



Media Release

The Hon Warren Snowdon MP

Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Science and Personnel
Minister for Indigenous Health

Saturday, 16 October 2010

VA053

GRANTS TO PROVIDE MORE SUPPORT FOR VETERANS AROUND AUSTRALIA

Around 200 Ex-Service Organisations across the country have benefited from funding to help continue vital support services to local veteran communities, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, announced today.

Mr Snowdon said nearly \$4.4 million has been made available through the Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) program, to help Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs) provide essential on-the-ground support to veterans, war widows, widowers and their families.

"Ex-Service Organisations are often the first point-of-contact for many veterans needing assistance to access their benefits. This funding will help ensure they have the right tools, equipment and resources to continue their great work.

"The BEST program has helped purchase resources including internet access and printers, employing trained advocates, pension and welfare officers, and also covers travel expenses for ESOs who extend their support to veterans outside of their area.

"The support provided by ESOs also greatly assists the veteran community in understanding what benefits they are entitled to and how they can access them, including lifestyle or support programs on offer through the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the wider veteran community," Mr Snowdon said.

Since Labor took office, 868 organisations have benefited from more than \$14 million in funding through BEST, including an additional funding boost for capital equipment.

Mr Snowdon encouraged all ESOs to take advantage of the funding available from the Australian Government.

For more information on grant programs contact the Department of Veterans' Affairs on 133 254 (metro callers) or 1800 555 254 (non-metro callers), or visit www.dva.gov.au/grants

Editors note: *A list of grant recipients is attached.*

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QUEENSLAND BEST RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	FUNDING DESCRIPTION	TOTAL \$
South Burnett ESO Support Centre	Wondai	Funding for travels, consumables and phone.	8,200
Capricorn Coast Veteran Support Service	Yeppoon	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	7,440
Far North Queensland Veteran & Ex-Service Support Centre	Westcourt	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	16,383
Regular Defence Force Welfare Association Queensland Branch	Enoggera	Funding for internet access, computer, software, consumables and running costs.	5,865
Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Association Queensland Branch	Enoggera	Funding for salaries and travel.	24,667
Armed Services Assistance Centre	Newfarm	Funding for salaries, computers, internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	47,993
Australian Army Aviation Association	Brookfield	Funding for consumables.	250
Central Queensland Veterans' Support Centre Inc	Rockhampton	Funding for salaries, travel, internet access, telephone and consumables.	25,538
Legacy Fund of Brisbane	South Brisbane	Funding for salaries, travel and consumables.	72,246
Cairns Legacy Club	Earlville	Funding for salaries.	11,319
Legacy Club of Fraser Coast & Country Burnett	Maryborough	Funding for salaries.	13,017
Gold Coast Legacy Club	Southport	Funding for salaries.	13,583
Rockhampton and Central Queensland Legacy Fund	Rockhampton	Funding for salaries, internet access and travel.	10,280
Naval Association of Australia Queensland Section	Wooloongabba	Funding for travel.	600
Naval Association of Australia Sandgate Sub-section	Lawnton	Funding for internet access and consumables.	518
Beaudesert RSL Sub-branch	Beaudesert	Funding for travel, consumables and running costs.	2,000
Beenleigh and District RSL Sub-branch	Mt Warren Park	Funding for salaries, software, travel, consumables and running costs.	12,337
Naval Association of Australia National Council	Ninderry	Funding for internet access, software, consumables and running costs.	9,165
Beerwah Peachester RSL Sub-branch	Beerwah	Funding for computer, internet access, travel and consumables.	4,068
Bundaberg ESO Support Centre	Bundaberg	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	44,051
Cairns RSL Sub-branch	Cairns	Funding for a computer.	1,429
Coolum Peregian Beach RSL Sub-branch	Coolum Beach	Funding for internet access and consumables.	888
Cooroy Pomona RSL Sub-branch	Cooroy	Funding for travel, consumables and running costs.	2,000
Currumbin Palm Beach RSL Sub-branch Veterans' Support Centre	Currumbin	Funding for salaries, travel and consumables.	37,532

