



## Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby eNewsletter #624 - 26 September 2023

This weekly eNewsletter is compiled by Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) 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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**25 September, from NSW Police: Have you seen Olivia?**

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Police are appealing for public assistance to locate a teenage girl missing from Sydney's east.

Olivia Avauena-Sorrensens, aged 15, was last seen at her home on New Orleans Crescent, Maroubra, about 11.30am on Saturday (23 September 2023).

When she could not be located or contacted, officers attached to Eastern Beaches Police Area Command were notified and commenced inquiries into her whereabouts.

Police and family hold concerns for her welfare due to her age.

Olivia is described as being of Caucasian appearance, about 155cm tall, of a medium build, with long brown hair and brown eyes.

She was last seen wearing a black hooded jumper, black tracksuit pants, black sneakers, a black beanie, and a black shoulder bag.

She may be traveling on the train network, and is known to frequent to Eastern Beaches, Sydney CBD, Inner West and Bankstown areas.

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Anyone with information into her whereabouts is urged to call police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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## 25 September, from NSW Police Force



This Friday (29th September) is National Police Remembrance Day, a day where we remember and honour those fallen officers who have served so selflessly.

To mark the very important occasion, today we're introducing you to the Chair of NSW Police Legacy, Detective Superintendent Donna.

#MeetTheTeamMonday

Whilst growing up, there was little doubt what career Detective Superintendent Donna was going to pursue.

Her father, brothers, uncles and cousins have all served in the NSW Police Force, but her police lineage goes beyond that. Her great grandfather was the Inspector General (now known as Commissioner) from 1911 to 1915.

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In 1986, Donna began her own policing career, starting in Sydney's Inner West before becoming a detective working in the South East Asian Crime, Robbery, Drug and Homicide Squads.

Come 2019, she was promoted to Superintendent and made the commander of Police Transport Command North/West sector, then Riverstone Police Area Command.

Today, Donna is the Chair of NSW Police Legacy, who do fantastic work in providing emotional and financial support to the widows and children of deceased police officers.

Donna is as good as they come - she's been named Blacktown City Woman of the Year, awarded the Australian Police Medal and even walked the Camino de Santiago earlier this year, dedicating each day to a different person or cause special to her heart.

And in relation to Donna's own family – her son is currently at the Goulburn Academy!

"#YouShouldBeACop if you have a strong sense of fairness and a desire to protect your community."

Thank you for being so amazing Donna. 

For more information about NSW Police Legacy, visit site [here](#).

To find out more about becoming a police officer, call 1800 222 122 or visit our website [here](#).

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**20 September, from Police Transport Command - NSW Police Force**



Police are seeking assistance from the public to identify a male who may be able to assist police with their enquires into an alleged assault which 10:00am on the 4th September 2023 at Central Railway Station.

Police are appealing for anyone who may have witnessed the incident or any suspicious activity to come forward.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Police Transport Command North/Central on 02 9215 6899 or contact Crime Stoppers: 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.

Reference case number: C-80603477.

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### **25 September, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby**

Here's the latest in our 20 Tips series; "Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips on the Water". Thank you to NSWPF Marine Area Command for their assistance compiling this information.

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## Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips

### ON THE WATER



Before heading out for the start of the season, have your vessel mechanically checked over tip-top shape. Make sure all the required [Essential Safety Equipment](#) is on board, check your first aid kit, extinguisher and make sure your Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) are in service with dates on flares – dispose those out-of-date via the [Expired Flares Collection Program](#). Pick up the current [NSW Boating Handbook](#) and [Personal Watercraft Handbook](#).

If you intend to travel 2 or more nautical miles offshore, an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) is required by law, though it is recommended even within 2nm. It must be within the manufacturer's expiry date & registered with the [Australian Maritime Safety Authority \(AMSA\)](#). Visit AMSA for the [Safety equipment checklist](#) for your vessel.

Understand the difference between powerboats, personal watercraft (PWC, including jet-powered surfboards) and other vessels, because the navigation and equipment rules are different for each type of boat. View the [Safety and Rules on NSW Waterways](#). Any PWC should have a 'Kill Switch lanyard'.

