



## Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

### eNewsletter #621 - 05 September 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 [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](#).

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### **31 August, from Ku-ring-gai command: 🔴 SEXTORTION 🔴 reposted from Hawkesbury Police Area Command**

There has been an increase in reports to Windsor Police over the past week in relation to sextortion. The social media platform 'Snapchat' has been used by offenders to persuade the victim into sending sexualised or explicit images. Once the images are received the offender threatens to share the content with others unless their demands for money or further images are met.

Please be cautious when interacting online and do not share any personal information with people you DO NOT KNOW. Parents be vigilant in your children's online behaviour and have open discussions about sextortion and the consequences.

The eSafety Commissioner website has further information at [esafety.gov.au/key-](https://esafety.gov.au/key-)

# SEXTORTION

Sexual extortion (or sextortion) is a form of blackmail where someone threatens to share intimate personal images of you online unless their demands are met. These demands are typically for money, more intimate images or sexual favours.

**NSW Police Force takes sexual extortion seriously and there are consequences.**

In NSW the recording or capture, distribution, as well as the threat to record or distribute, an intimate image is against the law.

**If you experience image-based abuse police can investigate.**

Do not pay or send any more images or videos of yourself.

Stop all contact with the blackmailer

Notify the relevant social media platform

Secure your accounts.

**Remember, it is not your fault**, you are not alone and you have not done anything wrong.



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**31 August, from Ku-ring-gai command: The search for missing 52yo Adam COULSON continues today Thursday 31 August 2023 in the Galston Gorge, Hornsby Area with the assistance of NSW SES Hornsby Unit NSW SES The Hills Unit, NSW Police Rescue Squad and volunteers from various NSW Rural Fire Service units from the area.**

Anyone with information about Adam's whereabouts is urged to call **Crime Stoppers NSW** on **1800 333 000** or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>. Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages. #missingperson The Hills Police Area Command



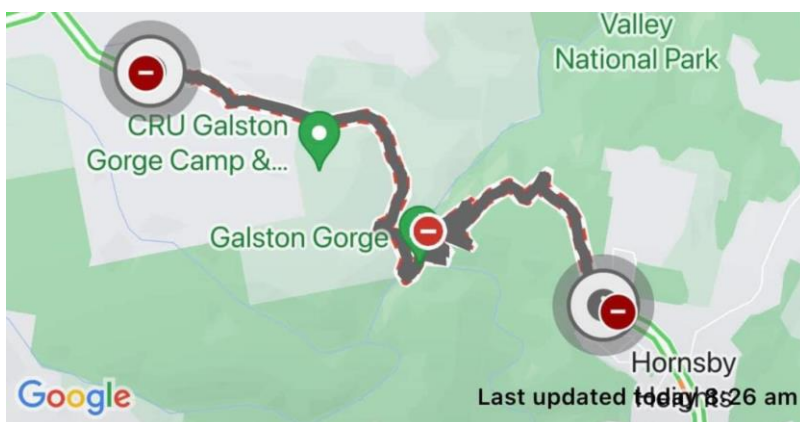
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**30 August, from Ku-ring-gai command: 🔍 The search for missing man Adam Coulson will recommence tomorrow morning (Wednesday 30 August 2023).**

Traffic contraflows will be in place in Galston Gorge during this time.

● Road closures of Galston Gorge will be occurring from 9am to allow safe movement of search crews.

NSW SES and NSW Rural Fire Service will be assisting NSW Police Force and have sufficient resources for the search. While we appreciate the concern from the local community we do ask that members of public please refrain from attending the search area. Anyone who sees Adam or has any information on his whereabouts is urged to contact **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.**



### KerbWatch - DIY your house number on the kerb

NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby are loaning kerb painting kits. Would you like to help with a

letterbox drop in your street? We would like to get the message out to the roads and streets with no kerb numbers. Maybe there's one that you know of?

Thank you to all the residents who have borrowed the kit so far and generously given a Pay-it-Forward contribution to enable future purchases, ensuring kerbwatch can continue. Thank you to those volunteers who have given their time to assist residents incapable of doing the job themselves. And a few residents too, who have helped their elderly neighbours. It's a wonderful community response.

