

News Release

148 Murray Street, Gawler, S.A., 5118.
Phone (08) 85 222 878
Fax: (08) 85 231 392



Tony Piccolo MP

State Member for Light
Member,
Economics & Finance Committee
National Convenor,
Australia – Italia MP Forum

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Dial A Ride, Dial A Success!

The Gawler Dial A Ride public transport service that has just celebrated its fifth birthday has been hailed as a success by local MP Mr Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said that the service started in September 2004 and was an initiative of a local public transport working party led by the Gawler Council when he was mayor. The working party was strongly supported by investigations and proposals development by the Public Transport Division.

The Dial A Ride service replaced the “loop bus service” that had not met the needs of those most in need of public transport.

Mr Piccolo said the key to the success of the Dial A Ride was it provided a “door to door” service within the region it operated.

“The problem with fixed services like traditional bus routes was that often they travelled at the wrong time in the wrong direction or the bus stops were in the wrong place”

“Communities like Gawler need more innovative public transport services as the needs are very diverse and car culture very strong”

“The Dial A Ride has been particularly effective for the more senior members of the community and those people with disabilities”

As an indication of its success Mr Piccolo said that the old “loop service” carried about 400 passenger trips a month while the Dial A Ride is averaging about 1550 trips a month after peaking at about 1700 in May 2007.

Mr Piccolo acknowledged that the service could be improved, but the sheer numbers of people using it suggest that it is meeting an important need.

Mr Piccolo said Dial A Ride was not only important for transporting people around the area but also acted as an important connector service for the local train service.

The Dial A Ride service currently serves the Gawler Council area plus Hewett, Gawler Belt and Roseworthy in the Light Regional Council.

Dial A Ride operates Monday to Sunday 9am-3pm (except public holidays) and 7pm -10 pm Monday to Friday (except public holidays).

The service is subsidised by the State Government through the Public Transport Division.

Dial A Ride can be contacted on the toll free number 1800-205-852