



Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby eNewsletter #637 - 26 December 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](#).

23 December, from NSW Police: Have you seen Emily?

Emily Pearce-Burnes, aged 14, was last seen on Springwood Road, Agnes Banks, on Saturday 9 December 2023. When she was unable to be located, officers attached to Riverstone Police Area Command were notified and commenced inquiries into her whereabouts. Following inquiries police believe she may have been in the Brooklyn area near the Hawkesbury River on Wednesday 13 December 2023. Family and police hold serious concerns for Emily's welfare due to her age. She is described as being of Caucasian appearance, about 150cm tall, thin build, light brown hair and blue eyes. Emily is known to frequent the Villawood, Quakers Hill, Richmond and **Brooklyn areas**.

Anyone with information into Emily's whereabouts is urged to contact **Riverstone police 9838 2199 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.



25 December, from NSW Police: If you're struggling this holiday season, know that help is available 24/7

Lifeline: Call 13 11 14, text 0477 13 11 14 or chat online.

Kids Helpline: Call 1800 55 1800 or chat online.

Beyond Blue: Call 1300 22 4636 or chat online.

1800RESPECT: Call 1800 737 732, text 0458 737 732 or chat online.

13 Yarn: Call 13 92 76.

MensLine Australia: Call 1300 78 99 78.

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, call Triple Zero (000).



25 December, from NSW Police: Police are warning people not to touch barnacle-

encrusted packages (pictured) but call Triple Zero (000) after seven have been washed up on beaches at Magenta, Blacksmiths, Avoca, and Manly since late Friday.

Presumptive tests indicate the packages contain cocaine.

More details: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=109761>



21 December, from Ku-ring-gai command: There have been a number of recent fraud incidents where scammers are selling counterfeit Samsung s23 mobile phones via Facebook Marketplace.

Sellers use fake profiles to arrange transactions with buyers in public places to hand over funds. The phones aesthetics appear consistent with a genuine Samsung device; they are usually sealed in authentic packaging and are often of exceptional build quality. Upon closer inspection however, the physical appearance/ performance and graphics differ from a legitimate device. The replica device is often only detected after the sale has been made and the offender has deactivated their profile or is suddenly unreachable.

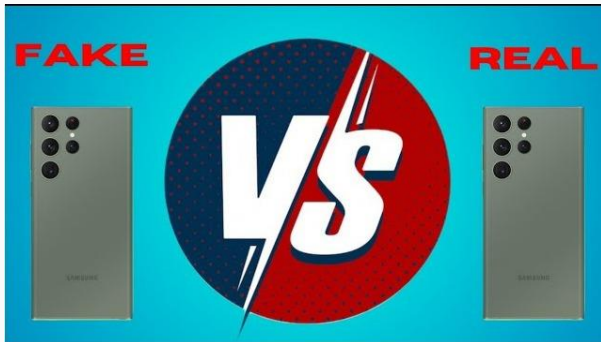
Replica Samsung mobile phones are being sold for \$850 - \$1500. Counterfeit Samsung mobile phones are readily available for purchase on a large number of online stores.

If you are concerned that you're being sold a counterfeit phone please follow the following steps:

- Verify the IMEI Number on your Samsung Smartphone: #06# on your phone - the IMEI number will appear on the screen. Copy the number - verify the IMEI on your phone against the one on the package. It's a fake if they aren't the same.
- Check the Diagnostic Tool - Open the phone's dialer and dial: *#0# . If the diagnostic tool launches right away, your phone is authentic.
- Check the Construction Quality - uneven seams, sloppy buttons, or inconsistencies in

the screen.

- Look into the Software to find out if the Samsung mobile is an original and test the phone's performance and its cameras.



26 December, from Traffic & Highway Patrol command: Officers from The Hills Highway Patrol suspend a P1 licence holder travelling well above the sign posted speed limit running late to a party.

