

Press release

27 May 2009

European Neighbours Day comes to Hackney

For the second year in a row, residents of Nightingale Estate in Hackney brought the well known European Neighbours Day to their doorstep on 26 May 2009.

European Neighbours Day is celebrated yearly in around 29 countries and aims to bring communities together by encouraging neighbours to talk and get to know each other. This year's theme was to keep neighbourliness going all year round.

The event on Nightingale Estate saw 300 residents attend and take part in face painting, bingo, get healthy living advice and take part in dance shows.

The event was the result of a partnership between Hackney Homes, Southern Housing Group and Bangla Housing Association.

Chair of Hackney Homes Board, Rupert Tyson, said: "This is the second year running that Hackney Homes has supported European Neighbours Day, and once again it was a great way for local residents to get to know each other".

Ends

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Notes to Editors

- The European Neighbours Day on Nightingale Estates was organised by Hackney Homes in partnership with Southern Housing Group, Bangla Housing and local residents.
- European Neighbours Day started in 2003. Last year, it was celebrated in around 450 cities in Europe and brought 4.5 million people together. www.european-neighbours-day.com

Here are a few Hackney Homes tips to keep goodwill going 12 months a year:

1. Get talking

- Strike up a conversation and find out about your neighbours
- Let your neighbours know well in advance if you plan to have a party

2. Turn down the volume

- Try to use appliances like washing machines and vacuum cleaners during the day
- Try not to play your TV, radio, hi-fi or musical instruments too loud
- Try not to place things like TV sets and speakers on the floor or against walls as this can make them vibrate
- Think about having carpet laid, hanging curtains and buying stuffed seating to help absorb noise
- Avoid banging doors
- Don't keep dogs locked up for long periods - this can frustrate them and cause excessive barking

3. Spare a thought for your neighbours

- Keep premises secure and don't let strangers into a shared block of flats
- Try not to block access when parking
- Keep your garden/ communal area tidy and trimmed
- Keep your pets under control and always clean up after them
- Always put your rubbish in the bin