



A Message from ANZCHAM Executive Director, Kimmi Siu Dewar

Hello Members and Friends of ANZCHAM!

According to science, trying something new triggers two powerful chemicals in our body: dopamine and adrenaline. Dopamine gives us that warm, energized rush, while adrenaline sparks the anxiety-driven "*fight or flight*" response. Together, they create a complex emotional mix, where the thrill of a new experience is both exhilarating and nerve-wracking. That pretty much sums up my feelings on ANZCHAM's past year—where every milestone was fueled by a blend of exhilaration and nerves, rightfully earning ANZCHAM 2024 the title: ***Year of Firsts***.

As I think through ANZCHAM's initiatives and highlights from the past year, I'm struck by just how overwhelming this journey has been for our Secretariat. Yet, in reflecting on what we've accomplished together, it's clear: every challenge was worth it. The impact we've made for our members and the Chamber has been profound, and that sense of fulfillment makes all the hard work truly worthwhile.

If you haven't heard the countless conversations on how ANZCHAM "*is buzzing*", how the energy is infectious and most importantly, how vibrant the community and engagements have become; then you haven't showed up to one of our **20 events this year**, or you haven't followed us on LinkedIn or Viber (that's ok, just don't say I didn't warn you, ANZCHAM can be contagious). But what



happened that made our Chamber so DIFFERENT from the past?

Thirteen months ago, we **made history by electing Benj Romualdez** as the first Filipino President of the Australian-New Zealand Chamber, and since then, our journey has been nothing short of groundbreaking. Under Benj's leadership, we've celebrated a series of "*firsts*" that have reshaped ANZCHAM's impact. We forged powerful partnerships with both local and international government bodies, took delegates on **outbound missions to major cities in Australia**, we've created valuable networks that have elevated our standing, and shared the stage with some of the most influential country and business leaders in the ASEAN region.

Our events have shattered records, with so much demand that we had people trying to sneak in! We've welcomed **76 new members** - an impressive pace of one new organization each week. And we celebrated **ANKO's exciting entry into the Philippines**, marking the arrival of Australia's first home and lifestyle brand to bring its products to Philippine malls. Check out the latest November activity in our newsletter below!

And we're not stopping yet, ending 2024 on a high note with our inaugural **ANZCHAM's Got Talent Christmas Fundraiser Gala**, already a sold-out success! This year has been a testament to the power of collaboration and bold leadership, and the momentum is unstoppable.

It has been a genuine privilege to represent our Board of 12 Directors, and together, we've taken ANZCHAM to new heights. At the start of the year, we aligned ourselves with **Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy**, focusing on promoting trade and investment between Australia and the Philippines. As Ambassador HK Yu mentioned at our November Monthly Member's Meeting, the relationship between our two countries has never been

stronger—and that's something we can all take to heart. Our ANZCHAM community is a direct reflection of this powerful partnership, and it's inspiring to see it grow. The numbers speak for themselves: our **sponsorships skyrocketed by 300%** from last year, and member engagement doubled. I'm deeply grateful to each of you for playing such a crucial role in this success. Your support and contributions are what make ANZCHAM thrive, and we truly feel the love.

Apologies for running out of wine at a couple of events, another *"first"* for us, and who knows, it may not be the last if I can help it 😊! 2024 has been an incredible journey, and we can't wait to see what's next. Let's do more great things together in 2025.

When was the last time you tried something for the first time?

Regards,
Kimmi Siu Dewar
Executive Director, ANZCHAM Philippines

ANKO is now in the Philippines!



Australian lifestyle brand **ANKO**, in a joint venture with **Ayala Malls**, made a monumental move in expanding its reach by opening its **first physical store in Asia**—right here in the Philippines, located at the Ground Floor of Glorietta 2 Mall, Makati City.

ANKO, known in Australia for its stylish and affordable lifestyle products, brings a wide range of high-quality items to Filipino shoppers, just in time for the festive holiday season. Whether you're looking for **trendy homewares, functional kitchenware, beauty essentials, crafting tools, or even pet care products**, ANKO offers something for everyone.

The grand opening was graced by the Australian Ambassador to the Philippines, **H.E. HK Yu**, who participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the beginning of ANKO's exciting chapter in the Filipino market.