For all the information about the kit, or how to book it, see our website: [au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/kerb/](http://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/kerb/).

Please contact us for more information and to assist with a letterbox drop in your street: [nhwkuringgaihornsby@gmail.com](mailto:nhwkuringgaihornsby@gmail.com).



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#### **04 September from Ryde command: 📢 DON'T BLIND OTHER DRIVERS BY CONFUSING DAYTIME RUNNING LIGHTS WITH YOUR HEADLIGHTS AT NIGHT!!! 🚗**

Driving at night with daytime running lights (DRLs) can be an offence. DRLs do not direct light down (light low beams) and do not have the same distance that headlights have.

#### **💡 What Daytime Running Lights (DRLs)? 💡**

Daytime Running Lights (DRLs) are lighting devices on vehicles that are designed to increase visibility and improve safety during daylight hours. They are typically located at the front of

the vehicle and are automatically activated whenever the engine is running and the headlights are not turned on.

The purpose of DRLs is to enhance the visibility of vehicles on the road, especially in conditions where the contrast between the vehicle and the surrounding environment is reduced, such as during dawn, dusk, or in poor weather conditions. By increasing the visibility of vehicles, DRLs help other drivers and pedestrians to notice and identify vehicles more easily, reducing the risk of accidents.

DRLs are usually bright, low-intensity lights that are distinct from the headlights. They are often positioned in the front bumper, grille, or near the headlights of the vehicle. Some vehicles use dedicated lamps for DRLs, while others may utilize the low-beam headlights at a reduced brightness level.

It's important to note that DRLs are not intended to replace headlights, as they are not as bright and do not provide the same illumination as headlights. When driving in low light conditions or at night, it is still necessary to turn on the headlights for proper visibility.

DRLs have become mandatory or required by law in many countries as a safety feature, and their use has been associated with a reduction in daytime accidents. They serve as a proactive safety measure by increasing the visibility of vehicles and helping to prevent collisions.

More information [here](#).



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04 September, from ABC.net.au: William Tyrrell's foster mother pleads guilty to assaulting child at a Sydney home



William Tyrrell's foster-parents have been in court for the case since early 2022. (ABC News)

Full article [here](#).

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## 04 September, from the Australian Federal Police (AFP): Help us trace an object and stop child sexual abuse

The AFP has today released new images under the world-class initiative, Stop Child Abuse – Trace an Object, in the hope of solving child sexual abuse cold cases. The four non-confrontational images released at part of National Child Protection Week include a room with a fireplace, a bed frame with a built in radio and two linked images that feature a distinctive brick wall pattern and yellow curtains. AFP investigators are hoping that certain details in the images might serve as clues that could help crack cases and potentially remove vulnerable children from harm....

Full Media Release [here](#).



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## 04 September, from Parents.AU.Reachout.com: Social Media and teenagers - ReachOut Parents

It can be a difficult to understand why your teenager uses social media so much. It might seem like they're always online, and always distracted from the life in front of them. This page will help you learn more about social media and teens, why it matters to them, and what the risks and benefits of social media can be.

More information [here](#).

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## 04 September, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Personal safety!

- ➡ Always be aware of your surroundings. If you feel you are in danger go to a place where there are plenty of people, like a shop or service station.
- ➡ Always keep enough money for a taxi or telephone call
- ➡ Have your keys ready before you get to your home or car
- ➡ Carry a personal alarm or whistle if you have reason to feel unsafe
- ➡ If someone threatens you from a vehicle, run in the opposite direction that the vehicle is facing.
- ➡ If attacked, shout as loudly as you can.

👉 **MAKE SURE TO REPORT WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU:** Information you provide to police may assist them to apprehend offenders and develop further police and community crime prevention strategies.



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**Dates for your Diary**

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

**Saturday 16 September:** 10-1pm. South Turramurra Community Emergency Expo. Between the South Turramurra shops & Kissing Point Rd - NHW Crime Prevention stall, 'catch-a-crim' carnival style photo booth, police dress-ups, colouring-in.

