



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

The Hon. Greg Hunt MP

Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

6 April 2018

\$4930 for Penguin Men's Shed

The Penguin Men's Shed has been awarded a grant of \$4930 from the Turnbull Government for new tools and building maintenance under the Government's National Shed Development Programme.

Senator Richard Colbeck today congratulated the Men's Shed for its successful application for the grant.

"Like similar sheds across Australia, the Penguin shed offers great benefits to any local men who need a bit of space and some friendly, easy-going company," Senator Colbeck said.

"The Turnbull Government recognises these benefits and is providing a total of \$5.1 million over three years to the national men's sheds movement."

The Penguin Men's Shed will use its government grant to purchase new tools and equipment as well as carry out building maintenance and skills training.

"Men are talking about their health more and more, and the men's shed provides a safe and friendly environment for them to do so. Men's sheds are integral to the community and the benefits to men's health are widely acknowledged, Senator Colbeck said."

In 2016, the rate of suicide among Australian males was more than three times that of females.

Health Minister Greg Hunt said although mental illness affects both men and women, men are less likely to seek help or talk about their feelings.

"Feeling part of a social group is important to our emotional and mental health and every day Men's Sheds around the country provide men with an opportunity for companionship," Minister Hunt said.

The grants programme provides funding for health improvement activities, the purchase of tools and equipment, community projects and training, and for building maintenance and development.
(ENDS)

Authorised by Greg Hunt MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Hastings, Victoria.