Every skipper is responsible for the safety of their vessel and all on board. Every trip, ensure your vessel and equipment is suitable for the conditions and waterway (open or enclosed waters). Ensure you and all aboard wear a lifejacket: kids' should be brightly-coloured and ill-fitted. Let someone know where you are going and when you will be back. Plan your trip to always keep a proper lookout.

Check the Bureau of Meteorology official weather forecast before and regularly during boating. [Five Vital Checks](#). The FREE [DECKEE Boating & Fishing App](#) has detailed marine weather, location sharing, map guidance and safety alerts.

Be in ahead for your day out on the water, and be prepared for the conditions and predict common on-water risks you may face. You may find the following useful: [PWC Restricted Zones](#) and [Check-the-weather](#).

For every trip offshore, log on/off whenever you head out/return, via the Marine Rescue NSW [FREE Marine Rescue App](#). In boating emergencies use radio VHF Ch16 or 27MHz Ch88 or call NSW Police on Triple zero (000). Use a waterproof cover for mobile phones.

Record all details of your boat and equipment (plus water sport equipment), including serial numbers, and keep this in a safe place. Photograph & engrave any valuable items, your dingy & equipment with your driver's licence number. An engraver can be borrowed FREE from [Neighbourhood Watch \(NSW\) Kuring-gai & Hornsby](#).

Don't hide spare keys on your watercraft. Don't kid yourself—thieves know all the best hiding places! When you leave your boat unattended (even short periods), remove the key from the ignition.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (including anyone on your property)**  
**EVERYTHING SUSPICIOUS (Crime Stoppers)**  
**NON-EMERGENCY CRIME (Police Assistance Line)**  
**NOT SURE (Hornsby Police Station)**  
 For Police, type PPP  
 LISTEN

16  
11

ion & lock any equipment out-of-sight (e.g., navigational, depth sounding).

Consider installing a high-quality alarm, tracking/security system and/or locking devices on steering wheel or transmission shift—all good deterrents. Security devices installed on boats resistant to water, salt and humidity, i.e. a special exterior hatch locks, special locks & fast boat windows, etc.

Consider installing a fuel cut-out switch and/or engine immobiliser—the most effective way to prevent theft. Fit an anti-theft device to your trailer. Fit rego plate locking screws to your number plate. Get a list from [NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby](#).

Don't leave personal papers such as your licence or registration on the boat. They may be useful one day. However, do keep with you a note of your vehicle registration & information.

Use a trailer boat wheel lock in front of your home, on the driveway, in the garage and in the street. If you're at home, a thief can just tow your boat away. It is better to store it out of sight, in a large, secure, mini-storage, or secure boat storage facility. Store it with the trailer tongue not easily accessible. If parked on a driveway, park another vehicle in front of the trailer. Consider removing the trailer. Use a chain & lock to secure the trailer to an anchor point. Use a good quality trailer hitch, even if stored out of sight. If parked on a street, it must be moved every 28 days.

If your boat is kept in water, use a marina with full time security and good lighting. When in berth, be out for one another. The most effective alarms are switched-on people! If you see someone suspicious, please report it to the police. Check your boat on a regular basis.

Know your boat's limit and do not load beyond it. It's worth making two trips.

Don't drink and drive. Driving a boat under the influence puts everyone on the water at risk. Alcohol limits apply to the driver, observer in a vessel towing a person, and anyone else on board. Visit the [NSW Alcohol Limits](#).

Operators of vessels which are underway (including drifting) may be subject to Random Breath Testing (RBT) or Mobile Drug Testing (MDT) by the Police. Police work with NSW Maritime, customs and enforcement on local waterways.

Regularly maintain, check, and use your lights as per the [NSW Navigation Lights Marine Rules](#).

When pulling up in a berth, if you think you're going slowly enough, go even slower! This allows for gusts and minimises wash – see [Vessel Wash Rules on NSW Waterways](#).

Get a free copy of the current [NSW Recreational Fishing Guide](#). If you suspect illegal fishing activity, contact the Fishers Watch phone line: 1800 043 636 or to [DPI Fisheries](#). Further links concerning related matters can be found on the DPI Fisheries website and on our [NHW WatchOut](#) fishing webpage (e.g. FREE Resuscitation Chart). Use the FREE DPI Fisheries [FishSmart App](#).




