

Media Release

The Hon Shaun Leane MLC
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Suburban Development
Minister for Veterans



Thursday, 1 April 2021

BOOSTING ACTIVE OPTIONS FOR WARRNAMBOOL VETERANS

The Andrews Labor Government is helping veterans in Warrnambool stay active and socially connected with funding for increased welfare support services.

Minister for Veterans Shaun Leane visited Warrnambool RSL today and announced more than \$46,000 their Veteran Support Centre *RSL Active Program*.

The RSL Active program includes fitness activities similar to military physical training, yoga, and community support events to assist veterans and their families to reintegrate back into civilian life and develop genuine connections to their local community.

The Warrnambool RSL delivers one of the most popular RSL Active programs in Victoria, with over 200 veterans and family members participating.

This new funding is part of the Labor Government's 2021 ANZAC Day Proceeds Fund program.

The grants program has provided over \$992,000 to organisations that support veterans to assist with direct welfare support, such as living expenses, health and wellbeing, education and school expenses, transport costs and social activities.

This funding is in addition to the Labor Government's \$4.9 million investment in the 2020/21 Victorian Budget supporting the wellbeing of veterans and ensure their service and sacrifice is remembered.

The Warrnambool RSL has been supporting Warrnambool and district veterans and their families since it was established on 27 January 1917.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Veterans Shaun Leane

"Victoria's RSLs do an incredible job delivering vital welfare support to our veterans."

"Over the past year we have seen just how vital welfare assistance for our veterans is – that's why I'm so proud to be providing this funding to Warrnambool RSL."

"The Warrnambool RSL should be immensely proud of the role they play in supporting veterans and their families in staying engaged with their community as they transition to civilian life."

Quote attributable to Warrnambool RSL President John Miles,

"We are grateful for this funding from the Victorian Government, which allows us to continue this valuable program helping maintain important connections with local veterans and support their transition."