



John Elmas announces his retirement from The Westin Melbourne during the bi-monthly dinner at Sarti.

Les Clefs d'Or

by Peter McBrearty Victorian State Delegate

Les Clefs d'Or members recently held a workshop at the Sofitel Melbourne, hosted by Ben Davies from the Les Clefs d'Or Interview Committee. All the members were particularly impressed by the calibre of prospective concierge candidates in attendance, and we have no doubt that we will be welcoming some very deserving new members into the Les Clefs d'Or fold very soon. After the workshop we enjoyed catching up at a dinner hosted by Society Restaurant (www.societyrestaurant.com) in Bourke Street.

Our most recent bi-monthly dinner was held in early August in the delightful surroundings of Sarti (www.sarti.net.au) hosted by co-owner Joe Mammone. The dinner gave members of Melbourne's concierge community the opportunity to experience the same hospitality, ambience and menu that many of their guests have already so often enjoyed.

It was with heavy hearts that many of us learned of the upcoming retirement of

John Elmas from The Westin Melbourne. John's contribution to Les Clefs d'Or, both here in Melbourne and nationally, cannot be overstated as he has fostered many of our current members and is a genuine icon of the hotel industry. To appreciate the genuine affection and regard so many people have for John, it has only ever been necessary to visit him at his desk or walk down the street in his company, and see him be greeted either by one of his guests, industry associates, or simply someone from the Melbourne social scene he had assisted in his long career as one of the best known concierge in our fair city. For someone of relatively small stature he casts a very long shadow, and will be greatly missed.

Finally, invitations have been sent for the 14th Annual Concierge Ball which will be held on Sunday 8 November at Hilton on the Park, and this year our guest of honour will be the Hon. Tim Holding, Minister for Tourism and Major Events. For a copy of the invitation please email

peter.mcbrearty@langhamhotels.com or visit the Les Clefs d'Or website at www.lesclefsdoraustralia.org
We hope to see you all there!

Les Clefs d'Or International

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

Australian Chapter

PRESIDENT *Elvis Soiza, Sofitel Brisbane*

SECRETARY, *Michael Anderson,*

The Observatory Hotel, Sydney

TREASURER *Steve Ciric, Hilton on the Park*

PETER MCBREARTY, *The Langham, Melbourne*

RONNIE CHONG, *Bayview on the Park*

BEN DAVIES, *Sofitel Melbourne*

JOHN ELMAS, *The Westin Melbourne*

CHRISTIAN ESPINO, *Grand Hyatt*

GLENN LACEY, *The Langham, Melbourne*

ANDREW NATOLI, *The Westin Melbourne*

JAMES RIDENOUR, *InterContinental*

Melbourne The Rialto

DENIS RYAN, *Bayview Eden*

ALI SUNGKAR, *The Hotel Windsor*

www.lesclefsdoraustralia.org



CONCIERGE RATE
EXCESS BAGGAGE

You have shopped & shopped and shopped some more...
Well, what else did you come to Melbourne for...
Excess Baggage that needs to get home....
Call us direct on the phone....

Just like your Hotel's Concierge, **PACK AND SEND** is here to help you and make your excess baggage hassles disappear. We will pick up from your hotel, pack your shopping to obtain the best possible rate and deliver it to your door across Australia or around the world.

Ask about the special Concierge Rate Discount.



ABBOTSFORD

299 Johnston Street
9416 1233

CARLTON

648 Elizabeth Street
9349 5566

FLINDERS STREET

452 Flinders Street
9620 2277

ST KILDA ROAD

541 St Kilda Road
9521 5633