

Media Release

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Gallipoli Lone Pine lives on at RSL Care memorial Garden

Gallipoli Memorial Garden at RSL Care's Carrington Retirement Community in Parkinson was officially opened today by RSL Care CEO, Mr Ross Smith and RSL QLD State President, Mr Doug Formby. Almost 100 people were in attendance with the Catafalque Party - Logan Community Cadets and an official blessing given by Chaplin Petra Milaudi marking the ceremony.

"Gallipoli Memorial Garden, featuring two pine trees -descendents of the famous Lone Pine of Gallipoli - and a Memorial Stone will commemorate the brave men and women who fought for our current way of life," said Lifestyle Manager Kevin Landles.

The Gallipoli "Lone Pine" holds great historical significance. Australian soldiers who served at Gallipoli knew Plateau 400 or "Lone Pine" - the scene of some of the fiercest hand-to-hand combat by Australians in World War One. The Plateau, a heavily fortified Turkish trench position, was distinguished by a solitary lone pine which bore silent witness to the heroism and tenacity of Australians who fought there.

After the capture of the Lone Pine ridge in Gallipoli (6 August 1915), an Australian Soldier who had taken part in the attack, in which his brother was killed, found a cone on one of the branches used by the Turks as overhead cover for their trenches, and sent it to his mother. From seed shed by it she raised the tree, which she presented to be planted in the War Memorial grounds in honour of her own and others' sons who fell at Lone Pine. The trees planted at Carrington were raised from seed from this Pine and were sourced by Bill Davies, a Reservist Officer with the Royal Australian Navy.

"Carrington's residents are very proud of the new Garden, giving feedback that the Garden is important for those who have served and given their lives for their country be remembered and recognised for their selfless actions. They feel that the planting of the Lone Pines is a fitting symbol of those that have given the ultimate sacrifice," Kevin said.

RSL Care's Carrington Retirement Community is a fully integrated retirement community offering retirement living and residential care providing low, high and secure dementia care and **HomeCare**,

For more information on RSL Care's Carrington Retirement Community, please phone 07 3273 2755 or visit www.rslcare.com.au.

RSL Care is one of Australia's most respected not-for-profit providers of **HomeCare**, retirement living and residential care to the ex-service and general community. From simple beginnings in 1936, RSL Care now provides a range of **HomeCare** services to more than 22,000 people and accommodates over 4,500 people in 27 retirement communities in Queensland and New South Wales.