About 2.30pm on Monday 25th December 2023, officers detect a Holden Commodore along Old Northern Road, Glenorie travelling at 115km/hr in a sign posted 60 km/hr zone. Officers stopped the vehicle and spoke with a 17-year-old male driver from Maroota. The driver has only been a holder of an NSW C Class P1 licence for 2 months and stated to officers, "I didn't realise I was doing that speed! can you forget you stopped me". The driver returned negative results for alcohol and drugs. The driver was issued an infringement notice for P1 driver Exceed Speed Limit - over 45 km/hr, his NSW driver's licence was suspended and confiscated on the spot for a period of 6 months. The vehicle was not owned by the driver and the number plates remained on the vehicle.



26 December, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Big box from Santa? Awesome.

Big box left outside your home? Not so good.

Don't let your empty gift boxes make you a target for thieves. Break down your boxes and chuck them in the recycle bin



26 December, from NSW DPI Fisheries: For its 16th consecutive year, Operation Trident is now in place to crack down on the illegal harvesting of Seafood across NSW this holiday season.

This joint operation NSW Department of Primary Industries, the NSW Food Authority and NSW Police Force 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 Phonenumber 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**, or use the Crime Stoppers online reporting page [here](#).



NSW GOVERNMENT

Say **NO** to black market oysters

OYSTER THEFT IS A SERIOUS CRIME!
Fines of up to \$275,000 and/or imprisonment apply

SAY NO TO BLACK MARKET OYSTERS
CALL CRIMESTOPPERS - 1800 333 000
OR FISHERS WATCH - 1800 043 536

Black market oysters can be unsafe to eat.
Don't take the risk. Only buy from a reputable supplier.

NSW FARMERS Growing the best | **NSW GOVERNMENT** | **Department of Primary Industries** | **Operation Tides**

26 December, from Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Shared with permission from the North Shore Mums group:

I was at a discount store a couple of weeks ago and the person in front purchased 2 things, tapped her card and left (I remember clearly thinking she had the same bank card as me). I purchased my items and thought it was higher than I expected so checked my receipt. I had paid for the person in front of me as well as my own. Turns out when she "tapped" her card she actually clicked the "cancel" button so it made the machine beep and then she left without paying so the register automatically kept her 2 items and applied them to the order after which just so happened to be me.

25 December, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Shared with permission from the North Shore Mums group:

PSA: check your receipts.

Today I bought a couple of things at a bargain store. As I was leaving I added the three items in my head and realised I had been overcharged by \$3.50. I returned to the counter and told the lady. She immediately knew why I was there and said "I'm sorry, I must have accidentally pressed x2 on your ribbon. As she was refunding me, the lady she served after me saw what

happened and checked her receipt. She had also been overcharged by \$2.15. If this store overcharges a small amount to each customer, it adds up for them. Most wouldn't check their receipt or return to get a refund for a few dollars. Please check your receipts.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 11 January: Ku-ring-gai Council Car Maintenance workshop 4-6pm \$35 @ St Ives Community Centre. [Info](#).

Thursday 18 January: Ku-ring-gai Council Car Maintenance workshop 4-6pm \$35 @ St Ives Community Centre. [Info](#)

Wednesday 31 January 2024: 7-8:30pm Ku-ring-gai Council Online Bushfire Ready Webinar (& Simulation). [North Turramurra - East & St Ives Chase - West](#). [Info](#).

Tuesday 06 February: Safer Internet Day. [Info](#).

Tuesday 06 February: **FREE** 10:15am-12:30pm @ Hornsby Library. 计算机简介 Introduction to computers (Mandarin). [Info](#).

Tuesday 13 February: **FREE** 10:15am-12:30pm @ Hornsby Library. 互联网和网络安全简介 - Introduction to Internet and Cybersafety (Mandarin) [Info](#).

Neighborhood Watch cannot endorse any product or service. We merely bring it to your attention. Please do your own research.

25 December, from NHW Queensland: ? 🤖 Keep the burglars guessing!

- 💡 ✨ Leaving a light on, managing mail, and tuning in a radio while you're away creates the illusion of activity at home.
- ✅ These visible habits make a big difference in keeping your space secure.
- Involve your household in this safety routine for added protection.
- 📋 Check out our complete home safety habits checklist for more tips.

Learn more by clicking on our link 👉 [here](#).



