

# Scattered Families™

## ORGANISING LOCAL CHATS OR MEET UPS FOR SCATTERED FAMILIES GROUP MEMBERS

From time to time Scattered Families members ask us if we can create a specific community chat for members living in their local area.

Unfortunately we can't do this as our members are currently drawn from hundreds of localities and regions across 30 different countries and it would be impossible to offer this to everyone who asks.

For those members who are trying to sort out get togethers, or even just a local chat option, this is what we would suggest:

The first thing to do is to use the '**Anyone Live Near Me**' community chat. We set this community chat up to enable you to give a shout out to other members in your area and make the initial contact with them

Following on from there, there seem to be several avenues to enable you to link up with others who are in your area and maybe even organise a meetup:

**1. Create a 'WhatsApp' group:** A WhatsApp group is probably the simplest option, but it does involve you swapping your private mobile phone contact details with interested parties. WhatsApp is available in a huge number of countries but of course other communication channels also exist. A number of our members have opted to create their own area-specific WhatsApp group and say it works well for them.

**2. Create a Facebook Messenger Group:** You can create a Facebook Messenger group and invite other members to join. One of our members has kindly trialled this and has very helpfully created a how-to guide, with screenshots. You can find her guide on the Scattered Families website in the 'Resources' section.

**3. Create a separate Facebook Group:** This will involve more work as you'd need to create a Facebook Group from scratch and will need someone to run it and be Admin.

If you go down this 3rd option (a new FB group), can we respectfully ask you to give your new FB group a name that **doesn't** include the words '**Scattered Families**' since this is likely to cause confusion for people searching for and wanting to join our group. There is the possibility that there could be many local groups in the future as more and more people get together, so please think of individual distinctive names. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this.

Hopefully the above goes some way to helping those Scattered Families members who are trying to connect locally, but are not sure how to go about it, particularly those members who want to take up the challenge of organising meetups!