

# 10 steps to begin, grow, and keep a community group



By the *Shorehaven Yarners*



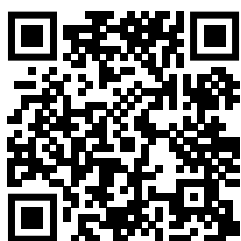
1. **Start with a small post on your neighbourhood's Facebook community page.** In the post, ask if anyone would be interested in meeting once a week to do an activity. For example, to knit, crochet, have a coffee, read books, swap recipes, or do whatever interests you. There will definitely be a few responses (or a lot).
2. **Now you can make the arrangements.** Pick a venue. Choose a day and time. Book a table. If it's a cafe, it's a good idea to ask permission to bring craft items.
3. **Let everyone who responded to your post know where to come and when.**
4. **Turn up.** Be prepared to wait, as everyone will be a bit nervous and no one will want to be the first one to arrive.
5. **Take a prop to place on your table.** For example, a basket of yarn, stack of books, or whatever represents your new group. This is so everyone knows which table to go to.
6. **Smile and be friendly. Make introductions.** Thank everyone for coming. Chat. Ask questions. Relax. Enjoy. Discuss and agree on a name for the group. Don't forget to take pictures.

7. **Set up a group chat on Facebook Messenger or WhatsApp, to keep everyone connected.**
8. **Post a picture on your neighbourhood's Facebook community page of the first meeting.** Post updates about your new club from time to time, inviting newbies to join.
9. **Set up a Facebook page for your group (optional).** Here you can post regular updates about meeting times, events, or news about the club.
10. **Your group will slowly grow.** Firm friendships will happen. Laughter will happen. Connections will happen. The group will evolve, change, grow, shrink, grow. It will make a difference – to you, to the group, and to the community. You got this.

## Start reaching out today

It's never too late to grow your social circle and start making connections. You can find the Shorehaven Yarners and other community groups on LiveUp's activities database.

Call our friendly team on 1800 951 971 for help finding local options.



Scan the QR code for more helpful articles and downloadable exercise sheets on the LiveUp website.

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## Contact us

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LiveUp is a healthy ageing initiative funded by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

