



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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2010 Community Volunteer Awards Nominations Open

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, today opened nominations for her 2010 Community Volunteer Awards to mark the beginning of National Volunteer Week.

The Community Volunteer Awards recognise the outstanding voluntary work, achievements and contributions made by members of the Newcastle community.

"Volunteers make an invaluable contribution to so many aspects of our local community," Ms Grierson said.

"Today is particularly special day to call for nominations, being the first day of National Volunteer Week."

National Volunteer Week is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our communities and to say thank you to the more than 5 million Australians who volunteer.

"Since 2004, 367 individual and 25 community organisations in Newcastle have received Community Volunteer Awards," said Ms Grierson.

"However, these numbers are just skimming the surface of the volunteer work that is undertaken in the wider community – there are so many more out there that deserve recognition."

Volunteers can be nominated for:

- being outstanding volunteer role models to our community;
- making significant or outstanding contributions to the wellbeing of people through volunteering;
- presenting a positive image of volunteering;
- completing significant new achievements for themselves in volunteering; and
- being quiet achievers working for our community through volunteering;

Award recipients are volunteers who have been nominated by the community in the fields of aged care, community services, disability & health services, education, schools & youth, sport & recreation, and veterans' support.

"Nomination are open until 25 June, and nomination forms can be obtained through my office, by calling **4926 1555**," Ms Grierson said.

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