



Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

eNewsletter #616 - 01 August 2023

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 <u>Ku-ring-gai PAC Facebook 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 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.
- A 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.

31 July, from NSW Police Force

Missing Persons Week 2023 has officially launched with the goal to shine a light on the investigative processes involved in dealing with unidentified bodies and human remains.

This year, State Crime Command's Missing Persons Registry has received 42 reports, and 20 confirmed reports, of unidentified bodies and human remains found in NSW.

Of those 20 confirmed reports, the Missing Persons Registry has successfully identified nine of those people through varying investigative techniques, including advancements in the science of DNA.

Five were found to be medical specimens used for science and training, and six remain the subject of ongoing investigations.

Those six unidentified remains were found in various parts of the state: from Kiama to Moree and Byron Bay.

In March 2023, the New South Wales Police Force implemented Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG), which has commenced for seven other unidentified human remains cases to date.

FIGG combines new DNA analysis techniques and traditional genealogy to identify suspects and unknown remains using commercial DNA databases. Detective Inspector Ritchie Sim, Manager of the Missing Persons Registry, said modern technology goes a long way in helping police find answers for the loved ones of missing people, but there is still more the public can do. FURTHER INFORMATION CLICK HERE.

29 July, from NSW Police: Welcome to #ForensicsFriday

On Fridays, we'll be taking you inside the command where law enforcement and science meet - our Forensic Evidence & Technical Services!

The NSW Police Force, Ballistics Investigation Section examiners are qualified and experienced members of the Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners (AFTE).

The examiners have the skills to determine whether a specific tool has been used in crime. Tools that have been linked to crimes include bolt cutters, screwdrivers, scissors, heat sealers, wrenches, pliers and wire cutters.

One may ask, "How do Ballistics examiners who specialise in firearms identify whether a particular tool was used in crime?"

The comparative microscopic examination process used to link a firearm to crime is the same process used to determine whether a tool was used in crime. Tools (like firearms) can leave unique microscopic marks which allows an examiner to determine whether a particular tool has been used in crime. An example of this kind of work utilised was in January of 2009 a Break, Enter and Steal incident occurred at a pharmacy in regional NSW. During this

incident, Police Investigators suspected that bolt cutters were used to cut a padlock to a drug safe within the premises. After gaining entry to the drug safe, approximately \$1600 of drugs were stolen and the suspect left the premises. The padlock was seized along with other items by forensic officers as evidence for further analysis.

Shortly after, Criminal Investigators executed a search warrant at a property approximately 80 kilometres away. During this search warrant bolt cutters and other property were seized. The bolt cutters and pad lock were submitted for comparative microscopic examination for toolmark evidence to the Ballistic Investigation Section (BIS). After a comparative microscopic examination, BIS examiners were able to confirm that these were in fact the bolt cutters used to cut this padlock which had been secured to the drug safe. This evidence was provided to the courts assisting with a successful prosecution. The person of interest was imprisoned for 4 years and 6 months for their role in the Break, Enter and Steal. "

If you are interested in a career in Forensics, head over to the NSWPF Recruitment Page or contact fetscarp@police.nsw.gov.au for information about sworn positions. For unsworn positions, head over to iworkfornsw.gov.au.



29 July, from NSW Police: Introducing the 'Empower You' App 📕

The idea for 'Empower You' was born from the heartfelt experiences of Sergeant Lisa Clemence, who has dedicated herself to supporting victims in Western Sydney. Her determination, along with the coding and app development skills of Sergeant Sam Morgan, led to the creation of this innovative app.

The main features of the app include:

- Private Diary: Victims can easily document incidents, capturing evidence with photos, messages, and more.
- Coded Emergency Signal: A hidden lifeline that can send GPS location to ensure help arrives when it's needed most.
- Quick Triple Zero Connectivity: One-touch access to emergency services for immediate response in critical situations.
- Local Support Services: Easy-to-access links to local organisations that offer assistance and care.

The 'Empower You' app is available in the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store, and NSW Police officers have QR codes on their MobiPOL devices to link to the app in the stores to download.

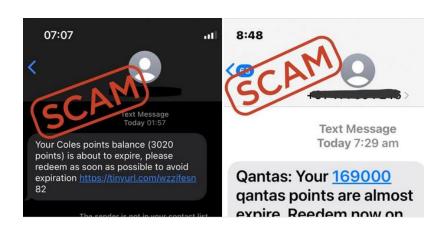
Find out more here.

27 July, from NSW Police Force: Heard about the latest loyalty program points scam?

Remember, if you've signed up to a loyalty program, check your points balance using the official app.

Never click on links in text messages or emails.

