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Old Aussie traditions building community in Chisholm

Nearly three quarters of Australians do not know the names of their neighbours¹, but one Hunter region community is turning the tide and reinstating old neighbourly values while upgrading the classic street party to a signature Long Table Dinner.

On Saturday April 18, residents of Waterford by AVID Property Group (AVID) came together for an amazing banquet cooked by The Wilderness Chef.

A full banquet dinner was on offer in addition to some home favourites with residents encouraged to 'bring a plate' to help start conversations and celebrate the many cultural backgrounds of Waterford's diverse community.

AVID General Manager NSW Danny Boubli said the strong turnout reflected how eager Waterford residents were to come together and continue strengthening their community.

"Bringing people together in a meaningful way is a key focus for everyone at AVID and it's great to see our residents are just as passionate about fostering this community," Mr Boubli said.

"Human connection is at the core of everything we do, and we are incredibly proud of the small-town charm we have worked hard to maintain as more and more residents move in, through events like the Long Table Dinner.

"Our team makes a conscious effort year-round to grow an environment of belonging, neighbourly spirit and support, and as a signature event in AVID communities nationally, the Long Table Dinner serves to bring together residents to create meaningful connections beyond the home with an opportunity to sit down and share a meal that genuinely ignites friendships."

The array of different foods was the perfect ice breaker for residents looking to meet their new neighbours, and live music and a dreamy photobooth set against the beautiful Waterford landscape, created the perfect opportunity for those conversations to stretch into the evening.

Kids were certainly kept entertained with face painting, balloon twisting, giant lawn games and a DJ, the perfect activities to help kids bond, building friendships with their future school and play mates.

Waterford resident, Andrew Stimson said the event was a new favourite for him and his wife Sara.

“It was so nice to see the community come together – we met new people, mingled with neighbours who had lived in the community for ten years and even reconnected with old friends,” Mr Stimson said.

“We’ll certainly be in attendance next year and plan to encourage all of our neighbours join in.”

In addition to the Long Table Dinner, Waterford residents enjoy a calendar of annual events designed to continue strengthening connections among neighbours.

– ENDS –

References:

1. [Real Neighbours Report 2025 | Real Insurance](#)

About Waterford by AVID Property Group

Waterford is part of AVID Property Group’s growing portfolio of exceptional master-planned communities, Waterford is a 173ha community in East Maitland, New South Wales.

Offering residents large blocks, beautiful parks and open spaces, the community’s residents enjoy close access to new and emerging amenities including new local schools St Bede’s Catholic College and St Aloysius Catholic Primary School, childcare, retail amenities and the new Maitland Hospital.

For more information visit: www.waterfordliving.com.au.

About AVID Property Group

AVID Property Group (AVID) is an award-winning Australian developer, responsible for a diversified selection of residential masterplanned communities, land lease communities, completed houses and apartments, with 69 projects located in key growth areas across Australia and New Zealand.

AVID has a proven track record with the delivery of \$4.9 billion worth of projects over the past 17 years. AVID’s current portfolio includes approximately 16,000 residential land blocks with a gross revenue pipeline of \$7 billion.

Media Release



With a strong record of delivering connected and vibrant communities, AVID and its subsidiaries have created great homes and places for more than 75,000 Australians to live out their dream lifestyle.

Led by highly experienced senior management, AVID brings people together to deliver exceptional communities, valuable shareholder returns and thriving environments for its customers.

For more information, visit www.avid.com.au.

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