

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**CACTUS ON KANGAROO ISLAND**  
**15 November 2017**

It seems Kingscote is the culinary place to be at the moment, with another new café opening last week.

Cactus Kangaroo Island is now offering breakfast and lunch at 59 Dauncey Street, next door to the Liberal electoral office.

Cactus is the brainchild of two enterprising young men – Louis Lark and Yen Aun Leow – who met while working at Southern Ocean Lodge some six years ago.

Louis is a chef while Yen trained in his home country of Malaysia at the International College of Hotel Management, and has since worked at some of the biggest named resorts in Asia – Ritz Carlton, JW Marriott Malaysia and Pan Kor Laut Resort. He completed his studies in Adelaide and in 2011, he was sponsored by Southern Ocean Lodge and commenced a 2-year stint working through all departments, finally as assistant Lodge manager for 4 ½ years.

Louis grew up on the Eyre Peninsula, and from the age of 13, worked in kitchens, doing a school-based apprenticeship at The Oyster Beds in Coffin Bay, at the time operated by Marion Trethewey. Louis has enjoyed a stellar career, having worked in Europe and Canada, at Southern Ocean Lodge, Penfolds Magill Estate and for South Australian identities, Simon Bryant and Maggie Beer.

He has also worked as assistant distiller for his father Jon Lark at KI Spirits, so a well-rounded career in hospitality.

Louis and Yen have opened Cactus as they saw an opportunity to offer a casual dining experience in Kingscote, with local producers supplying great ingredients.

“It is a chance to run our own show,” Louis said. “There’s so much potential in Kingscote to fill a gap – we can offer local food, good quality, light and healthy, at good prices.”

“We are open five days from 7.30am, so people can drop in for breakfast and a coffee and we’ll be there,” Louis said.

Yen is managing front of house, but he too shares a love of cooking, so he produces all the sweets and cakes at Cactus.

“I’ve always loved cooking, so in this new venture, I can collaborate with Louis, looking after the customers, providing excellent customer service, and adding some of my own flair to the menu,” Yen said.

“Our menu will be seasonal, fresh and local, and well-priced,” he said.

Commissioner for Kangaroo Island Wendy Campana was excited to hear about the boys’ new venture.

“I wish Louis and Yen well – it’s great that they’ve opened in time for the tourist season on the Island. They are sure to be busy, particularly with Qantas flights set to start from Adelaide and Melbourne in early December,” Wendy said.

Cactus Kangaroo Island, 59 Dauncey Street, Kingscote. Phone 0419 400 107 or go to facebook @cactus.ki.59

Currently closed Tuesday/Wednesday but dinners will be available soon and days/times may alter.



Yen Aun Leow and Louis Lark outside no 59, Cactus Kangaroo Island

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



Office of the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island