



## Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby eNewsletter #687 - 10 December 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](#).

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### **09 December, from the NSW Police: We have recently seen the devastating impacts of knife violence, including deaths.**

These crimes can have long lasting impacts on communities. For people carrying or using knives, their decisions can also change their lives forever. The Knife Scanning laws aim to target the possession of knives and reduce knife related crime while boosting community safety.

For further information, including any declarations, visit [police.nsw.gov.au/crime/knife\\_crime](https://police.nsw.gov.au/crime/knife_crime)

Learn about the

# New Knife Scanning Laws




## What are the new measures?

The Knife Scanning laws are designed to disrupt and prevent knife-related violence and incidents, and reduce the incidence of knife crime.

They allow for police to use hand-held scanners to search for knives and other weapons, in some circumstances.





## How will the new powers work?

The Knife Scanning laws give police the power, without a warrant, to require a person in a designated area to stop and submit to the use of a hand-held scanner in relation to knives and other weapons.

A senior police officer may declare a place a designated area only if certain offences have occurred at the place in the previous 12 months.



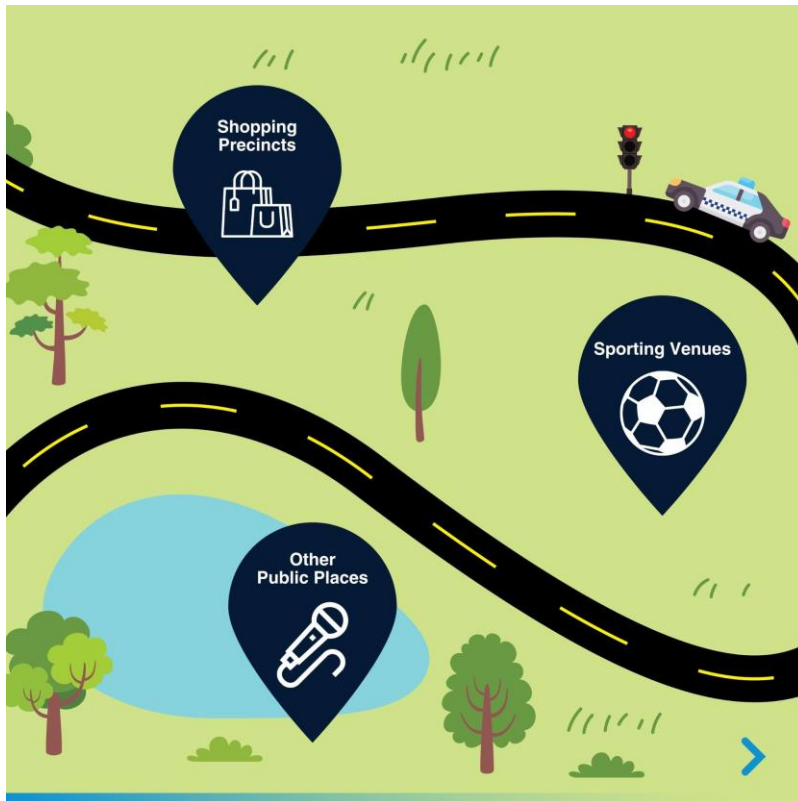
## WHAT KIND OF PLACES CAN BE DECLARED?

Public Transport Stations



Public Transport Vehicles





## What are the penalties?

**It is an offence to fail or refuse to comply with the requirement made by a police officer under these laws. Penalties of up to \$5,500 can apply for not complying without a reasonable excuse.**

**It is an offence to carry a knife in a public place, if you do not have a reasonable excuse for having it in your possession. Penalties of up to \$11,000 or imprisonment of up to 4 years can apply for carrying a knife without a reasonable excuse.**





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#### **04 December, from NSW Police: OPERATION WARATAH 2 - 2024**

Police are appealing for public assistance to locate person wanted on an outstanding warrant. Khalif TAURO, aged 31, is wanted by virtue of a warrant. Officers from the Police Transport Command North Central commenced inquiries into TAURO whereabouts. Police are appealing for public assistance to locate TAURO. TAURO is known to frequent **Hornsby**. The public are urged not to approach TAURO, but if seen to contact Triple Zero (000). Anyone with information is urged to contact **Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000** or [nsw.crimestoppers.com.au](https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au) and refer to OPERATION WARATAH 2 - 2024 - UU. Information is treated in strict confidence.

