



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release
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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK BOOST FOR HUNTER GROUPS

With National Volunteer Week beginning tomorrow, Sharon Grierson has announced \$9,000 funding for two local voluntary environment groups.

Trees in Newcastle Inc and the Shortland Wetlands Centre Limited will each receive \$4,500 under the Australian Government's *Grants to Voluntary Environment & Heritage Organisations* program.

"These grants are an appropriate recognition of the important work voluntary groups in our local area."

"With National Volunteers Week commencing tomorrow, this funding is a timely reminder that our communities and our environment continue to rely on the commitment of the voluntary sector."

"For every paid staff member in the non-profit sector, there are six unpaid. This is a significant contribution that pays a large social dividend."

"The latest figures show volunteers contributed 713 million hours of work to our community in 2006."

"During National Volunteers Week, I hope Novocastrians will consider how they add to this great effort by becoming involved in voluntary work in our community."

"I congratulate the work of Trees in Newcastle and the Shortland Wetlands Centre Limited in securing this well-deserved funding."

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