

# A different approach

Life for retirees has changed and today's retirement villages are designed to reflect modern needs

**D**EVELOPERS are looking outside the square to cater for a new generation of retirees as Australia's ageing population demands new options.

Colleen Coyne Property Research director Colleen Coyne said resort-style, high-rise projects and villages bridging the gap between independent retirement living and aged-care facilities were two prime examples.

"Modern retirees often don't have the same options as their predecessors, with the busy working lives of modern society meaning many people can't rely on the family network to provide the required support," she said.

"Therefore, the baby

boomer generation has to be much more prepared to pay for their care in retirement and as such want higher-quality, long-term options.

"This will come to the fore over the next few years as an increasing number of people reach retirement age."

The Queensland Government's 2008 population projections for southeast Queensland showed people aged 65 and over would increase by more than 525,000 during the 25 years to 2031.

"This age group will represent one-third of the projected population increase of 1.5 million people for the region," said Ms Coyne.

Distinctive products are emerging to cater for the

needs of each segment of the ageing population.

"We're seeing an increased acceptance from younger retirees for vertical living options, because they provide convenient compact living with luxury appointments, modern connectivity and the freedom to 'lock and leave' and travel," said Ms Coyne.

"Traditional retirement villages are also experiencing strong competition from new concepts in manufactured home villages that don't come with expensive exit fees.

"The emergence of retirement developments offering independent living with the option for higher care is also attracting strong interest, particularly from the older segment of



The number of people aged over 65 is growing

the retirement market."

In this edition of *Time for Life*, check out some of the facilities that are meeting the needs of the

modern retiree looking for an active and full lifestyle.

From Noosa, the southern Gold Coast, southeast Queensland and

northern NSW offer some of the most up-to-date facilities for the active over-50s, including spectacular leisure clubs.