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## Auckland Airport sets new records



The 2013 calendar year turned out to be a record-breaking one for Auckland Airport in a number of areas.

The airport processed just under 14.5 million passengers (excluding transits) during the year, a record number that included 7.5 million international passengers and almost 7 million domestic passengers.

The year also included the busiest month for international passengers on record (745,345 in December) and the busiest week ever (181,207 international passenger movements in the week ended 22 December).

Chief financial officer Simon Robertson says the record year shows that the company's business strategy of growing travel markets and driving growth in travel, trade and tourism is working.

"It also shows the relevance and importance of the New Zealand Tourism Industry Association's 'Tourism 2025' strategy to

increase air services and deliver growth for the country going forward," says Simon.

"Auckland Airport was proud to play its part in encouraging international airlines to develop their Auckland services. We were also proud to play our part, along with Tourism New Zealand and other agencies, in using innovative marketing to promote New Zealand as a destination of choice."

Queenstown Airport also had its busiest calendar year on record in 2013, much of it due to the 30.9 per cent increase in international visitor arrivals.

"2014 is already delivering strong passenger numbers for Auckland Airport with promising results for January," Simon adds. "When combined with the strength of our emerging growth markets, such as Indonesia and India, this is fantastic news for our customers, our city and our country."

## Vote for your airport



we want to carry on that tradition. With your help, we can.

The airport's main focus is making each passenger's journey better and, now that voting for the 2014 awards is open, you have the perfect opportunity to tell us what we did to put the sparkle in your airport experience.

Voting is open until the end of February so head to [www.betterjourneys.com](http://www.betterjourneys.com), vote for us and tell us what you love about Auckland Airport.

[www.betterjourneys.com](http://www.betterjourneys.com)  
[www.worldairportawards.com](http://www.worldairportawards.com)

For the past five years Auckland Airport has been voted "Best Airport in Australia/Pacific" at the SKYTRAX World Airport Awards and

## Increase in China flights extended

Travellers heading from Auckland to Guangzhou will have the choice of 10 weekly flights for longer, after China Southern Airlines announced it is extending its increased number of flights until October 30.

The airline increased its offering last year from seven flights a week to 10 for the peak 2013/2014 summer season, and says continued strong demand has led to the extension, a decision that will add 45,000 extra seats on the route.



The latest announcement comes on the heels of the airline's decision to run two extra charter flights from China for the 2014 Chinese New Year holiday period.

Auckland Airport general manager aeronautical commercial, Glenn Wedlock, says Auckland Airport is now ahead of its Ambition 2020 direct service capacity target of 573,000 visitor arrivals from China.

"The increases in capacity and connectivity resulting from this China Southern announcement also show the significance of our tourism industry's aspiration to increase air services and deliver growth for the country."

[www.csair.com/en](http://www.csair.com/en)



# 12 Days of Christmas winners



The Christmas period was a much merrier one for 12 local charities when the winners of Auckland Airport's 12 Days of Christmas grants were announced in December.

It's the sixth year the airport has offered the grants, funded both by the airport itself and the travelling public, who drop their unwanted currency into donation globes around the airport.

And the winners were:

**Auckland Coastguard:** Volunteers at this not-for-profit have been saving lives on the water for more than 75 years and the organisation is currently building a new 15m rescue vessel. The airport funding will be used to equip the medical bay. [www.auckland-coastguard.org.nz](http://www.auckland-coastguard.org.nz)

**Middlemore Foundation:** Established in 1999, this organisation is charged with helping to rebuild Middlemore Hospital. They will be using their \$10,000 to buy 70 pedi-pods to protect infants that are at high risk of Sudden Unexpected Death of an Infant. [www.middlemorefoundation.org.nz](http://www.middlemorefoundation.org.nz)

**STRIVE Community Trust:** This organisation supports families in the South Auckland community through social and economic development assistance, as well as providing social services. The trust will use its grant to fund a mobile anti-bullying unit. [www.strive.org.nz](http://www.strive.org.nz)

**Te Whare Marama O Mangere Refuge:** A women's refuge that offers a safe house for women and children escaping domestic violence. This organisation will be using its \$10,000 to create new home packs which they give out to families to help them start over.

