



Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

eNewsletter #641 - 23 January 2024

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](#).

22 January, from Ryde command:

VAPING/ E-CIGARETTES



E-cigarettes are battery operated devices that hold heat and e-liquids that emit vapours that users inhale. Using an e-cigarette is called vaping. E-cigarettes can look like traditional cigarettes, cigars or everyday items such as USBs or pens.

E-liquid can contain nicotine which is the same drug present in regular cigarettes and other tobacco products, this means that vaping can also become addictive. **E-cigarette products bought in Australia are not legally allowed to contain nicotine.**

If purchased somewhere else (online/overseas) they may contain nicotine as labelling may not be regulated as it is Australia, even when labelled as 'flavoured', e-liquids can still contain nicotine.

E-cigarettes often contain chemicals like propylene glycol, glycerol and ethylene glycol, some of which are known to cause cancer.

Although it is illegal in Australia, e-cigarettes are sometimes used to vape/inhale cannabis and other illicit drugs. Cannabis e-liquids can contain ingredients which are not listed on the label including nicotine and/or other drugs. This can increase the risk of addiction to vaping.

SALE, PURCHASE AND POSSESSION ON E-CIGARETTES AND ACCESSORIES



Under the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2000

- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes and accessories to or buy these products on behalf of someone who is under 18 years of age.
- A police officer may seize a tobacco product, non-tobacco smoking product or e-cigarette in possession of a person in a public place if the officer suspects on reasonable grounds that the person is under the age of 18 years.
- E-cigarettes and accessories cannot be seen by the public, displayed or advertised anywhere inside or outside a retail shop.
- E-cigarettes and accessories cannot be sold from temporary and mobile premises such as a market stall or stand, a tent or a car, and cannot be given out as a free sample.
- Retailers can only sell e-cigarettes and accessories from a single point of sale in each retail outlet and cannot promote or include these products in a shopper loyalty program.

NSWPPV 10122 0046/03

21 January, from The Hills command: Victims of domestic and family violence in NSW now have access to an innovative new mobile phone application designed to provide better access to support services.

The App also has the capacity to record details.

Android Play Store [here](#).

iTunes App Store [here](#).

Victims of domestic and family violence can also seek advice and services by contacting **1800RESPECT (1800 737 732)** or visiting: www.1800respect.org.au

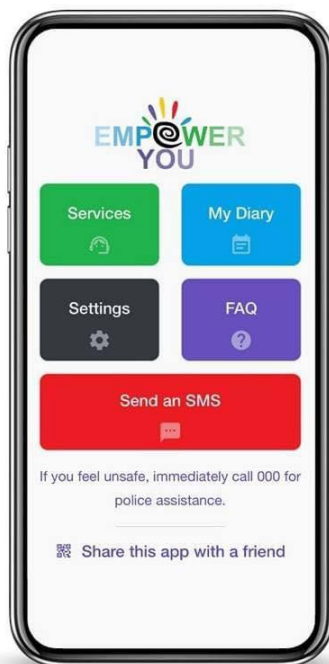
Reports of domestic and family-related crime or abuse can be made by contacting or attending your local police station. In an emergency or life-threatening situation, contact Triple Zero (000).

Anyone with information relating to domestic and family-related violence is urged to 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.

NSW Police Launch New Domestic Violence App –

Victims of domestic and family violence in NSW now have access to a new app designed to discreetly document abuse and provide better access to support services.



20 January, from Ryde command:

BUYING A USED BOAT?



KNOW THE ROPES SO YOU'RE NOT LEFT HIGH AND DRY

- Inspect the condition of the vessel and HIN plate
- Check hours and maintenance history
- How was the vessel used previously?
- How was the vessel stored when not in use?
- Check current registration papers
- Consider having the vessel and engine/s inspected by a professional
- If a trailer is included, inspect its condition and make sure it is roadworthy
- Take the vessel for a test drive
- Confirm the vessel does not have outstanding finance
- Research price value of other similar vessels
 - if it is considerably lower you may want to look into it further



18 January, from Ryde command:



SCAM ALERT!

VIRTUAL KIDNAPPINGS:

Scammers impersonate Chinese government authorities or military officials and extort the victim. They tell the victim they have been implicated in a crime and need to pay money to avoid deportation. As the scam escalates, through coercion, they get victims to stage their **OWN** fake kidnapping. The families involved are led to believe the victim is in danger and a ransom needs to be paid to secure their release.

