the most relevant announcements and responded to some very intelligent tax questions. The Alumni members had a great meal and a chance to network with each other after the presentation.



University of Tasmania Singapore Alumni Event & Night Safari: Celebrating Community, Conservation and Global Impact

More than 70 University of Tasmania alumni and friends gathered on 7 June 2026 for a truly memorable evening at the Singapore Zoo's Forest Lodge - a setting that brought together the vibrancy of Singapore, the spirit of Tasmania, and the shared pride of a global alumni community.

Rebecca Cuthill, Director, Advancement, opened the evening and reflected on the strength of the Singapore alumni network and the deep sense of connection that continues long after graduation.

The event offered something special: the chance to reconnect with fellow graduates while experiencing the world-renowned Night Safari and, uniquely, to hear about Tasmania's iconic Tasmanian devils.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Rufus Black delivered a keynote that grounded the evening in purpose, acknowledging the challenging period universities globally have faced. He noted that while Australian universities have not been immune, UTAS has emerged, "in great shape, adapted now to do really well in this changed context" and well aligned with a new era of higher education that values institutions serving diverse communities and delivering real-world impact.

Professor Black highlighted the University's mission-driven strategy, focused on helping Tasmania and the world navigate major transitions in climate, sustainability, health, education and productivity. He shared that UTAS is officially the tertiary sector's world-leader in tackling climate action, with the prestigious [Times Higher Education \(THE\) Impact Rankings](#) rating the university as number one in climate action globally for 2025 – for the fourth year in a row. He added that this year's rankings added another accolade to the University's outstanding record on sustainability – it is also first in the world in the Life on Land category.



University of Tasmania Singapore Alumni Event & Night Safari: Celebrating Community, Conservation and Global Impact

He then offered a glimpse into some of the University's most compelling work:

- Saving species: from the red handfish and maugean skate to giant kelp forests, and of course the Tasmanian devil, the star of the evening.
- Improving global health: including the Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre's MOOCs, which have reached more than 750,000 learners worldwide.
- Advancing medical research: including collaborations with Singapore's Genome Institute on Multiple Sclerosis.
- Shaping healthy, resilient places: through Antarctic and Southern Ocean research that informs global climate modelling and coastal planning.
- Creating award-winning learning environments: such as The Forest in Hobart, which won a World Architecture Festival Award in Singapore even before completion.

His message was clear: UTAS is a university with purpose, momentum and global reach and alumni are central to that story.

The evening then turned to one of UTAS's most distinctive areas of global impact: wildlife immunology.

Associate Professor Andy Flies, Principal Research Fellow at the Menzies Institute for Medical Research, shared insights into his internationally recognised work on Devil Facial Tumour Disease. His research, which combines immunology, ecology and conservation science, is helping build a resilient, self-sustaining wild devil population.

A lively Q&A followed, with alumni eager to learn more about the future of the species and the breakthroughs giving researchers hope.

The presence of Dr Shangzhe Xie, Vice President of Veterinary Healthcare and Scientific Programmes at Mandai Wildlife Group, underscored the strong alignment between Mandai's mission and UTAS's research leadership – a partnership grounded in science, education and shared responsibility for vulnerable species.

As the formalities concluded, guests gathered for the Night Safari experience. The trail journey offered a rare opportunity to see nocturnal species in their element, with Associate Professor Flies and Dr Xie on hand to continue conversations and answer questions.

The evening closed with warm thanks to the UTAS Singapore Alumni Network Leaders Richard Ngo and Noel Ng, whose dedication make events like this possible.



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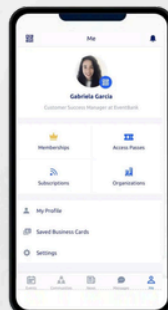
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Partnership Manager – Australia (Sydney)

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- Business development and key accounts
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- Local brand growth and market expansion
- In-market representation for ThunderWear Asia

This role is ideal for someone entrepreneurial, commercially driven and highly proactive.

Location: Sydney, Australia

Employment: Full-Time

Reports To: Singapore HQ

Compensation: SGD \$5,000/month + bonuses + commissions

What We're Looking For

- 4–6 years in sales, partnerships, retail or business development
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- Comfortable operating independently in a fast-growth environment

Bonus if you have:

- Australian retail/lifestyle network
 - Experience with activations or consumer brands
 - Fashion, lifestyle or wellness exposure
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