If you've seen this scam or fallen victim to it, please report it to Scamwatch here.





01 August, from Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby

Shared with permission from the Hornsby and Surrounds Community Notice Board:

Any help here is appreciated in case anyone has seen this lost bag around the Hornsby or Galston NSW area. Many thanks!





Lost Men's duffle bag

Was lost travelling from Hornsby to Galston NSW on Saturday 8th July. Possibly in Gorge or near Galston shops. Looks as pictured here & can describe contents. If found please call 0431 721 255

31 July, from Neighbourhood Watch Pymble & West Pymble: Shared with permission from the Pymble and West Pymble Community group:

Hi my dear neighbours,

My child and his friends (3 boys) were riding bikes yesterday at the council bike track at Grayling Reserve (the tiny land parcel near Philip Mall). They had been harassed by a group of older boys, around 16 years old, 8 to 10 of them in total. Managed to take photos of a few of them. This happened around 4pm to 5pm yesterday (Sunday 30th July). These older boys throwing eggs to my child and

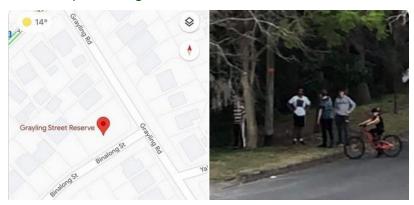
his friends. One of my child's friend even got pushed over the bike and kicked and punched. This has been reported to the police.

This is not the first time and similar incidents happened in the last few weeks, including asking for money, trying to steal a younger child's bike (by saying that he was going to show them some jumping moves) and physical assaults when the children refused the request.

If anyone has more information or saw what happened, please reach out. This area has always been a peaceful community. We have to ensure the safety of our children. Nobody should feel unsafe in the neighbourhood. Much appreciated for your help.

Also, a big thank you to the gentleman who helped my child and his friends when they were so scared and running to IGA asking for someone's help.

Let's keep our neighbourhood safe



30 July, from Australian Federal Police

Today is United Nations World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, and while the AFP is the lead agency for investigating this crime, everyone has a role to

play in stopping it.



Human Trafficking is the physical movement of people across and within borders through deceptive means, force or coercion. Around the world men, women and children are trafficked for exploitative purposes, including slavery, forced marriage and organ harvesting. This is a violation of human rights. Australia is primarily a destination country for people trafficked from Asia, particularly Thailand, Korea, the Philippines and Malaysia. We urge the public to be aware and look for signs that someone is a victim of human trafficking. Click here.

⚠Help is available. The AFP can keep you safe, provide advice and refer you to support services. Call 131 237 (131 AFP) or report here.

30 July, from Crime Stoppers NSW



Are you in over your head in the drug trade?

Do you feel trapped, but don't know where to turn?

It's time to regain control.

Report online confidentially.

29 July, from NHWQ.ORG: Is Your Mobile Phone Secure?



Not many of us go anywhere without our mobile phone. We use it to make

telephone calls, send messages, search the internet, check our emails or social media accounts and for banking, including payment by EFT. No longer is a mobile phone "just a phone", it is much more and holds lots of important information about ourselves and often about other people.

See full story here.

28 July, from Ku-ring-gai Council: Can you help?



Council is seeking witnesses to an alleged dog attack in the morning of Thursday 27 July outside the North Turramurra dog park on the Kirkpatrick Street side of the park. The alleged incident involved a larger dog and one or two smaller dogs,

Please contact Council's Companion Animal Officer on 9424 0000 if you have any information about the incident.

28 July, from Kids and Traffic



28 July, from Killara Rural Fire Brigade: Demolition complete - remnants of the old scout hut demolished and trees removed.



26 July, from Neighbourhood Watch - Berowra: Shared with permission from the Berowra Community group:

Hi all!

My e-bike was stolen yesterday from the Hornsby station bike locker. Happened some time between 1:30 pm and 10:30 pm on the 27th of July.

It's an e-bike - grey/silver in colour with black writing. Has a frame on the back with a small bag attached to it (at least was there). Disk brake and a flash light up the front. Display and phone holder on the handle bar and lots and lots of cable up front.

If anyone saw it yesterday or sees it around Hornsby area, please let me know - I would greatly appreciate it.

MAMBA VENOM - OFF ROAD





Dates for your Diary

Thursdays 27 July - 31 August: 10-12pm Online Circle of Security Program (for parents of 0-12yr) FREE. <u>Info</u>.

August: Rollout of KerbWatch into Turramurra suburb. Info.

