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TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Guy Barnett, Minister for Veterans Affairs
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Veterans' Health Week

Social connection for veterans and their families will be a focus during Veterans' Health Week which is being held from 24 October – 1 November 2020.

This annual national week raises awareness of improving health and wellbeing for former and current serving Australian Defence Force personnel, their families and carers.

This year's theme of social connection reflects the impact that COVID-19 has had on our community this past year and the importance of maintaining strong relational networks.

The Week also highlights the key role played by the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs, ex-serving organisations and community groups in supporting our veterans and their families.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is also committed to supporting Tasmania's more than 10,500 veterans and ex-serving personnel.

Our support provides more than \$750,000 in additional funding over three years including a \$225,000 Veterans Active Recreation Program, a \$100,000 commitment to a Veterans Retreat in Tasmania's Central Highlands, and \$60,000 support towards a feasibility study into a potential veterans wellbeing centre in Tasmania.

Veterans' Health Week is also an opportunity for Tasmanians to reach out to any current or ex-serving personnel they may know, thank them for their service and ask how they are going.

I encourage all Tasmanians, particularly our veterans and ex-serving personnel, to participate in events and support mental wellness.

Further details on local events can be found at <https://www.dva.gov.au/health-and-treatment/work-and-social-life-programs/veterans-health-week/veterans-health-week-0>