

# Invercargill Neighbourhood Support NEWSLETTER



## Welcome!

A lot of groups have been really proactive recently holding street gatherings. Thank you for organising these and sharing with us, it is so inspiring to hear about them and even visit some meetings! Check out the great pictures on page four. If you're thinking about holding a meeting or a gathering, please let me know. We can support your initiative by booking a venue, printing out invitations, providing a supermarket voucher or inviting a speaker.

*Sarinya  
Thompson*

## Successful Garage Sales as a Neighbourhood Support Group

Garage sales are a great way to get rid of unwanted and unused items, while still getting some money.

A big variety and increased amount of items is what tends to pull people in and increase your chance of sales. It makes sense to combine your selling power with those of a neighbour.

- **Set up date and time.** Ask your neighbours if they would be interested in joining. If you have a couple of people interested, choose the date. Once you have a set date and time, call or text other group members and neighbours inviting them to join.
- **Choose a location.** Houses with large flat driveways or large front lawns that are close to the street are great for garage sales. A location with lots of parking would work better than where people have to park and walk.
- **Advertise.** Advertising in a local paper is probably the most popular way of getting the word out about your garage sale. A standard four line ad in the

Saturday Southland Times would cost between \$12-\$20. If you use social media, you can create an event on Facebook or Neighbourly, invite your neighbours and friends and ask them to share it.

- **Put signs up.** Simple signs work best, as it's hard to read a lot of text while traveling down the road. A simple arrow pointing the way along with the word "SALE" with the street name and number should do just fine. You can also put balloons on the letterbox.
- **Get plenty of change.** Have plenty of small bills and coins on hand so you can quickly give change to customers.
- **Be safe.** While most garage-sale shoppers are good and honest people, don't let any potential bad apples cause problems:
  - Secure your money during the sale.
  - Don't let anyone into your home to use the bathroom, and lock your doors while you're running the sale.



neighbours  
day AOTEAROA

# Sausage Sizzle

On 24 March Neighbourhood Support Invercargill held a free sausage sizzle in Esk Street to celebrate Neighbours Day. It was a wonderful sunny day and we were lucky to use a bbq trailer kindly donated by Westpac for the event. We used 120 sausages and nearly 4 kg of coleslaw! We are especially grateful to Barry and Sue from All Stars Karaoke who created a party-vibe with their beautiful music, to Teresa and Hayden who helped to cook and serve the sausages and to Healthy Families Invercargill who donated low sugar sauces. Thank you all very much; the event would not have been the same without you!



## Meeting of Neighbourhood Support Contact people



At the end of March the contact people of Neighbourhood Support gathered for a traditional biannual meeting. Guest speakers Andrew Cameron and his son Archie, both leisure drone pilots, talked about different kinds of drones, their capabilities and what they are used for. They also showed photos they have taken with their drones, shared some curious stories of things that happened to them when out and about and how to identify whether a drone is pointing its camera at you or simply flying nearby. In the conclusion they demonstrated their drone in action and we were able to see what it looks like when you pilot one. It was a fascinating topic and both guest speakers received lots of questions.



## Meth House

At the last meeting for contact people one contact person shared an inspiring story with me.

A Neighbourhood Support group helped police uncover a drug lab. Residents were noticing suspicious behavior in one of the houses in their street and reported their observations to the Police. Soon after the Police busted a meth house.

If you know any information about the illegal trade in drugs call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

Call Alcohol and Drug helpline for free confidential support on **0800 787 797**.

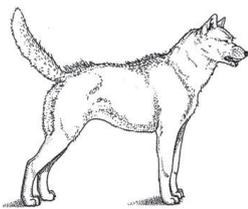




# How to Avoid Being the Victim of a Dog Attack

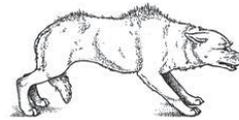
Many people are bitten because they trigger the bite. Dogs go through a series of displays and postures when they feel threatened. These displays are an early warning signal so that a confrontation is not required. If you recognise those early "aggression signals" you may minimise the chance of a very unpleasant encounter.

## Dominant Aggression



- Eyes directly staring at you
- Ears erect and forward
- Lips curled
- Snarling, growling and exposing the teeth and gums
- Head rigid and held high
- Hair raised on its neck and back
- Tail raised (sometimes wagging)
- Standing its ground
- Barking
- Scratching the ground
- Stiffened body (walking as if on tiptoes)
- Leaning forward (often with one paw raised)
- Very confident

## Fear Aggression



- Eye contact avoided
- Ears back
- Lips slightly curled or mouth tightly closed
- Snarling and growling
- Head lowered
- Hair raised on its neck and back
- Tail tucked between its legs
- Alarm barking
- Constantly moving and appearing stressed
- Hiding or trying to appear smaller by crouching
- Peeing uncontrollably
- Very stressed and agitated

Two reasons why a dog may react are the distance between the dog and the intruder and the speed at which the dog is approached. Evaluate the aggression signals and the dog's body language. If you miss or ignore the signals, the dog may feel the need to reinforce them by biting you. Most dogs try and bite you from behind.



- Ensure that the dog stays to the side of you. If the dog tries to go behind you, slowly circle with it.
- Always allow the dog room to escape.
- Stay calm. Don't run or make any sudden movements. Dogs have an instinctive reflex to chase moving objects.
- Don't scream or squeal. High pitched sounds may startle the dog and cause it to respond.
- Avoid eye contact but don't lose sight of the dog. Keep an eye on it.
- If you are on a bicycle get off it and hold the bicycle between you and the dog.
- Act confidently. Fear or anxiety may increase the probability of you being bitten.
- Be cautious when the owner appears. When your attention has been distracted this is a prime time to bite you.
- Be cautious of a bitch with puppies.
- Never approach a dog that is eating.
- Stay back from a dog that is sleeping.
- Never pat a strange dog on its head, neck or shoulder area. Only pat a dog if the owner is present and gives you permission.

# Neighbourhood Group Gatherings



We always love to hear how your gatherings go, let us know!

For some inspiration check out what some groups have been up to:

Fox Street, Bainfield Road,  
Helmsdale Street,  
Edinburgh Crescent

Fox Street group met at the Avenal Funeral Home meeting room, which is conveniently located on the same street.

Members of Bainfield Road group invited speakers to their quarterly street meeting. Do you also want to invite a speaker for your group gathering? Give me a call!

Helmsdale Street group members gathered at the Invercargill Workingmen's Club for a supper.

Edinburgh Cres organised a bbq.

Wow, so many great ideas!



Helmsdale Street Group



Bainfield Road Group

Edinburgh Crescent  
Neighbourhood Group Against  
the Weather

Sunday 11th February dawned fine and warm, but at 11,30 the skies opened and we thought our BBQ was not going to happen.

But the sun came out and the Edinburgh Crescent Neighbourhood group all met at number 41 and had a great BBQ, lots of yummy food and awesome company.

Some of the group had other plans, it's so hard to get everyone together at the same time, but 15 folk had a great catch-up and lots of laughs.

We all live in a great neighbourhood and it is lovely to be able to get together like this. It is important to look after one another, and Neighbourhood Support is a great way to do this.

Thank you Saniya at ICC for the Countdown voucher which was well used for buns etc . We will definitely be organising more events!

*Jenny Miller*



Invercargill  
Neighbourhood Support

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