



February 28, 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

Collette Announces Donation to Kangaroo Island to Assist with Habitat Restoration

Today Collette's CEO, Dan Sullivan Jnr announced a donation of \$20,000 AUD from the company to the Kangaroo Island Native Plant Nursery to enable it to meet the demand for habitat restoration with seedlings of Kangaroo Island provenance to be planted in bush fire affected areas. A family-owned company with offices in the USA, Canada and Australia, Collette recently celebrated the fifth anniversary of the opening of its Australian office.

This donation complements two other donations made to assist Australia with bushfire recovery, the first being to the Australian Red Cross to support people, the second to the koala sanctuary to assist wildlife and this new third donation to assist habitat.

Blair Wickham, Kangaroo Island resident and tour guide from Exceptional Kangaroo Island was in Sydney today to meet with Dan Sullivan and to accept the donation on behalf of the nursery. The donation was offered by the organisation in solidarity with the Kangaroo Island community.

"Collette understands the importance of nature-based tourism experiences," said Sullivan. "We have always had a strong philanthropic tradition and are very proud to be able to participate in the restoration of native vegetation on Kangaroo Island, which will have so many positive effects, including supporting pollinators, providing habitat for wildlife and fostering local industries such as the honey industry and tourism."

"We are heartened to see the support we have received from Collette," said Veronica Bates, Nursery Manager. "It's been a tough time for all of us on the island, but this donation will provide the continuity and capacity that we need to rebuild with shrubs and bushes which are sourced from often rare local seed stock. Without the work of the nursery, we face potential biosecurity risks to our ecosystem from plants brought in from elsewhere."

Collette's staff have been very engaged in philanthropic initiatives since the beginnings of the company over 100 years ago. This includes providing 5,000 hours of volunteering in 2019 to diverse not-for-profit projects and partnering on community projects in different countries with Kangaroo Island now being added to an extensive list.

An international tourism icon, Kangaroo Island, like some other parts of Australia, was impacted by the bush fires in January. While much vegetation is expected to regenerate, there are areas where the fire burned too hot or where vegetation was physically removed during fire-fighting operations that will need to be replanted.

Renowned for its pristine environment and unique Australian flora and fauna, the island is home to many endemic plant species that are found nowhere else. Native vegetation provides habitat for wildlife such as kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, bandicoots, koalas and a wide variety of birds.



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Kangaroo Island Native Plant Nursery:

<https://www.naturefoundation.org.au/support-us/kangaroo-island-native-plant-nursery-fund>
<https://www.naturefoundation.org.au/support-us/wildlife-recovery-fund%20>

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For details of the full tours or to book a trip:

Contact your local travel agent and ask for Collette!
Call Collette on 1300 792 195 or visit gocollette.com.au

About Collette

Touring for today's traveller...

Featuring award-winning tour managers, and superior accommodation, Collette has been a pioneer in guided touring since 1918. With classic tours, small groups, river cruises and 'spotlight' city stays, there are over 150 tours which go to more than 55 countries offering customers exceptional choice, value and superior 4- star+ quality. Collette is a third-generation, family-owned worldwide tour operator. With headquarters in Rhode Island, Collette's Sydney office (opened in 2014) adds to the company's global presence which includes offices in Vancouver, Toronto and Nevada. Renowned for connecting guests with cultural experiences which go far beyond those of an ordinary holiday, Collette prides itself on providing real value to its guests and agent partners. Expert tour managers, an industry-leading travel protection plan and inclusive touring are just part of the top-quality Collette experience.