



THE HON JUSTINE ELLIOT MP
Minister for Ageing

PAUL LYNCH MP
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Disability Services
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

JILL HALL MP
Member for Shortland

ROBERT COOMBS MP
Member for Swansea

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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Dementia Day Care Centre for Belmont - \$1.5 Million

Minister for Ageing, Justine Elliot and New South Wales Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, Paul Lynch, today announced the construction of a new dementia day care centre worth more than \$1.5 million in Belmont in Lake Macquarie.

Minister Lynch, Member for Shortland, Jill Hall and Member for Swansea, Robert Coombs today visited the East Lake Macquarie Dementia Service Inc who are building the centre in the grounds of the Belmont Hospital.

The dementia day care centre is being jointly funded by the Australian (\$900,000) and New South Wales (\$600,000) Governments under the Home and Community Care (HACC) program.

HACC delivers affordable and accessible care to help meet the individual needs of older people, younger people with a disability, and their carers which helps them remain independent and in their own homes.

Minister Elliot said: "We are constantly reminded that as people age they want to remain independent and in their own homes and communities. Without Home and Community Care services, many people would have to move prematurely into residential care.

"The building of this dementia day care centre shows the Australian and New South Wales Governments working together and preparing for the future," Minister Elliot said.

This facility is the 14th of 16 purpose-designed dementia-specific day care centres to be built across New South Wales in response to the increasing incidence of dementia.

Minister Lynch said: "In 2006 there were more than 73,000 people in New South Wales living with dementia and in by 2050 this number will increase to an estimated 227,000.

