

MEDIA RELEASE

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Kangaroo Island joins the global Tesla charging network

In support of Kangaroo Island's 'Go Electric EV Friendly Business initiative' and its commitment to small-scale, sustainable tourism, luxury accommodation provider LifeTime Private Retreats has just installed KI's first Tesla Destination Charging stations at two of its Snellings Beach retreats.

Tesla was founded in 2003 by engineers who wanted to prove that people didn't need to compromise when driving an electric car. They wanted to demonstrate that electric vehicles can be better, quicker and more fun.

Today, Tesla builds all-electric vehicles, and the business has just announced that it is to build the world's largest lithium-ion battery to assist with South Australia's electricity generation. The Tesla Destination Charging program is a global initiative that sees them partner with hotels, restaurants and shopping centres around the world to provide a convenient charging solution for electric car owners.

As part of Tesla's mission to accelerate the transition to sustainable energy, they have installed more than 300 Destination Charging Stations across Australia, including at the Park Hyatt Sydney, Hotel Realm Canberra, and The Observatory in Port Macquarie, and now LifeTime Private Retreats has joined the network.

LifeTime Private Retreats' co-partners Nick and Rachel Hannaford are delighted to have this connection back to the car industry, as their grandfather, Sir James Holden, was involved in the design of the iconic Holden car in 1931.

"We are seeing an increase in Tesla cars on Kangaroo Island and we wanted to send a clear message that we support sustainable energy and tourism for the Island's future," Nick Hannaford said. The family has been involved in many conservation projects on KI, and since the 1980s, we have planted tens of thousands of trees and regenerated habitats and food sources for the endangered Glossy Black cockatoo.

The growth in sustainable energy was previously recognised through the Kangaroo Island Council and SA State Government 'Go Electric Initiative' that has already delivered 50KW of dual axis tracking solar power to the Island's airport and the installation of a network of Level 2 electric vehicle charging points in each township on Kangaroo Island and at the Kingscote Airport.

In February 2016, the Kangaroo Island Energy Security Focus Group was formed by the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island, Wendy Campana, recognising the importance of renewable and other energy storage projects that would complement the national grid power supply cable to the Island.

“This is a great example of how local businesses can lead the way by making small operational adjustments to initiate change,” Wendy Campana said.

Tesla’s Destination Chargers are installed at the iconic Cliff House and Sky House retreats. “For LifeTime Private Retreats’ luxury accommodation business to be part of the electric car evolution, two generations on, just made sense,” Nick said.

For more information, contact Nick Hannaford, LifeTime Private Retreats. 0418 219 927. nick@life-time.com.au

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