Wednesday 02 August: Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby Volunteers meeting #38 @ PCYC, Waitara. Email us <a href="https://example.com/here-base-gai

Fridays 04 August - 25 August: 12-1pm Online 1-2-3 Magic Parenting Program (for parents of 2-12yr) FREE. <u>Info</u>.

Fridays 04 August - 01 September: 12-1:30pm Online Tuning into Kids Program (for parents of primary age) FREE. <u>Info</u>.

- **Sunday 06 August:** Berowra RFS Street Meeting 12:30-2pm @ Barnetts Rd Lookout carpark.
- **Saturday 12 August:** Berowra RFS Street Meeting 12:30-2pm @ Turner Rd nr Fire Trail gate.
- **Sunday 20 August:** Berowra RFS Street Meeting 12:30-2pm @ End of Gully Rd.

Tuesday 22 August: KYDS 'Small fish, big pond', Managing the transition to high school. FREE webinar 1-2pm. <u>Info</u>.

Saturday 26 August: Berowra RFS Street Meeting 12:30-2pm @ Cumbora Cct nr Fire Trail gate.

Sunday 27 August: Berowra Woodchop Festival.

Wednesday 30 August: KYDS 'Small fish, big pond', Managing the transition to high school. FREE webinar 6:30-7:30pm. <u>Info</u>.

Saturday 09 September: Berowra RFS Street Meeting 12:30-2pm @ Bambi Rd nr Fire Trail gate.

26 July, from Hornsby / Ku-ring-gai Rural Fire Servce

RFS Crews will be taking advantage of suitable weather conditions to conduct several planned hazard reduction burns later this week. You can find out more

here.



26 July, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

A resident requested that we include the contact details for reporting mobile phone spam/scams and to help people who may be a victim of a scam. Report a spam SMS to the Australian Communications & Media Authority (ACMA) by forwarding the SMS to 0429 999 888. Do not click on any links. Block the number the SMS came from.

Run antivirus software on your phone, such as the FREE version of Malware Bytes.

If in doubt, take your phone to a professional.

See the Neighbourhood Watch NSW website: WatchOut.org.au for links to good information, eg Scams, ID Theft, Internet Safety and Phones pages, plus the Contact List page: www.watchout.org.au

Naytional Identity & Cyber Support is available through iDCare. iDCare is a FREE service to help victims of fraud and scams where personal details have been stolen, etc. Phone: 1800 595 160. See www.idcare.org
Please Note: Neighbourhood Watch cannot endorse any product or service. We can only bring them to our attention. You should do your own research.



25 July, from Neighbourhood Watch - Berowra: Shared with permission from the Berowra Community group:

Found:



Has someone lost a treasured item? Compass in a brown pouch found outside Berowra Chinese near the Medical Centre. If anyone know of someone who's been on a hike recently, please feel free to send them my way so I can return it!

25 July, from Australian Federal Police



Need help with a cyber incident? Call the Australian Cyber Security Hotline for free cyber security help or advice on 1300 CYBER1 (1300 292 371). The Hotline is available 24/7 and offers support and guidance for cyber security incidents, as well as tips for recovery.

You can also follow the <u>Australian Cyber Security Centre</u> for alerts and advice about cybercrime.

25 July, from Neighbourhood Watch - Gordon - NSW: Shared with permission from the Gordon Community group:



Hi there today (25 July) between 12PM and 7:30PM my E-Scooter was stolen from the bottom floor of the carpark next to Wade Ln on the side closest to the police station it is quite valuable and it would be greatly appreciated if you could give me any info as police wont do anything.

It looks like this and please email me at alexander.bogeff@gmail.com if you saw anything between that time frame (otherwise it was probably me riding it)
Thank you a lot!

25 July, Thanks to the NRMA Open Road magazine.



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

- **Tip #3.** Enure all possessions that you do not want to sell (or have stolen) are out of sight/covered and/or secured, e.g., bikes, wine, surf boards, plants in containers (!).
- Tip #4. Keep the items inside the property boundary, i.e., not on your council strip. Despite the name 'garage sale', it is advisable to have the items on your lawn/driveway. Collect expensive items all in the one place nearest to you/ the intended checkout table. To avoid concealment opportunities, put large items around the outside of the area. Video the whole area outside your home as a simple inventory of items for sale AND any not for sale (see #6 below).
- Tip #5. You cannot sell dangerous goods, chemicals, faulty electrical items, or firearms.
- **Tip #7.** Check with your insurance company to ensure you are covered for any thefts that occur because of a garage sale at your dwelling. Look online for council rules.

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.

Natural habitat of the Australian esky-bro!





Thanks to Cop Humour Australia!

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 - Pymble & West Pymble

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)