

13 December 2019

## **Events Calendar**

### ***Update***

The Hong Kong Interline Club ran a similar Silk Road tour in 2005 and I was one of a small group who took advantage of the offer at that time writes *Steve Charlton* former member of the now defunct Montreal Interline Club. It's a real overview of the vastness and diversity of China and probably one of the best opportunities to travel in, and see, the real China not just two or three major cities. Considering the distance most participants will require to get to China, 21 days is a good investment of time once there. I can also say by experience that the trip will be one of quality, good food, good accommodation and interesting sites to see! If you've ever considered visiting China *this is the time!* In summary, highly recommended.

Chief Marketing/Events Manager, *Julian Chau*, responded to Steve saying that the 2020 The Silk Road tour 2020 scheduled to take place from 5–24 June is very different from the 2005 tour. Even the spectacular show in Xi'An is different and is much better.

A detailed brochure and Registration Form for The Silk Road 2020 tour can be found in the Event Calendar section of the WACA website: [www.waca.org/events](http://www.waca.org/events).

### ***Diary Date***

The Indian Ocean Islands Interline Club and Paille-en-Queue Social Club of Air Mauritius are planning to host WACA international events in Mauritius and Madagascar respectively during the month of May. Details will be posted in the Event Calendar section of the WACA website: [www.waca.org/events](http://www.waca.org/events) once the programmes are finalised.

## **Madeira Airport Charity Donation Box**

The WACA Ambassador for Vulnerable Children, *Anneline Hetland*, is pleased to report that the philanthropic project in Madeira is taking shape and is being followed by both the Association Airline Ambassadors and WACA. The charity collection box at Funchal Airport was opened on 5 December and the coins collected were sorted and sent to the bank to change. I was assisted sorting the donated coins by Elda Maria Oliveira (seen in the background in the attached) from Madeira who belongs to the Interline Club of Portugal. A total amount of EUR 815.00 was collected which was below our expectations but most importantly the charity box created an awareness regarding combatting the exploitation of children in the supply chain of travel and tourism. A meeting with a well-wisher at the airport was held in the presence of the WACA President and he is ready to assist in this initiative. He recommended us to

support the Dona Jacinta de Ornelas Pereira foundation located in the Straits of Câmara de Lobos, Madeira. The foundation is run by a community of sisters welcoming children from the most unprotected families of the parish. More information about this will follow in due course.

### **Grand Venture Bonanza**

#### ***And the Winners is ...***

The eighth and final draw of 2019 for a USD 100.00 cash prize donated by WACA was made today by IATA Intern ITS Service Desk, *Shriyans Athalye*. There were 824 tickets in the draw and the lucky winner is *Louise Flitcroft Paisley* from the Sydney Interline Club with ticket number 11913.

#### ***Congratulations.***

### **Season's Greetings**

The year 2019 is ending and we are pleased to say that we have had more or less a good year, writes WACA President, *Maga Ramasamy*. I am very pleased that the Africa, Indian Ocean Islands and Middle East Region took the challenge to bring WACA's AGA to Africa this year. Although the participation was not what had been expected it was a great AGA with some wonderful pre- and post-AGA packages. Above all, the charity this year was once again well organised and the generous donations made many people South Africa very happy in. In addition, our adopted children in Vietnam are being well taken care of by the Blue Dragon Children's Foundation and our philanthropic project in Madeira together with the Association Airline Ambassadors is picking up. The aim to contribute to aviation sustainability with the Zero Waste in Flight initiative continues although there is no doubt we have a long way to go to reach the goal of zero waste on board. I wish to thank you all for the continuous supports given to WACA in formulating the above initiatives.

We made a promise to increase the number of packages on our Events Calendar in 2020. Over and above our AGA, pre- and post-AGA tours, we will be happy to see as many interliners as possible participating in our international events to carry good will and true WACA spirit wherever travelling. Year 2020 will indeed be another great year for WACA.

In conclusion, my family and I wish you and your loved ones a joyful and Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

Yours in interlining,

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