In the words of Ambassador Yu, *"You will now be able to purchase and use absolutely top-quality products, where you do not have to compromise at all, but at a very, very low and affordable price—and who doesn't like a good buy?"* With this philosophy in mind, ANKO is set to make a lasting impact on Filipino homes and lifestyles, offering products that elevate everyday living.

Having attended ANKO's store opening, ANZCHAM is proud to witness this milestone for the Australian lifestyle brand. The launch signifies a promising expansion into the Philippine market, and ANZCHAM is excited to support Australian businesses as they **thrive and grow** in the region.



November Monthly Members Meeting

On November 14, 2024, ANZCHAM hosted its **final Monthly Members Meeting** of the year, co-presented by **Leighton Asia**. The event brought together over 190 attendees eager to gain insights into the 2025 business landscape.



Group photo of November MMM Panelists and Moderator with the Board of Directors (from left to right): Roderick Salazar III, ANZCHAM Corporate Secretary; Jesus Plaridel Santiago Jr., ANZCHAM Treasurer; Natalie Davies, ANZCHAM Vice President; Amb. Catherine McIntosh, New Zealand Ambassador to the Philippines; Simon Terry, ANZCHAM Director; Amb. HK Yu, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines; Benjamin Romualdez, ANZCHAM President; Dante Tinga Jr, BDO Senior Vice President; Honeybee Hubahib, ANZCHAM Director; Luisa Rust, Senior Trade Commissioner AUSTRADE; and Kimmi Siu Dewar, ANZCHAM Executive Director.

The highlight of the evening was an engaging keynote address by **H.E. HK Yu**, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines. Adding to the event's prestige, we were also graced by the presence of **H.E. Catherine McIntosh**, New Zealand Ambassador to the Philippines.

Amb. Yu, in her address, emphasized the strengthening of business ties between Australia and the Philippines, spotlighting **Australia's "Invested: Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040"** and how the Philippines has emerged as a priority country in this strategic plan. Reflecting on Australia's 2024 accomplishments, Ambassador Yu shared the country's trade and investment achievements, commending ANZCHAM's proactive role, particularly its outbound mission to Australia to increase awareness of Philippine business opportunities among Australian companies.



Amb. HK Yu, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines, sharing Australia's accomplishments for the year 2024.

The Australian Ambassador then joined the panel discussion, alongside **Dante Tinga Jr.**, Senior Vice President of BDO Unibank, and **Benjamin Romualdez**, ANZCHAM President and Managing Director of Telstra Philippines. The discussion was moderated by **Kimmi Siu Dewar**, ANZCHAM Executive Director and Aristocrat Managing Director, Asia. The panel provided a comprehensive look at opportunities and challenges for the coming year.



Benjamin Romualdez, ANZCHAM President, opened the discussion on business predictions for the next year, moderated by Kimmi Siu Dewar, ANZCHAM Executive Secretary (far left), with Amb. HK Yu, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines (second from the left), and Dante Tinga Jr., BDO Senior Vice President (far right).

Dante Tinga Jr. shared a financial perspective, identifying key economic indicators and **possible shifts in the banking industry** as the Philippines continues on a strong growth path. Benjamin Romualdez discussed trends in telecommunications and the BPO sector, including **digital innovation** and **workforce transformation**. Ambassador Yu contributed insights on Australia's role in facilitating regional partnerships and sustainable investments.

Together, they presented an optimistic yet realistic outlook on 2025, providing attendees with strategic insights on adapting to upcoming changes.



Leighton Asia's General Manager for the Philippines, **David Dunworth**, also took the stage to update the audience on key projects, including the Cavite-Laguna Expressway Cavite Section and the Candaba 3rd Viaduct Project. Celebrating 50 years of delivering high-impact projects, Leighton Asia continues to drive development in Urban, Transport, Resources, Industrial, and Science & Technology sectors across the region.

ANZCHAM extends its gratitude to our event partners, **Digibeacon—the first ClickUp solution partner**, **First Philippine Industrial Park**, and **Kantanna Information Technology** whose support was instrumental in the success of this event.




