You are invited to attend an important forum about the privatisation of Maitland Hospital and the future of our health services

Monday 15 May
6.30pm
East Maitland Bowling Club
Bank Street, East Maitland

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- **Eve Nesmith**, Maitland Mercury (MC)
- **Jenny Aitchison**, Member for Maitland
- **Michael Di Rienzo**, CEO of Hunter New England Local Health District
- **Dr Ben Spies-Butcher**, Senior Lecturer in Economy and Society, Macquarie University

PLUS:

- **Judith Kiejda**, Assistant General Secretary, NSW Nurses and Midwives Association (NSWNMA)
- **Gerard Hayes**, Secretary, Health Services Union NSW/ACT (HSU)
- **Andrew Holland**, Executive Director, Australian Salaried Medical Officers’ Federation (ASMOF)
Health workers in Maitland are appalled to hear our public hospital in NSW will be operated by the private sector. The Government is attempting to privatise four major regional public hospitals: Maitland, Wyong, Shellharbour/Port Kembla and Bowral, putting patients at risk and taking us further down the path of the Americanisation of our public health system.

A private corporation will always put profits first. They have a duty to their shareholders, not public patients. How will an outsourced public hospital work for patients if they don’t have private health insurance? How will the NSW Government hold a private corporation accountable for taking care of public patients and providing public beds? Will patient care be compromised in order to make a profit?

Access to healthcare is a right, not a privilege. Australians pay for this right to healthcare through our taxes. Keeping our Maitland Hospital completely public is the only way to ensure that irrespective of their ability to pay, patients will be provided quality health care.