

How a household got 7.3% return on investment and is anti-inflationary by moving to all-electric!

by PAULA SAMSON, Secretary & Founding Member of Melville City CAN.

Before I write anything, I need to state that I am a volunteer in a community group and will have no personal financial gain from writing this article. Also, I am not a financial advisor and you should always seek your own financial advice. So, here goes!

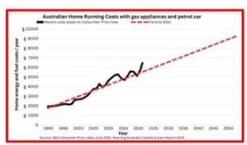
I have a confession to make. I recently gave the electricity bill a good look and was shocked to find it was \$2,500 per kWh compared to the 2022 National Tariff of \$0.32 per kWh.

And you also know that the average household spends \$1,890 per year on a household car. This is a lot of money for a household that is not a car addict. I have seen the "Electric Vehicle" bill and it is \$40,000. This is a lot of money for a household that is not a car addict. I have seen the "Electric Vehicle" bill and it is \$40,000. This is a lot of money for a household that is not a car addict.

So, it is a win-win, you will have more money in your pocket over time and you will keep up with clean energy innovations.

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|------|
| The initial cost of electric appliances and electric vehicles may be higher but the cost is locked in and not subject to inflation. | \$69,000 in the Bank | Earns \$2,760 | 4.0% |
| | \$69,000 in All-Electric Home | Saves \$5,090 | 7.3% |
| Heat Pump Hot Water System | | \$3,500 | |
| Induction Cooktop | | \$2,500 | |
| Reverse Cycle Heating and Cooling | | \$9,500 | |
| Home Battery 10Kwh (after Federal Rebate) | | \$7,500 | |
| Solar Panels 6kW | | \$6,000 | |
| Electric Vehicle | | \$40,000 | |
| Total Cost | | \$69,000 | |

Household car * \$1,890
Gas ** \$700
Electricity bill \$2,626 *** \$2500
Total Savings/year \$5,090



Transcript of article published in The Melville Herald 1/11/25:

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It is now common knowledge that solar panels provide electricity at the cheapest cost - \$0.05 per kWh compared to Synergy Standard Tariff of \$0.32 per kWh.

And we also know that the average Australian household using gas appliances with a petrol car will pay more per year than a household with electric appliances and an electric car.

How can this be? Where do you go to find information on the real-world savings from becoming an all-electric household?

To make plans to Electrify your household you need to know:

1. How much energy (gas and electricity) you consume daily and annually.
2. How many km do you drive annually? How much did you spend last year on fuel? What is your cars fuel consumption (litres/100km)? The Vehicle Emissions Star Rating Website is a tool that can help calculate this.

Below compares the Return on Investment of "Money in the Bank" compared to "Money in an All-Electric conversion" - for appliances of medium cost and also, savings based on the previous years cost for the household car, the gas bill and the electricity bill with no solar panels.

Of course, there are appliances that cost less or cost more and appliances can be replaced one by one or all at once for a new build.

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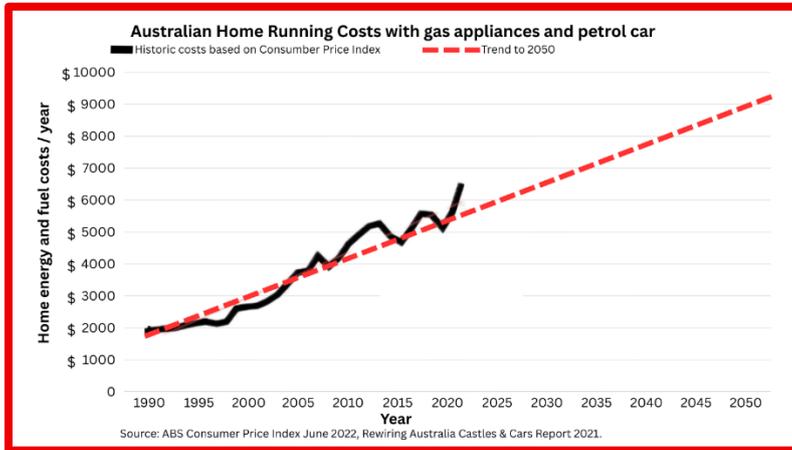
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Calculations:

- *Car: 15,000km/yr, petrol cost \$1.80/litre, 7l/100km. 7litres x 15,000km divided by 100 = 1,050 litres of petrol/year x \$1.80 = \$1,890
- **Gas: Gas Supply Charge Fee and Administration Fee/year \$180. Average Gas Consumption Fee/year = \$520
- *** Electricity savings: 22kWh/day. Previous year bill \$2,626 - currently 95% self-sufficient with installing solar panels and home battery = \$2,500

Also, what would have been the cost, if you had been installing gas appliances anyway, can be taken into account and deducted. For example, the average replacement cost for a gas storage hot water system in Australia would be approximately \$2,000.