**South Auckland Riding for the Disabled:** This not-for-profit is one of 56 New Zealand Riding for the Disabled Association groups around the country that provides opportunities for anyone with a disability to enjoy safe and therapeutic horse riding and horse-related activities. The 12 Days of Christmas grant will be used to buy a new pony. [www.rda.org.nz](http://www.rda.org.nz)

**Shoes for Kids Charitable Trust:** This charitable trust aims to give every child the opportunity to participate and succeed in their favourite sport by giving sports shoes

to those who can't afford them. The 12 Days of Christmas grant will buy up to 200 pairs of sports shoes for children from a variety of Auckland primary and intermediate schools.

**Halberg Disability Sport Foundation:** Founded by Murray Halberg, this organisation is based on the belief that all people should have equal opportunity to enhance their lives through sport. The grant will help set up a library of adapted equipment, including specialty trikes and adapted wheelchairs, that individuals or clubs can borrow. [www.halberg.co.nz](http://www.halberg.co.nz)

**Cystic Fibrosis Auckland:** The Auckland branch of this national organisation covers the area between Warkworth and Pokeno. They will be using their \$10,000 to buy balance bikes (pictured), scooters and trampolines, which act as additional physiotherapy for children with cystic fibrosis. [www.cfnz.org.nz](http://www.cfnz.org.nz)

**Refugees as Survivors NZ Trust:** This trust helps with the resettlement of refugees at the Mangere Refugee Centre and will be using their grant to buy bikes and helmets. These will help refugees, many of whom struggle to afford transport, get around the city. [www.rasnz.co.nz](http://www.rasnz.co.nz)

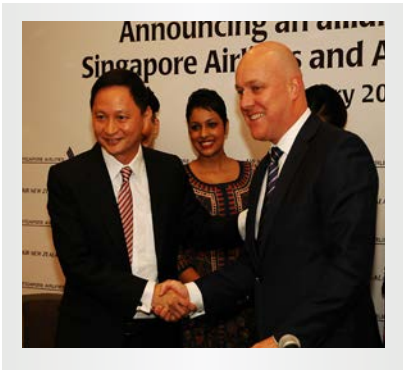
**South Auckland Christian Food Bank:** One of the only food banks open over Christmas, this organisation gives food parcels to people in the Mangere-Papatoetoe-Otara-Pakuranga area who have a genuine need for help. They used their \$10,000 to fund 100 Christmas parcels. [www.sacfb.org.nz](http://www.sacfb.org.nz)

**Mangere Budgeting Services Trust:** This trust provides free and confidential life skills, budgeting and financial literacy advice to families and individuals in South Auckland. The grant will be used to fund a series of financial literacy programmes in schools throughout South Auckland. [www.mangerebudgeting.org.nz](http://www.mangerebudgeting.org.nz)

**Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre:** Founded in 1972, this organisation exposes New Zealanders to a range of adventurous activities in order to help them learn and grow. The 12 Days of Christmas grant will fund 20 student leaders from Mangere College in attending a five-day Hillary Leadership Course at the Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Tongariro. [www.opc.org.nz](http://www.opc.org.nz)

# Alliance to boost Singapore capacity

A proposed alliance between Air New Zealand and Singapore Airlines combined with the latter airline's decision to introduce an A380 daily service between Singapore and Auckland is estimated to add at least 100,000 seats to the route in its first year.



Goh Choon Phong, Singapore Airlines' chief executive officer (left) and Air New Zealand's chief executive, Christopher Luxon, at an announcement event in Singapore.

If it receives regulatory approval, the alliance will see Air New Zealand launch daily services between Singapore and Auckland as early as December this year, taking over the five weekly flights Singapore Airlines currently operates and increasing the frequency to daily.

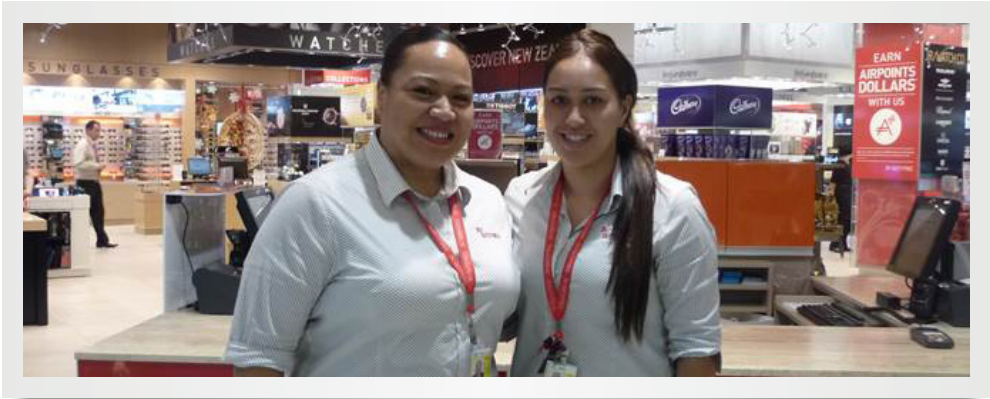
Singapore Airlines will operate its larger Airbus A380 on the route as part of the deal, progressively replacing the smaller Boeing 777-300ER it is currently using on the route.

