

03 June 2016

**James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor's Financial Controller wins the New Zealand Hotel Administration Employee of the Year for 2016**

A special congratulations to Kamlesh Kumar, Financial Controller at the James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor and the New Zealand Hotel Administration Employee of the Year for 2016! The inaugural awards were celebrated last night at the New Zealand Hotel Industry Conference in Auckland. The award is a well deserved win for Kamlesh, who commenced employment at the Hotel in 2009, bringing integrity, commitment and leadership to his role. In 2015, Kamlesh accepted interim financial responsibilities at Hotel Grand Chancellor Auckland City and he continues to show his commitment to the New Zealand Hotel industry through higher education, fostering a positive team culture and promoting environmental standards.

The Hotel Industry Awards are the premier accolades for the New Zealand Hotel sector. Steve Martin, General Manager, recognises the progressive addition of award categories for 2016. "The expansion of the awards acknowledges the key roles and team approach needed to operate a hotel successfully and we would like to thank the sector for appreciating and promoting this notion". To support the awards, the James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor submitted four nominations and is proud that all four entries were successful finalists (top three in the country) in their respective categories. Congratulations to Denise Thornton - Executive Housekeeper, Kamlesh Kumar - Financial Controller, Stephanie Bickers - Revenue Manager and Sarah Croskery – Executive Assistant Manager for their career achievements.

The James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor is located in the heart of Wellington City, conveniently situated between the leading retail district of Lambton Quay and the business hub of The Terrace. The hotel features 268 accommodation rooms, two restaurants and bars, Infuse Day Spa, an exclusive 26th floor Club Lounge and a complimentary in-house gymnasium.

Grand Hotels International owns and manages ten 4 – 4 ½ star Hotel Grand Chancellor properties throughout Australia and New Zealand. All Hotels are in prime locations with a range of facilities offering accommodation for the most discerning guest as well as a host of conference and events facilities on a small to large scale, with five venues catering for over 400 people.

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**Steve Martin, Sarah Croskery, Kamlesh Kumar, Stephanie Bickers & Denise Thornton at the Awards Evening**