This guide was compiled by volunteers with Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby. Please contact the Prevention Officer (CPO) at Hornsby Police Station for more information. Phone: 9476 9476. Resources are available to download free from the Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby website: [WwKuringgaiHornsby.org/Tips/](#).

Community's one-stop-shop of crime prevention information: [WatchOut.org.au](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or at our [website](#). Contact us at: [NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com](mailto:NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com)

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25 September, from Wires: ⚠️ Beware of snake scares!




**WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU SEE A SNAKE**

- ✓ If you have found a snake in your yard they are likely passing through when they are sighted.
- ✓ Watch the snake from a safe distance and they will usually move on if left alone.
- ✓ If you can still see the snake after a number of hours speak with our rescue team on [1300 094 737](tel:1300094737) for advice.
- ✗ While many snakes are not venomous please keep children and pets away from snake at all times.

**WHEN THE SNAKE IS IN YOUR HOUSE**

- ✓ Make sure all people, children and pets are moved into other rooms and kept away until the situation is resolved.
- ✓ If you can safely do so, isolate the snake in the room you found it by closing the doors to the room and putting towels along the bottom of the doors.
- ✗ Do not approach the snake or try to contain it yourself.
- ✓ Call WIRES Rescue Line on 1300 094 737 or fill in the Rescue Form for NON URGENT rescue assistance.



Snakes are common in Australia, particularly in summer, and are regularly seen around houses and yards. They are usually passing through and will be gone within a few hours. Here are a few things you should remember when you encounter a snake.

If you find an injured, orphaned or sick native animal, call WIRES on 1300 094 737 or, if it's not urgent, report them through our website [here](#).

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**24 September, Shared with permission from the Lindfield/ East Lindfield/ Killara/Roseville Community Group :**

Hi everyone, We had a home invasion Sunday morning (17 September). 3 low life's broke in to our home at 1:00am and stole my daughter's car after finding the spare key. Everyone ok but shaken and feeling violated.

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Please everyone be diligent. They were so brazen as they broke in through our front door!! We live in Belgium Avenue.

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## **24 September, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: We are often asked for this information: HELP TO STOP THE SCAMMERS**

Unexpected call?

Select the call in your phone <recents> list. Select <report> and then check what type of spam/scam call. Select <block>.

Scam text?

Select the text in your phone messages list, to open the text. Select to forward the message (by holding down on the text) and forward to the Australian Communications & Media Authority (ACMA) 0429 999 888.

Scam email?

Go to the government's scamwatch website and report the spam/scam: <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam> Mark the email as <junk>. Delete the email.

Think you've been targeted by fraudsters?

Contact the police via the Police Assistance Line 131 444.

Have you been a victim of business email compromise, or any cybercrime?

Report it immediately to ReportCyber at [Cyber.gov.au/report](https://cyber.gov.au/report).

Also contact your financial institution if you suspect any unusual account activity.



SCAMWATCH.GOV.AU

### **Report a scam**

1. Introduction 2. About the scam 3. About you 4. Preview & submit 5. Complete Use this form to report a scam to the National Anti-Scam Centre. Before completing it, please read the ACCC privacy statement. Many...

**24 September, from Partage d'images**



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**24 September, from Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby**

Shared with permission from the Hornsby and Surrounds Community

Noticeboard group:

If you, or your building contractor, are responsible for dumping 2 x brown sliding screen doors today around midday on our nature strip, and next to a bus stop, please remove them. We are sick of this poor behavior by our 'neighbors'!

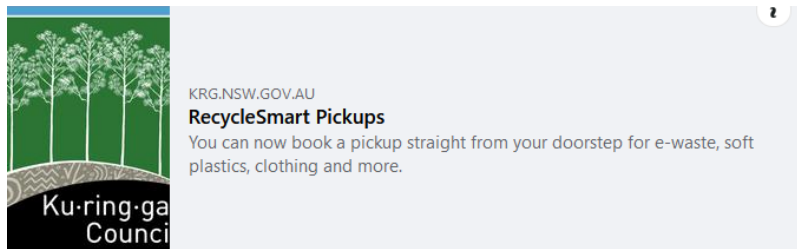
Corner of Foxglove Rd and Pacific Highway. This is not a dumping ground-it happens often!