Auckland Airport's general manager aeronautical commercial, Glenn Wedlock, says the capacity growth and improved connectivity associated with the deal should be celebrated.

"There is a real sense that the industry is focused on working to deliver growth for the country. Air New Zealand's and Singapore Airlines' announcements are fantastic examples of this aspiration."

Singapore is a critical hub airport, providing New Zealand with access to South East Asia and key tourism markets such as India and Indonesia. Passenger movements between New Zealand and Singapore have grown by 10 per cent over the past 12 months.

# Intern programme in full swing



Anna Mokoi and Sharai Walters-Tekahika at JR/Duty Free where they both have internship placements for the summer period.

The 20 Manukau Institute of Technology (MIT) students selected for summer internship positions at Auckland Airport-based businesses are now well into their placements, supplementing their qualifications with on-the-ground work experience at the country’s busiest airport.

The students are part of the programme’s second intake, which sees them working through their summer holidays with the potential for further employment.

Auckland Airport’s general manager of corporate affairs, Charles Spillane, says the programme’s goal is to get local people into local jobs and the fact that this year’s intake is double that of last year shows just how much potential there is for expansion.

AWPL has employed four of these students across its eight airport-based retail businesses and regional operations manager Michelle Ephraims says it’s great

to have extra hands on deck during the company’s busiest time of year.

“It was also really helpful to know all the applicants had been pre-screened by MIT and Auckland Airport, making the internship selection process an easy one from our point of view. A win-win for everyone.”

One of those students is Karena Carter, a graduate of MIT’s National Certificates in Travel and Tourism who is working at AWPL’s Bookmarque and Travel News stores.

“This is exactly what I was aiming for when I enrolled to do my study so it’s amazing to have achieved the goal I set for myself,” she says.

Interns have also been placed at DFS New Zealand, JR/Duty Free, Kiwi Discovery, LS Travel Retail Pacific and Travel Pharm, while six interns are currently working as summer passenger assistants with Auckland Airport itself.

[www.manukau.ac.nz](http://www.manukau.ac.nz)

# St John awards AES work

The work of the Auckland Airport Emergency Service (AES) has been recognised with a prestigious “Priory Vote of Thanks” award from St John.

The award is part of the organisation’s formal honours system, which means it is sanctioned by the Queen and signed by Governor General Jerry Mateparae, and only 11 of them are given out annually in the Northern Region.



Auckland Airport Emergency Services crew chiefs with St John counties territory manager Steve Walker and their “Vote of Thanks” award.

St John counties territory manager Steve Walker says cooperation between St John and AES is extremely high and this award is a symbol of appreciation and gratitude for the work AES is doing as a first responder to the medical and accident needs for employees and travellers at the airport.

“It’s a global message that AES are doing really good work, particularly when it comes to the number of successful ‘returns of circulation’ from sudden cardiac arrest that AES responders are achieving.”

Auckland Airport’s manager of engineering and emergency services, Anil Varma, says receiving the award is humbling but also fantastic recognition.

“It’s humbling because our officers say that they are just doing their jobs, but there’s also a level of pride in the quality of the services that we provide to the wider airport community.”

St John presented the award at a function on January 29, with Judy Nicholl, the airport’s general manager aeronautical operations, accepting the award on behalf of AES.

[www.stjohn.org.nz](http://www.stjohn.org.nz)

# AED units prove their worth

It may have started like any other day, but by the end of this particular January day, three employees at Auckland Airport – including summer passenger assistant Arie Litherland – had helped save a life.

Arie (pictured) was working at the customs arrival portals, directing international passengers through the terminal when a man squatted down, turned a funny color and started having trouble breathing. Recognising the signs of possible cardiac difficulties, Arie ran to grab the closest automatic external defibrillator unit (AED) while DFS staff members Shoail Rafiq and Joseph Cruz performed CPR and chest compressions.

The AED was one of a number of new units that were positioned throughout the airport in late 2012 because of the important part they can play in emergency response.