Looking at the bigger picture – the All-Electric Household has fixed energy costs and will not be increasing with inflation. In fact, going all-electric is anti-inflationary!



Saul Griffith, from Rewiring Australia explains “The 30-year price history of all the energy consumed in an Australian household using gas appliances and a petrol car steadily increases at roughly the rate of inflation as these fuels are part of the Consumer Price Index tracking household inflation. By 2050, homes are forecast to be paying over \$9,500 a year in energy bills (the red dotted line).”

From November 2024 gas increased by 7.8 per cent each year for the next five years, under a decision by the Economic Regulation Authority.

Low-cost fossil fuel appliances such as petrol cars, gas hot water systems and gas cooktops require you to buy expensive fossil fuels to keep them running into the future. This is like buying a cheap printer which needs expensive ink cartridges over its lifetime. It can be better to buy the higher quality printer. Or cheaper clothing that doesn't last as long, it may have been better value to pay a bit extra initially to save money in the long run.

The initial cost of electric appliances and electric vehicles may be higher but the cost is locked in and not subject to inflation.

When something is anti-inflationary – it is not costing you more each year. Inflation is the general increase in prices, leading to a decrease in your purchasing power. Anti-inflation policies are designed to curb a rise in prices and stabilise the economy to protect the value of money.

Australian's pay about \$60 billion per year to foreign countries for their oil. The switch to All-Electric Household and Electric vehicles means we can power with Australian sunshine instead, and spend that \$60 billion within our communities.

So, it is a win-win, you will have more money in your pocket over time and you will keep up with clean energy innovations.

Griffith plugged in for Melville

by PAULA SAMSON, Melville City Climate Action Network secretary and founding member

ACCLAIMED inventor, engineer, and climate advocate Saul Griffith is heading to Melville on Thursday September 11 for the launch of his new book, *Plug In! An Electrification Handbook*.

The event, hosted by community group Melville City Climate Action Network, will be at the Tompkins Park Function Room in Ardross, and is set to be full of inspiration, practical advice, and community connection.

Dr Griffith is widely recognised as one of Australia's leading voices in climate and energy reform.

With a background in physics and a track record of innovation in clean energy technologies, he has long been a passionate advocate for electrification as the most effective way to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change.

Plug In!, offers a clear, practical roadmap to help everyday Australians transition their homes, vehicles, and appliances from fossil fuels to clean electricity.

The book's core message is simple but powerful: we already

have the tools to create a cleaner, safer, and more affordable energy future — and it starts at home.

From replacing gas cooktops with induction stoves to investing in rooftop solar, heat pumps, and electric vehicles, *Plug In!* lays out the steps individuals and families can take to become part of the solution.

Following their recent Electrify Melville City Expo in May, the MCCAN, a local grassroots organisation focused on community-led climate action, is hosting this significant event.

"This is a real opportunity for people in Melville to hear from one of the most visionary and practical minds working on climate solutions today," MCCAN chairperson Jillian Horton said.

"Saul's message is empowering because it focuses on what we can do, right now, in our own homes and neighbourhoods. It's not just theory, it's about taking action."

The event will feature Dr Griffith in conversation with ABC broadcaster Geraldine Mellet, followed by a Q&A session, book signing, afternoon tea and time for informal discussion.

Copies of *Plug In!* will be available for purchase, and information brochures and advice from local residents that have completed household

electrification will also be on hand with resources and advice.

Dr Griffith's approach to climate action is refreshingly optimistic.

He argues that widespread electrification not only slashes emissions, but also lowers household energy bills, improves health outcomes by eliminating gas pollution in homes, and creates thousands of new jobs across the country.

"Electrification is not a sacrifice, it's an upgrade," Dr Griffith often says.

"It's about giving Australians better, cheaper, and cleaner options."

Melville residents are already showing strong interest in this transition.

Many have begun replacing gas appliances, installing solar panels, and switching to electric vehicles.

The event aims to build on that momentum, equipping more people with the knowledge and confidence to make the switch.

Tompkins Park Function Room, set along the Swan River, offers a fitting venue for this community-focused event.

It reflects the growing local commitment to sustainability and the strong grassroots network pushing for climate solutions that start at home.



• Saul Griffith

Dr Griffith's visit also comes at a timely moment.

With both federal and state governments offering rebates and incentives for electrification, households now have more support than ever to make changes that benefit the environment and their wallets.

"We hope this event will spark new conversations, new ideas, and new actions across Melville," Dr Horton said.

"Change doesn't have to come from the top down, it can start

with each of us."

Plug In! An Electrification Handbook launch
Thursday September 11, 1pm for a 1.30pm start.

Tompkins Park Function Room,
632 Canning Hwy, Ardross
Tix \$5 on Humanitix or pay on the day.

All members of the public are welcome to attend. Whether you're new to climate action or already making changes at home, this is a chance to learn, connect, and get inspired.