

MEDIA RELEASE

SCENIC FLIGHTS OVER KI

12 December 2017

At the recent Business and Community Expo held at Kingscote Town Hall, Felicity Brown launched her scenic flights over Kangaroo Island. The business is called Chinta Air, and it offers a truly unique opportunity to fly around Kangaroo Island, with four specially-designed flight paths.

What a way to see the Island and to wonder at the beauty that surrounds us.

Felicity Brown has been flying for more than 25 years, and has flown out of Ceduna for many years, and she knows Kangaroo Island well, operating private charters in and out of Kingscote as well.

The business was started in 2000, by West Coast farmer Noel Schwarz, Felicity's partner, and she is South Australia's only female Chief Pilot, the person with most experience and responsible for training and standards in the business.

Felicity learned to fly in 1998 for a bet. It was that she learnt to fly in time to compete in the 1998 Outback Air Race, an event that raises funds for Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Felicity managed to gain her Private Pilot's Licence and competed in the race in a team called Delilahs of the Desert.

Noel and Felicity set up their business with one small aircraft, but it has now grown to include six aircraft and five full time staff, with bases in Ceduna, at Rawnsley Park Station on the south side of Wilpena Pound in the Flinders Ranges, and at Adelaide. During winter, a base operates from the Nullarbor Roadhouse over the Great Australian Bight Marine Park, to see the Southern Right Whales. Somewhere along the line, Felicity and Noel have included two children – 13-year-old twins Adam and Kari, and Felicity has a 23-year-old daughter Anastasia, a languages graduate from Adelaide Uni, currently moving to Japan to work as a teacher of English as a second language.

Chinta Air takes charters to Port Lincoln, Port Augusta, the Flinders Ranges and Uluru, and now will include the Kangaroo Island flights.

"I'm very pleased to be able to offer locals and visitors the chance to see this magnificent Island from the air," Felicity said.

Tours include the whole Island tour, 1½ hours, taking in American River, Cape Willoughby, Penneshaw, D'Estrees Bay, Vivonne Bay, Remarkable Rocks and Cape Du Couedic, Ravine Des Casoars, Cape Borda, Western River Cove and Stokes Bay, as well as around Kingscote and Emu Bay. Other flights are available from 30 minutes, 45 minutes and one-hour duration, covering different areas.

"We fly low enough that you can make out all the land marks, and the views are incredible."

Commissioner Wendy Campana can't wait to take a flight herself.

"It is wonderful to hear of new businesses opening up, offering residents and visitors opportunities they haven't had before – and this one is fantastic," Wendy said.

"I certainly hope many people take up the chance to enjoy one of these flights – what a great gift to give someone as well."

The flights will operate during daylight hours only, with a minimum booking for two people.

"All flights operate in accordance with the DEWNR Fly Neighbourly guidelines, which specify minimum height and areas to avoid and we don't fly on Christmas Day," Felicity said.

Bookings are essential, so for more information, contact Chinta Air on 08 – 8625 9051, 0447 863 296 or visit www.chintaair.com.au .



Felicity Brown and her husband and business partner Noel Schwarz with their aircraft.

This media release has been prepared with support from the Office of the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island.



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