Members of the public are reminded not to report crime via NSW Police Force social media pages.





NSW Police Force

# Khalif TAURO



## OPERATION WARATAH 2

### WARRANT

REFERENCE UU



**09 December, from the ACCC: There are rules around when a salesperson can approach you uninvited to try and sell you something, whether at your front door, over the phone or in a public place.**

When a salesperson knocks on your door or calls you without an invitation or appointment, you can feel under pressure to deal with them quickly or agree to whatever they are selling. You don't have to agree to anything you don't feel comfortable about. You can ask a door-to-door salesperson to leave, or a telephone marketer to hang up. If you do, they must leave or end the call straight away. Door-to-door salespeople then can't contact you again for at least 30 days about the same product or service. If you agree to a contract with a door-to-door salesperson or telemarketer, you still have a cooling-off right. This means you have 10 business days to reconsider and cancel the contract without any penalty.

Learn more from the ACCC [here](#).

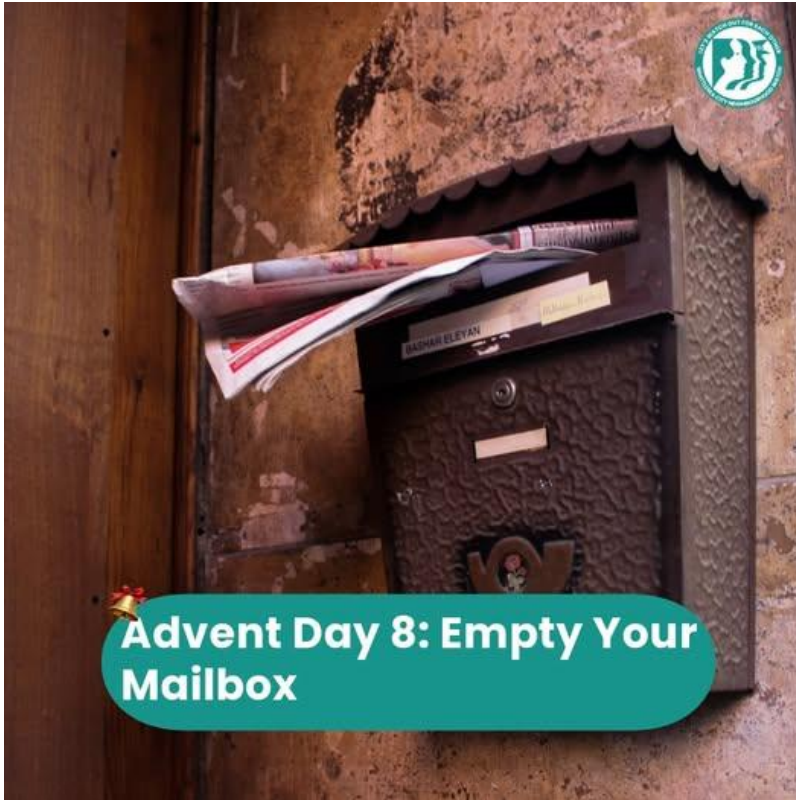
If you want a 'Do not knock' sticker, contact Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby via our website: [au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/do-not-knock/](http://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/do-not-knock/).



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**09 December, from Whittlesea Neighbourhood Watch (NHW): Going away?**

Ask a neighbour or friend to collect your mail to prevent it piling up and signaling an empty home. 📧👍



## Advent Day 8: Empty Your Mailbox

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### 9 December, from the Australian Signals Directorate: The internet is a gift, but there are some strings attached 📺

