

Neighbour Day - Tell Us Your Story winners for 2019

This year our annual Neighbour Day Tell Us Your Story competition is an opportunity to recognise Australians who have challenged loneliness and created of a sense of belonging in their local communities.

Our National prize winner, who hails from South Australia, details a beautiful story of how the loss of a neighbour inspired a couple to transform their spare room into a neighbourhood café and community hub.

"Annemijn tells a heart-warming story about how a neighbourhood can become a community and create something positive out of adversity," said Nick Tebbey, National Executive Officer of Relationships Australia.

Our winning story from Queensland describes a fairy garden that ignited the imaginations of local children.

Our West Australian winner tells the story of a neighbourhood that has battled through the ups and downs of life, teenage years through death, providing a life raft for one another when hardships tested their spirits.

From NSW, our winning story features an apartment block where BBQs, dinner parties and a communal garden allowed the building's inhabitants to connect and create their own small community within its walls.

Our winning story from the Northern Territory explores the peace of mind of living in a community where your neighbours will always keep an ear out for you.

Our Victorian winner tells a story about a community café that has become a meeting place for neighbours and a centre of community activity.

This year we are awarding a special commendation prize to Kate from Victoria who tells a heartwarming story about a friendly neighbour who made his mark on a community with just a trailer and a penchant for lending a helping hand, wherever it may be needed.

"Our theme for Neighbour Day 2019 is 'loneliness - what neighbours can do to create connections' and we are delighted to share with you these stories of neighbourly connection and how those connections have gone some way to helping end loneliness in neighbourhoods around Australia," Mr Tebbey said.

Each state and territory winner has been awarded a \$100 prize, with the overall national winner taking home \$400.

For more information on Neighbour Day and how you can get involved, including free easy-to-use resources, including posters, selfie signs and calling cards, head to our website neighbourday.org.

You can also follow all the Neighbour Day action on our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

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

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