



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release
19 March 2008

NEWCASTLE INFORMATION SESSION FOR SEPARATED PARENTS

The Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson announced today that the Child Support Agency (CSA) will hold a free Community Information Session on Tuesday 25 March at 11.30am for separated parents in Newcastle and the surrounding region.

Ms Grierson said separated parenting is now a common experience for many families in Newcastle.

"As an educator for 30 years and as a school principal for over 10 years, I have seen and dealt with the impact of family breakdown at the coalface," she said.

"Adjusting to separation can be difficult, but with the goodwill of both parents families can manage those challenges very well."

"What is of vital importance is that parents get access to support services and information on all of their child support options, so it's great that CSA are holding this information session in Newcastle."

The information session will give parents the opportunity to discuss child support and other issues with experienced staff from CSA and other organisations.

Parents will also be able to find out about major changes to the Child Support Scheme, which come into effect on 1 July 2008. If parents are unable to attend the information session, they can view details about the new Scheme on the CSA website www.csa.gov.au/schemereforms.

Representatives from Centrelink, Medicare, the Family Court of Australia, Legal Aid, the Commonwealth Ombudsman, Family Relationship Centres, Community Legal Services and other local community service providers have also been invited.

For more information, parents should call 131 272 and ask to speak to someone about the Newcastle Community Information Session or go to the CSA website at www.csa.gov.au.

FREE PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Date 25 March 2008
Time 11:30 am
Venue The Wheel Shop
6 Workshop Way
Newcastle

Canberra
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Ph: 02 6277 4221
Fax: 02 6277 8461



Newcastle
427 Hunter Street
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
Ph: 02 4926 1555
Fax: 02 4926 1895
www.sharongrierson.com