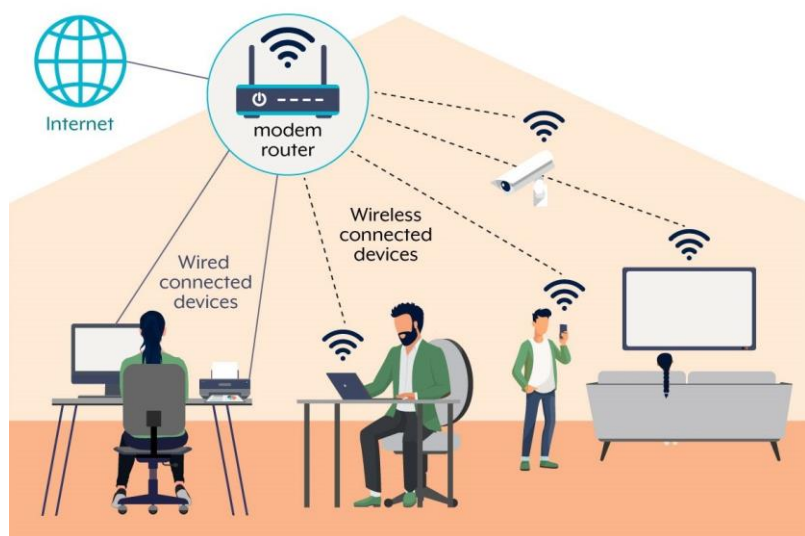
It's important to secure your router and Wi-Fi so that nobody else can access your network these holidays.

A router is that nifty box in your home that connects you to the Internet. You may know it as a modem or the Wi-Fi. Secure your router to prevent someone accessing your network with these tips:

- ✓ Change the default username and password for your router and Wi-Fi.
- ✓ Keep your router up to date.
- ✓ Create a Guest Wi-Fi network.
- ✓ Turn off your router when you're on holiday.

For full guidance visit 📺 [here](#).





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## 09 December, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Day 2 of the **ONLINE SAFETY FITNESS CHALLENGE** is **CHECKING YOUR PRIVACY CONTROLS**.

The whole family can do this activity together. Checking all your devices and ensuring your privacy controls are in place is one step toward online safety fitness. It is not foolproof but it does reduce the risks. If you need help doing this - follow the step by step guide.

Learn more [here](#).

How are you going with the Online Safety Fitness challenge so far? Share in the comments your wins or challenges? Check out these resources from the [eSafety Commissioner](#).

## DAY 2

### ONLINE SAFETY FITNESS CHALLENGE

#### Check your Privacy Controls



### Setting Privacy Controls on an Android device

#### Check your Privacy Controls

**Step 1:** Open **Settings** on your child's Android device.

**Step 2:** Set up **Google Family Link** (if not already set up).

- Download the **Google Family Link** app on your phone.
- Follow the instructions to connect your child's device to your account.

**Step 3:** Adjust privacy settings using Family Link.

- **App Permissions:** Go to **Manage Settings** → **App Permissions** and control what apps have access to contacts, location, etc.
- **Location:** Turn off location tracking or set it to **While Using the App**.

**Step 4:** Set content restrictions:

- Go to **Settings** → **Google** → **Parental Controls**.
- Set age limits for apps, movies, and games.

**Step 5:** Enable SafeSearch:

- Open **Chrome** → **Settings** → **Privacy** → **Turn on SafeSearch** to filter out explicit content.

Credit: Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE)

## Adjusting Privacy Settings on Social Media Apps

### Check your Privacy Controls

#### INSTAGRAM

**Step 1:** Open the Instagram app and go to **Profile**.

**Step 2:** Tap on the **Menu (three lines)** in the top-right corner, then select **Settings**.

**Step 3:** Go to **Privacy** and adjust the following:

- **Private Account:** Toggle on to make the account private.
- **Comments:** Restrict who can comment on posts.
- **Story:** Adjust who can view stories and send replies.
- **Direct Messages:** Set message requests to friends only.

**Step 4:** Enable **Sensitive Content Control** to limit exposure to potentially sensitive content.



Credit: Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE)

## Setting Privacy Controls on an iPhone

### Check your Privacy Controls

**Step 1:** Open **Settings** on your child's iPhone.

**Step 2:** Tap on **Screen Time**.

- If it's not already enabled, tap **Turn On Screen Time**.
- Set up a **Screen Time Passcode** to prevent your child from changing the settings.