24 December, from BBC West: "When Wilson's on patrol it definitely makes a difference" 🚔

A resident is determined to slow down drivers in his village. So he created Wilson the mannequin.

Full story here ➡ bbc.in/483WnzZ



23 December, from Burwood command: 🌲 CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN 🌲 4-Days till Christmas 🍷

What about a nice day out on sea? But remember, wear your protective gear. Follow these safety tips for an enjoyable day out!



Rock Fishing Safety

If you want to rock fish, you should learn how to minimise the risks.

- Always wear a lifejacket
- Stay alert to weather forecasts and warnings
- Plan an escape route in case you are washed in
- Never turn your back on the ocean
- Wear appropriate non-slip footwear and light clothing
- Do not jump in if someone is washed into the water - call 000 or go and get help
- Never fish alone
- Inform others of your plans

NSW GOVERNMENT | NSW Police Force

Marine Area Command
Crime Prevention Command

Email NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby [here](#) for a pdf sent to your inbox.

23 December, from Burwood command: 🌲 CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN 🌲 6-Days till Christmas 🍷

Drink Spiking will definitely get you a free ride on a blue and white sleigh, without the bells and whistles.

DRINK SPIKING



Drink spiking is when someone deliberately adds alcohol or another drug to your drink without your knowledge and it is illegal in all Australian states and territories.

When you're out at a pub, club or party protect yourself:

- Watch your drinks
- avoid sharing drinks
- if someone you don't know well offers you a drink, go to the bar with them
- many people have their drinks spiked by someone they know: to avoid this, buy or pour your own drinks
- keep an eye on your friends and their drinks.

Drink spiking is serious: In an emergency, telephone triple zero (000) or the nearest police station. For information about sexual assault, or for counselling or referral, call **1800RESPECT**.

(source: <https://adf.org.au/insights/drink-spiking/>)



PROTECT YOUR MATES DRINK SAFE

It is important to drink safely and look after your mates when you're out. Drinking alcohol can affect your ability to make decisions and protect yourself.

Tips to Help You Stay Safe

- Don't accept drinks from strangers
- Count your drinks
- Never leave your drinks unattended
- Don't be pressured into drinking
- Eat before or while you are drinking
- If you feel unsafe find someone you trust
- Ensure you have multiple options to get home safely
- Always tell your mates where you're going
- Keep an eye on your mates and their drinks
- Recognise when you might need to call for help



Email NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby [here](#) for a pdf sent to your inbox.

23 December, from NSW Food Authority: Recall: Woolworths Shortcrust Summer Berry Mince Pies – 6 pack

Date marking: Best Before: 13/06/2024

Problem: The recall is due to the potential presence of foreign matter (metal).



Full Alert [here](#).

22 December, from NSW Health: Who to call to get medical help and information 24/7 this holiday season:

- Please keep emergency departments and ambulances for emergencies and saving lives
 - For non-life-threatening health concerns when you can't visit your doctor, call healthdirect on 1800 022 222 (this service is free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week)
 - healthdirect is operated by registered nurses and gives advice for people of all ages including children and adults. A nurse will answer your call, ask some questions and connect you with the right care
 - Need support in your language? You can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask for healthdirect on 1800 022 222
 - You can also use the online healthdirect Symptom Checker or healthdirect Service Finder at healthdirect.gov.au
 - Call Triple Zero (000) or visit a hospital emergency department immediately if you have chest pressure or pain lasting more than 10 minutes, difficulty breathing, uncontrollable bleeding, sudden collapse or overdose.
-

Do you know who to call to get medical help fast?



If your health issue
is not life-threatening,
call healthdirect on
1800 022 222



If it is life-threatening
call Triple Zero (**000**)

22 December, from PerthNow: Secret cop pleads not guilty to drink driving

A high-ranking NSW police officer who allegedly crashed a work car in a tunnel while driving drunk has pleaded not guilty. The case of the officer, whose identity has been suppressed for 40 years, was mentioned in Hornsby Local Court on Thursday after he was charged in November...