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**24 September, Lilyon** posted a video to the playlist **MetDaanOriginals**. These self-defense hacks are a game changer! 🍷  
Watch vido [here](#).

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**24 September, from krg.nsw.go.au: FREE RecycleSmart Pickups**



We have partnered with RecycleSmart to make recycling even easier!  
Subscribe to RecycleSmart's Power Pickup service to have your hard to recycle items picked up from your doorstep and recycled at no additional charge. Items include soft plastics, e-waste, clothes, batteries, light bulbs and more.  
Please note this service is for Ku-ring-gai residents only.

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**23 September, from Tuggerah Lakes Police District**

Tuggerah Lakes Police District and the NSW Police Force will be in attendance to support 'RECLAIM the NIGHT.'

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This is an important initiative to raise awareness, on the Central Coast, for domestic violence and its devastating impact on women and children.



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**23 September, from Sutherland Shire Command: TRAFFIC TUESDAY,  
Safer driving benefits all of us. MAKING A U-TURN**

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When making a U-turn a driver must: have a clear view of any approaching traffic

be able to make the turn without unreasonably obstructing the free movement of traffic give way to all vehicles and pedestrians.

Drivers are not allowed to make a U-turn:

at an intersection without traffic lights, where a 'no U-turn' sign is displayed

at a break in a driving strip where a 'no U-turn' sign is displayed

across any of the following:

- a single continuous dividing line
- a single continuous dividing line to the left of a broken line
- two parallel continuous dividing lines.

At traffic lights

Drivers are not permitted to make a U-turn at traffic lights unless there is a U-Turn Permitted sign displayed.

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23 September, from My Local Pages



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#### Dates for your Diary

**Monday 25 - Tuesday 26 September:** Hornsby Mobile Blood Donor Centre @ William Street Car Park.

**Wednesday 01 November:** NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby Volunteers meeting. 6pm @ PCYC, Park Lane, Waitara. New volunteers very welcome. Refreshments provided. [Email](#) us for more 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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Thanks to the latest publication of The Senior.

6 THE SENIOR Thursday September 07, 2023

NEWS

# Driving home pedestrian safety

BY STAFF REPORTER

ARE you road safe? You probably think so, but consider this: older people represented 44 per cent of the 161 pedestrian fatalities in the 12 months to June.

Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport research shows that while people 60 and over represented 27 per cent of road deaths, the pedestrian death figures were much worse.

Now the Australian Catholic University has received \$820,000 funding from the Australian Automobile Association to develop a tailored online training program to enhance pedestrian safety among older people.

The first of its kind in Australia, the program will use 3D simulations and gamification alongside physical and cognitive training to help older people respond safely to traffic-related threats and enhance hazard perception skills while walking.



A program is being developed to help over-60s be more road safe. Picture Shutterstock

"By supporting older adults in understanding and improving their core pedestrian safety skills, this pioneering initiative aims to help them live long, safe and independent lives," said lead researcher Dr Joanne Bennett from the National School of Behavioural and Health Sciences.