HOW TO REPORT:

1. In an **EMERGENCY** call 000.
2. Call the Police Assistance Line (PAL) 131 444 (for all non-emergency reporting).

<p>DO NOT send any money and HANG up the call immediately.</p> <p>DO NOT reveal any PERSONAL information.</p>	<p>DO collect as much information/ data about the scammer as possible.</p> <p>DO report any suspicious scam/ behaviour to Police & ScamWatch.</p> <p>DO speak to friends/family about the incident for support.</p> <p>DO contact the Chinese Consulate for advice and to report.</p>
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The poster features a background image of a person holding a smartphone with a red warning triangle icon overlaid. At the bottom, there are logos for the NSW Police Force and the NSW Government.

17 January, from NSW Police: Can you help police?

Police have released a COMFIT image and a photo of tattoos of a man who died in Sydney's Inner West 42 years ago, as they seek public assistance to help identify him.

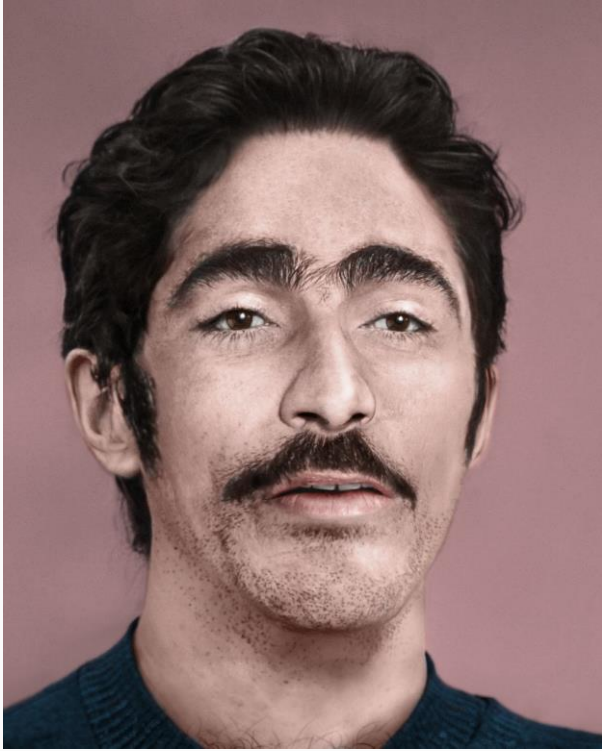
About 4.50pm on Tuesday 14 April 1981 emergency services responded to reports of a man being fatally struck by a train in the rail corridor between Stanmore and Newtown Railway Stations. There were no suspicious circumstances relating to the death.

Despite extensive inquiries at the time the man was unable to be identified.

Following a review of cold cases in 2021 a fingerprint analyst identified the man as possibly Osvaldo Perez with a date of birth of 16 May 1955 residing in a

boarding house on Normanby Street, Fairfield East, and at the time was believed to be employed as either a labourer or boiler maker. However, detailed investigations both here in Australia and - with the assistance of INTERPOL - abroad have failed to find any existence of this person and it is believed that this may have been an alias used by the man.

Full Media Release with more info about tattoo etc. [here](#).





22 January, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: HATE

CRIME - Understanding & Reporting pdf

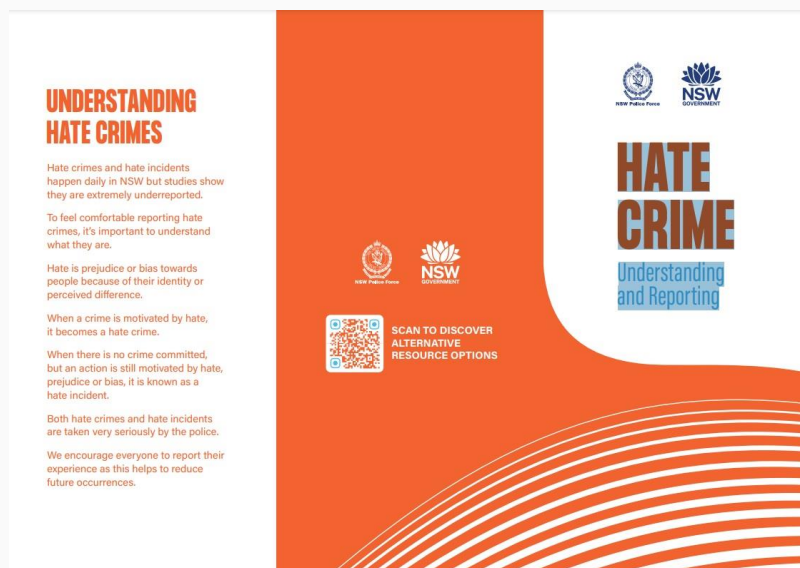
[Taken from the NSW Police website.] Hate Crime and hate incidents happen daily in NSW, but studies show they are under reported. This means that many people are experiencing hate alone. The NSW Police Force takes all crimes seriously including hate motivated crimes. The NSW Police Force has a dedicated Engagement & Hate Crime Unit who oversees and works with all Police Area Commands and Police Districts, to investigate hate motivated incidents.

