26 May, 2016

Guy Barnett, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

Supporting Tasmania's Veterans

The Hodgman Liberal Government is continuing its strong support of Tasmania's veterans and ex-service community by providing over \$350,000 to support the RSL and Tasmania's veterans community in the 2016-17 Budget.

Additional funding of \$100,000 per annum will continue to be provided through the 2016-17 financial year, on top of the existing recurrent funding of \$100,000 already provided to the Tasmanian RSL.

The additional \$100,000 per annum was announced in the 2014-15 Budget and represents an extra \$300,000 over three years to help the RSL support Tasmania's veterans.

The RSL provides immense services to our ex-servicemen and women and the broader community.

From the Boer War to more recent campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq, Tasmanians have been at the forefront in answering Australia's call.

They have served in all major theatres and conflicts that Australia has participated in with courage and commitment.

The Liberal Government has also established the Teddy Sheean Memorial Grants Program, which provides \$100,000 a year in small grants to RSL sub-branches and other ex-service organisations for minor capital works and upgrades through to the 2016-17 financial year.

Already this program has helped RSLs and other veterans' organisations across the state perform minor upgrades to amenities and facilities to help support ex-servicemen and women.

The Government is also providing \$50,000 annually until 2018 to projects that commemorate the Centenary of ANZAC in Tasmania through the Centenary of ANZAC Grants Program.

These grants have been accessed by RSL clubs, veterans and community organisations across the state, and are an important part of retaining local history and remembering the sacrifice that was made by Tasmanian communities during the Great War and other conflicts.

Back on track. Reinvesting in essential services.

Some of the projects include the Tasmanian Headstone Project, a Battle of Britain Commemoration, providing a plaque for the Sorell RSL Sub Branch Memorial Wall, and the development of a Walk of Remembrance at the Claremont Military Training Camp.

Tasmania's veteran community has sacrificed much for our country, and the Government is pleased to be able to honour their memories and sacrifice through continued support for the RSL.

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