Gatton RSL Sub-branch	Gatton	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel and consumables.	12,144
Gaythorne RSL Sub-branch	Mitchelton	Funding for salaries and consumables.	38,423
Gladstone RSL Sub-branch	Gladstone	Funding for salaries and internet access.	10,890
Gympie RSL Sub-branch	Gympie	Funding for travel and internet access.	2,720
Hervey Bay RSL Sub-branch	Pialba	Funding for salaries and consumables.	16,715
Ipswich and District Veterans' Support Group	Ipswich	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel and running costs.	57,998
Lowood RSL Sub-branch	Lowood	Funding for internet access, travel and running costs.	5,309
Maroochydore RSL Sub-branch	Maroochydore	Funding for computer software.	420
RSL National Servicemen's Combined Central Sub-branch	Gracemere	Funding for photocopier, software, consumables and running costs.	3,143
Pine Rivers District RSL Sub-branch	Kallangur	Funding for travel, consumables and internet access.	16,123
Pioneer - Fitzroy - Highlands RSL Sub-branch	Mackay	Funding for salaries, printer, internet access, travel and consumables.	21,028
Returned and Services League of Australia - Queensland Branch	Fortitude Valley	Funding for salaries.	96,012
Redcliffe RSL Sub-branch	Redcliffe	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	22,040
Redlands RSL Sub-branch	Cleveland	Funding for salaries.	11,319
Runaway Bay RSL Sub-branch	Runaway Bay	Funding for salaries and internet access.	5,986
Sandgate RSL Sub-branch	Sandgate	Funding for salaries, laptop, software and surge protector.	16,345
Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSL Sub-branch	Corinda	Funding for salaries, travel and running costs.	32,241
Surfers Paradise RSL Sub-branch	Surfers Paradise	Funding for salaries and consumables.	28,634
Tewantin Noosa RSL Sub-branch	Tewantin	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	3,057
Tin Can Bay RSL Sub-branch	Tin Can Bay	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	1,096
Tweed Heads & Coolangatta RSL Sub-branch	Tweed Heads	Funding for salaries, internet access, consumables and running costs.	25,173
Warwick RSL Sub-branch	Warwick	Funding for internet access.	350
Submarines Association of Australia Queensland Branch	Jimboomba	Funding for travel and consumables.	968
Veterans' Support and Advocacy Service Australia	Toowong	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	13,636
Veterans' Support and Advocacy Service Australia Jimboomba Branch	Jimboomba	Funding for internet access and consumables.	685
Veterans' Support and Advocacy Service Australia Warwick	Warwick	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,760
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Bribie Island & District Sub-branch	Bongaree	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	1,650
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Hervey Bay City Sub-branch	Pialba	Funding for salaries, photocopier, internet access, book and consumables.	16,507

Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Sunshine Coast Sub-branch	Cotton Tree	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	3,500
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Townsville Sub-branch	Hermit Park	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	3,000
Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia Lockyer/Brisbane Valley Sub-branch	Laidley	Funding for consumables.	240
Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia Queensland Branch	Nerang	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel, running costs and consumables.	62,011
Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia Rockhampton Sub-branch	Rockhampton	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	3,500
Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia Townsville Sub-branch	Townsville	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel and consumables.	14,290
Naval Association of Capricornia	Rockhampton	Funding for computer equipment, photocopier, internet access, travel expenses, consumables and running costs	4,942

Grants = 59

Total \$ 925,223

WEST AUSTRALIAN BEST RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	FUNDING DESCRIPTION	TOTAL \$
Australian Navy in Vietnam Veterans' Welfare Association of Western Australia	East Fremantle	Funding for travel, consumables and running costs.	7,802
Perth Legacy	South Perth	Funding for salaries.	166,564
Naval Association of Australia Western Australia Section	Attadale	Funding for consumables and running costs.	1,480
The Partners of Veterans' Association of Western Australia	East Perth	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	1,253
Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association Western Australia Branch	Cardup	Funding for travel, consumables and running costs.	2,425
Bull Creek Veteran Support Centre	Bull Creek	Funding for computer and accessories, filing cabinet, travel, consumables and running costs.	6,120
Regular Defence Force Welfare Association Western Australia Branch	Karrakatta	Funding for travel and consumables.	7,459
Albany RSL Sub-branch	Albany	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	2,150
Bicton Palmyra RSL Sub-branch	Bicton	Funding for a computer, printer, internet access, consumables and running costs.	6,449
Mandurah RSL Sub-branch	Mandurah	Funding for salaries, travel, internet access and running costs.	13,033
Pinjarra RSL Sub-branch	Pinjarra	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	1,750
City of Rockingham RSL Sub-branch	Point Peron	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,800
Serpentine - Jarrahdale RSL Sub-branch	Byford	Funding for a printer, internet access, consumables and running costs.	5,353
Returned & Services League of Australia - Western Australia Branch	Perth	Funding for salaries, travel, consumables and running costs.	146,754
Yanchep/Two Rocks RSL Sub-branch	Two Rocks	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	1,280
Vietnam Logistic Support Veterans' Association Western Australia	Duncraig	Funding for travel and consumables.	8,640
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia National Council	Canning Vale	Funding for travel, computer systems upgrades and modem.	14,000

