



Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby eNewsletter #584 - 20 December 2022

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 our local police at the [Ku-ring-gai PAC Facebook page](#) (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 another 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 and thank you for your support.

🚗 Please feel free to share/forward this eNewsletter with your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours.

🚗 Reading our eNewsletter for the first time? [Click here to subscribe](#).

20 December, from NSW Police Force: Police are appealing for public assistance to locate a woman and three children, who are missing from Sydney's south-west.

Officers from Campbelltown City Police Area Command were contacted about 3pm yesterday (Sunday 18 December 2022) after a mother and her three children could not be located. Police were told Elizabeth Harpley, aged 36, and her sons, Mathew Harpley, aged 10, Christopher Harpley, aged nine, and Mitchell Devine-Harpley, aged five, were last seen at Koshigaya Park, Campbelltown, about 2pm. Family and police hold serious concerns for their welfare, as the children live with conditions that require medication, which they do not currently have in their possession. They are known to frequent the areas of Campbelltown and Wollongong in NSW, and Pullenvale in QLD. It's believed they are in the company of a 49-year-old man – who is known to the family – and may be travelling in a red Jeep with QLD registration plates 061 VKM. Police are urging anyone who sights the children to contact Triple Zero (000) immediately.

MORE INFO ➡ <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=104625>



20 December, from NSW Police Force: Can you help us find Hayley?

Hayley Hopwood, aged 15, was reported missing to officers earlier this month. She was last seen about 8.20pm on Saturday (17 December 2022) at Mt Druitt Railway Station. Officers attached to Nepean Police Area Command are continuing extensive inquiries into her whereabouts. Police and family hold serious concerns for Hayley's welfare. Hayley is described as brown of Caucasian appearance, approximately 150-160cm tall, of thin build, with long brown hair and brown eyes. She is known to use public transport and frequent the Penrith and Mt Druitt areas. Anyone who sees Hayley or has any information regarding her whereabouts is urged to contact Nepean Police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

More information: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=104629>



16 December, from NSW Police: Detectives have released CCTV vision as they continue investigations into the suspicious death of a man in a Sydney hotel last week.

About 3pm on Wednesday 7 December 2022, emergency services were called to a hotel on Kent Street, over concerns for a man's welfare. Officers from Sydney City Police Area Command attended and found a man deceased in the stairwell of the hotel. A crime scene was established, and detectives commenced an investigation into the man's death, which is believed to be suspicious. The man has since been identified as 25-year-old Chinese national, Tao Cheng. Investigators believe he entered the stairwell about 9pm on Sunday 4 December and have now released CCTV of two men who they believe can assist with their inquiries. As inquiries continue, anyone with information regarding the two men or who has any further details on this incident is urged to contact **Sydney police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.**

More information: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=104572>



16 December, from NSW Police Force: Two men will face court today charged by Arson Squad detectives following an investigation into a suspicious house fire on Sydney's Lower North Shore.

About 10.50pm on Saturday 3 September 2022, emergency services were called to Cliff Road, Northwood, following reports of a house fire. Fire and Rescue NSW firefighters worked through the night to extinguish the blaze; however, the house sustained significant damage. No one was home at the time and no injuries were reported. Detectives from North Shore Police Area Command conducted initial inquiries, before the State Crime Command Financial Crimes Squad's Arson Unit took carriage of the investigation under Strike Force Lenghwise. Following extensive inquiries, detectives executed search warrants at homes in Wentworth Falls and Punchbowl about 7.30am yesterday (Wednesday 14 December 2022). During the search, officers seized several items relevant to the investigation, including a Toyota Hiace van, and electronic storage devices. A 69-year-old man and a 20-year-old man were arrested at the properties and taken to Katoomba and Campsie police stations respectively. Both men were charged with destroy of damage property in company by means of fire or explosive.