**Step 3:** Set **Content & Privacy Restrictions**.

- Go to **Content & Privacy Restrictions**.
- Turn on the toggle switch.

**Step 4:** Adjust the privacy settings:

- **Location Services:** Set to **While Using the App** or **Never for specific apps**.
- **Contacts, Photos, Microphone, and Camera:** Review which apps have access and adjust as needed.
- **App Store Purchases:** Restrict in-app purchases and downloads.

**Step 5:** Set content restrictions:

- Tap on **Content Restrictions** and adjust settings for:
  - **Web Content:** Block adult websites or allow specific sites only.
  - **Apps:** Limit the types of apps your child can download.
  - **Explicit Content:** Restrict music, podcasts, and news with explicit content.

## Adjusting Privacy Settings on Social Media Apps

### Check your Privacy Controls

#### TIKTOK

**Step 1:** Open TikTok and go to **Profile**.

**Step 2:** Tap on the **Menu (three lines)** in the top-right corner, then select **Settings**.

**Step 3:** Go to **Privacy** and adjust the following:

- **Private Account:** Toggle on to make the account private.
- **Who Can Send You Messages:** Set to **Friends** or **No one**.
- **Comments on Videos:** Restrict who can comment.
- **Duet and Stitch:** Turn off to prevent others from using your child's videos.

**Step 4:** Enable **Restricted Mode** under **Digital Wellbeing** to filter out inappropriate content.



Credit: Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE)

## Adjusting Privacy Settings on Social Media Apps

### Check your Privacy Controls

#### YOUTUBE

**Step 1:** Open the **YouTube app** and tap on **Profile**.

**Step 2:** Go to **Settings** → **General**.

**Step 3:** Enable **Restricted Mode** to filter out inappropriate content.

**Step 4:** For younger children, use **YouTube Kids** instead, which has built-in filters for age-appropriate content.



Credit: Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE)

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**A further report from the Neighbourhood Watch Gordon/Killara/E Killara AGM held last month:**

**5. Crime Report from Sergeant Stephen Whalley, Crime Coordinator, Ku-ring-gai Police Area**

Command (PAC). Steve explained his role and then detailed various crime statistics for Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby LGAs using the Bureaux of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) statistics for June 2023 – June 2024. Of note:

- a. 'Break & Enter' and 'Steal from vehicle' have both increased, usually Midnight to 5am. Strike Force Sweetnam is tackling the problem of youths coming into Ku-ring-gai from Western Sydney and breaking into homes for the keys in order to steal high-end vehicles. Unfortunately, the youths are caught, either avoid custody with a caution, or come out of juvenile detention and immediately re-offend.
- b. The advice: Steve emphasised that if possible you should remove your car from view and always lock it. The youths try all the car doors (known as 'urching'), and the home's doors and windows – if you want to leave a window open, then lock it in the open position. Install CCTV. Trim bushes and hedges below head height. Install sensor lighting. Remove your car keys from view in the home. If you see anyone - don't engage, scream that the police are on their way.
- c. The police are working closely with high schools in the command to try and stop local youths offending.
- d. Beware of parcel theft, especially in unit blocks. Don't leave parcels in the foyer – grab them immediately - often parcels are taken by another resident in the building. This applies to any parcel - Hello Fresh to dog food.
- e. There has been an increase in 'Malicious Damage'. The police are strongly against graffiti walls and have successfully opposed one planned for in the command.
- f. 'Steal from retail' has increased. In the Hornsby Mall this is known to be under-reported. Store employees are trained not to confront offenders. Recently 12 youths took several cartons of beer from a bottle shop in St Ives, in front of CCTV cameras and 2 employees.
- g. 'Fraud' has increased. This is the most challenging to investigate and vastly under-reported. \$2million was taken this week in our command. Avoid Bitcoin/crypto – this definitely cannot be investigated, as usually they are on overseas platforms.
- h. Conclusion? If you see anything unusual in your street – report it. Call Crime Stoppers. If your CCTV captures images of a group of youths at 2am, please offer the video to the police, even if you haven't personally been affected, because it may assist another victim in your neighbourhood. Similarly, if you see a car driving slowly down the street.

