

Invercargill Neighbourhood Support NEWSLETTER



Welcome!

I hope winter is treating you well!

As always, we've put together what we think is a very interesting and entertaining newsletter for you to enjoy.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Neighbours Day Aotearoa.

In this newsletter we share a couple of inspiring stories, so you might consider running an event on your street next year.

Neighbours Day is the perfect opportunity to say thanks for being a great neighbour.

*Saniya
Thompson*

Staying Connected

Marleen Brooks of Missouri, USA came home to a heartbreaking note from one of her neighbours. The 90-year-old woman, living down the street wrote her saying she was lonely. She asked if the two could be friends. The note read: "Would you consider to become my friend. I'm 90 years old - live alone. All my friends have passed away. I'm so lonesome and scared. Please - I pray for someone."

Marleen went over to her elderly neighbour's house in the evening to introduce herself with cupcakes in hand.

Sadly, this story of loneliness and isolation is not unique. There are a lot of lonely people out there, especially elderly people. If you know someone like that in your neighbourhood consider going over to their home, introducing yourself and maybe invite them to join the group. It will mean a lot to them and who knows; maybe you'll make a new friend.



Civil Defence Community Meetings



The team at Emergency Management Southland are holding community meetings throughout Southland to talk about Civil Defence preparedness. Planning is currently underway for several meetings in Invercargill.

As Southlanders we pride ourselves on our ability to come together and support each other when needed, but what does that really mean for the region in a Civil Defence Emergency? How can communities develop simple plans to ensure they're strong, safe and ready when they need it most? What do people consider to be their biggest risks? These are just some of the questions Emergency Management Southland are asking communities as we host meetings throughout the province. Southland already has strong community links and a desire to 'get the job done' but by working together we can ensure we have plans in place to make it as simple as possible.

The most important thing we can do to help communities respond to and recover from any emergency is to ensure we undertake a planning process. A community meeting is the first step towards this. These meetings give everyone the opportunity to talk about the likely risks faced by a community. By talking about these risks we can understand the strengths and resources which already exist within a community. We can also discuss any real or perceived vulnerabilities and how we can work together to help a community be prepared and ready to look after themselves in the days directly following an emergency event.

To understand more about potential hazards for those living in Invercargill and how you can be more prepared, both personally and as a community, make sure you keep an eye out for information on the meeting in your neighbourhood. Anyone who works, lives or has an interest in the area is welcome to attend.

We will have information about dates closer to the time, but if anyone has any questions or thoughts please contact Delia at Emergency Management Southland on 021 300 346 or delia.riley@civildefencesouthland.govt.nz.



Champions Project

You may notice some Invercargill resident is participating in the Southland Champions Campaign.

It is a project that aims to change the way people think about family violence and the actions they take when they see it or know about it. The campaign is delivered through Local Champions – people who are willing to take the violence free messages into their community and are willing to raise awareness and help change behaviours. People, who are in violent relationships, can approach a champion on a day-to-day basis to help them understand what violence is, how and where to get help and what to do if somebody experiences family violence.

neighbours day AOTEAROA



Carlyle Street



Neighbourhood Support Group: Carlyle Street Progressive Dinner

On Neighbours Day, our street held a Progressive Dinner.

We started at 5pm so it wouldn't be a late night for those who had young children and worked our way through four different courses at four different homes. It was a beautiful, fine evening, perfect for walking from house to house between courses. There was lots of chatting and loads of laughing both in the homes and on the short walks between homes and the natural mixing that took place with changing locations meant there was always someone different to talk to.

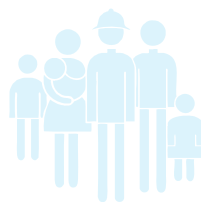
The practicalities of organising a night like this came together very easily because several families contributed so no one had to do too much. If you were hosting a course then others dropped off food to help. ICC supported the night with a \$20 Plaza voucher and with laminated signs which we put up outside each home that was hosting. The signs looked great and served the double purpose of guiding people to the next house and advertising to others on the street what we were up to in the hope they might come next time.

It was a great night and such a success that we are already planning the next one. We now have lots of different families wanting to contribute to the running of our group and take an active part in organising get-togethers which is wonderful.

Sarah Auld



Conon Street



Neighbourhood Support Group: Conon Street Dinner

We had eight people in attendance including the photographer. Some households were unable to come. Food remaining was delivered to them afterwards. Even so, we enjoyed ourselves with beneficial conversation.

Gill Poplur



Welcome to: Ward Street, Bullar Street, Rimu Street.



Burglary solved

A member of Neighbourhood Support shared a story of a burglary that he helped to solve.

One afternoon he noticed a group of young people in the street. They wore school uniform and should have been at school at this time of the day. He took a picture of the young people, just in case. When he returned home on the same day, police was at his neighbour's and he found out that his neighbour had been burgled. He knew that every piece of information can come in handy so he showed the picture he took to a policeman. The police immediately identified people in it, some of the people in the photo had been known to the police already.

What are the rules around taking photos or filming in a public place?

It is generally lawful to take photographs of people in public places without their consent.

However, you must not film or take photos of people if they are in a place where they can expect privacy (such as a public changing area or toilet) and that person:

- * is naked, in underclothes, showering, toileting etc
- * is unaware of being filmed or photographed
- * has not given consent to be filmed or photographed.

You should not take photos of people if:

- * they are in a place where they would expect reasonable privacy and publication would be highly offensive to an objective and reasonable person
- * it has potential to stop other people's use and enjoyment of the same place
- * you have no legitimate reason for taking the film or photos.

However, you can take and/or publish photos or film of people where there is no expectation of privacy, such as a beach, shopping mall, park or other public place.

Information from www.police.govt.nz



Invercargill
Neighbourhood Support

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