More information here: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=104565>



16 December, from NSW Police Force: With honour they served 💙 Queensland Police Service



15 December, from NSW Police Force: Three men will face court today charged over their alleged involvement in the large commercial supply of prohibited drugs across Sydney.

In October 2022, detectives from Raptor Squad established Strike Force Caste to investigate

the supply and distribution of prohibited drugs and dealing with proceeds of crime across the Sydney region. About 5.50pm on Monday (12 December 2022), emergency services were called to a home in Austral Street, Kogarah, following reports of a fire. A 51-year-old man was located outside the property, suffering burns to his hands, legs, and face. He was taken to Royal North Shore Hospital in a serious condition. Following inquiries, strike force investigators executed search warrants at the Kogarah house and properties in Campsie and Kingsgrove about 4.30pm yesterday (Tuesday 13 December 2022). Police seized several items relevant to the investigation, including 5.7kg of cocaine, mobile phones, \$15,090 in cash, electronic storage devices, and drug manufacturing equipment. Three men – aged 30, 37, and 51 – were arrested and have since been charged. Investigations under Strike Force Caste are continuing.

More information here: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=104552>



14 December. from Ku-ring-gai command: What does Santa call the Elf Police?

The Po Po Po 🎅

Our new probationary Elves out and about on the beat around Hornsby over the weekend.

#Merrychristmas #NSWPolice 🌲



14 December, from Ku-ring-gai command: Planning a party soon?

Please register with the NSW Police Force website via the barcode below or [here](#). If you are submitting the party registration within 3 days of the party date, please report the party details to your local police station directly instead.

Plan ahead
REGISTER
YOUR PARTY!
Know your limits

SCAN TO REGISTER

NSW GOVERNMENT



This week Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby has been informally advised of several car thefts and attempted car thefts.

Unfortunately we have no details to share, only the basics. There were two attempted car break-ins in Killara. On Sunday evening, a car was stolen from Wyomee Av, West Pymble. Early Saturday morning, there was an attempt to steal a car from a driveway on Grayling Rd, West Pymble.

- Please lock your cars on your driveway and in your garage.
- Keep the keys away from sight in the house, eg inside a cupboard, rather than on the hall table.
- Register your CCTV with the police [here](#).
- Warn your neighbours.

Download more crime prevention tips from our Neighbourhood Watch website [here](#).

19 December, from The Hills command: Good one from a Hills Dad.... And to clarify.... If they're soft its not illegal.

It is illegal and dangerous to fit a bull bar or accessory that extends beyond the vehicle. Protrusions that extend beyond the vehicle could seriously injure a pedestrian or road users who may come into contact with the protrusion. Bull bars, vehicle frontal protection systems and racks used to carry ladders or loads of any type must not have:

- protrusions
- sharp edges
- pointed corners or accessories that interfere with the driver's field of view such as what you can see to the front and sides of the vehicle.

This includes loaded and unloaded racks, fishing rod holders, winches, additional lamps and their respective mounting brackets. Aerials and winches which cannot meet this requirement must be removed after operational use.

20 December, from NSW Fair Trading: The NSW Government will make the practice of solicited rent bidding illegal to improve affordability for those seeking rental accommodation amid high cost of living pressures.

The new regulations will apply to all new listings from Saturday, 17 December 2022.

For more information, visit [here](#).



20 December, from NSW DPI Fisheries: For its 15th consecutive year, Operation Trident has been put in place to crack down on the illegal harvesting of Seafood across NSW this Christmas.

This joint operation NSW Department of Primary Industries, the NSW Food Authority and NSW Police includes both covert and overt patrols and inspections across NSW and is designed to deter oyster theft and protect consumers against potentially unsafe black-market produce. Maximum fines of up to \$275,000 and imprisonment apply. NSW is known for producing a diverse range of delicious, fresh, and healthy seafood that is enjoyed by customers all over the world, and we want to keep it that way. We strongly urge the public not to consume Seafood products if they do not know where it has come from. The public are urged to report illegal or suspected illegal fishing activities to the **Fishers Watch Phoneline on 1800 043 536** or via the online report form [here](#) and anyone with information on marine-related crimes should contact **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.



