

# TTA Fast Facts



TOURISM TRAINING AUSTRALIA | LEVEL 5, 49 MARKET STREET, SYDNEY, NSW, 2001 | 02 9286 3944 | www.tourismtraining.com.au

## THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

People do not grow old no matter how long we live. We never cease to stand like curious children before the great mystery into which we were born.

## TTA INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

A number of Industry Partnerships are well underway and these include but are not limited to:

- TTA / AHA NSW / Leaders Forum No. 4 June, 2008
- TTA Multicultural Events - Restaurants - / July / October, 2008
- TTA National Accreditation Scheme - to commence 2008
- TTA Indigenous Training / Accreditation
- TTA / SkillsDMC / National Events

Further details contact [bill@tourismtraining.com.au](mailto:bill@tourismtraining.com.au)

## INNOVATION DOMINATES BACKPACKER CONFERENCE

More than one hundred influential industry players, decision-makers and tourism product suppliers from across the country will attend the all-day backpacker conference, as part of the Australian Tourism Export Council's (ATEC) Symposium, Australia's key annual inbound tourism conference.

\$3.1 billion backpacker sector was one of the most important elements of the Australian inbound tourism industry. In 2007 more than 566,000 backpackers came to Australia, which is 11% of the entire inbound market. The average backpacker stays for 71 nights and saw the total backpacker sector spend rise by more than ten percent last year.

One of Tourism Australia's stated aims is to encourage incoming tourists out of the capital cities and to have a look around, to experience what makes our country unique. Backpackers are trendsetters in this respect and show the benefits that tourism can offer by opening regional Australia to the world.

It should be remembered that backpackers are tomorrow's four- and five-star tourists and backpackers, due to their age, length of stay and regional penetration are better ambassadors for Australia than any marketing campaign.

Please contact Nick Buchan at [nick.buchan@atec.net.au](mailto:nick.buchan@atec.net.au) or on

0407 379 362 for further details regarding Symposium conference registration to be held on Tuesday April 29 from 8.30am – 5.30pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Wharf Road, Newcastle or log onto [http://symposium08.atec.net.au/page\\_var156](http://symposium08.atec.net.au/page_var156) for the full conference brochure.

## DISTANCE EDUCATION THE CHOICE FOR A CHANGING WORKFORCE

Australia's ageing population has serious implications for the country's future workforce as studies reveal that not enough young people are entering the labour market. It is estimated that by 2016, 80 per cent of the workforce growth will have to come from people aged over 45 years. Distance education is proving one way for Australia to keep "Real Age" or experienced career people in the workforce longer to help overcome skill shortages. Distance education gives otherwise uninformed workers the ability to move towards reinventing or up-skilling their career. Since more and more people are reinventing their careers, this will become the way forward for Australian universities.

One Australian institution that has long recognised the value of distance education for educating a professional workforce is Charles Sturt University (CSU). As Australia's largest provider of distance education, with more than 16 600 domestic students enrolled in 2007, CSU delivers higher education to students through its comprehensive online communication system, allowing them to study from anywhere in the world. CSU pioneered the development of courses by distance delivery for the professions. Contemporary online support and interactions have made distance education programs even more accessible and effective. For more information contact CSU media at [news@csu.edu.au](mailto:news@csu.edu.au) or telephone 02 6051 9906

## NSW MINISTER'S STUDENT ACHIEVER AWARDS 2008

TTA is well on track to present these prestigious awards by the Minister for Tourism NSW to successful students on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at the Four Seasons Hotel 199 George Street Sydney. This is a gala Tourism and Hospitality event where up to 400 senior leaders of Tourism and Hospitality in New South Wales will be in attendance. Individual Education Institutions across NSW have nominated the students. Limited places are still available. To secure your place for this event and avoid any disappointment contact [allen@tourismtraining.com.au](mailto:allen@tourismtraining.com.au) or call 02 9286 3944.

## AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIPS INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

On 22 October 2007, a number of changes to the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program were announced. These changes became effective from 1 January 2008 and are now in place.

The first initiative is the removal of prior qualifications rules for Australian Apprentices in trades, diplomas and advanced diplomas experiencing skills shortage. As you are aware the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program generally precludes employers of Australian Apprentices with prior qualifications above certificate II level from accessing incentives. In recognition of the need to encourage the take-up of Australian Apprenticeships in skills shortage trades and diploma level, these rules no longer apply for commencements or recommencements in trades on the National Skills Needs List from 1 January 2008. This exemption from the prior qualification rules benefit the following: Australian Apprentices commencing or recommencing from 1 January 2008 in skills shortage trade qualification or Diploma / Advanced Diploma qualifications are eligible to attract employer incentives payments, for employers of Australian Apprentices, under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program. Existing worker and remaining eligibility rules still apply. Employers and RTO's should always check in advance that the above qualifications have been declared Australian Apprenticeships pathways within the relevant State.

For more information contact [www.missionaustralia.com.au](http://www.missionaustralia.com.au)



## 2008 Tourism Training Australia Conference

Darling Harbour, Sydney

May 13 — 14, 2008

Contact TTA to register!

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## TTA TRAINING PRODUCTS - '08

TTA is pleased to announce the release of its new and improved training product catalogue for 2008.

To receive a complimentary copy of the catalogue contact

[allen@tourismtraining.com.au](mailto:allen@tourismtraining.com.au)