

Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby

eNewsletter #390 - 02 April 2019

This weekly eNewsletter is compiled by Neighbourhood Watch volunteers as a service for residents in Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby council areas. The eNewsletter is a new type of Neighbourhood Watch; utilising the available technology to keep people more connected and up-to-date with local crime and safety issues.

The eNewsletter includes a selection of posts from the <u>Ku-ring-gai PAC Facebook</u> <u>page</u> (also known as '**eyewatch**'), primarily for those not familiar with Facebook. We add anything interesting from a Neighbourhood Watch point-of-view - this could be a local newspaper article, a roadwork warning, crime prevention tip(s), an upcoming Neighbourhood Watch meeting, Q&As from residents, or an item from an other Police command ("Crooks know no boundaries!").

- ⇔ Have you seen anything we should share with the community? Please email our NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby volunteers. We do value your contributions. Thank you for your support.
- ➡ Please feel free to <u>share/forward this eNewsletter</u> with your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours.
- Reading our eNewsletter for the first time? Click here to subscribe.

02 April, from Fire & Rescue NSW Station 037 Gordon: Gordon Firefighters are currently on scene at a unit fire in Pymble with neighbouring station <u>Fire</u>

and Rescue NSW Station 050 Hornsby.

Crews were faced with an apartment that was well alight, the fire was quickly extinguished and we are now in the process of salvage and overhaul. All occupants of the building self evacuated with no report of injuries. Please exercise caution in the area.

Fire and Rescue NSW Kuring Gai Police Area Command NSW Ambulance



02 April, from Burwood command:



31 March, from Ku-ring-gai command: Remains confirmed to be those of woman missing for four years - St Ives Sunday, 31 March 2019 06:39:15 AM

Skeletal remains found in bushland near St Ives last week have been identified as those of a woman reported missing more than four years ago. Two men bushwalking within the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden found the remains more than 150m off a walking trail and alerted authorities last weekend (Saturday 23 March 2019). A crime scene was established, and a search of the area conducted, which turned up a bag containing gardening tools. Following forensic examination, on Friday 29 March 2019, it was confirmed to investigators the body was that of Mrs Gaida Coote, who was last seen in the garden's car park on Wednesday 3 December 2014. Mrs Coote – who was 84 at the time of her disappearance – had been a regular visitor to the park as a volunteer with a plant regeneration group. An extensive search for Mrs Coote began when her car was noticed still parked at the gardens two days later. The operation involved dozens of searchers including local police, the Police Rescue Unit, the Police Dog Unit, the police airwing PolAir, Mounted Police, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NP&WS) and volunteers from the State Emergency Service (SES) and Rural fire Service (RFS). Police have prepared a report for the information of the NSW Coroner.

A little bit of green is usually a welcome addition to your pocket — but one of these could leave you poorer, and with a criminal record to boot.



Have you ever been suspicious of a \$50 note you ended up with? The Reserve Bank of Australia is raising awareness of counterfeit currency as it detects tens of thousands of forged notes every year.

Counterfeits are worth keeping an eye out for. You don't want to end up with one in your wallet. If you get stuck with a counterfeit banknote, you don't get compensated for handing it in, and if you try to spend it you are potentially committing a crime.

This may seem unfair but it is the only way to police counterfeiting. If it was possible to get compensation for handing in dodgy banknotes it would be easy to set up a system that passed notes out to people who then hand them in for a reward. So the onus is on law-abiding Australians to look closely at the money that lands in their hands.

Read more here.

29 March, from Kuring Gai Police Area Command

Last night police received several calls from concerned residents reporting that a male and female had just smashed a window in a local soap shop and had entered the premises. They was seen to leave about three minutes later. The male was in possession of a black backpack.

Police who were patrolling the area at the time came across the two and after a short foot pursuit were able to apprehend both.

They made full admissions to having broken into the soap shop and stolen product. Police searched them and the backpack and found over 70 cakes of soap.

When asked why they had stolen the soap the male replied, "Officers, we were trying to make a clean getaway".

Have a great weekend.

28 March, from Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command: A Community Safety announcement on:

"THAT SEEMS A BIT SUSPICIOUS - DON'T YOU THINK?