20 December, from 9Now: High-range drink driver receives suspended jail sentence

A magistrate has decided the fate of north west Sydney man Shelvin Singh after he was convicted of high range drink driving while he had his two young children in the car. Singh has been sentenced to 12 months jail, which has been suspended, provided he does 150 hours of community service and complies with a number of other court orders. Singh was handed his sentence late last week after he crashed into three parked cars in Glenorie in May.

Full article [here](#).



19 December, from the Australian Federal Police (AFP): North Sydney man arrested for child abuse offences

A North Sydney man appeared in Hornsby Local Court last week (16 December, 2022) charged with three online child abuse-related offences. The investigation began on 16 September, 2022 when the AFP-led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) received a report from the United States' National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) about an online user uploading child abuse material to Facebook Messenger.

Full Media Release [here](#).



19 December, from NSW Government: Help us determine whether the penalties handed to dangerous drivers are appropriate and sufficient

Visit the submissions page to have your say 👉 bit.ly/HYS-Serious-Road-Crimes



19 December: The full-on deep fakes are here. Think of the scams coming our way. This article from the BBC is an interesting article on what's here and now.

K-pop: The rise of the virtual girl bands

Since releasing their debut single I'm Real in 2021, K-pop girl group Eternity have racked up millions of views online. They sing, dance and interact with their fans just like any other band. In fact, there's mainly one big difference between them and any other pop group you might know - all 11 members are virtual characters.

Full article [here](#).



Eternity is a K-pop band generated using AI technology - all its members are virtual

18 December, from Neighbourhood Watch Berowra: Shared with permission from the Berowra Community group

Tradies check your utes! Thieves about. Silver Toyota Camry hybrid 2012 - contact **Hornsby police station: 9476 9799**.

17 December, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Here is dashcam footage from last night's incident on the Pacific Highway at Killara, shared with us by a local. Thank you.

They said: "You will see from my dash cam ...

- Stolen car on my right
- Undercover cops x 3
- Swat team
- Gun shots

I waited till the gun shots stopped and I drove out of there before they shut the road.

... thought I was in a Mission Impossible Movie scene.

This is my dash cam footage - no sound unfortunately but there definitely was gun shot noise and I smelt the gun powder."

Click [here](#) for video footage. [Facebook login may be necessary - Ed]



Here is the edited close-up version of last night's takedown on the Pacific Highway at Killara. Thank you to the local resident for sharing with us all.

Click [here](#) for video footage. [Facebook login may be necessary - Ed]



Dates for the Diary

Friday 20 January 2023: Mt Colah PROBUS 11-12pm @ Asquith Golf Club - Speaker: NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby. NHW Crime Prevention stall.

Wednesday 08 February 2023: Seniors' Expo at 10-2pm @ Turramurra Uniting Church hall & community centre. NHW Crime Prevention stall.

17 December, from Nepean command: THERE'S NO NEED TO PANIC

Keep calm and relax – School holidays are almost upon us – Only one afternoon to go. Just a few tips in preparation for the holidays and if you're planning to travel

SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Don't advertise where you are going on holidays and how long you'll be away

YOUR VEHICLE:

- Ensure your vehicle is serviced with tyres and fluid levels checked before you leave.
- When leaving your car anywhere, make sure you secure it by locking it

DRIVING:

- Do not trust the other driver
- Plan your trip and take regular breaks when driving long distances
- Drive with your headlights on
- Never drive when you're tired
- Do not drive whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Do not speed
- Do obey the road rules
- Do drive to the conditions of the road.
- Do not use your mobile phone illegally when driving

YOUR HOME:

- Ensure your windows and doors of your home are locked and secured
 - Tell a trusted neighbour that you're away
 - Ensure your lawns are kept neat
 - Ensure someone can collect your mail for you, or have it diverted or stopped for the time you're away
 - Check that your sensor lights, alarm, and CCTV system are all working
-



17 December, from Neighbourhood Watch Killara: Shared with permission from the West Lindfield/West Killara Community group Tuesday






PSA: a car on our street (near Beaumont Rd Public School) was broken into last night and some items were stolen. The car was in a carport and accidentally left unlocked. Don't forget to lock your cars.

