

Media Roundup Issue 1 (30/12/16 – 06/01/17)

1. “Chinese investors join tourist rush to Australia”

04/01/17

**Jamie Smyth
Financial Times**

Qiaoling Huang was struck by the beauty of Australia’s Gold Coast when he visited as a tourist more than 20 years ago.

“I often got lost walking around and I remember people were so helpful,” says the chairman of Songcheng Group, one of China’s biggest theme park operators. “I was impressed with the theme parks,” he remembers.

Mr Huang returned to the Gold Coast last month to unveil Songcheng’s first overseas investment, the A\$600m “Australia Legend Kingdom” theme park.

Read more: <https://www.ft.com/content/ec034f46-b78f-11e6-ba85-95d1533d9a62>

2. “Australia’s prosperity at stake if Donald Trump rattles China”

05/01/17

**David Uren
The Australian**

The year ahead promises strategic realignments as Donald Trump seeks a rapprochement with the Russian Federation while embarking on a confrontation with China.

A surprising fact from the latest International Monetary Fund global update is that, measured in US dollars, Russia’s economy shrank last year to the same size as the Australian economy, with both estimated to have produced goods and services worth \$US1.26 trillion (\$1.75 trillion).

Read more: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/opinion/david-uren-economics/australias-prosperity-at-stake-if-donald-trump-rattles-china/news-story/527d75c04eed2b9da469742cf50a7716>

3. “Chinese pharmacies move Australian product in-store from online”

05/01/17

**Sarah-Jane Tasker
The Australian**

Chinese pharmacies are increasing their demand on Australian products to fill their shelves in what is set to be another boon for domestic suppliers cashing in on Chinese consumers demanding Western goods.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia and Australian suppliers have been asked to attend the inaugural Health Product Expo in Qingdao in March, which is expected to attract 60,000 visitors, including 7000 industry buyers.

Read more: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/chinese-pharmacies-move-australian-product-instore-from-online/news-story/095a27c3788e01a28838982c68783cc8>

4. “Winha listing promises increased fruit and veg exports to China”

05/01/17

**Damon Kitney
The Australian**

Fruit and vegetables supplied to Qantas’s First Class lounges and high-end restaurants in Sydney and Melbourne, including Rockpool, will now be sold directly into China following today’s listing on the Australian Securities Exchange of a Chinese paddock-to-plate retailer and wholesale premium food company.

Winha Commerce and Trade International will list after raising \$8.5 million for use in financing the purchase of 49 per cent of Flavours, a Melbourne-based wholesaler of top quality fruit and vegetables servicing many Australian high-end restaurants.

Read more: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/companies/winha-listing-promises-increased-fruit-and-veg-exports-to-china/news-story/c631492f68d62772059fad6f85a47c6b>

5. "Australian cheese takes a bigger slice of China under FTA"

31/12/16

Lucy Cramer

The Wall Street Journal

To see the benefits a free-trade agreement with China can bring, look no further than cheese.

Australian exports of cheese to China, the world's fastest-growing cheese importer, have grown in the past year, thanks largely to a trade deal between the two countries that went into effect at the end of 2015. Australia's market-share gain has come largely at the expense of US cheesemakers, who are starting to worry.

Read more: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/wall-street-journal/australian-cheese-takes-a-bigger-slice-of-china-under-fta/news-story/2c920ffe76748f399603d567ba64c92a>

6. "Conservatives call for Australian response to China's expansion in South China Sea"

03/01/17

Primrose Riordan

Australian Financial Review

Conservative backbencher Eric Abetz has called on the Turnbull government to consider joining the United States in conducting freedom of navigation exercises near Chinese-controlled islands in the South China Sea, while former defence minister Kevin Andrews has warned China has exploited a lack of US strategy in the Asia-Pacific.

The comments firm up foreign policy as the latest front in a skirmish between the Coalition leadership and some conservatives, after former prime minister Tony Abbott, Senator Abetz and Senator James Paterson called for Australia to consider following US President-elect Donald Trump's suggestion and move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem - an idea promptly shut down by the party's leadership.

Read more: <http://www.afr.com/news/politics/national/conservatives-call-for-australian-response-to-chinas-expansion-in-south-china-sea-20170103-gtlbnm>

7. “Investors not crying over spilled China milk”

03/01/17

Michael Smith

Australian Financial Review

Investor appetite for Australian infant formula companies seeking to break into the China market has not soured despite the run of bad luck for Bellamy's Organics and vitamins maker Blackmores.

The latest firm to brave the choppy waters of Chinese regulation, Bubs Australia, listed on the Australian Securities Exchange on Tuesday. Despite the relatively small size of the first float of the calendar year, the offer was significant as it shows not everyone is running scared from China.

Read more: <http://www.afr.com/brand/chanticleer/investors-not-crying-over-spilled-china-milk-20170103-gt13u1>

8. “How China trumps Australia when it comes to supporting disabled workers”

04/01/17

Karen Fisher

Sydney Morning Herald

Australia's employment of people with disability, already among the lowest in the developed world, is worsening. It is time to overcome our squeamishness about quotas to address this embarrassing gap in our human rights.

Perhaps we need to learn from Chinese policy, which combines employment quotas and a levy on employers who do not comply.

All private and public employers in China who employ more than 20 staff must meet a quota of at least 1.5 per cent of employees with disability (quotas average 5 per cent in Europe).

Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/comment/how-china-trumps-australia-when-it-comes-to-supporting-disabled-workers-20170103-gt17bh.html>