

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 27 March 2017

Tell Us Your Story!

From 27 March to 17 April 2017, people in communities across Australia will be invited to channel their creativity and share their stories in the annual *Tell Us Your Story* competition.

The <u>Tell Us Your Story</u> competition asks people to share their stories about a great neighbour, an amazing neighbourly act, or something they appreciate about the people in their neighbourhood.

To reflect Neighbour Day's 2017 theme: <u>the importance of social connection for the elderly</u>, this year people are encouraged to submit a 250-word story about an elderly neighbour. Entries could include stories about an extraordinary elderly neighbour, a friendship with an elderly neighbour, children connecting with elderly neighbours, or how you reached out to an elderly neighbour on Neighbour Day.

This year, the total prize pool for the *Tell Us Your Story* competition is more than \$1000. By telling your story, you could win:

- A \$100 gift voucher for the winning entry from each state and territory.
- A \$300 gift voucher for the overall National winner.

The Neighbour Day team will be accepting entries from Monday 27 March 2017 until 5pm (AEST) on Monday 17 April 2017.

The entries should reflect the spirit and purpose of Neighbour Day, in promoting well-connected and resilient communities in neighbourhoods across Australia.

Neighbour Day was celebrated on Sunday 26 March 2017. All over Australia, neighbours, local councils, businesses, and community groups came together over barbecues, street parties, morning teas and community gatherings to meet and get to know the people who live around them.

The principal aim of Neighbour Day is to build better relationships with the people around us, especially the elderly and vulnerable.

Those who hosted or attended a Neighbour Day event are encouraged to share photos and stories from the day on Neighbour Day's <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

"The community you want starts at your front door." TM

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