🔥 **Sunday 17 September:** 10am-2pm Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade Get Ready Weekend BBQ @ Glenorie Woolworths

**Monday 18 September:** FREE Dementia Community Forum @ Hornsby Library 10am-1pm. Geriatrician and Dementia Specialist, Professor Susan Kurrle shares her research and experience on how to care, support and empower our loved ones. [Info](#).

**Saturday 23-Sunday 24 September:** NHW Australasia 'Secure Your Home Day'. [Info](#).

**Thursday 30 November:** Gordon/Killara/East Killara NHW AGM & get-together 7-9pm @ Gordon Baptist Church 'Garden Square' rooms, Park Ave. Speaker: Sgt Dean La Greca, NSWPF Highway Patrol - Random Breath Testing (RBT) & Mandatory Drug Testing (MDT). And speaker (hopefully): Snr Cst Geoff Moeller, Crime Prevention Officer with Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command based at Hornsby police station - current crime in the command and advice. General public very welcome. Bring a plate. Come and collect a personal goodie bag of literature and freebies.

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**03 September, Shared with permission from the Thornleigh, Westleigh and Normanhurst Community group: History cottage in Kenley Park has had its graffiti removed.**

Same goes for the new toilet block in Brickpit Park. Sincere thanks to the givers who cleaned up this useless mess made by the takers.

**And from the comments:**

The Guide Hall and Scout Halls in the same park have been done repeatedly. The Guide Hall now has cameras, so we have some footage of the people who do this. This has been given to the police. If you get more graffiti on this building, please report to the police. At least one group of people that do this arrived in a car specifically to do this, so it's not just bored kids, it's people who can drive without P or L plates. All of this had been reported to Hornsby police, but please make sure this damage is reported as well. Thank you to the "givers".

Many people don't realise the council does not pay for, or assist in, graffiti removal from these buildings. It's done by volunteers and is paid for by the people who use these buildings.



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**03 September, Shared with permission from the Gordon Community group 3 days ago: Gordon East Public School Logo**

Dear Mr. Xxx,

I wanted to alert you to some suspicious behaviour at Darnley Oval. We have been informed that two men have been sighted taking photos and staying near children at the oval. Police reports have been made and one of these men is known to police. We ask that you remind your children of stranger danger and to discuss a safety plan for what to do when feeling unsafe, including reporting of any suspicious or concerning behaviour to an adult and Police. If children have a phone, taking a photo if safe to do so can be of help to Police when reporting. I'd like to remind families that our school remains a safe place for children to come to should they need help. Our school is open until the cleaner leaves at night between

6:30pm – 7:00pm. Children are able to come into the office from the playground side, go to OSHC for help, or find our cleaner to assist.

Kind regards

Ruth White (née Yourn)

Principal, Gordon East Public School Phone: 9498 2011

Safe respectful learners

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This email was sent to you through School Bytes. You are receiving this email as your email address is associated with a student at Gordon East Public School. If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please contact the school at [gordoneast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gordoneast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au).  
I know other kids use that park too, thought I'll share this email that I received.

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**02 September, Shared with permission from the East Killara and East Lindfield Community group yesterday (Friday): Anyone seen this 'meter reader' on their property?**

Trespassing well past the clearly visible meter to scout...



**01 September, from David Attenborough Fans: Australians have found a solution to making road markings more visible at night.**

They want to paint them in 'photoluminescent paint', similar to that on the hands of some watches. The paint will be applied on selected roads in the state of Victoria (Australia) as part of a road safety program by Regional Roads Victoria.

More details/photos: <http://bit.ly/3jJyA3R>



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**01 September, from The Hills command: Land Search Update regarding Missing 52yo man Adam COULSON.**

Last night Kuring Gai Police Area Command and Hills Police made the difficult decision to scale down land search operations in the Galston Gorge, Hornsby Rifle Range Area - after extensive searches have been unsuccessful in the target areas. Hills Detectives will continue to conduct further enquiries and review all information received from the public since Mr COULSON went missing last Friday. Smaller searching operations will continue from today in the area, however we would like to again publicly acknowledge the volunteer rescue units of NSW SES The Hills Unit and NSW SES Hornsby Unit and the many units of NSW Rural Fire Service as well as our own PoAir - NSW Police Force Aviation Command @NSWPoliceDog and NSW Police Rescue.