"SHOULD I REPORT IT TO POLICE?"

"SHOULD I REPORT IT NOW OR AFTER DINNER?"

"MAYBE I'LL REPORT IT TOMORROW, I'M A BIT TOO BUSY AT THE MOMENT"

Whilst there have been a number of break and enters in our Police Area Command, the number of offences are down which is fantastic news, it is a timely reminder to us all to continue to be vigilant. While police are out patrolling being proactive looking for crime in our area and responding to incidents, we rely on you, our community, as our primary source to let us know of unusual things occurring in your local neighbourhood or street – You are our eyes and ears for crime that occurs in your area.

Please, if you HEAR something suspicious ... if you SEE something suspicious ... then SAY something to us – please call us! We would much rather respond to 9 call outs and find them to be false alarms than to not know about the one legitimate break and enter into yours or your neighbour's home.

A call to us at the time of the possible offence gives us the best opportunity to catch the offender/s.

PLEASE NEVER APPROACH OR ENGAGE THE SUSPICIOUS PERSON YOURSELF - THAT'S OUR JOB!

Ways of reporting suspicious activities, vehicles and persons are:

- **000** Triple Zero for emergency or life-threatening situations
- 131 444 Police Assistance Line (PAL) for non-emergencies
- **1800 333 000** Crime Stoppers (to provide crime information)
- Or your local police station [Hornsby 9476 9799]

Have a nice night, from us here at Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command.



From the Hornsby Advocate, Thursday 28 March [click here for online edition]:

streetwatch [Page 7]:

WESTLEIGH A schoolboy fight in Westleigh resulted in one boy being taken to hospital after emergency serives including the CareFlight rescue helicopter were called to Ruddock Park. Police are making inquiries into the incident and have asked parents to talk to their children about the dangers and potential consequences of fighting. Emergency services were called to Ruddock Park last Friday following a prearranged fight involving three boys about 4.30pm. A crowd of about 15 to 20 young people gathered to watch the fight, police said. One boy was taken to hospital after allegedly being punched in the head and losing consciousness. The Children's Hospital at Westmead told police the boy had no injuries and was fully alert in hospital. The hospital also said it suspected he faked being unconscious at the scene, according to police. The boy was unresponsive for about 25 minutes when police and paramedics arrived at the park and the CareFlight helicopter attended. He was taken to hospital by ambulance after becoming responsive. Two boys were arrested following the incident and have both been given a warning by police. Parents took to a community page on Facebook to voice the need to better educate children about the dangers of getting involved in brawls.

MT KU-RING-GAI A pharmacy on the Pacific Highway was broken into at the weekend and \$1000 worth of prescription medication stolen. Police believe entry was through the roof of the pharmacy. The break-in happened between 1.30pm on Saturday and 9am on Monday. The stolen medication included Endone and Valium. Police are investigating.

GALSTON A work van was broken into on Arcadia Rd and more than \$3000 worth of tools stolen. The goods were taken between 3pm last Wednesday and 11am on Friday. The stolen tools included impact drivers, drills, a grinder, vacuum and power tool batteries. In another incident, police arrested a woman in relation to a spate of alleged break-ins and thefts in Galston and Arcadia.

TURRAMURRA A 19-year-old Turramurra man was charged with high-range drink

driving after his car collided with two vehicles before smashing into a tree. The P-plater was driving a Subaru along Monteith St about 2.30pm on Sunday when he allegedly crashed into two parked cars. Police say he carried on driving and lost control of his car before it smashed into a tree on Waratah Rd. Police arrested him and took him back to Hornsby police station where he allegedly returned a breath analysis of 0.156. He will appear at Hornsby Court on Thursday, April 11. The alcohol limit for P-plate drivers is zero. His licence has been suspended.

HORNSBY A 17-year-old P-plater has been charged with low-range drink driving. Police followed the boy on Galen Ave and stopped him for a random breath test. He allegedly failed a roadside breath test and was taken to Hornsby police station. Police say he returned a breath analysis of 0.066. He will front court at a future date.

ARCADIA A 17-year-old Arcadia girl has been banned from a retail store at Rouse Hill Town Centre after allegedly attempting to steal goods in an empty pram on Saturday afternoon. She was stopped after leaving the store with the stolen goods, valued at \$130, in her pram, police say. Officers attended and she was given a formal warning.

