



B&Q FOUNDATION LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE 'BB&Q' EVENTS AS OVER HALF OF BRITS SAY THEY WANT STRONGER LOCAL CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNITY

- The UK is seeking more local connection, with 57% of Brits saying they want a stronger sense of community, while 42% don't currently feel connected to people in their local area
- From chatting to neighbours to supporting local causes, new research reveals that small barriers like time and confidence are holding people back, not lack of interest
- To help tackle this, the B&Q Foundation is launching its first-ever BB&Q weekend, through launching its first nationwide fundraising activity designed to bring communities together and support the Foundation's work building brighter futures
- Over the weekend of 12th-14th June stores nationwide will be hosting fundraising activities, with selected stores holding BB&Q barbecue events
- Customers and communities can host their own BB&Q events, whether it is a World Cup gathering or a get together at home, using downloadable fundraising materials available at diy.com/bq-bbq. Across the campaign, B&Q will also donate £15 from every barbecue sold in store and online between 5th and 18th June to the B&Q Foundation, helping to support good causes while bringing people together for summer moments

May 2026: Communities across the UK are full of untapped potential, with new research revealing a strong appetite for closer local connections and relationships, and opportunities to get together and support each other.

The research, commissioned by B&Q on behalf of the B&Q Foundation, found that while many people value their local area, 42% say they don't currently feel connected to those around them and only one in five (19%) admit they have meaningful conversations with neighbours less than once a month. The research findings point to clear ways people want to connect: two thirds (67%) believe sharing food is one of the easiest ways to bring people together - rising to 78% among 25-34 year olds - while three in five (60%) people say they'd be more likely to attend a local event if it supported a charitable cause.

To turn this appetite into action and help raise funds for those who need it most, the B&Q Foundation is firing up its first-ever BB&Q fundraising event over the weekend of 12th to 14th June with events at selected B&Q stores and fundraising activities at all B&Q stores across the UK.

For one weekend only, B&Q will be hosting BB&Q events at five stores, bringing people and communities together over delicious food, all whilst raising funds for the B&Q Foundation, an independent charity that supports local organisations through grants to help improve living spaces and gardens. Customers will be invited to enjoy food straight from the grill in exchange for a donation,



helping to fund local charity projects while also creating opportunities for people to connect with their communities face to face.

B&Q is also encouraging people across the UK to host their own BB&Qs at home, turning everyday summer gatherings into opportunities to give back, with downloadable fundraising materials available at diy.com/bq-bbq. B&Q is asking customers to donate just £1 to the B&Q Foundation for any BBQs they host at home and is also giving a donation of £15 for every BBQ sold between 5-18 June to the B&Q Foundation. All the money raised goes directly to support local charities who work tirelessly to improve lives in their communities by helping create brighter futures for people experiencing homelessness or unsuitable housing.

The BB&Q events also help make it easier for people to build a stronger local connection, for which the research showed a clear desire, with one in five saying there aren't enough local events or opportunities to meet others nearby, rising to more than a quarter among 18-24-year-olds. The research also suggests that feeling disconnected can have a wider impact on charitable engagement too, with 13% saying they don't donate to local charities because they don't feel connected to their community. While one in five (22%) say they are too shy or socially anxious to connect with their local community, more than half (52%) say they would feel comfortable attending a charity fundraising event on their own, highlighting how shared causes can help people take the first step towards connection.

Katherine Paterson, Marketing Director B&Q and Trustee at the B&Q Foundation, said: *"We're incredibly proud of the work that the B&Q Foundation does and that - in just six-years - it has already raised over £10million for local charities across the UK, helping people experiencing homelessness or unsuitable housing. The charity is ambitious to do more to help local charities and organisations get the support they need and this research shows that people want to support their local community but often don't know where to begin.*

"The BB&Q events will help people and their local communities by not only fundraising for the B&Q Foundation but also by creating an opportunity for people to come together and build the local community connections they're looking for. We're looking forward to seeing BB&Q events up and down the country - hosted by our stores, our customers and communities, bringing people together to make a meaningful difference by grilling for a good cause!"

The BB&Q fundraising weekend is 12-14 June. To find out more, go to diy.com/bq-bbq.

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Notes to editors:



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About B&Q Foundation:

The B&Q Foundation supports charities across the UK to create better homes for people experiencing homelessness or living in unsuitable housing. Since launching in 2020, the Foundation has raised over £10 million and supported more than 1,500 projects across the UK.

Through its Better Homes Fund and Home Essentials Fund, the Foundation provides grants to help refurbish accommodation and supply essential items for people moving into a home. Working with locally based charities, it aims to deliver practical improvements that make a lasting difference to people's everyday lives.

To find out more visit <https://bqfoundation.org.uk/>.

About B&Q:

B&Q is the UK's leading home improvement and garden living retailer with over 300 stores throughout the UK and Ireland, offering great prices, with over 2 million products available to order at diy.com for home delivery or click and collect.

For trade professionals, B&Q TradePoint offers exclusive membership to those in trades such as electricians, plasterers, fitters, plumbers, roofers, decorators, joiners, tilers, builders, landscapers and facilities and maintenance professionals. TradePoint members have exclusive access to dedicated TradePoint counters at around 200 B&Q stores as well as to [TradePoint.co.uk](https://tradepoint.co.uk).

B&Q launched the UK's first home improvement marketplace in March 2022, adding additional choice for consumers. The Marketplace offers a unique, integrated experience with in-store returns for many products and, as of July 2025, Click + Collect options too. B&Q's Marketplace at diy.com offers over 2 million products from over 2,000 third-party sellers alongside products for sale from B&Q.

Their team of more than 20,000 colleagues of all ages are respected nationwide for providing great home improvement help to customers. They're the beating heart of B&Q and their iconic orange aprons are worn with pride.

Every year, more than 20 million people improve their homes and make life better with B&Q, and every year the company achieves ever-higher standards for sustainable operations and sourcing, and supports our local communities, including funding B&Q Foundation grants and Shelter's DIY Skills Advisors. For more information on our community initiatives visit diy.com/corporate/community or to read our Build a Life Project annual report visit diy.com/responsible-business.



B&Q is part of Kingfisher plc, the international home improvement company, operating over 1,800 stores in 87 countries across Europe.

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