



Speech by


# Anthony Shorten

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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## GREENBANK RSL MEN'S SHED; LOGAN WEST MEALS ON WHEELS

 **Mr SHORTEN** (Algester—LNP) (3.17 pm): I want to talk about a number of organisations that do such great work in the Algester electorate. I was very privileged to present new Queensland flags to the Greenbank RSL sub-branch at their office at the Greenbank RSL. While I was there I had the opportunity to tour the Men's Shed set up by the members. We all know what a great initiative Men's Sheds are and this one is no different. The sub-branch Men's Shed is literally that: a shed—very similar to the one you would find in the back yard. Every inch of space was utilised either by machinery, wood storage or finished product. And what great product it is. The blokes come together to manufacture wooden toy trains, both engines and carriages, kids' table and chair sets and when I was there the fellows were finishing off the last of four storage cabinets for the sub-branch office. The products are sturdy and can take the rough and tumble that they are sure to be put through—a lot like the good-hearted blokes of the sub-branch who make them.

I would like to thank Howard Buckley, the secretary of the sub-branch, Brian Lewis, George Morris and Ron Lord for their hospitality and taking the time to show me around. But, more importantly, I would like to thank them for the many hours they put in at the sub-branch helping their fellow veterans young and old. They gave service to our country and they continue to serve but in a different way.

The other organisation that I had the opportunity to visit was the Logan West Meals on Wheels working out of the community centre at Wineglass Drive, Hillcrest. I was met at the door by the president Bob Woodburgess. Bob gave me a rundown on the facilities and introduced me to the volunteers who prepare the meals daily for 300-odd residents across not just my electorate but also the electorate of the honourable member for Logan.

On that particular day, the meal was corned beef with vegetables, chicken soup and either a sweet or a piece of fruit. I can tell the House that I am a bit of an expert on corned beef, as my mum makes a great one, and the corned beef that was being delivered to residents certainly did rival hers. I was encouraged when shown the delivery roster of volunteers, which was full. I also noted that a number of local schools provided students on a regular basis to participate in the delivery process. I think this is a great initiative and the schools and Meals on Wheels should be congratulated. It provides the students with experience in volunteering and also gives back to the community. It gives the students an understanding of what people in the lower-socioeconomic bracket go through in society.