

HD TSB shows growth TSB Bank reported its deposits have increased by over 4 per...

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TSB shows growth TSB Bank reported its deposits have increased by over 4 per cent. Its lending portfolios also increased by nearly 8 per cent. The bank's made a pre-tax profit of nearly \$68 million.

Protest on bottle ban The Brewer's Guild of New Zealand has serious concerns about local authorities proposing a ban on sales of single bottles of beer at off-licence premises. Auckland, Marlborough and Rotorua are considering the bans. President Ralph Bungard says this is a crude way to try to deal with the issues and will be bad for consumer choice and sensible and moderate drinking habits.

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Australia to miss out? Australia's tourism industry has to lift its game if it is to capture China's new class of globe-trotters, says Crown chief executive Rowen Craigie. The number of Chinese travelling overseas had grown 10-fold to 100 million since 2000 and was expected to double again, he said. "If Australia doesn't get its act together it won't capture a market share it otherwise would," he said.

Less for Synlait Synlait Milk has revised its forecast profit for this year downwards by \$7.5 million from a range of \$25-\$30 million, to a somewhere between \$17.5 million and \$22.5 million, partly blaming the high dollar.

Flightpath efficiencies A draft report on a new flightpath trial at Auckland Airport says aircraft using the SMART flightpaths flew 25,000 fewer nautical miles, resulting in a 739,000kg reduction in carbon-dioxide emissions and a 234,000kg reduction in fuel use. Noise levels over residential areas are only slightly higher by three decibels.

Fewer building permits New Zealand building consents issued for residential housing, excluding apartments, fell 5.2 percent in April following strong gains the previous two months as activity slowed due to public holidays. The number of consents for new houses, excluding apartments which can be volatile, fell to a seasonally adjusted 1720 in April. Lew buys into Jones Billionaire Premier Investments chairman Solomon Lew has taken a small stake in David Jones, potentially complicating a takeover deal for the department store chain. Earlier this month Australia's Foreign Investment Review Board gave the go-ahead for South African retailer Woolworths Holdings' \$2.15 billion takeover of David Jones.

Packer eyes China Billionaire James Packer is keen to do more business in China and says while he prefers democracies, the Chinese government is doing the right thing by its people. Mr Packer also predicted massive opportunities in Chinese films while appearing via a video interview at the Australia in China's Century conference in Melbourne.

Rise of the phablet Global sales of tablet computers are likely to slow this year, hurt in part by saturation and adoption of large-screen smartphones or "phablets", research firm IDC said. The emergence of phablets is "causing many people to second-guess tablet purchases as the larger screens on these phones are often adequate for tasks once reserved for tablets."

CO Itsp : TSB Banking Group PLC | tsb : Lloyds Banking Group PLC

IN itabcm : Tablet Computers | i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | i3302011 : Portable Computers | icomp : Computing | icph : Computer Hardware | itech : Technology | i3454 : Personal Electronics | ielec : Consumer Electronics | ihandaps : Handheld Electronic Devices | i814 : Banking | i81402 : Commercial Banking | ibnk : Banking/Credit | ifinal : Financial Services

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