

# Thai Australia Network celebrates first anniversary – Board will build on its successes

Thai Australia Network (TAN) started just over six years ago as a group of professionals, business owners and representatives of government brought together each month by Richard Lovell of Charoen Pokphand Foods (CPF) for an evening of camaraderie and networking.

“Last year we decided it was time to take the next step as an association and the inaugural Board was announced at a function in mid-July”, said Honorary Consul General – Royal Thai Consulate General and TAN Chairperson, Dr Simon Wallace.

The inaugural TAN Board comprised

Dr Simon Wallace, Royal Thai Consulate General, TAN Chairperson	
Richard Lovell, CPF	Siwit (Jack) Techathawiekul, CPF
Arnuphap Kittikul, Thai Airways	Joe Perri, Joe Perri & Associates
Vichakorn Morpitack, CPF	Atthasit Limskul, SingAus (Singha Beer)
Greg Moore, Crown Promenade	Kumpee Ratanachodpanich, Bangkok Airways

Far too many business councils and chambers are rigidly focussed on strict formality and commercial outcomes and fail to provide an environment that just allows people to connect on an informal P2P level.

Dr Simon continued, “From the outset our objective has been to provide regular opportunities for business owners and professionals to come together in an informal setting to network and develop long term personal relationships”.

“We are steadfastly committed to building on this very successful format in our second year and beyond”.

Over the past twelve months, TAN has hosted many well supported functions that have showcased the very best of Thailand and the local Thai diaspora. The calendar of networking and social gatherings will continue in 2018-19.

The Board is also considering the feasibility of cultural appreciation activities and a TAN event in Bangkok.

“Visitors to Thailand will immediately acknowledge there is a strong sense of national pride and identity with local food, music, celebrations, and beliefs playing an important role in Thai life”, said Richard Lovell.

“The intention of the TAN Board is to promote an appreciation and awareness of Thai culture through events and activities to showcase Thailand’s joie de vivre captured in sanuk that is central to the Thai way of life”.

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Media Enquiries: Mr. Joe Perri  
Joe Perri & Associates Pty Ltd  
Telephone / fax: +61 3 9324 0362  
Mobile: +61 412 112 545  
Email: [jperri@joeperry.com.au](mailto:jperri@joeperry.com.au)

**Contacts**

Joe Perri

+61412112545

mailto: [jperri@joeperry.com.au](mailto:jperri@joeperry.com.au)