HATE CRIME - Understanding & Reporting- download the pdf [here](#).

More info and videos 'How to Report Hate Crimes' in various languages here: police.nsw.gov.au/crime/hate_crimes

Why should you report it

Your report helps to paint a larger picture of what is happening in local areas and shows patterns of behaviour that we can address. All reports are vital for intelligence purposes. Your report may assist police in stopping the behaviour before it escalates and reduce future occurrences.



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU REPORT

When you call the police, you can tell them where you are and what you experienced or witnessed.

When you report to the police, they will request your details. You can choose not to provide these details at the time of reporting however, this will likely affect how police can proceed with an investigation.

Your report helps to paint a larger picture of what is happening in local areas and shows patterns of behaviour that we can address.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WITNESS HATE

Call Triple Zero (000) in an Emergency

Ask the person if they are ok and listen to what they have to say

Report in person at any Police station

Report online at Crimestoppers.com.au or 1800 333 000

HOW TO REPORT HATE

Call Triple Zero (000) in an Emergency

Report in person at any Police station

Report online at crimestoppers.com.au or 1800 333 000

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE HATE

Keep evidence by taking screen shots of abuse including usernames, URLs and any other relevant information

Report abuse directly to the platform

Report online at crimestoppers.com.au or 1800 333 000

Or report online abuse to the eSafety Commissioner at www.esafety.gov.au

22 January, from PerthNow: Man on trial over 'reckless' bid for 143kg of heroin

Alone inside a northern Sydney storage unit, a man attempted to cut open industrial baking equipment believing it contained over 140kg in heroin imported from Malaysia, a jury has heard. Sounds allegedly those of power tools were captured by police surveillance devices after Wade Habkhouk entered the Hornsby storage unit on February 11, 2021.

Full story [here](#).



Wade Habkhouk is accused of being in a plot to bring more than 250kg of pure heroin into the country. (Flavio Brancalione/AAP PHOTOS) Credit: AAP

22 January, from the AFP: Ahead of Valentines Day, the AFP is issuing a warning about a manipulative and costly scam called 'pig butchering' or 'romance baiting', targeting Australians with the promise of friendship

and financial windfalls.

Traditional romance scams are often initiated on dating apps - but pig butchering often starts with cold texting individuals on messaging apps in order to initiate a connection. Offenders often spend months sometimes years gaining a victim's trust, before encouraging them to invest in the share market, cryptocurrency or foreign currency exchanges. For the first time, the AFP is releasing details from a seized pig butchering how-to manual to further inform the community what tactics conmen and women were using to target multicultural communities and the wider public. The seized manual has four key steps: packaging, raising, killing/investment scam and cash out. Read more about these steps [here](#).

With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, lonely hearts should be wary of organised criminals, as statistics show Australians lost up to \$4500 every hour to romance scammers in 2022 and up to \$3800 every hour in 2023.

22 January, from the AFP: It's back to school time, and this usually means back to school photos.

If you're posting images of your child online, consider what information you're sharing.

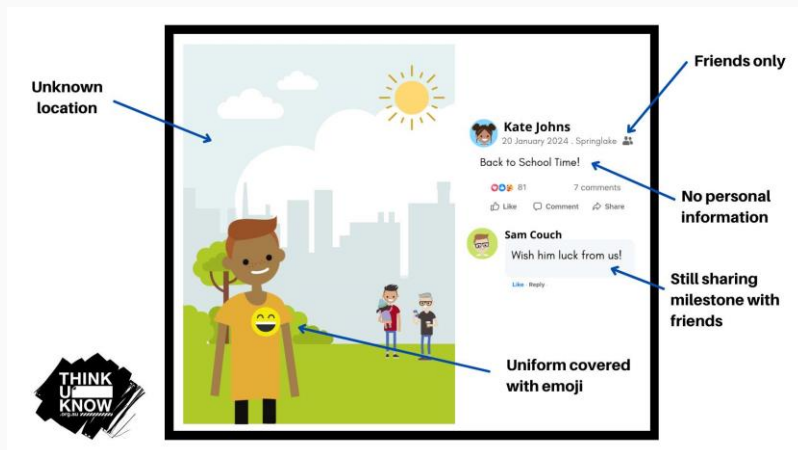
Top tips:

- Don't share images that show personal information. This could be your child's name, age, school logo, street number or street name
- Choose strong privacy settings for your social media accounts
- Only share images of your child with people you know and trust
- Review your 'friends' or 'followers' on all social media accounts and remove anyone you don't know.