PENNANT HILLS A 45-year-old man was taken to hospital after falling 3m from a roof and being knocked unconscious at Pennant Hills. Emergency services were called to the Loftus Rd home about 8.30am yesterday. Four ambulance crews attended as well as the CareFlight helicopter, which landed on a field at nearby Mount St Benedict College. A CareFlight statement said it was understood the man was replacing skylight sheeting on the roof when he fell about 3m on to a deck below, losing consciousness. Paramedics treated the man for head and limb injuries. He was taken by ambulance to Westmead Hospital in a stable condition.



noticeboard [Page 13]: Movies: Berowra Apex and Hornsby Council will host Movies under the Stars at Warrina Oval, Berowra, on April 12 at 6.30pm to thank volunteers who helped during the recent storms. Details: hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Dates for the Diary:

Thursday 04 April: Office of the eSafety Commissioner FREE online webinar

'Using Data and Public Wi-Fi' 2-3pm Info and booking

Monday 08 April: Office of the eSafety Commissioner FREE online webinar

'Staying Safe on Facebook' 10:30-11:30am Info and booking.

Monday 08 April: Hornsby Shire Council FREE webinar and discussion 'All You

Need to Know about Data and Public Wi-Fi' 12:15-1:45pm @ Hornsby

Library Info and booking

Monday 08 April: Office of the eSafety Commissioner FREE online webinar 'Using

Data and Public Wi-Fi' 12:30-1:30pm Info and booking

Tuesday 09 April: Office of the eSafety Commissioner FREE online webinar

'Using Data and Public Wi-Fi' 11:30am-12:30pm Info and booking

Tuesday 09 April: Office of the eSafety Commissioner FREE online webinar 'Can

you Spot a Scam? Tax Time Edition' 1:30-2:30pm Info and booking.

Wednesday 10 April: Hornsby Shire Council FREE Intro to Facebook 1-2:30pm @

Hornsby Library. Info & Booking

Friday 12 April: Hornsby Shire Council/Berowra Apex host Movies Under the

Stars to thank volunteers who helped during the recent storms 6:30pm at Warrina

Oval, Berowra. Info.

Sunday 05 May: Ku-ring-gai Council's Festival on the Green, St Ives. 10-4pm. Ku-

ring-gai Police Area Command will have a crime prevention stall.

Saturday 25 May: Novus Foundation 2019 Almost Winter Ball Info.

Sunday 07 April: Lindfield Rotary Fun Run.

01 April, from the Australian Taxation Office: SCAM ALERT! Be on the lookout for suspicious emails claiming to be from myGov.

This latest phishing scam from a fake myGov email address asks you to fill out a form in order to claim a tax refund. Don't click anywhere in the email and don't provide your personal details!

Always think twice about clicking links or opening attachments in emails, and remember – we don't have an online tax refund form. Warn your friends and family to stay alert, and get all the details here: www.ato.gov.au/General/Online-services/Identity-security/Scam-alerts/#March_2019



Security tip: Make accessing our online services more secure – update your myGov sign-in options at https://my.gov.au/ so you receive an SMS code for each log in.

29 March, from Stay Smart Online (Australian Government): Fake Paypal emails request account details

Priority Level: High 29 MARCH 2019

The Australian Cyber Security Centre is aware of malicious emails that are falsely telling Australians that their account has violated PayPal rules. These phishing emails try to lure people into sharing their personal information which could then be used for identity theft and financial gain by cybercriminals. The email says their PayPal account will be permanently disabled within 48 hours unless the user logs-in using the link provided within the email to 'update account details' and 'activate your account'. The link sends you to a fake PayPal login portal where your details will be captured by cybercriminals.

How do I stay safe? If you receive the email: Do not click on the link. Do not enter any information. You should forward the email to phishing@paypal.com.au and can find more information and advice on the Paypal website.

31 March, shared from Thornleigh, Westleigh and Normanhurst Community Group: My son's bike has been stolen from my front porch in Pennant Hills.

