

**MEDIA RELEASE** 

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## Neighbour Day 'my neighbours, my neighbourhood' Competition Winners!

The Neighbour Day team today announced the winners of the 'my neighbours, my neighbourhood' competition, with six winning entries across the country. 'my neighbours, my neighbourhood' encouraged people to submit a photograph that reflected their neighbourhood or fabulous neighbours.

"All the winning entries supported the Neighbour Day ethos of connected communities and good relationships with the people and nature around us," Alison Brook, National Executive Officer for Relationships Australia said.

Julia from NSW was the winner for the *'my neighbours'* category for a photo reflecting two neighbourhood friends. Julia compared the pair's friendship to the endangered Copperwing butterfly, which relies on a symbiotic relationship with a species of ant that helps feed and protect the young larvae.

"They are quite different animals at different stages of life, yet they interact to each other's advantage. It's hard to say who gives or receives more. They both win," Julia said.

Will was the winner for the 'my neighbourhood' category with a photo of the gentle rolling hills of a property in Central Western NSW, which is inhabited by animals not people. "I love all animals and they all love me," Will (14 years old) said.

The total prize pool for the photo competition was \$1,000 with prizes for each category. To find out more about Neighbour Day go to <u>www.neighbourday.org</u>.

Relationships Australia is the home of Neighbour Day, which is celebrated every year on the last Sunday in March. This year over 70,000 people across the country celebrated Neighbour Day at more than 550 registered events. Many more joined in the fun of community connection at events that didn't register.

"Neighbour Day - the community you want starts at your front door."™

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