This image shows what you shouldn't post:



Here's what you can post:



For more information visit ThinkUKnow Australia at thinkuknow.org.au.

21 January, from the Australian Federal Police (AFP): Forced marriage happens in Australia, and often in plain sight

As part of our focus on disrupting human trafficking across Australia, we are asking school communities to learn the signs of forced marriage as students prepare to return to the classroom. You can find a list of the common signs in the comments. A forced marriage is when a person enters a marriage without freely and fully consenting, because they have been coerced, threatened, or deceived, or because they are incapable of understanding. Reports to the AFP continue to increase year-on-year, but it is an underreported crime. Forced marriage is not limited to any cultural group, religion or ethnicity. Anyone can be a victim, regardless of their age, gender or sexual orientation.

If you suspect you or another person is experiencing, or at risk of, forced marriage or human trafficking, call **131 AFP (237)** or use the AFP's human trafficking online information report [here](#). If you have immediate concerns for safety, or there is an emergency, call Triple Zero (000).



If you think **forced marriage**
only happens on TV,
think again!



21 January, from I am a Driver: Is car indicator of any importance 🧑?

Yes, Indicators are of prime importance. Use indicators while changing lanes, overtaking, taking turns, and for other denotations as they form an integral part of road safety and keep fellow road users informed about the driver's intents and thus, avoid accidents.

When to Use Your Car Indicators?

You should use indicators whenever you intend to perform any one of the following actions:

- **1. Turn from the Main Road**

When you don't find a traffic signal at an intersection or you are driving on the main road, use the indicators if you want to turn. It is better to signal your intentions before changing directions.

- **2. Roundabouts**

Give an indication, if you intend to turn at any roundabout, and also signal before you exit it. Always give way to the vehicles that are already in the roundabout on your left. NB: this is for left-hand driving system.

- **3. Lane Change or Turn**

Always use indicators for changing your lane even when there's nobody on the road; this helps the vehicles 'suddenly popping' from nearby apartments or streets. If you want to turn, use the correct indicator of the side you are going, well before the actual turn. Turn only when you are sure that the road is clear for you to take the turn.

- **4. U-Turn**

Turn on your indicators before the point of U-turn and ensure from your mirrors that all cars following you are aware of your intention. Also, ensure that there is no vehicle coming from the front, before you take the turn.

- **5. Overtaking**

To be on the safer side, signal well before you pull out into the other lane and get back into the same lane to indicate your intention of overtaking.

✔ Always check your blind spot before applying your reason or intention for indicating.

21 January, from Neighbourhood Watch Queensland: Where is your Credit Card or Bank Card?

Most of us use some kind of card for our purchases, even for small items such as the morning coffee on the way to work or after dropping the kids at school. We head off to do the grocery shopping or to fill the fuel tank, often spending significant amounts of money in a single day. Carrying large amounts of cash isn't wise as we might be targeted by someone who has seen us taking notes out of our purse or wallet so we use our cards. Cash is being used less and less and there is even talk about a time when we will be a "cashless society".

Full article and advice [here](#).

18 January, from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA): Telecommunications company Medion has paid a \$259,440 penalty for failing to comply with customer identification rules, resulting in a number of people falling victim to SIM-swap scams.

An ACMA investigation found Medion failed to complete a required customer authentication check for more than 1,600 SIM-swap requests and one password reset request. These compliance failures led to nine known cases of people having their SIMs swapped illegally, five of whom suffered financial losses totalling over \$160,000. SIM-swap scams occur when a scammer takes control of a person's mobile number by using the individual's personal details to request a new SIM. Under industry rules introduced in 2022, telcos are required to conduct a multi-factor identity authentication check before undertaking high-risk customer requests such as SIM-swaps, changes to accounts or disclosure of personal information.