It's an all black bike with slanted seat. If anyone sees one dumped somewhere can you please let me know? He is quite upset and it cost me quite a bit of money (2) thanks. It says "killerboy" on it



[Photo of a similar bike]

30 March, from au.news.yahoo.com: Why you shouldn't keep money you find on the ground

If you stumbled upon a \$50 note on the ground, would you keep it? Victoria Police have warned you could be charged with theft if you decide to pocket it instead of handing it in. A social media poll on the Victoria Police Facebook page revealed thousands of people admitted they would count their lucky stars and keep the money, rather than hand it over to the cops.

But police said those who kept the banknote would actually be breaking the law.

More here.

30 March, from NSW Food Authority: Recall: Australian Superfood Company Raw Bars [edited]

The NSW Food Authority advises: Bailey Beau Pty Ltd is conducting a recall of Desert Tribe Tropical Raw Bar and Lemon Seed Wonder Raw Bar. The products have been available for sale at online and independent stores in NSW, ACT, VIC.

Product details:

- Desert Tribe Tropical Raw Bar, 40g
- Lemon Seed Wonder Raw Bar, 40g
- Best Before 28.10.19

Problem: The recall is due to the presence of foreign matter (plastic) and mould.

See: http://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au/news/recallsandadvisories/product-recall-aust-superfood-co-raw-bar



Other recalls (4 since last week's eNewsletter) can be found on the NSW Food Authority Recalls & Advisory webpage, <u>click here</u>.

27 March, from home.kpmg: Child safeguarding – A vital focus for organisations

Children are the most vulnerable members of society due to their dependence on adults and limited comprehension of their rights or ability to identify acceptable social norms and behaviours.

However, the safety of children and young people within an organisation is often taken for granted and rarely questioned. Parents, and the community, often don't think to question enough if their child is safe and protected from harm at school, or at their part time job, for example.

Similarly, boards and executives don't question enough whether or not children are safe in their organisations. Yet, their safety should far outweigh business profits, revenue, popularity and market share.

With children's wellbeing, as well as organisational reputations at risk, it is not an issue that can be ignored.

Read more here.

27 March, a warning to us all, thanks to Jina:

Hi, I just want to bring to the attention of the residents in my area - if anyone receives a call from the number 02 8091 2724 purported to be from ATO, it is a scam. I also attached the screenshot of the voice message left by the scammer.

You missed a call from 0280912724, who said "___ Has marked lien for tax avoidance. Paperwork sent to registered address has also returned back unsigned and undelivered. For this the petition needs to get filed including your warrant ___." This message was provided by Telstra at no charge to you.

27 March, from mamamia.com.au: All we know about how a 20-year-old swim coach allegedly abused young girls

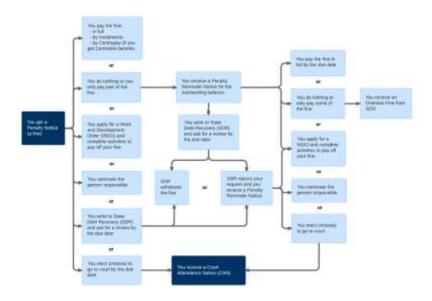
Warning: This article deals with alleged child sexual abuse.



In the weeks since a 20-year-old Sydney swimming instructor was first charged with sexual assault against two of his young students, further shocking details have emerged. Kyle Daniels now faces 31 charges relating to the alleged sexual abuse of eight girls aged between the ages of six and 10. He has denied all charges. Most unsettling is that parents reportedly made complaints about the Knox Grammar graduate more than six months before he was charged, and that many of these assaults allegedly occurred while Daniels was under supervision. This is what we know so far about the young man's alleged crimes and how they were noticed, reported, but until recently, not acted on.

26 March, from Crime Stoppers: If you get a fine by police, you have some options.

Check out the flow chart to see what you can do.



♦ Hot tip: If using a smart device, click on the image and use your fingers to expand the size – or <u>click here</u> to view the chart on the NSW Government Justice | Law Access webpage..

26 March, from Mt Colah Neighbourhood Watch: Mt Colah's latest Neighbourhood Watch newsletter.





Email us here for a copy in your inbox.

CRIME PREVENTION ON THE INTERNET - if you know what you're doing, you are less likely to get hurt!

