



## How to Celebrate Your Community on Neighbour Day

Neighbour Day on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2009 is the perfect day to get to know the people next door, across the street or on the next farm and feel part of your community. Here are some helpful tips!

### ➤ **Pick a time and place**

Whether it's a cuppa with a few people or a barbecue for the block, your Neighbour Day can be as big or small as you'd like. Decide what's manageable. If possible pick a communal area (such as the front lawn or car park) rather than inside an apartment or house. This will be less intimidating for residents who don't know many people and will encourage more people to join in.

### ➤ **Work as a group**

Get some neighbours involved in the planning and work out what needs to be done – invitations, publicity, food, nametags, balloons and cleaning up. Get children involved – they love a party!

### ➤ **Invite your neighbours**

Download the Neighbour Day poster on to A4 or A3 and use as invites and flyers. Just add the time, place and contact details. Let people know if they should bring food and drinks. Decide the best way to invite your neighbours. Knocking on the door and handing them an invitation is a nice personal touch but you could pop it in the letterbox or come back later if they are not home.

### ➤ **Contact your local council or shire**

Your council might have free items like barbecues, portable coffee machines, cricket sets and more available to help with your activity. If you are planning a street party or an event in a local park it's essential to contact your council or shire for permission.

### ➤ **Promote your event**

Ask local shops and cafes to put up the Neighbour Day poster. Let your News Community Media or regional newspaper know your plans - they might write a story or take a photograph. Tune into ABC Local Radio for tips and talkback on great neighbourly activities near you. Encourage work colleagues, family and friends to have their own event or join in on Facebook.

### ➤ **Say g'day and get to know your neighbours**

Make sure you have a few people to make introductions and give out name tags. Shy people will be grateful! Share what you know about Neighbour Day: how it was started, some of the places around the world involved. Encourage people to leave their mobile number with older residents so they have someone to contact in an emergency.

## Have a great Neighbour Day!

**The community you want starts at your front door™**

2009 NATIONAL SUPPORT PARTNERS