Grants = 17

Total \$ 394,313

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AND NORTHERN TERRITORY BEST RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	FUNDING DESCRIPTION	TOTAL \$
Fleurieu Peninsula Veterans' Community Association	McLaren Vale	Funding for internet access.	800
Legacy Club of Adelaide	Adelaide	Funding for salaries, internet access and travel.	182,003
Naval Association of Australia Beachvale Sub-section	Christie Downs	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	3,989
Plympton Glenelg RSL Pensions Office	Plympton	Funding for a computer, internet access, travel and consumables.	6,632
RAAF Association Mitcham Branch	Hawthorn	Funding for internet access, travel, running costs and consumables.	9,000
RAAF Association South Australia Division	Adelaide	Funding for travel, consumables and running costs.	1,000
Darwin RSL Sub-branch	Darwin	Funding for internet access, software, travel and consumables.	3,900
Mannum RSL Sub-branch	Mannum	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	2,940
Mt Gambier RSL Sub-branch	Mount Gambier	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	4,000
Returned and Services League of Australia - South Australia Branch	Adelaide	Funding for salaries and travel.	83,868
Returned and Services League of Australia - South Australia Branch -Training and Information Program	Adelaide	Funding for salaries.	23,151
Tailem Bend RSL Sub-branch	Tailem Bend	Funding for a laptop, internet access, travel and running costs.	3,098
The Association of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Service Men and Women South Australia Branch	Richmond	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	5,488
The Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Service Men and Women	Richmond	Funding for internet access, equipment maintenance, running costs and training.	13,215
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia - Northern Territory Branch	Freds Pass	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	5,000
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia - South Australia Branch	Adelaide	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	47,300
Vietnam Veterans' Federation - South Australia Branch	Warradale	Funding for internet access, software, travel and consumables.	5,361
Yorke Peninsula Veterans & Community Centre	Kadina	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	3,158

Grants = 18

Total \$ 403,903

NSW AND ACT BEST RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	FUNDING DESCRIPTION	TOTAL \$
Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association National Executive	Torquay	Funding for a fulltime advocate.	53,134
Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association NSW & ACT Branches	Marom Creek	Funding for internet access.	380
Australian Veterans & Defence Services Council	Sydney	Funding for salaries, internet access, office equipment and running costs.	26,600
Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces	Springwood	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	5,176
Defence Force Welfare Association National Office	RMC Duntroon	Funding for salaries.	9,261
Extremely Disabled War Veterans' Association of Newcastle & Hunter Region	Gateshead	Funding for computer, internet access, travel, running costs and consumables.	3,643
ESO Advocacy NSW	Albion Park	Funding for salaries, consumables and running costs.	25,947
Illawarra Veterans' Entitlement Service	Albion Park	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	3,550
Integrated Service People's Association of Australia	Bethungra	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel and consumables.	12,602
The Legacy Club of Canberra	Deakin	Funding for salaries and internet access.	25,270
Coffs Harbour Legacy Welfare Fund	Coffs Harbour	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel and telephone.	59,781
Far North Coast Legacy Club	Lismore	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	27,164
Grafton Legacy	Grafton	Funding for salaries.	9,162
Newcastle Legacy	Mayfield	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	23,614
Port Stephens Legacy	Mallabula	Funding for consumables and internet access.	1,000
Sydney Legacy	Sydney	Funding for salaries.	136,727
The Naval Association of Australia Ballina Sub-section	Ballina	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,097
Naval Association of Australia Rooty Hill Sub-section	Sydney	Funding for internet access.	1,050
Newcastle & Hunter Region Vietnam Veterans'	Wallsend	Funding for travel, consumables, telephone and internet access.	10,019
Partners of Veterans' Association of Australia National Office	Belmont	Funding for internet access, software, consumables and running costs.	3,874
Alstonville RSL Sub-branch	Alstonville	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	4,500
Angeles City RSL Sub-branch (Philippines)	Angeles City	Funding for internet access and consumables.	2,100
Armidale RSL Sub-branch	Armidale	Funding for salaries, computer, internet access, travel and consumables.	40,219
Ashfield RSL Sub-branch	Ashfield	Funding for salaries and internet access.	12,750
Avalon Beach RSL Sub-branch	Avalon Beach	Funding for consumables.	1,190