From Hornsby Council:

One-on-one Technology Help: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from February to April. One hour time slot bookings.

Tuesday 05 February - Wednesday 1 May 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

Location: Hornsby Library, 28-44 George Street, Hornsby

Event cost: Free. Bookings are essential.

Contact: Hornsby Library Phone: 9847 6614 Email: library@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Do you need one-on-one technology help? Our volunteer digital mentors are happy to assist beginners.

More info here.

Introduction to Facebook

Wednesday 10 April 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm

Location: Hornsby Library, 28-44 George Street, Hornsby

Event cost: Free. Bookings are essential.

Contact: Hornsby Library Phone: 9847 6614 Email: library@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Get started with Facebook - find out how to create a profile, add friends, post messages and make connections. You will need to have an email account for this

From the North Shore Times, Thursday 28 March [view online edition here]:

[Page 28, edited] A LUXURY Northbridge waterfront home seized as part of Australia's largest tax fraud scheme is being auctioned off. The Coolawin Rd property, was once the home of convicted criminal Anthony James Dickson, a former Ernst & Young executive, who is serving a 14 year jail term over a \$135 million tax avoidance scheme.

[Page 12] Ku-ring-gai Council: Temporary Road Closure Sunday 07 April

Temporary Road Closure Sunday 7 April

Council has approved the temporary closure of McLeod Avenue and Marjorie Street Roseville on Sunday 7 April between approximately 7.30am and 10.30am.

The closure is to allow Lindfield Rotary Club to conduct its annual fun run. Access will be permitted for local residents and emergency vehicles during the closure period.

[Page 17] Street Watch:

NORTH SHORE Police conducted Operation Gotchya on Friday targeting shoplifters in Neutral Bay, North Sydney and Chatswood. Five people were arrested, two of whom were charged, including one allegedly possessing drugs and a magnetic implement used to remove security tags from clothes. Two were issued with fines and one was given a juvenile caution.

ROSEVILLE Around 3:30am Friday 22nd March police stopped a car on William St, for a RBT. The driver, a 22 year old East Lindfield man, returned a positive result, was arrested and taken to Chatswood Police Station for a further breath analysis. The analysis returned a 0.100 reading, twice the legal limit. He was charged and will face court next month.

LINDFIELD Around 3:15pm Saturday 23rd March police were called to Grosvenor Rd following reports a car was engulfed in flames there. Upon arrival they spoke with the driver, a 29 year old Strathfield man, who was submitted to drug and

alcohol testing. He returned a positive result for Cocaine and was arrested. He will be charged pending the outcome of a secondary test.

[Page 31] Letter of the Week: Five weeks ago we woke to find a boat parked on the nature strip at the front of our house. We notified the police and council and were informed the trailer is registered in Baulkham Hills and it can only legally stay there for 28 days. However, the ranger did not mark the wheels until 10 days after it arrived. Council apparently don't send a letter to the owner until 28 days after they have marked the boat! The owner then has 15 days to remove it. This then totals 49 days. It is unsightly as we can't mow the grass and is dangerous as it blocks our neighbour's view of the street when they are backing out of their driveway. This is a ridiculous regulation which says boats can be parked anywhere and many kilometres from where the owner lives. The law needs to be strengthened so boat owners don't abuse the amenities of the community area where they arbitrarily choose to park their boats and trailers. Sandra Brooks, Wahroonga

01 April, from Ku-ring-gai Council: Council approves rapid response approach to graffiti removal [edited]

Ku-ring-gai will have a team of specialist staff mobilised to deal with graffiti outbreaks in the local area, following a Council decision last week. A new graffiti policy adopted unanimously at last week's Council meeting will see a coordinated approach to graffiti removal in Ku-ring-gai using the four principles of prevention, continuous removal, prosecution and education. A team of specialist staff will be used to remove offensive or noticeable graffiti from public roads and buildings in a rapid response approach to keeping shopping and retail areas graffiti-free. The removal of graffiti from privately owned properties will be carried out following consent from the owners or occupiers of buildings. The Council will also work with NSW Police to identify and prosecute perpetrators of graffiti and also develop a community education program to raise awareness of the problem.

The adopted policy can be viewed here.

Full Media Release here.

