

# 2012 Australia and New Zealand Babywearing Week Only Days Away

Babywearing parents across two countries have booked their events for the upcoming Australia and New Zealand Babywearing Week next month.

There are now 27 events booked into the Babywearing Week calendar, with more to come. To see what is on in your state visit the [Events page](#).

This year marks the third national celebration of Australia and New Zealand Babywearing Week. It will run parallel with International Babywearing Week from 8-14 October 2012, following the theme "Carrying on Traditions".

Babes in Arms, babywearing specialists and founders of Australia and New Zealand Babywearing Week, initiated the celebration in 2010 to raise awareness about the benefits of babywearing. The week of activities also demonstrates how modern parents can enjoy peaceful and active post-baby lifestyles by using baby slings and carriers, the oldest parenting tools known to mankind.

Each event will be in the running to win up to \$3000 worth of community grants to donate their nominated local community project or not for profit organisation.

Three \$1000 community grants will be awarded as follows:

- Biggest Babywearing Group Award
- Media Attention Award (minimum of at least 3 media spots)
- Ergobaby Flash Mob Award

Babes in Arms director and mum to four, Anita Lincolne-Lomax said events included babywearing picnics, babywearing beach walks and sling demonstration days, with community organisers keeping in touch via the Australia and NZ Babywearing Week Facebook Page.

"Australia and New Zealand Babywearing sponsor Ergobaby and key retailers will host free babywearing demonstrations, morning teas and test drives at key baby stores to educate parents and caregivers on the safe use of slings and carriers," Anita said.

"Our online community has been sharing event ideas and it's great to see everything taking shape now we are less than two weeks away from Australia and New Zealand Babywearing Week," she said.

Babywearing has many benefits for babies, including decreasing crying and fussiness by up to 51%; promoting healthy sleep patterns; accelerating infant growth; increasing the learning ability and a baby's sense of security and attachment to their caregiver.

Babywearing also benefits parents and other caregivers, significantly decreasing the stress associated with crying and anxious babies as well as allowing them to more easily and comfortably care for their children while attending daily tasks of living.

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