ANZCHAM Q3-Q4 New Members with ANZCHAM Board of Directors, Amb. HK Yu, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines, and Amb. Catherine McIntosh, New Zealand Ambassador to the Philippines.

A special moment during the event was the official welcome of over **30 new members** who joined ANZCHAM in the third and fourth quarters of 2024. This milestone highlights not just the chamber's steady growth but also the vibrancy and engagement of our ever-expanding community.



As we wrap up an incredible year, we're gearing up for even greater opportunities to connect and collaborate in 2025. **Sponsorship spots are highly sought after**, so don't miss the chance to showcase your brand and be part of our impactful initiatives.

 Check out our **2025 Calendar of Events** below. Express your interest early to secure your spot and maximize the opportunities these events offer!

Contact iya.quizan@anzcham.com or nancy.castiglione@anzcham.com.

AUSTRALIAN-NEW ZEALAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHILIPPINES

2025 CALENDAR

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<p>* Australia Day Reception with Australian Embassy</p>	<p>* Waitangi Day Reception</p> <p>MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 11 How To Do Business Outside Metro Manila <i>(5:30PM-8PM; Clark)</i></p>	<p>04 ★ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Forum</p> <p>* Sustainability Webinar</p> <p>25 ★ Annual General Meeting (AGM)</p>
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p>08 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Philippine Government Updates <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p> <p>* Sustainability CSR <i>(week of the 7th)</i></p>	<p>13 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Sustainability <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p> <p>* ★ Outbound Mission</p>	<p>10 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Australian Embassy Updates & Mission Updates <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p>
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<p>08 ★ AI Forum</p>	<p>12 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: New Zealand Embassy Updates <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p> <p>* Local Outbound Mission</p>	<p>09 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: ANZCHAM Innovations <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p>
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>14 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: New Member's Networking Night <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p>	<p>11 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 2026 Business Trends and Predictions <i>(5:30PM-8PM)</i></p> <p>* Golf Tournament</p>	<p>02 ★ ANZCHAM Christmas Party</p>

● Tentative Events
 ★ Signature/Special Events

November MMM is Co-presented by:



Event Partners:



Kantanna

Special thanks:



Clark & Subic Business Leaders Roundtable



In the same month, 19 November 2024, ANZCHAM, in partnership with the **Australian Trade and Commission (AusTrade)**, **Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA)**, and the **Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA)**, hosted an exclusive roundtable lunch at Swissôtel Clark, bringing together over **30 participants**, including representatives from leading local and Australian businesses in North Luzon, to explore strategic opportunities for trade and investment in the region.

Key speakers included **Atty. John Aquino**, Deputy Administrator for the Business Group, SBMA; **Karen Magno**, Department Manager III, SBMA; **Ken Peralta**, Vice President of the Investment Promotions and

Marketing Department, BCDA; and **Luisa Rust**, Senior Trade Commissioner of AusTrade.

ANZCHAM President **Benjamin Romualdez**, joined by members of the ANZCHAM Board of Directors, took part in the discussions, highlighting the immense growth potential of Pampanga as a central business district. The conversation centered on opportunities for business expansion beyond Metro Manila and explored strategic initiatives to **strengthen trade and investment ties within the region.**

ANZCHAM also visited **StB Giga Factory, the first Lithium Iron Phosphate** battery factory in the Philippines. Inaugurated in September 2024, led by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the facility represents a major milestone in the country's push for **sustainable energy solutions.** ANZCHAM is proud to welcome StB Giga Factory as a new member this November, further strengthening the ties between Australia and the Philippines in the renewable energy sector.



ANZCHAM's Got Talent

🎄 **The Countdown Begins: ANZCHAM's Got Talent 2024 Christmas Fundraiser Gala!**



CO-PRESENTED by:



ANZCHAM'S GOT TALENT

Fundraiser Gala

A NIGHT FULL OF RAFFLE PRIZES!

GET A CHANCE TO WIN 2 ROUND-TRIP QANTAS TICKETS TO AUSTRALIA!

