

ECO DRIVE

WITH RACQ'S PUBLIC POLICY DEPARTMENT



RACQ SWITCHES ON TO EVS

RESEARCH PROJECT A FIRST FOR QUEENSLAND

The RACQ has launched an electric vehicle (EV) research project, the first of its kind in Queensland. Over the next three years, the project will determine what motorists can expect of an EV in terms of reliability, range, recharging convenience, power consumption and running costs. The project will use one of the first 40 Mitsubishi iMiEVs that have been brought to Australia from Japan. It will also help the motoring club gain the necessary technical information to provide roadside assistance on electric vehicles. RACQ Chief Executive Officer Ian Gillespie acknowledges the need to minimise the impact of motor vehicles on the environment. "Electric vehicles are one of a range of alternative technologies that could help reduce our dependence on fossil fuels in the future," Mr Gillespie said. "With the use of renewable electricity, EVs produce no greenhouse gases. We know our members are interested in more sustainable motoring and electric vehicles could be a solution. This research will help us identify the benefits, the issues, and how consumer friendly they really are." The vehicle will be based in Brisbane but also displayed at community events such as the RACQ Technology Challenge Maryborough. "This landmark research project will help us to formulate policy and advocacy on behalf of members across a range of EV issues from the costs of ownership and recharging to functionality and safety," Mr Gillespie said. "It also provides an opportunity for us to take the technology to our members so they have the opportunity to see it up close."

www.racq.com.au/motoring



look out for wildlife

SUPPORTING QUEENSLAND WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

Animals are usually more active during feed times at dusk and dawn. Wildlife aware drivers can scan for animals on the roadside or attempting to cross, and take evasive action when safe.

The RACQ supports the Queensland Wildlife Rehabilitation Council whose members play a vital role in the rehabilitation and release of injured wildlife throughout the state.

www.qwrc.org.au



ECO-DRIVING TIP

Reduce aerodynamic drag and save on fuel by removing your roof racks when not required or fit rear mounted bike carriers. Open windows create wind turbulence and drag that increases fuel consumption, so at highway speeds, close the windows and use the fan or air-conditioner. www.racq.com.au



AUSTRALIA KOALA FOUNDATION

koalas

CROSS HERE

Most motorists are concerned about the impact urbanisation has on wildlife in Australia. Our roads dissect animal habitats, making it dangerous for animals, particularly koalas, seeking food and moving about.

Two projects funded with \$10M from the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads are addressing this by installing fences, renovating culverts and underpasses and even building overpasses to prevent koalas crossing roads. At the same time Griffith University will be tracking 60 koalas to see how our furry friends manage to use these innovations. More on this as it develops.