02 April, shared from Thornleigh, Westleigh & Normanhurst Community group (approx 8pm): Did anybody see the thug in the severely smash white commodore dump it in Pritchard street and run 30mins ago?

Any info - police are on scene, or call **Hornsby station 9476 9799** now. Dash cam footage or Pritchard Street CCTV welcome. (Smashed it on Penno Rd and took off).

From "Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for Homes":

Tip #17: Only use tradies recommended to you, or that you have researched. Supervise them all the time in your home. You are probably NOT insured for theft by tradesmen or visitors - this includes party guests and buyers at a garage sale. **Tip #18:** Pre-program your phone(s) with all the emergency numbers below. Report everything. If you see anything suspicious, or witness a crime, no matter how small

everything. If you see anything suspicious, or witness a crime, no matter how small and seemingly insignificant, please tell the Police. Try and get a car rego – use a rock to scratch it on the ground.

Tip #19: Suggest an arrangement with neighbours for when any of you are on vacation, eg for regularly checking your home, clearing the local newspapers, putting out & retrieving garbage bins, clearing mailboxes, parking in driveways/spaces, mowing grass strips, etc. Consider placing old items on the washing line. NEVER advertise your travel plans on social media. Consider redirecting/holding your mail.

Tip #20: Consider promoting a dog on site: a dog water dish, dog lead and warning signs. Consider connecting the sensor lighting to a socket unit that can 'bark' (or 'chirrup') as a warning/deterrent.

For a copy of the "Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for Homes", or any others in the series, email us here, or download for FREE from our Neighbourhood Watch website Tips page here.

01 April, from UK Cop Humour: Urgent Announcement - Have you committed a crime? Are you currently unlawfully at large?

From today, any offenders who hand themselves in to Police, will not face conviction due to a new Government initiative to reduce crime levels.

"The Adults Potential Rehabilitation Initiative for Long-term Forfeiture Of Offences for Life Scheme is running for a very limited time trial and we encourage offenders to take advantage of it today," a Home Office spokesman said. If you report to your local station, just quote the offence you're wanted for and say you saw it here. Please SHARE this status as far and wide as you possibly can as the results

IMPORTANT CONTACTS & LINKS

Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): 000

NSW Police - Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command (PAC): 9476 9799

Hornsby Police Station, 292 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby 2077

Ku-ring-gai Crime Prevention Officer: 9476 9723

Local Police Facebook page: @Kuring Gai LAC

Non-emergency two-way communication

Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000

Report crime anonymously

Report suspicious activity asap

Police Assistance Line (PAL): 131 444

For non-urgent minor crime

NSW Police Community Portal

Online reporting of non-emergency minor crime: lost property, intentional damage, graffiti or theft.

Interpreting & Translating Services: 131 450

NSW Police - website for crime prevention advice

Never be afraid or embarrassed to report a crime, concern or fear you have to the Police. The Police are here to help you.

Neighbourhood Watch within Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby:

Website NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org.au

WatchOut! WatchOut.org.au - our one-stop-shop for crime prevention

Facebook @NHWKuringgaiHornsby





Email NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com

Local Facebook pages:

WatchOut! Our Crime Prevention WatchOut! Facebook page

- Meighbourhood Watch Berowra (technical issues)
- Neighbourhood Watch East Killara
- Neighbourhood Watch Gordon
- Neighbourhood Watch Hornsby
- Meighbourhood Watch Killara
- Neighbourhood Watch Mt Colah
- Neighbourhood Watch Normanhurst
- Neighbourhood Watch Pennant Hills
- Neighbourhood Watch St Ives
- Neighbourhood Watch Turramurra
- Neighbourhood Watch Wahroonga

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This email has been forwarded to you by Neighbourhood Watch within Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby. Please share the information with anyone you think may be interested, and encourage them to join our Distribution lists. Thank you. If you live outside the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai area, please contact your local Crime Prevention officer for similar information for your locality. If you are unaware of an active Neighbourhood Watch group in your area, please consider starting one.

Our mailing address is:

Neighbourhood Watch within Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby c/o Crime Prevention Officer, Ku-ring-gai NSW Police PAC - Hornsby Police Station 292 Peats Ferry Road Hornsby, NSW 2077 Australia

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