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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

3 August 2022

Guy Barnett, Minister for Veteran's Affairs

2022-23 'Teddy' Sheean VC Memorial Grants Program now open

The Tasmanian Government recognises the valuable contribution of Tasmania's service men and women and is committed to supporting the serving and ex-service community in Tasmania.

Applications are now open for Round One of the 2022-23 'Teddy' Sheean VC Memorial Grants Program.

The 'Teddy' Sheean VC Memorial Grants Program was established as a tribute to the bravery and sacrifice made by Tasmanian ordinary sailor Edward 'Teddy' Sheean.

This year is particularly significant as 2022 is the 80th anniversary of the sinking of the HMAS Armidale near East Timor and the incredible act of bravery by 'Teddy' who died defending shipmates from enemy attack whilst his ship sank beneath him.

But more so, this Grants Program honours 'Teddy' Sheean VC as an embodiment of the many Tasmanians who have served in the defence of this country and we know now, following release of the latest Census data, that there are over 17,500 veterans calling Tasmania home.

Tasmania has a long and proud military history and the Tasmanian Liberal Government continues to be the strongest supporter of our veterans and their families as well as those currently serving in the armed forces.

To date, 104 projects have been supported under this program and a further \$50,000 is available for this round.

Grants are available for up to \$10,000 for minor capital works, up to \$5,000 for equipment purchases for RSL cubs, sub-branch and ex-service organisations, and up to \$5,000 towards the repair and maintenance of war memorials and construction of new memorials.

And, consistent with our election commitment, grants of up to \$5,000 will also be available to eligible organisations for initiatives to support the health and wellbeing of veterans.

The Grants Program Guidelines and Application Form are available at:

https://www.communities.tas.gov.au/csr/Grants/teddy_sheean_grants_program

For further information, please contact Community Grants by email at

csrgrants@communities.tas.gov.au or by telephone on 1800 204 224.