



PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JULIA GILLARD

NEIGHBOUR DAY 2011

Over recent months we have seen the power of ties between neighbours as Australians have united to protect their families, homes and livelihoods from floods, cyclone and bushfires.

Friends, family and strangers alike have worked together to save lives, build levies, evacuate homes and rescue stranded animals. A sense of community has given Australians the strength to push through this difficult time.

Even in today's busy world, neighbourhood ties are important. Forming bonds with our neighbours makes us feel more connected and involved with our community. The response of Australians to recent natural disasters highlights that communities are protected as we care for others and are cared for in return.

Neighbour Day, on 27 March 2011, is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy the company of those around you. Australians live in a diverse and changing country, but every person can enjoy being part of their local community.

I encourage you to have a friendly chat with your neighbours, to attend or organise a barbeque or a party for those on your street. By doing so, you will help ensure that your neighbourhood is a, safer, more inclusive and enjoyable place to live.

The Honourable Julia Gillard MP
Prime Minister of Australia