

# Media Release

## 4 December 2009



### New Aged Care wing opens

RSL Care Farnorha Retirement Community's new residential aged care wing was officially opened this morning in Westcourt, Cairns by the Queensland RSL Far Northern District President, Max Luxton.

With the completion of this new \$10.3 million 60 bed extension, Farnorha now provides a "home away from home" for up to 130 residents. The community caters for low, high and secure dementia care as well as Extra Service high care. The new wing has also provided around fifty new job opportunities which are most welcome in the current financial climate.

"Opening of this new wing means a significant boost to aged care places available in the Cairns region, which currently has a high demand for these services," said Ross Smith, CEO, RSL Care.

"It also means more choice for veterans and war widows, however everyone from the community is welcome at Farnorha," said Mr Smith.

Farnorha provides residential care and support 24 hours a day by a team of nursing, personal care and therapy specialists who encourage a caring, friendly and home like environment. Residents have their own room with ensuite, airconditioning and emergency call system. Regular activities are also organised to ensure residents remain active.

Since acquiring Farnorha from a local community based organisation just over ten years ago, RSL Care has replaced the original facility and now almost doubled its capacity. In addition, RSL **HomeCare** services were introduced and are planned to increase, which provide care and support to help people remain independent and active in their home.

RSL Care is also looking to further extend its current offering in the Cairns region with an exciting new development in design phase at Fig Tree Drive, Caravonica, which will further enhance the retirement living and aged care options available in the region.

"The opening of the new wing at Farnorha and our planned development at Caravonica will mean that RSL Care can provide a larger range of care and retirement living options," said Mr Smith.

**Applications for residential care are currently being accepted. For more information please call 07 4052 9900 or visit [www.rslcare.com.au](http://www.rslcare.com.au).** For further information about care and support in the home, please phone RSL **HomeCare** on 1300 076 566.

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 28 retirement communities in Queensland and New South Wales.