

Media Release

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Fallen remembered at RSL Care site donated by WWI Veteran

Over 200 Ex-service personnel and local community members are expected to join this year's Remembrance Day service at RSL Care Fernhill Retirement Community in Caboolture on Friday November 11.

RSL Care CEO Mr Peter Emery said Remembrance Day was one of the most solemn yet important days on the RSL Care calendar and was honoured to host the service on the site that inspired the aged care provider's proud work as carers for older Australians.

"Fernhill was generously donated to the RSL by WWI Veteran Malcolm Newman in 1947," Mr Emery said.

"At the time it was considered to be one of the grandest homes in South East Queensland with the then Brisbane Lord Mayor John Beals Chandler commenting that he could not imagine a more beautiful spot for War Veterans to spend their days.

"While Fernhill was certainly a beautiful place to live it also enabled the RSL to go from providing accommodation and post-war support for our Veterans to providing aged care services as their needs changed."

After years of renovations and expansions to meet increasing demand, Fernhill today comprises 119 villas, 164 bed residential care facility as well as a day therapy centre that caters to the broader Australian community.

"At RSL Care, we are privileged to support 'our mates' by providing quality aged care services. Thanks to the generosity and vision of a local WWI Veteran, we can be proud of our heritage too," Mr Emery said.

"We thank the RSL Caboolture-Morayfield and District Sub Branch for inviting us to host this year's Remembrance Day service on the very site that inspired our work.

"We also encourage members of the community to join the service on Friday as we pay tribute to the 196 diggers from the Caboolture district who served in conflict – the sacrifice they made and the suffering their families endured."

A wreath will be laid on behalf of RSL Care Fernhill Retirement Community by 101 year-old WWII Veteran Mr Ken Blake who lives at Fernhill and served as an Armaments Officer.

Guests of honour include the family of the late Lieutenant General Allan Joseph Boase CBE and ex Caboolture resident who served in the Army along with his three brothers during WWI.

Representatives from the RSL Caboolture-Morayfield and District Sub Branch, Caboolture War Widows Guild, Legacy and the Salvation Army as well local Members of Parliament will also be in attendance.

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