Steve spoke a lot more than is detailed above - many other crime categories, as well as



comprehensively answering several questions from residents. Thank you to Steve for making the time, and for some great insights and advice.



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### 09 December, from Colin Boyce MP: ● Need a place to pull over, to let faster traffic past? ●

With the holiday period fast approaching, I wanted to remind residents about green reflectors. You may have noticed some green reflectors on guide posts beside the road on some highways. These indicate that there is a safe place to pull off the road coming up soon so you can indicate your intentions early and be prepared. Approximately 500 metres from a safe place to pull over you may see 3 x Green reflectors, 250 metres you may see 2 x Green reflectors and just at the safe place you may see 1 x Green reflectors. The idea is from road safety advocate and B double truck driver Rod Hannifey, alerting drivers that there is a safe place to pull off the road coming up. While the idea was originally intended for long haul truck drivers all road users can use them.

More information can be found [here](#).



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**06 December, from 9News.com.au: Two teens arrested after alleged hit-and-run in Sydney's north**

Two teenagers have been arrested after an alleged hit-and-run in Sydney's north earlier today. Two cars collided on the Pacific Highway in Berowra at 10.30am today. A 62-year-old driver of one car was treated at the scene by paramedics before being taken to Royal North Shore Hospital in a stable condition.

Read more and watch video [here](#).



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**06 December, from the Australian Federal Police: Youth radicalisation is a concerning, escalating and pressing challenge for the AFP and its Five-Eyes security and law enforcement partner agencies.**

The AFP alongside its Joint Counter Terrorism Teams (JCTT) has investigated and conducted operational activity against 35 individuals aged 17 years or younger, with the youngest aged 12 years old, since the start of 2020. A priority for the AFP is to limit the accessibility of violent extremist material and promote education and awareness for those in protective roles, including parents, educators and health care providers, to maximise prevention and early intervention options. The jointly authored analysis titled “Young people and violent extremism: a call for collective action” identifies common issues and trends contributing to youth radicalisation and includes case studies from all five countries.

You can view the paper on the ASIO website [here](#).



**Five-Eyes security  
and law enforcement  
agencies release joint  
authored analysis of  
youth radicalisation**



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**05 December, Shared with permission from the Lindfield/East  
Lindfield/Killara/Roseville group:**

Hi everyone, just wondering if anyone happened to be at the Gordon Village carpark near the woolworth pick up point on Monday 2/12/2024 between 1630 to 1900, and saw a possible white car hit my black SUV and left without leaving a note? Any information would be greatly appreciated, thank you!



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**04 December, from the Australian Signals Directorate: It's a tree-mendous time of year 🎄🎁 But cybercriminals never rest.**

Getting hacked can feel overwhelming. Our tool can help you figure out what's happened and how to get help. It covers topics like identity theft, scam messages and suspicious account activity.

Get started 👉 [cyber.gov.au/report-and-recover/have-you-been-hacked](https://cyber.gov.au/report-and-recover/have-you-been-hacked)

Share this gift with your loved ones.



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## Dates for your Diary

**Thursday 09 May - Thursday 02 January:** LifeLine Connect 1.00 pm - 5.30 pm @ Hornsby Library. FREE. Drop-in or make a booking: **8287 1142**.

**Wednesday 18 December:** FREE Get Ready Ku-ring-gai 5:30-7:30pm @ Jane McGillivray Park, 3A Fairbairn Av, East Killara - for residents of Churchill Road, Colette Place, Eastgate Avenue, Fairbairn Avenue, Larchmont Avenue, Monash Avenue, Monmouth Avenue, Roper Place, Springdale Road, Truscott Place, Yirgella Avenue. Meet your neighbours, get expert advice on bushfire preparedness for your street and enjoy a free sausage sizzle. [Info](#).

**Tuesday 14 January 2025:** Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby meeting #44/Initial AGM. 6pm @ PCYC Hornsby & Ku-ring-gai, 1 Park Ln, Waitara. Followed by dinner @ Magpies.