Ballina RSL Sub-branch	Ballina	Funding for salaries, internet access, consumables and travel.	11,356
Bangalow RSL Sub-branch	Bangalow	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,339
Boolaroo Speers Point RSL Sub-branch	Spears Point	Funding for internet access, office furniture and consumables.	1,073
Brunswick Heads/Billinudgel RSL Sub-branch	Brunswick Heads	Funding for internet access, software, travel, consumables and running costs.	4,400
Cardiff RSL Sub-branch	Cardiff	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,239
Cessnock RSL Sub-branch	Cessnock	Funding for internet access, software and consumables.	701
City of Albury RSL Sub-branch	Albury	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	3,810
City of Lismore RSL Sub-branch	Lismore	Funding for travel, computer upgrade, internet access and running costs.	2,460
Coffs Harbour RSL Sub-branch	Coffs Harbour	Funding for consumables and travel.	3,000
Cowra RSL Sub-branch	Cowra	Funding for internet access, office equipment, travel, consumables and running costs.	5,052
Dorrigo RSL Sub-branch	Dorrigo	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	1,264
Dungog RSL Sub-branch	Dungog	Funding for travel, internet access and consumables.	5,232
Forster Tuncurry RSL Sub-branch	Forster	Funding for internet access, software, travel and consumables.	2,160
Goulburn RSL Sub-branch	Goulburn	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	1,278
Huskisson RSL Sub-branch	Huskisson	Funding for computers, internet access, travel and consumables.	12,591
Karuah RSL Sub-branch	Karuah	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	1,499
Kyogle RSL Sub-branch	Kyogle	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	8,717
Macleay RSL Sub-branch	Mclean	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,340
Maitland RSL Sub-branch	Maitland	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	2,100
Medowie RSL Sub-branch	Medowie	Funding for consumables.	569
Mittagong RSL Sub-branch	Mittagong	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and salaries.	2,678
Moruya RSL Sub-branch	Moruya	Funding for internet costs.	360
Returned and Services League of Australia - NSW Branch	Campbell	Funding for salaries, travel and consumables.	260,409
Ourimbah Lisarow RSL Sub-branch	Ourimbah	Funding for consumables.	500
OZVETS Pension, Welfare and Support Centre	Queanbeyan	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,940
Tamworth RSL Sub-branch	Tamworth	Funding for salaries, internet access, anti virus software, consumables, running costs and travel.	37,652
Toronto RSL Sub-branch	Toronto	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	2,920
Wallsend RSL Sub-section	Wallsend	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,129

Returned and Services League of Australia	Sydney	Funding for salaries.	44,000
Woolgoolga RSL Sub-branch	Woolgoolga	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	4,234
Woy Woy Ettalong Hardys Bay RSL Sub-branch	Ettalong	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel and consumables.	7,845
Taree Vietnam Veterans Association	Taree	Funding for computer hardware and software, internet access, consumables, and running costs.	1,806
Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Veterans Association - Hastings Manning Macleay Branch	Wauchope	Funding for internet access, travel and consumables.	7,750
Vietnam Veterans' Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association NSW Branch	Granville	Funding for salaries, internet access and Outreach program.	283,064
Vietnam Veterans' Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Association of Australia Riverina Sub-branch	Wagga Wagga	Funding for internet access and consumables.	678
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Far North Coast Sub-branch	Goonellabah	Funding for computer hardware and software, internet access, telephone, travel and running costs.	28,917
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Illawarra Sub-branch	Wollongong	Funding for consumables and running costs.	4,550
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Macarthur Sub-branch	Campbelltown	Funding for travel, consumables, telephones and internet access.	16,140
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Ryde City and Districts Sub-branch	Ryde	Funding for internet access, travel, consumables and telephone charges.	8,170
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia St Mary's Outpost Sub-branch	St Marys	Funding for internet access, travel , telephone and consumables.	18,500
Vietnam Veterans' Federation - ACT Branch	Page	Funding for salaries, internet access, consumables and telephone.	98,820
Vietnam Veterans' Federation	Granville	Funding for administration costs.	3,500