17 December, from Neighbourhood Watch Wahroonga: Shared with permission from the Wahroonga Community group yesterday (Friday)

ATTN women around Grosvenor St. There is a man around 5'2 50 years old of a dark complexion taking videos of women walking along that road (he wasn't being discreet). Happened around 9-9:30am. Police have been informed.

17 December, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Christmas Grinches are out and about – ready to ruin your Christmas! One of the things most commonly targeted at this time of year are parcels being delivered to your home!

This includes Christmas Hampers, presents being delivered from loved ones and parcels from online purchases.

-  Check your mail box daily and keep it locked!
 -  When expecting a delivery, make sure you are home, or organise to pick it up from the post office.
 -  Consider CCTV cameras.
 -  Advise of a safe or hidden place the delivery driver can leave the parcel or package.
 -  Ask a neighbour to keep an eye out.
-

Report online via the NSW Police Community Portal or call the **Police Assistance Line 131 444** if your delivery has been stolen. Call **Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000** if you can identify a Christmas Grinch who steals people's mail and parcels. It's what you know, not who you are. That's of interest to us.



17 December, from NSW Police Force: We're encouraging the public to be mindful on our waterways when carrying mobile phones and smart watches with automated crash detection feature after several false activations 🌊🚢

The default feature on smart mobile phones and watches is designed to alert emergency services via Triple Zero '000' when the device holder has been involved in a crash, in most cases, detecting the rapid deceleration of a motor vehicle. Recent marine responses have highlighted that the device can be triggered when it is on board a vessel that is travelling over choppy water or bouncing over waves.

⚠️ It is just as important to know how to cancel an alert when an emergency response is not required ⚠️

An unintentional activation of this feature when on the water can trigger an extensive response not only from police, including our Marine Area Command, but also Marine Rescue NSW and Surf Life Saving NSW, utilising valuable resources and time.

Read more: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=104598>



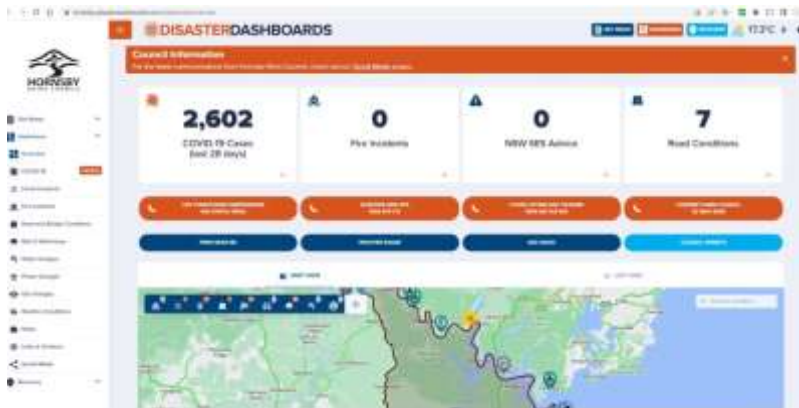
15 December, from Neighbourhood Watch Hornsby: Shared with permission from Hornsby and Surrounds Community group

PSA. This afternoon, my wife had her purse stolen from her trolley at Woolworths Hornsby Westfield. This young gentleman below is Hassan, he found the discarded purse and took the train from Hornsby to Thornleigh to hand deliver it back to my wife. To Hassan, you are a true gentleman and glad to have you as part of our community. Thank you once again and have a happy holiday everyone.