Event Hosts

KIMMI SIU DEWAR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANZCHAM

NANCY CASTIGLIONE
DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS, ANZCHAM



TICKETS

- TABLE OF 10: P55,000
- MEMBERS: P6,200
- NON-MEMBERS & GUESTS: P6,900



03 DECEMBER | 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM | MAKATI SHANGRI-LA ISABELA BALLROOM

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We're just one week away from the most anticipated event of the year—**ANZCHAM's Got Talent 2024 Christmas Fundraiser Gala!** Enjoy spectacular talent performances, festive cheer, and a chance to win incredible raffle prizes, from **luxurious overnight stays, exclusive gift certificates, dining experiences to round-trip Qantas tickets to Australia!**

 **Dress to impress!**

It's time to pull out your **finest attire** and step into an evening of elegance! Celebrate the spirit of the season in your best gala wear as we come together for a festive evening of glamour, joy, and giving back.

 03 December, 2024 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Makati Shangri-La Hotel, Isabela Ballroom **Raffle Tickets: 3 for ₱1,000**

Every ticket you purchase supports the **Sunnyville Community Model Farm**, a hub for sustainable agriculture and community empowerment. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards supplying food items, construction materials, and essentials for Sunnyville. **Raffle tickets are open to everyone**, even if you can't attend.

[Buy raffle tickets here](#)

We're bringing you exciting prizes that'll
make our holiday season even brighter!
Check out some of the prizes you can win!



ANZCHAM'S GOT TALENT

CO-PRESENTED by:





RAFFLE & TALENT PRIZES

2 ROUND-TRIP QANTAS TICKETS TO AUSTRALIA

<p>DISCOVERY BORACAY 2 nights stay voucher with breakfast for 2 including land and sea transfers</p> <p>DISCOVERY CORON 2 nights stay voucher with breakfast for 2 including land and sea transfers <i>WORTH PHP 60,000</i></p> <p>SHINAGAWA DIAGNOSTICS & PREVENTIVE CARE 3 Japanese Standard Health Checkup vouchers</p> <p>SHINAGAWA LASIK & AESTHETICS CENTER 5 FREE Comprehensive Eye Screening <i>WORTH OVER PHP 17,000</i></p> <p>MAKATI SHANGRI-LA Overnight stay in a Deluxe Room with breakfast for 2 and Food & Beverage dining credits worth <i>PHP 5,000</i></p> <p>CLINIQUE DE PARIS Gift Certificate worth <i>PHP 10,000</i></p> <p>BROWHAUS 1 Multi Lash In Bloom worth <i>PHP 8,500</i></p> <p>PEOPLE'S PALACE THAI RESTAURANT Food & Beverage Voucher worth <i>PHP 7,500</i></p>	<p>HILTON MANILA 1 Dinner Buffet Voucher for 2 at Kusina worth over <i>PHP 6,500</i></p> <p>SHERATON MANILA HOTEL Buffet voucher for 2 at S Kitchen</p> <p>STRIP 1 Underarm ICE worth <i>PHP 6,500</i></p> <p>WINERY.PH 8 Bottles of Australian Prosecco worth over <i>PHP 6,000</i></p> <p>UNITETRIS 6 Bottles of Brown Brothers Cienna worth over <i>PHP 5,000</i></p> <p>AUSTRALIAN FINE FOODS Over 10 Gift Bags worth over <i>PHP 5,000</i></p> <p>SALA BISTRO Food and Beverage Voucher worth <i>PHP 5,000</i></p> <p>BLACKBIRD RESTAURANT Afternoon Tea for (4) Four</p>
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EVENT PARTNERS




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Buy raffle tickets here

★ **Special thanks** to our sponsors for their generous contributions
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 Major Raffle and Talent Prize Sponsor **Qantas**
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Event Partners **Discovery Coron, Discovery Boracay** and **iSynergy**

 Join us in making a meaningful difference by supporting Sunnyville!
Sponsor with us! With a full house of attendees, this is the perfect opportunity to boost your brand's presence and help bring sustainable practices and knowledge-sharing to life in our community.

For details and expressions of interest, please contact iya.quizan@ANZCHAM.com or nancy.castiglione@ANZCHAM.com

We look forward to seeing you at the event of the season!

For those who successfully registered before 08 November, you are confirmed for the event.

If you registered after that date, please note that your registration has been placed on our waitlist and should receive an email confirming your status. You will be notified if a spot becomes available.

① Tariffs for no-show attendees are non-refundable



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