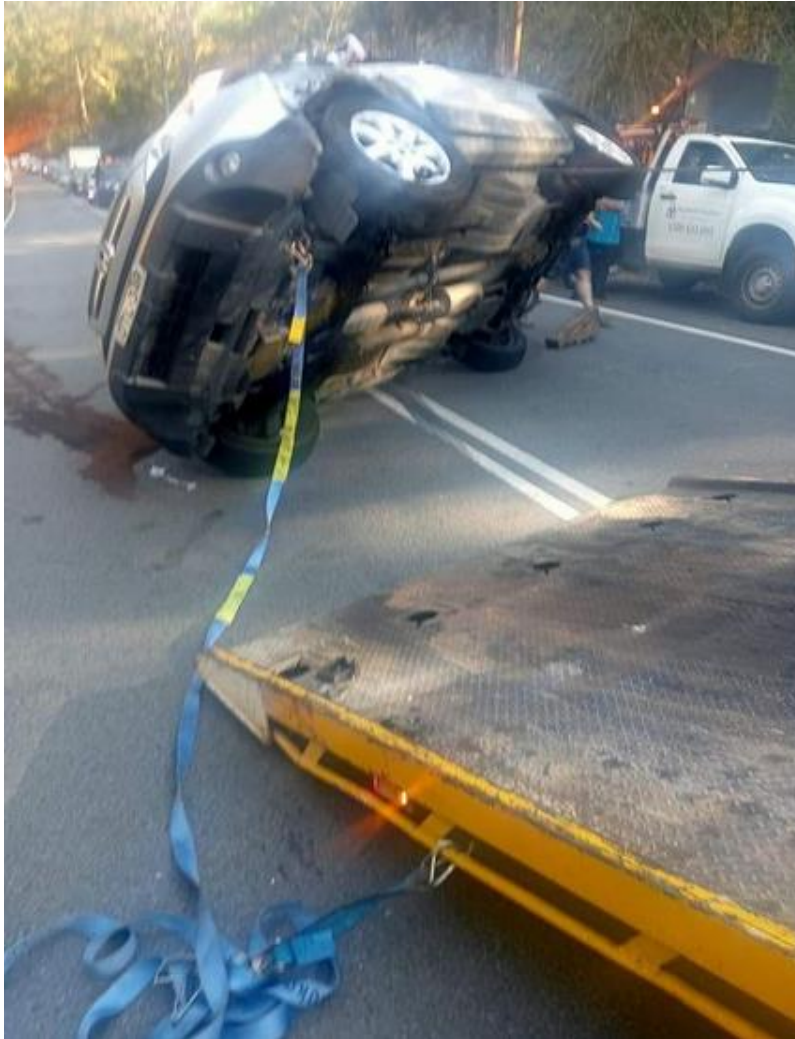
The program, which will be designed over two years, will be easy to navigate and accommodate varying levels of digital literacy. It will also support users with potential sensory or cognitive impairments.

Australian Automobile Association managing director Michael Bradley describes the initiative as a promising project that could prevent many deaths and injuries.

"Australian road death numbers are rising and our population is ageing," he said.

"ACU's work is addressing an important need and a major gap in the nation's road safety measures."

**21 September, from Thornleigh Neighbourhood Watch**



Shared with permission from the Thornleigh, Westleigh and Normanhurst Community group yesterday (Wednesday):  
Commenarra Raceway now re-open after this 7.30am accident! No person injured. Traffic crew ute hit! Lucky day for somebody!

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**21 September, from Neighbourhood Watch Pymble & West Pymble**

Shared with permission from the Pymble and West Pymble Community group:  
Hi everyone,  
Someone hit my car on Friday 4th August, at around 9:30pm on Yanko Road and Koloona Crescent intersection. The other car took a hook turn in Koloona Crescent and did not see me coming on Yanko Road from the Ryde Road

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direction. He did not give way to me. By any chance is there anyone who was there and saw this? I would be grateful if anyone noticed this incident.

Requesting this for my insurance purposes. Thanks.

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**20 September, from Australian Federal Police: ⚠️ Scam warning: Card skimming.**



Can you spot a scam? It's important to know the signs of ATM skimming to protect yourself and your money.

Criminals can insert card skimmers and tiny cameras into ATMs to steal your card details and record your PIN. Once scammers have this information, they can steal your money.

The AFP is reminding the public to check ATMs before using them to ensure that all components appear original. You can also look out for any small cameras pointing at the keypad, along with a slower or tighter card slot than usual. After using an ATM, always check that your account statement is accurate.

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To find out more about some of the most common scams to watch out for visit site [here](#).

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### **20 September, from Muogamarra Rural Fire Brigade**



About 7.30pm tonight, firefighters were called to a report of a bushfire at the end of Lonsdale Ave, Berowra Heights. Crews from Fire and Rescue NSW Station 075 Berowra along with bushfire tankers from Berowra Rural Fire Brigade, Muogamarra Rural Fire Brigade and Mt Kuring-gai Rural Fire Brigade responded and quickly extinguished the fire. Volunteer RFS crews will patrol the burn area tomorrow in the forecast extreme fire weather conditions. This is a great example of interagency response and teamwork between our local RFS Brigades. There's been street meetings, local events and just recently the statewide Get Ready Weekend - but this fire serves as a timely reminder - have you discussed your bushfire survival plan with your family? Are you prepared? If you need help - ask us or any local Brigade for advice.

