



12 January 2017

Guy Barnett, Liberal Member for Lyons

## Grants available for Community Projects

The Tasmanian Liberal Government has invested more than \$250,000 in the Men's Shed program since coming to office and a further \$124,204 is now available for capital works programs and tools, equipment and community initiatives.

Guy Barnett, Member for Lyons said round five of the program was now open and called on local groups to take advantage of the program.

"Tasmania's 74 Men's Sheds are an incredibly valuable community asset with more than 4,000 regular members across the state," Mr Barnett said.

"Men's Sheds provide a safe, supportive environment where men can form friendships, learn and share skills, seek support and advice regarding health and wellbeing issues and participate in projects that benefit the broader community.

"I know from my visits to many Sheds in Lyons, of which there are over 20, that they are an invaluable community asset, which is why I'm so proud the Government has been such a strong supporter of the program."

Funding for the 2016-17 Grants Program is now open and for the first time, grants will be available through two categories:

- Category One: Grants up to \$5 000 for tools, equipment, member training and community initiatives; and
- Category Two: Grants up to \$10 000 for capital works.

Past rounds of the grants program have funded initiatives including:

- Equipment upgrades to improve occupational health and safety;
- The purchase of tools and equipment for newly established sheds;
- First aid training and equipment including defibrillators; and
- Community garden projects.

"Tasmania has the highest density of Men's Sheds in Australia (10 sheds per 100,000 compared to 3.5 in NSW) and they deliver clear health benefits to communities through increased physical activity and improved awareness of mental health issues like depression and anxiety," Mr Barnett said.

“I encourage Men’s Sheds to get involved in this new round of funding, with information and application forms available at [www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/csr](http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/csr) or feel free to contact my office and we can assist you with your application.”

Applications close on February 17.