**Sunday 26 January:** Neighbourhood Watch NSW Information Session #4 @ 3:30 for 4pm. Zoom link available.

**Sunday 26 January:** Neighbourhood Watch NSW Considering a new NHW group? Session @ 5pm. Zoom link available.

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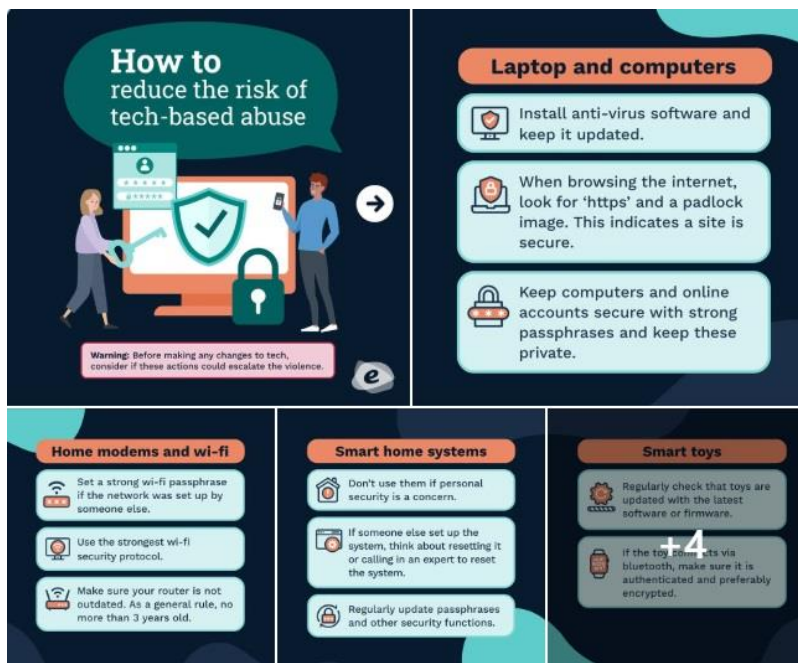


**04 December, from the eSafety Commissioner: Technology can be a powerful tool, but in the wrong hands it can also be used to control, isolate or harm someone.**

This is known as tech-based coercive control. Abusers may use everyday devices or restrict access to technology to undermine confidence, freedom and independence, affecting nearly every part of a person's life ❤️ Stay informed:

- 🖥️ Learn how tech can be misused
- 🛡️ Take steps to secure your devices and accounts
- ⚠️ Recognise the signs of coercive control
- 🚩 If you detect these red flags, know you're not alone, support is available.

To learn more and find help visit <https://news.esafety.gov.au/3QYHQPW>



## **From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: 'Frequently Asked Questions #2: WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HEAR AN INTRUDER IN MY HOME?'**

Best advice: Is to scream, run and hide. Try and keep a line of retreat open at all times. If possible, lock yourself in a room. Barricade yourself in a room if you have to. Do NOT confront the intruder. PHONE 000. You might only have a few seconds to get the call in. State "I am at (give address) and there is person(s) on premises; I fear for the welfare of myself and family". Police will respond 'code red'.

Only fight an intruder if you have no other choice. Just think, if you get killed or incapacitated then who is going to protect your partner/kids, let alone support them if you die? Possessions are not worth dying for. Keep a pre-programmed mobile phone by the bed. And a large million candle power torch is recommended, as it has the added bonus of being able to blind an attacker. A flash (just a flash) of light in their eyes will rob them of their night vision, so they are going to be severely hindered if they try to run off in the dark, where as you have the advantage of knowing the layout of your place. When you flash, just-in-case, keep one eye shut.

If someone is prepared to enter a home knowing someone is in residence, it can be taken as a fact they would be prepared to confront anyone who challenges them.

A pdf of this FAQ #2 can be found [here](#). Or request a copy in your inbox [here](#).

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.

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Here's two, thanks to the Sign Appreciation Society



peter\_aviance · 1d



Well crap. Now the Lizzards.



33 likes

peter\_aviance The Lizzards are coming! The Lizzards are coming!... more



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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