After the shock had been given, the passenger was up within minutes and wanting to continue his journey, although first



he needed to be seen by Airport Emergency Services and St John staff before being transported to hospital.

Auckland Airport’s operations risk and business analyst, Michael Side, says this is the first time one of the new AEDs has been used in an emergency situation.

“Arie, Shoail and Joseph reacted quickly and calmly and did a fantastic job. It just shows that putting in these units was absolutely worth it, they make such a huge difference.”



## Say ‘oui’ to a garden soiree



You could be forgiven for thinking Abberville Estate has been transported to France if you’re nearby on March 8 – what with all the can-can girls, champagne and a band called French Toast on offer – but it’s just Auckland Airport’s annual charity garden party.

Run by The District at Auckland Airport, this year’s garden “soiree” has a chic 1940s French theme and benefits Alzheimers Auckland, with 100 per cent of the ticket price going to help the organisation support people with the disease and their families.

The garden party is a relaxed event that offers an opportunity to eat, drink and be merry while also helping to support a significant group in our community. Chef Peta Mathias, herself an avid Francophile, will also be a special guest.

The event runs from 4pm until 7pm on Saturday March 8 and tickets are \$120 each, which includes a seat on the free bus transporting guests to and from the CBD.

Book now at [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz).

[www.alzheimers.org.nz/auckland](http://www.alzheimers.org.nz/auckland)

## Airport provides gateway for science students

In December three Otahuhu College students got an in-depth look at a less well-known aspect of working at Auckland Airport – wildlife control.

The visit was part of the Gateway programme, a scheme that gives secondary school students work experience at businesses throughout New Zealand and through which the airport has been working with Otahuhu College for more than five years.



Otahuhu College students Melenaita Tohi, Fano Fesolai, Misionare Maka with ranger Ian Buckingham and Jacquie Bradshaw.

The day started with a talk from the airport’s grounds and wildlife hazard management planner, Lizzie McGregor, about how she and her team actively control the bird life and wildlife around the airport grounds.

This was followed by an airside tour guided by wildlife ranger Ian Buckingham, which looked at the different areas that birds inhabit around the main runway, as well as the schemes the rangers have implemented to control wildlife activity.

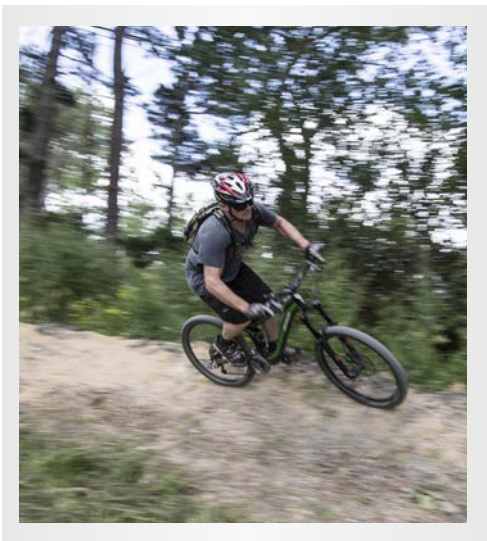
The students had been part of the health science programme at Otahuhu College and were heading down to Dunedin’s Otago University to continue their studies.

“The airport visit is part of a bid to broaden their horizons and further inform them of the many different career paths a degree in science can lead to,” says Jacquie Bradshaw, the college’s Gateway programme coordinator.

“The students enjoyed the experience immensely and were surprised at the different avenues that an interest in science opened up for them.”

[www.otahuhucollege.school.nz](http://www.otahuhucollege.school.nz)

## Fun riding for all the family



Auckland Airport’s new Runway Mountain Bike Park has already seen plenty of action since it opened for riding on November 23.

Located at the end of Ansett Place behind the Airport Shopping Centre, the park is free to ride and features a network of easy tracks suitable for families and novice riders.

Andy Hunt, owner of adventure tourism company Natural High and provider of bike hire for the park, is thrilled with the response to the track.

“It’s a really well-designed park and offers kids and first-timers a great introduction to mountain biking. Everyone who has a go comes away with a big grin on their face.”

Natural High is located just around the corner from the park at Uenuku Way and offers mountain bike hire for all ages – just pop in on your way to the park or phone to pre-book.

[www.naturalhigh.co.nz](http://www.naturalhigh.co.nz)

## Team effort for Life Education



Students will be more comfortable while taking the Life Education Trust’s classes this year after Auckland Airport helped source and install new carpet in two of the Trust’s mobile classrooms.