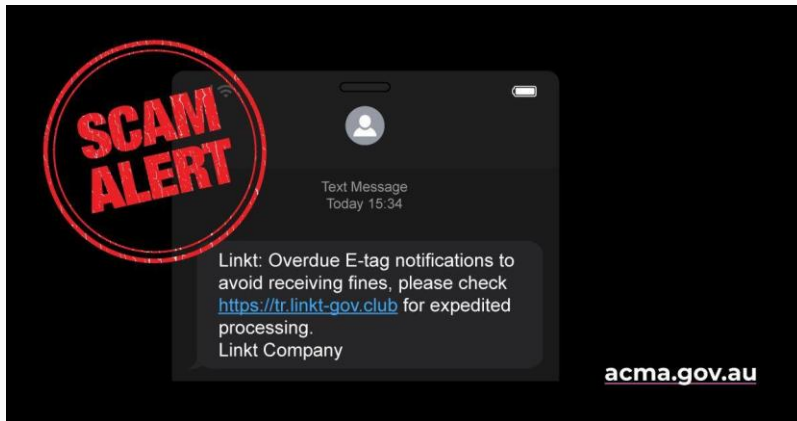
More details [here](#).

22 December, from the Australian Communications and Media Authority: Are you planning on travelling by car this holiday season?

Watch out for text messages pretending to be from toll road operators, including Linkt, claiming that you have an overdue toll road account or insufficient funds. It could be a scam. We're seeing increased reports of toll road impersonation scams in the lead-up to the holiday period. Some of these impersonation scams include links in the message to what looks like the websites of legitimate brands and businesses. Scammers use this trick to make the scam seem more convincing. Don't click on any links or rely on the information in the message. If you're not sure whether the message is genuine, go to the toll road website or app to log into your account and check your recent activity.

Read our full scam alert [here](#).

If you're concerned that your identity has been compromised or you've been a victim of a scam, contact your bank immediately and call **IDCARE on 1800 595 160**.



21 December, from Hornsby Council: Updates about the vandalism to Wollundry Park



If you're not already aware, Wollundry Park in Pennant Hills recently fell victim to an unfortunate act of deliberate vandalism, resulting in unrepairable damage to the playground equipment, which has been reported to Hills Police. The damaged section has been secured to prevent access, and the damaged pieces have started to be removed. Undamaged swings can continue to be used. We are so disappointed for the young families who enjoy Wollundry Park, but as this park was due for renewal, we are now excited to bring this forward and see what we can achieve in its place. It will be a long process as in the first half of next year we will want to hear from you on what you would like to see in a new play environment and we will design a concept based on your feedback. We will be looking to commence construction likely in the second half of 2024. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work to create a new park for all in the community to enjoy 🙏

If you have any information about the incident, please contact **Crimestoppers NSW on 1800 333 000** or nsw.crimestoppers.com.au



From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) #7: What Should I do When my Pet Goes Missing?

Put all of your energy into it, and with a little help from friends and neighbours, hopefully you can bring your beloved pet back home!

- 1. Begin searching for your pet IMMEDIATELY! Do not wait in the hope that they will find their own way home. The whole time your pet is missing they are at risk of being hurt by a car, or person, or another animal and at risk of getting sick, dehydrating or starving. Consider this an EMERGENCY!
- 2. Ask neighbours to check backyards, under decks, subfloor access areas, sheds & garages just-in-case your pet was accidentally locked in. Search 3 blocks in each direction from where they were last seen.
- 3. Contact all animal shelters, council pounds & vets – even the ones outside of your area....

For the full advice, see the FAQ#7 on our website [here](#).

For a Lost Pet Poster Template, see [here](#).

LOST



0400 000 000

NAME is our very loved cat missing from SUBURB. Please ring if you think you have seen her - female, desexed and is microchipped.

For more FAQs, 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.

18 December, from NSW Road Safety: 🎁👶🌲 ‘Sleigh’ up your gift options by getting to know the rules around e-scooters before purchasing. ✅

🛴 E-scooters can only be used on private property. You can't ride personal e-scooters on NSW roads, footpaths, shared paths or bicycle lanes.

Learn more [here](#).





Thanks to M1 Pacific Motorway NSW



Thanks to NSW Historic Police Museum

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

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 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