Grants = 67

Total \$ 1,406,553

VICTORIAN BEST RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	FUNDING DESCRIPTION	TOTAL \$
Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association	Torquay	Funding for internet access, travel, printer, digital note taker and running costs.	8,801
Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association	Torquay	Funding for salaries	168,861
Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association Victorian Branch	Ringwood	Funding for internet access, software, consumables and running costs.	2,683
Ballarat Veterans' Support Group	Ballarat	Funding for salaries and internet access.	46,151
Bass Coast Veterans & Dependants Welfare Centre	Wonthaggi	Funding for salaries, software, internet access, travel and consumables.	37,255
Casey Regional Veterans' Welfare Centre	Cranbourne	Funding for internet access, consumables and running costs.	1,650
Central Victorian Veterans' Support Centre	Bendigo	Funding for salaries, office equipment, internet access, travel and consumables.	66,241
Echuca Moama Veterans' Support Centre	Echuca	Funding for a laptop, laser printer, internet access, consumables and running costs.	4,197
Geelong Veterans' Support Centre	Geelong	Funding for salaries, laptop, internet access and consumables.	62,743
Gippsland Veterans' Welfare Centre	Sale	Funding for salaries, internet access, software, consumables and running costs.	168,904
Goulburn Valley Veterans' Services	Shepparton	Funding for internet costs and consumables.	1,600
Heidelberg Repatriation Veterans' Centre	Heidelberg	Funding for salaries and internet access.	44,416
Hume Veterans' Information Centre	Wodonga	Funding for salaries, printer, internet access, furniture and running costs.	51,924
Legacy Australia Council	Melbourne	Funding for a filing cabinet, digital voice recorder and consumables.	9,900
Legacy Melbourne	Melbourne	Funding for salaries.	47,540
Legacy Melbourne - Victorian Legacy Clubs	Melbourne	Funding for internet access.	8,205
Leongatha & Districts Veterans' Welfare Centre	Leongatha	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	19,243
Melbourne Veterans' and Services Support Centre	Southbank	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	102,388
Mitchell Veterans' Centre	Seymour	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,000
Regular Defence Force Welfare Association Victoria Branch	Southbank	Funding for a computer, internet access and software.	2,210
South Eastern Regional Veterans' Centre	Oakleigh	Funding for salaries, internet access and stationery.	48,470
South West Veterans' Centre	Warrnambool	Funding for travel, internet access and running costs.	3,100
Southern Peninsula Veterans' Centre	Rosebud	Funding for salaries, internet access, travel, consumables and running costs.	52,411
Sunraysia Regional Veterans' Centre	Mildura	Funding for salaries, internet access and running costs.	34,917

Surf Coast Regional Veterans' Centre	Torquay	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	57,092
Swan Hill & District Veterans' Information Centre	Swan Hill	Funding for salaries, computers, internet access, travel and consumables.	34,571
West Gippsland Veterans' Welfare Centre	Drouin	Funding for internet access and consumables.	1,750
Western Suburbs Veterans & Services Centre	Melton	Funding for salaries and internet access.	25,619
Grants = 28			Total \$ 1,113,841

TASMANIAN BEST RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	FUNDING DESCRIPTION	TOTAL \$
BEST Joint Venture Tasmania	Hobart	Funding for salaries, information centre costs and consumables.	111,845
Hobart Legacy	Hobart	Funding for salaries and internet access.	26,390
Launceston Legacy	Launceston	Funding for salaries, internet access and consumables.	8,490
Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women - Tasmanian Branch	Newtown	Funding for salaries.	5,773
Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Tasmania	Glen Huon	Funding for travel and consumables.	327

Grants = 5 **Total \$ 152,825**

Total grants = 194 **National total \$4,398,308**