

19 December 2014

Guy Barnett, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

## Opening of Pelican Point Sanctuary

Today's official opening of Pelican Point Sanctuary is yet another vote of confidence in the Tasmanian tourism industry.

Singaporean couple Beng H Lim and Hiang Lee bought the property in August and have renovated existing buildings and added new 3-bedroom and 2-bedroom five-star Californian-style villas to the property for the coming tourist season.

They have invested significantly in the property including cleaning and stocking a dam with rainbow trout, building a 9-hole par 3 golf course and offering bikes for guests to ride into St Helens to complement the tourist experience and keep visitors in St Helens for a longer period.

The 35 ha wetland sanctuary is home to 48 species of birds and will be managed by local couple Des and Violet Charles.

The East Coast of Tasmania has enjoyed a record 18 per cent increase in tourist numbers in the past year and the Liberal Government's plan to increase visitors to the state to 1.5 million by 2020 will be felt throughout the state.

This will further encourage people, like the new owners of Pelican Point Sanctuary, to invest in Tasmanian tourism and create jobs in regional areas.

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