

Get to know your neighbours

Australians are well known for coming together as a community during hard times, but wouldn't it be great if we could hold onto that sense of community all the time?

Neighbour Day on Sunday 27 March is the perfect opportunity to take time out to meet some of the people in your community whether they're next door, down the street or around the corner!

Being neighbourly has benefits...

There are endless benefits to connecting with the people with whom you share your community. Getting to know your neighbour can:

- make your community safer;
- help protect the elderly and vulnerable;
- teach younger children the importance of community;
- create new friendships;
- share supplies – from a cup of sugar to a car-pool;
- make your community a more enjoyable place to live!

Send the benefits you've enjoyed as a result of getting to know your neighbours to community@peet.com.au so we can add them to this list!

Where to start?

There are easy and safe ways to share some neighbourly spirit – and start to enjoy the benefits.

You could:

Get chatting!

- When you pass in the street – say hello with a smile!
- Make a special effort to introduce yourself to older residents and anyone who lives alone.

Get fit!

- Take advantage of the landscaped parks and open spaces in your Peet community by organising a walking group.
- Start a neighbourhood sports team – play social cricket or football every week.
- Walking the dog is not only good for you but dogs are a great way to meet people!

Get helping!

- Moving to a new community is exciting and is a great way to meet new friends – be sure to introduce yourself to anyone moving into your street. You could even make a welcome basket of things you love about your neighbourhood.
- Mowing your front lawn or nature strip? Why not ask your next door neighbour if they'd like their lawn done.
- Before you head to the shops, check in with elderly neighbours to see if you can pick anything up for them.

Get cooking!

- Have a potluck dinner – every neighbour brings a plate. You'll be surprised at the amazing dishes you have the chance to enjoy!
- Host a morning or afternoon tea party – it's a little traditional but it works!

Get local!

- Your local Council runs a range of activities for all ages and interests - get involved in the groups that interest you and your family. Visit your Council website for more local ideas.

Get thinking!

- Help make your community the best place it can be. Send your ideas to community@peet.com.au

Be safe!

- Don't forget to use your best judgement when planning your Neighbour Day and year-round neighbourly activities – exercise caution when allowing people into your home and make sure someone is aware of your plans.
- A terrific way to meet neighbours is to start a Neighbourhood Watch group in your community or join one that might already exist. For more, visit the Neighbourhood Watch website in your home state.

Find out more www.neighbourday.org