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### **31 August, from NSW Fair Trading: Did you know we receive more than 80,000 requests a year from consumers needing help to resolve a problem with a business?**

Our complaints register publicly lists businesses online with 10 or more complaints lodged with us in a calendar month. Here are the most complained about businesses in NSW from January to June 2023.

You can view the full complaints register on our website [here](#).



**Complaints Register Top 10  
January to June 2023**

1. Samsung Electronics
2. Tru Water
3. Ticketek
4. Injectable Institute Australia
5. Qantas
6. All Mower Spares
7. Ishka
8. Bloomex Australia
9. Apple
10. The Good Guys



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### **31 August, from NSW Food Authority: North Turrumurra and Westleigh premises**

Weekly update to our list of alleged breaches of NSW food safety standards:

- 8 premises added
- 14 premises publication period expired

See [here](#).

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### **From Hornsby Council: Community Recycling Centre to temporarily pause collection of hard and soft plastics**

From Friday, 8 September, Hornsby Shire Council will pause collection of hard and soft

plastics at its Community Recycling Centre in Thornleigh for around four weeks. This will take place while its plastics processor, Plasmar, relocates premises for a planned major expansion in processing capacity.

Full Media Release [here](#).

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### From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: 'Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for Personal Safety:

- **Tip #12.** Don't tell burglars you live alone. Leave an answering machine greeting that says "We can't come to the phone right now... ", even if you live alone. If someone is at the door, call out loudly to your imaginary room-mate that you will answer it, "Don't worry—I'll get it!" Don't list your first name on the apartment directory, or name plate.
- **Tip #15.** If walking, use, or pretend to use, a mobile phone. Consider using an App such as Companion, Follow Me, Circle of 6, SafeZone, MyWitness, Get Home Safe (GHS), Glympse, etc. Download the NSWPF emergency+ app now!
- **Tip #18.** At an ATM, if you feel uncomfortable, cancel the transaction and leave. Or shout, "What do you mean, 'no money'?!". Do not display cash in public—put it away discreetly and fast. Get \$50 cash from supermarket EFTPOS (without making a purchase).
- **Tip #19.** When driving, lock doors and windows and do not leave valuables in view, especially on the front passenger seat. Where possible, park rear to the curb, giving you a better view of a situation.
- **Tip #20.** Keep emergency numbers as easy dial/memory on your phone. Keep the phone by the bed, and torch for emergencies. Keep your car keys by the bed – be aware they can include a panic alarm. Report anything suspicious.

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](#). Other languages are available.

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## *Garda Checkpoints Dublin*



**DRIVER** "And, just what am I supposed to do with this Speeding Ticket?"

**GARDA** "Save them up and when you have 4 of them, you get a Bicycle."

Thanks to Garda Checkpoints Dublin

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### 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 Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby:**

**Website** [au-NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org](http://au-NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org)  
**Facebook** [@NHWKuringgaiHornsby](https://www.facebook.com/NHWKuringgaiHornsby)  
**Facebook Group** [NHWKuringgaiHornsby](https://www.facebook.com/NHWKuringgaiHornsby)  
**Twitter** [@NHWKRGHornsby](https://twitter.com/NHWKRGHornsby)  
**Email** [NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com](mailto:NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com)



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

**Website** [WatchOut.org.au](http://WatchOut.org.au)  
**Facebook** [@NHWWatchOut](https://www.facebook.com/NHWWatchOut)

**Local NHW Facebook pages:**

[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 NHW groups:**

[Neighbourhood Watch - Berowra \(paused\)](#)  
[\\*Neighbourhood Watch - East Killara](#)  
[\\*Neighbourhood Watch - Gordon/Killara \(plus part of Pymble\)](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Colah \(paused\)](#)  
[\\*Neighbourhood Watch - St Ives \(Lynbara Ave\)](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Turramurra \(The Chase\) \(paused\)](#)

\*These NHW groups have joined together for the purpose of committee, shared meetings and printed newsletters.



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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