Hornsby Shire Council has a 'Disaster Dashboard'. Fire, flood and road traffic incidents along with other emergency warnings in the Hornsby Shire local council area, available in real-time and in one place.

Please take a look [here](#).



16 December, from Ku-ring-gai Council: Road safety and local business in the spotlight

Tackling safety issues on Pacific Highway and more support for local businesses were unanimously endorsed by Councillors at their final meeting for 2022. The Council met on Tuesday 13 December before the Christmas and New Year recess and two notices of motion put forward at the meeting received unanimous support from Councillors. A notice of motion calling on the NSW government to provide solutions to the safety concerns posed by truck movements on Pacific Highway was adopted.

Full Media Release [here](#).

From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: 'Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for Garage Sales'

Tip #5: YOU CANNOT SELL dangerous goods, chemicals, faulty electrical items, or firearms.

Tip #9: LOCK ALL DOORS INTO YOUR HOME, including any joining doors, garage doors, shed doors, yard gates, even if you plan to go in and out during the day. Remove keys. Don't be tempted to pop a door on the latch. Set your alarm system. Advise neighbours to also lock their properties and be vigilant.

Tip #17: CHARGE YOUR PHONE the night before & have it on you. Ensure emergency numbers are in your phone (see below). If in doubt – phone! Alternatively, you could use

your home/ car's panic alarm. Consider a personal alarm.

Tip #20: RATHER THAN AT HOME, suggest hosting with a group of others as a community sale at the local school/church/childcare centre. This protects you & your home.

For more tips and translations, look at our website 'Tips' page [here](#). Or try our WatchOut! website [here](#), for links to some great information available on the internet. Or request a copy in your inbox [here](#).

19 December, from the Australian Federal Police (AFP): AFP forensics called to solve Christmas mystery

AFP forensic experts are releasing details of a previously classified investigation into the mystery of the 'night before Christmas'. The investigation started after curious Australian children who woke to a clatter on Christmas Eves' past, referred the matter to the AFP in the hope its world-class forensic team could shed light on the centuries-old mystery of who had been inside their homes....

Full amusing article [here](#).



**To the people who put
antlers and a nose on
their car for Christmas,
you can't trick me I
know it is a car.**

Thanks to The Hills command.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS & LINKS

Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): 000
TTY: 106

NSW Police - Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command (PAC): 9476 9799
Hornsby Police Station, 292 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby 2077

Local Police Facebook page: [@Kuring Gai PAC](#)
Non-emergency two-way communication

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.

Crime Stoppers NSW: 1800 333 000
Report crime anonymously
Report suspicious activity ASAP

Neighbourhood Watch within Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby:

Website [au-NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org](#)
Facebook [@NHWKuringgaiHornsby](#)
Facebook Group [NHWKuringgaiHornsby](#)
Twitter [@NHWKRGHornsby](#)
Email NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com



WatchOut! - the NHW NSW one-stop-shop for crime prevention links:

Website [WatchOut.org.au](#)
Facebook [@NHWWatchOut](#)

Local Facebook pages/groups:

[Neighbourhood Watch - Berowra](#)
[Brooklyn Neighbourhood Watch](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - East Killara](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia, Dural \(Rural Areas\)](#)
[NHW Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia & Dural \(Rural Areas\) Facebook Group](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Gordon](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Killara](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Colah](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Kuring-gai](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Normanhurst](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Pennant Hills](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - St Ives](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Thornleigh](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Turramurra](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Wahroonga](#)
[Neighbourhood Watch - Warrawee](#)

Face-to-Face/printed newsletter groups:

Neighbourhood Watch - East Killara

Neighbourhood Watch - Gordon (part)/Killara (part)/Pymble (part)

Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby (Jubilee St)

Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Colah

Neighbourhood Watch - St Ives (Lynbara Ave)

Neighbourhood Watch - Turramurra (The Chase)



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