

**TASMANIAN LIBERAL SENATE TEAM
SENATORS ABETZ, BUSHBY, COLBECK AND DUNIAM**

**THE HON. GREG HUNT MP
MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

MEDIA RELEASE

Tasmanian Men's Sheds given a boost

The Tasmanian Liberal Senate Team has today announced \$34,147 in grants to Men's Sheds around Tasmania to support their work in local communities.

The latest round of funding follows more than \$151,345 in funding grants provided to Men's Sheds by the Federal Liberal National Government since 2013.

"Men's Sheds provide an important space for some friendly, easy-going company, right around Tasmania and the Federal Government, along with the Tasmanian Liberal Senate Team, are pleased to support them," Senator Colbeck said on behalf of the Tasmanian Liberal Senate Team.

"Men are often the last ones to make their health and wellbeing a priority. It's imperative that we do what we can to ensure they get the support they need and deserve.

"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 have grown in number from around 200 in 2005 to over 930 today and are integral to the community while the benefits to men's health are widely acknowledged.

"This week is Men's Shed Week and I encourage men to get down to their local sheds and enjoy what these great community groups have to offer."

Health Minister Greg Hunt said feeling part of a social group is important to our emotional and mental health.

"Every day Men's Sheds across Tasmania provide men with an opportunity for companionship and support within their community," Minister Hunt said.

The Men's Shed grants programme provides funding for health improvement activities, the purchase of tools and equipment, community projects and training, and for building maintenance and development.