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

- **Tip #4.** 'Read the road' ahead by looking for clues, eg a petrol station up ahead may cause traffic to enter your lane. Turn on the radio in a major tunnel, to hear any emergency traffic announcements.
- **Tip #6.** When coming to a stop in traffic, you should be able to see the bottom of the rear tyres of the vehicle directly in front of you. This gives you room to manoeuvre if the vehicle in front should stall, roll back, etc. It also allows space to pull forward if a vehicle is approaching you too fast from behind.
- **Tip #8.** Always give right of way to pedestrians wishing to cross, before you turn into or out of an intersection.
- **Tip #11.** We all enter a roundabout as equals – no approach road has priority. Give way to those already on roundabouts, including those entering before you from your left. Roundabouts are designed to keep the traffic flowing.

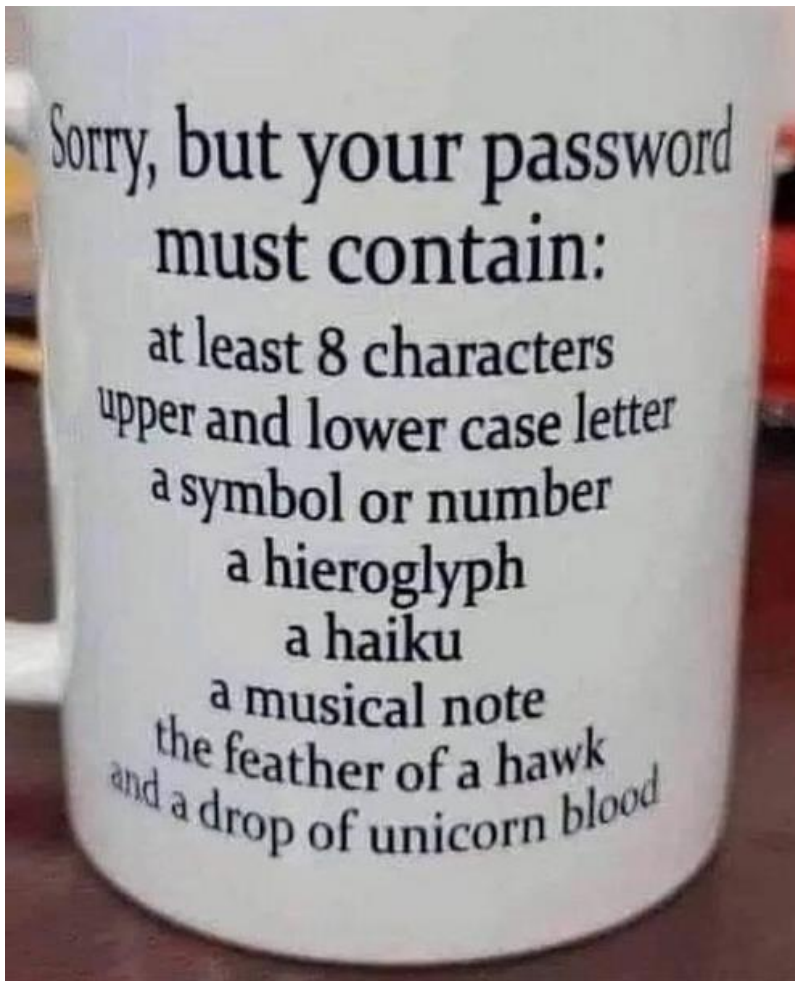
For more tips and translations, look at our website 'Tips' page [here](#). Or try our WatchOut! website [here](#), for links to some great information available on the internet. Or request a copy in your inbox [here](#). Other languages are available.

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Thanks to Wonderful Engineering



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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**

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[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](#)

**Facebook Group** [NHWKuringgaiHornsby](#)

**Twitter** [@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](#)

**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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