



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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Media Release

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GP ACCESS AFTER HOURS

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson, will tonight join the 5th Birthday celebrations for the Hunter region's GP Access After Hours service.

"It's wonderful to be able to celebrate the service's outstanding contribution to our region over the past five years," Ms Grierson said.

"I've been a strong supporter of the service over that time, and it is one of the examples of local solutions working well on the ground that I always take to Canberra to show what our region can do."

"The Australian Government has contributed around \$30 million to GPAAH since 2003, and is firmly committed to continuing this support."

In the five years since its inception, GPAAH has seen almost 50,000 patients at its clinics at John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle Community Health Centre, Belmont Hospital, Maitland Hospital, and Westlakes Community Health Centre.

Its telephone advice line has also managed almost 90,000 callers.

"This is also a great opportunity to thank the Hunter Urban Division of General Practice, which will now be known as GP Access, for its wonderful work managing this and other vital services for the benefit of residents and health professionals in our region."

"I wish GP Access After Hours a very happy 5th birthday, and hope for many more to come."

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