



## Media Release

**24 October 2017**

### Kernow Respite Centre Closes its Doors

#### Background - Mosman Hall

The Charters Towers Mental Hospital, at Charters Towers, was run by the State Government of Queensland. It opened in 1954 and closed in 2001. A new psychiatric facility was built on the site. It was named Charters Towers Rehabilitation Unit.

The Charters Towers Mental Hospital's first patients were admitted 16th September 1954 on transfer from the Brisbane Mental Hospital. The ages of the patients ranged from 14 to 83.

The name Mosman is related to Hugh Mosman, a prominent Charters Towers businessman and politician during the late nineteenth century.

source: <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/ref/qld/biogs/QE00791b.htm>

#### Kernow Respite Centre Opens

The Kernow Respite Centre began operation in the Southern Buildings of Mosman Hall during the period when "Kernow" was being developed as a residential estate. The developer (Les Bone) kindly donated the use of the facility while working bees and volunteer programs worked to restore parts of the building for use as the Respite Centre under the guidance and management of the Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre - Now Prospect Community Services. Kernow Respite Centre opened for service 7th February 2015.

#### Kernow's Achievements

With respite services available, full-time carers of patients with high needs were able to gain valuable respite from the ongoing arduous task of being full-time carers for their loved ones. In emergency situations, respite care can be required at a minutes notice. Kernow could provide the time and space for support workers to meet the needs of full-time carers when emergencies arise.

Respite guests were able to enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of a home away from home whilst the historic buildings were given a new lease on life. Prospect are eternally grateful to Les and the Kernow Development team for supporting us to provide this service over the past 20 months.

#### The Doors Close at Kernow Respite Centre

Kernow Respite Centre ceased functioning Wednesday 11th October 2017 when the lease agreement with Kernow concluded. The further development of Kernow will include restoration of these historic buildings and we look forward to watching the transformation into the future. Our time has come to look to the future in respite care for Charters Towers.

#### The Future Beyond Kernow Respite Centre

The organisation seeks the support of the community by way of financial contributions to assist with the acquisition of a suitable facility and on-going operational support to assist with the delivery of this service.

Limited funding is available to Prospect Community Services to deliver Respite within the Charters Towers area. Prospect Community Services is a Registered Charity and there are tax benefits for financial donations received at Prospect.

Prospect Community Services is a lead agency within the community known for leadership and innovation and is well placed to be able to provide the necessary service for those people in Charters Towers seeking Respite.

#### CONTACT

For further media information contact: Prospect Community Services

Contact name: Sue-Ellen Weedon

Email: [info@prospect.org.au](mailto:info@prospect.org.au)

Phone number: (07) 4787 4797