



## **SENATOR THE HON ARTHUR SINODINOS AO**

### **Senator for New South Wales**

19 October 2017

#### **New funding grant for Newcastle's Blue Gums Hills Men's Shed**

The Turnbull Government is providing a \$3,000 grant for the Blue Gums Hills Men's Shed in Newcastle, which will go towards purchasing a much needed lawnmower and addressing health and safety.

Liberal Senator for New South Wales, Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos, said the funding will support men's physical and mental health and wellbeing.

"The Blue Gums Hills Men's Shed helps men, particularly as they get older, to connect with each other and prevent social isolation and preventable health conditions," Senator Sinodinos said.

President of Blue Gums Hills Men's Shed, Roy Hart, said "it's great the Government is helping to purchase a new lawnmower so we can get out and help the community."

Senator Sinodinos said this funding round helps Men's Sheds to buy tools and equipment, support community projects and training, maintain or develop their buildings, or create local activities to improve men's health.

"The \$3,000 grant will go a long way to ensuring the Blue Gums Hills Men's Shed continues to provide real benefits to its members and the broader community and I congratulate them on their success," Senator Sinodinos said.

"Men's Sheds provide a sense of community, a safe and friendly environment where men can work on meaningful projects at their own pace, in their own time, in the company of other men."

"Members have an opportunity to pass their skills to others, learn new things, or just catch up regularly with other men in the community for a chat and a cup of tea," Senator Sinodinos said.

This grant funding is part of the \$5.1 million the Federal Government has provided to the Australian Men's Shed Association through to 2018-19 to support the national network of Men's Sheds.

Details of all successful grant recipients from this National Shed Development Program funding round are available at [www.mensshed.org](http://www.mensshed.org).

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