

# Neighbourhood Support North Shore

“Connecting Neighbours for a Safer Community”



## Ways To Get Know Your Neighbours

- Say kia ora, hello, talofa, mālō ē lelei, ni hao or whatever works for you and your neighbours!
- Organise a street BBQ, or a morning/afternoon tea – ask your neighbours to bring along food to share
- Host an international pot luck (shared) meal with a few of your neighbours - invite everyone to bring a dish in their local tradition
- Bake something to give to your neighbours or invite them over to your home for cup of tea
- Next time you mow your grass verge why not do your neighbours' verge as well?
- Exchange phone numbers in case of emergencies – help your neighbours by giving them all a copy of each other's contacts (with their permission)
- Share home-grown produce with your neighbours or start a local community garden
- Make your neighbours a card or write them a note to say thank you for being a good neighbour
- Organise a sports / games afternoon – egg and spoon, sack, relay races, and chalk-drawing competitions are simple and great fun
- Get creative with your neighbours and decorate your letter-boxes together
- Organise a street clean-up, gardening / working bee, or giant garage sale
- Find out who plays what instrument in your street and organise a musical jam session
- Start a neighbourhood library for things you and your neighbours are happy to lend / share with each: other (e.g. ladders, tools, books, toys, sports gear)



## **Guide To Planning A Street Get-Together**

### **Decide what kind of get-together you'd like to have!**

A street BBQ, street clean-up day, shared garage sale, pot-luck dinner, street sports – whatever you'd like to try! Think about a suitable location. If you live on a cul-de-sac, the end of the street is a great place to gather. If you live in a busy street, is there a park close by? Do you or one of your neighbours have space to host neighbours?

(Safety is important: Want to close your street? Contact your local Council for advice).

### **Follow up with your keen neighbours**

Keep talking with them about ideas, make a plan and decide what to do for the event. Set a date and decide who will do what. Keep it simple.

### **Make a simple invitation for the event**

Include all the details (what, where, when, who...). Involve kids along the way. For example, you could ask your kids (or your neighbours' kids) to help design the invitation.

### **Keep everyone involved**

Stay in touch and keep talking with the other neighbours who are helping you and work out details along the way. If you are having a street BBQ, you may want to have a few easy games up your sleeve (such as egg and spoon races, chalk drawing competitions, a game of cricket...).

### **On the day, be a good host**

Arrive early to set up and welcome people. Look out for neighbours who don't know anyone and do your best to make everyone feel welcome. Name tags (with neighbours' house numbers) can be a great help.

### **Keep things going**

Try to keep the neighbourly connections going, Start thinking about your next street activity and encourage others to help out. You and your neighbours could take turns at being a 'street coordinator' to help keep things moving forward

OR go to the supplied link for more information and ideas:

<http://neighboursday.org.nz/activities/>