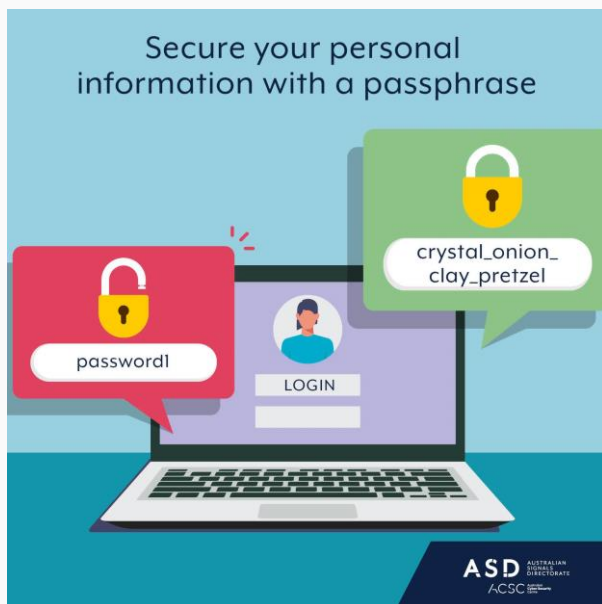
If you think you've been a victim of phone number fraud, contact your telco and financial institution immediately. For more about scams in Australia or to report a scam, visit the Scamwatch website: scamwatch.gov.au

For information on how to spot – and stop – phone scams, visit www.acma.gov.au/phone-scams.

18 January, from Australian Cyber Security Centre: Strong passphrases can be the only barrier between adversaries and your valuable information.

As we have increased our reliance on passwords, adversaries have developed increasingly sophisticated ways to crack them. Ensure your passphrases are long, unpredictable and unique. Follow as many of our principles as you can to create the most secure passphrase possible .

Read more about creating strong passphrases 👉 [here](#).



Dates for your Diary

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

Thursday 01 February: FREE Ku-ring-gai Council's Safe driving for seniors 10am-12:30pm @ Council Chambers. [Info & booking](#).

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](#).

Sunday 03 March: Clean Up Australia Day

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

17 January, from the NSW Department of Education: The countdown to the first day back at school is on! 🕒🎒

Use these tips over the next few weeks to help you and your child transition from holiday mode to school mode.



From Hornsby Shire Council: Filming will be occurring in Brooklyn and at Hornsby Central Library this week 🎬📺

A new Australian TV drama series, based on the novel The Last Anniversary by Liane Moriarty, will be set within the Hawkesbury River region and there will be some road closures and parking restrictions in place this week. Every effort is being made to minimise any inconvenience to residents, visitors and businesses during this period and we really appreciate your cooperation as filming takes place.

Brooklyn

- 🕒 From 6pm today until 8pm on Tuesday, 30 January
- 🔴 Some vehicle movements will be managed in and around Brooklyn

using traffic control

- 🚗 Several car parking areas will be utilised by the production company
- 🚤 There will be considerably less parking in Parsley Bay in particular to launch boats, so consider launching at one of our other boat ramps across the Shire or at Deerubbun Reserve

Hornsby

- 🕒 From 1pm on Thursday until 8pm on Friday, 26 January
- 🚦 Vehicular access along Hunter Lane will be impacted on Australia Day only, with traffic controllers operating a stop/go process
- 🚗 The public carpark on the intersection of Burdett Street and George Street will be closed

For more details, see: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/filming

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) #13 HOW SHOULD I REPORT HOONS?

How Should I Report Hoons?

- 1. If you hear a car being driven in a reckless manner and are able to see the incident, it is helpful if you can obtain any details at all.
- 2. AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT, call triple zero '000', or the Police Assistance Line (PAL), or report it to the local police station and ask for advice – see phone numbers below.
- 3. Record all incidents and those details listed below.
- 4. Possibly take a photo or make video if this can be done safely – never place yourself in danger or at risk when trying to gather evidence.
- 5. Consider installing quality CCTV at your residence and/or dash cam in your vehicle for recordings that can act as proof.
- 6. Talk with your neighbours. See if you can band together, help get the hoon details, support one another.
- 7. Phone **Crime Stoppers NSW 1800 333 000** with all collated information. All calls are treated confidentially.

See FAQ #13 on our website for other information, such as What to Report, the Anti-hoon Laws etc: au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/faqs/

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.

From Ku-ring-gai Council: No right turn restrictions introduced in Roseville

Approved part-time 'No Right Turn' restrictions to be implemented from Monday 19 February. Starting from Monday 19 February 2024, turning restrictions will be implemented at the below locations:

- From Clanville Road into Archbold Road: No right turn - 6am-10am and 3pm-7pm Monday to Friday
- From Dudley Avenue into Archbold Road: No right turn - 6am-10am and 3pm-7pm Monday to Friday

Council has erected advanced notice signs on Clanville Road and Dudley Avenue, Roseville.

[View no right turn restrictions map](#)

These restrictions have been approved by Council in late November 2023. Please note the enforcement will begin on Monday 19 February 2024.



Thanks to the AFP.

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

[Add us to your address book](#)

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