



PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

MESSAGE: NEIGHBOUR DAY

In the past, communities were tight-knit and our neighbours were often our closest friends. We knew they were there for us. Maybe we took our neighbourhoods for granted.

Today's Australia is a faster moving place. Our communities are changing, and this can leave newcomers feeling isolated, and some, especially older community members, feeling left behind.

But even in this busy world, neighbours are still joined by the bond of living together and caring about their communities. It's important to celebrate that bond by extending a hand to our neighbours, getting to know them, and looking out for them as they look out for us.

Sunday the 28th of March 2010 is the 8th annual Neighbour Day, a great initiative to build stronger communities and safer neighbourhoods.

Neighbour Day has a simple message that all Australians, in some way, can put into practice. Connect with your neighbour. Something as simple as checking in to say hello can make a real difference, especially for those who are elderly or isolated.

Neighbour Day is about you and your local community. So whether you attend a community event or just pick up the phone for a friendly chat, I encourage you to celebrate Neighbour Day, and most importantly, your own neighbours.

The Honourable Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister of Australia