



**LES CLEFS D'OR**



Les Clefs d'Or members at the Annual General Meeting. Image courtesy of Mark Peyton.

# LES CLEFS D'OR

The International Concierge Association

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Members of Les Clefs d'Or gathered in Sydney in July for the Annual General Meeting, which for the first time, coincided with the Sydney Concierge Ball. At the main AGM meeting Elvis Soiza of the Sofitel Brisbane Central, Michael Anderson of The Observatory Hotel and Steve Ciric of The Westin Melbourne were re-elected as President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

The educational component of the weekend included the Les Clefs d'Or workshop, which is always an invaluable forum for members to increase their knowledge and skills. It's also a great opportunity for exchanging new ideas and concepts, and this proved to be the case once again.

On Sunday morning the Les Clefs d'Or fraternity reconvened at the invitation of Tony Hutton, WHERE Magazine, Brunel Chauffeur Drive and Sports Car Rentals Online for brunch in the iconic surrounds of Taronga Zoo. Sitting in the pagoda overlooking Sydney Harbour was the perfect way to cap off a very enjoyable weekend.

**SYDNEY CONCIERGE BALL**

The ballroom of the Four Seasons Hotel was transformed into a winter wonderland and guests were dressed to the nines when the Les Clefs d'Or Concierge Ball made a triumphant return to the Sydney social calendar last month.

The glittering event, held on 18 July, attracted over 400 guests including our entire national membership who had flown in the day prior for the Les Clefs d'Or Annual General Meeting. It was the first time our yearly meeting had been held in conjunction with the Ball and it gave our interstate visitors a first hand look at our night of nights. With annual Concierge Balls now also held in Brisbane and Melbourne we had a number of interested observers taking in the spectacle, no doubt assessing its potential for their own events later in the year.

Our Master of Ceremonies, Honorary International Member Paul Highams thanked the many sponsors involved and noted the generous support we received in staging the Ball. The value of the lucky door prizes alone exceeded

\$15,000 this year, a strong indication of how highly the industry regards the event. Ticket sales for the charity raffle also reached new heights with over \$7,000 raised for the good people of St Anthony's Family Care.

In a keenly contested field, Helen Fraser of Ultimately Sydney, took home the best-dressed ladies prize and resident Four Seasons concierge, Adam Murphy, won the men's equivalent. In keeping with the



The Sydney Concierge Ball ice sculpture.



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theme both winners dazzled in Arctic Blue ensembles although the couple dressed as polar bears also deserve special mention!

Congratulations as well to Gary Chan of the Four Points by Sheraton who picked up the Tony Facciolo Concierge of the Year award. A popular choice, Gary was overwhelmed with the accolade but still remembered to thank his Four Points mentor Peter Brown for years of guidance.

Our thanks to everyone who supported this year's Concierge Ball. We were delighted with the outcome and look forward to welcoming you all back to next year's event.



Clockwise from above: Peter Townsend from AAT Kings receiving his honorary keys; Captain Trevor Haworth from Captain Cook Cruises and Elvis Soiza, President of Clefs d'Or Australia; Mark Peyton with Jeni Clifford and Vanessa Christie from APT; and Colin Toomey presenting Gary Chan from The Four Points by Sheraton, the Tony Facciolo Concierge of the Year award. Images courtesy of Mark Peyton.



**LES CLEFS D'OR WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS OF THE SYDNEY CONCIERGE BALL:**

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- WHERE Magazine

**LES CLEFS D'OR**

**International**

3RD VICE PRESIDENT Colin Toomey,  
 The Shangri-La Hotel, Sydney

**Australian Executive**

PRESIDENT: Elvis Soiza, Sofitel Brisbane Central  
 SECRETARY: Michael Anderson, The Observatory Hotel  
 TREASURER: Steve Ciric, The Westin Melbourne

**NSW Members**

- JASON ABERIN, Hilton Sydney
- VICTOR BARAYA, Radisson Plaza
- PETER BROWN, Four Points by Sheraton
- RON GREEDY, The Westin Sydney
- JAIME LACHS, The Westin Sydney
- GARY LEE, The Westin Sydney
- MARK MUSUMECI, Blue, Sydney
- MARK PEYTON, Sofitel Wentworth Sydney
- JORGE SOUSA, Four Seasons Hotel Sydney
- JUNAIDI SUSANTIO, Park Hyatt Sydney
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[www.lesclefsdoraustralia.org](http://www.lesclefsdoraustralia.org)