The airport already sponsors two mobile classrooms and educators with the Trust, so when the carpet in them needed replacing, airport building services planner Quentin O’Malley contacted Richard and Kylie at airport supplier Irvine International Floors.

Irvine donated high-grade carpet, Life Education Trust’s Michelle Kidd organised a carpet layer from Master Kelwin and the airport’s Engineering and Emergency Services team helped install it.

“It’s really great that our extended airport family, contractors and suppliers have helped us get this done,” Quentin says. “We also kept it a surprise for the educator for when he turned up for school.”

[www.lifeeducation.org.nz](http://www.lifeeducation.org.nz)

# Visiting the world of the dinosaurs



If you've ever been curious about what it would have been like to live in the time of the dinosaurs, you can now find out by visiting Dinosaur Kingdom, a new family attraction at The District at Auckland Airport.

The latest addition to Butterfly Creek, Dinosaur Kingdom includes a full array of dinosaur exhibits, including large scale dinosaur replicas, skeleton displays and fossil replicas as well as a host of interactive opportunities; but the real stars are the life-sized animatronic dinosaurs, including the 24m-long giant diplodocus and a mighty 13m T-Rex.

Butterfly Creek's general manager, John Dowsett, says Dinosaur Kingdom is the first of its kind in New Zealand.

"Visitors will find themselves immersed in the dinosaur environment. It's not just an exhibition, it's really interactive. Visitors can sit on a T-rex or even sit inside its mouth, have their photo taken with a raptor, and much more. We were wowed when we saw it all put together."

Dinosaur Kingdom opened in late January and is one of a growing number of family attractions at The District at Auckland Airport, along with the recently opened Runway Mountain Bike Park and Outdoor Gallery.

"What we are trying to do is to create a focal point for people in Auckland so that they can come and enjoy a family day out," John explains.

[www.butterflycreek.co.nz](http://www.butterflycreek.co.nz)

# Quad 5 filling up

The Quad 5 building in Auckland Airport's The District precinct has welcomed two new tenants over the past few months, leaving just one office floor available for lease.

Chemical company BASF was first of the two to move in when they took up residence in October last year, while engineering consultancy Harrison Grierson set up camp in early January.

As the world's leading chemical company, BASF combines a portfolio that includes chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products, oil and gas, with environmental protection and social responsibility.

The company was attracted to Quad 5 by the opportunity it offered to bring its New Zealand staff together on one level, as well as the building's modern design and 5-Star Green design rating.

"Staff are embracing the new environment," says BASF New Zealand's senior HR Advisor, Lisa Meyer. "And they have already seen a positive impact on their collaboration with colleagues outside their units."

Harrison Grierson is the first engineering consultancy to have offices in The District precinct.

Established in 1885, the company provides engineering and design services throughout Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific in sectors including land and buildings, transportation, water and the environment, and utilities.

"We chose Quad 5 when our existing Manukau office lease expired because the precinct is modern, vibrant and expanding," says Harrison Grierson's airport manager, John Tik. "Being in a state of the art, award-winning building reflects our company's determination to engineer brighter futures for everyone."

Auckland Airport's property development manager, Sean Leonard, says the addition of two such large, successful and international companies to The District at Auckland Airport shows how attractive it is for travel-rich businesses that rely on easy access to domestic and international locations.

# Apply now for community grants



Youthline was one of the 2013 grant recipients.

The Auckland Airport Community Trust is asking local organisations looking for funding to apply for the 2014/15 Community Grants programme.

Established in 2003, the Trust has awarded more than \$2.5 million in funding so far to organisations that benefit the communities within its "area of benefit".

It covers suburbs such as Papatoetoe, Whitford, Flat Bush, Manukau Central and

Clover Park, as well as parts of Wiri, Otara and Mangere. Only organisations within the defined area of benefit will be considered eligible, so check out the map at [www.aucklandairportcommunitytrust.org.nz](http://www.aucklandairportcommunitytrust.org.nz)

The Trust is particularly focused on programmes that fit within its two key areas: literacy, and life skills. The latter of these includes financial literacy, English language, parenting, early education and play, youth development, school transitions, leadership and employment skills.

Before you apply, take a look at the Trust's guidance notes, then fill in the application form – you can find both of these documents on the Trust's website – and then return it via post or email.

Applications are open now and will close at 5pm on Friday March 28. Successful applicants will be notified in June 2014 and funds will be paid in January 2015.

[www.aucklandairportcommunitytrust.org.nz](http://www.aucklandairportcommunitytrust.org.nz)

