



**Neighbourhood Watch
Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby**

eNewsletter #692 - 14 January 2025

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.

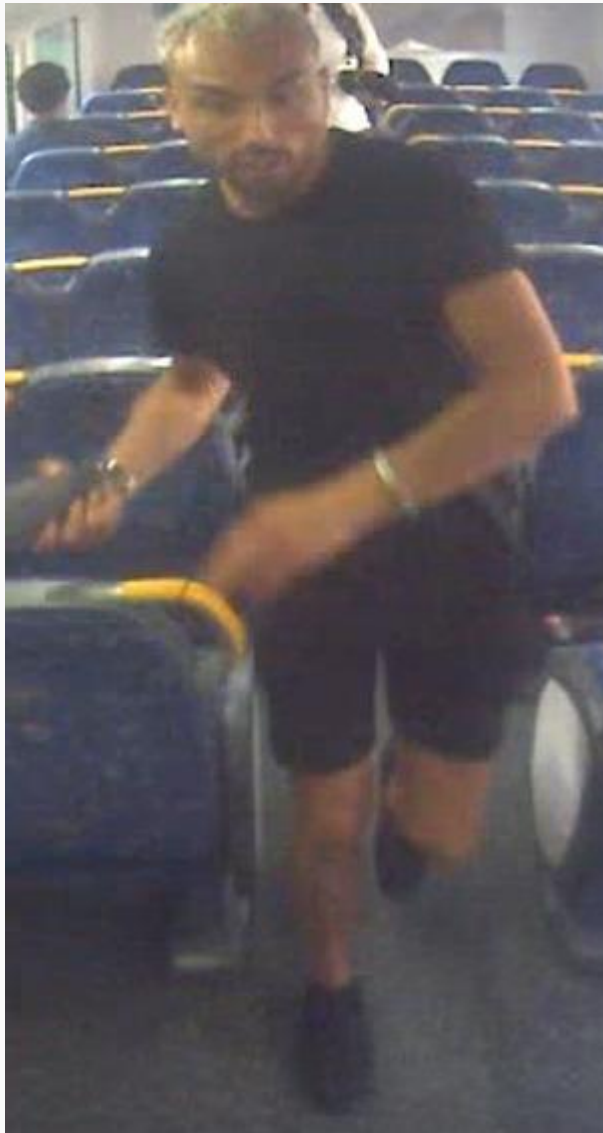
🚗 Reading our eNewsletter for the first time? [Click here to subscribe.](#)

11 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: Police are seeking the identity of the below male who they believe may be able to assist them with enquiries in relation to an assault that occurred on the train at Gordon Train Station on Wednesday the 18th of December 2024.

The male is described to have a dark olive complexion, about 20 years of age with short bleached hair wearing all black clothing and black shoes.

Anyone with information about the incident is urged to contact **Hornsby Police Station: (02) 9476 9799 or Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000** or nsw.crimestoppers.com.au
Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report

information via NSW Police social media pages.



10 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: There is an increase in the number of scams reported in Australia in regard to the 'Chinese blessing scam', or 'ghost scam'.

The financial scam is based on psychological manipulation where the scammer preys on the victim's superstitions. This video has been released in relation to this scam with a message from the Commander of Auburn Police Area Command.



This is a still image from the video. The video (in Chinese) can be found at **SBS中文** : <https://www.facebook.com/sbschinese/videos/918282476819762>.

10 January, from NSW Police: What a moment! 🙄🙄🙄

PolAir with missing bushwalker, Hadi 🙄🙄

"I would like to thank all of the emergency services personnel for their tireless work searching for 13 days in tough conditions, to locate me. I would also like to thank members of the public, family and friends for their well wishes and prayers."

We're so happy to have you back ✨

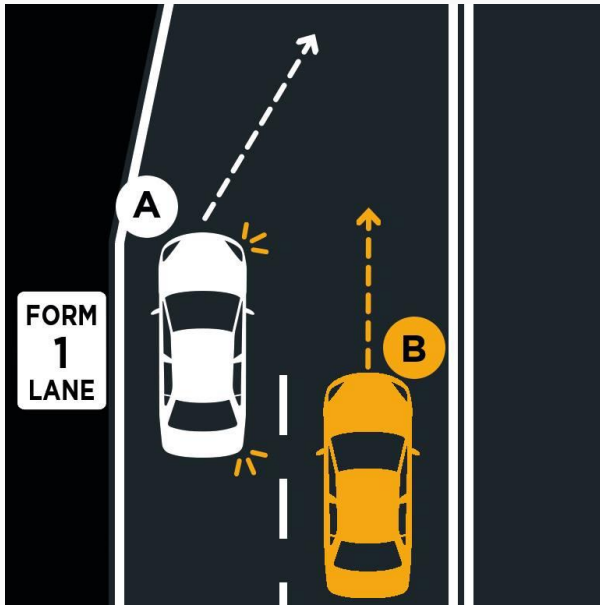


10 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: About 9.30pm on the 3rd of January 2025, officers attached to Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command responded to calls received by the public, in response to a man attempting to break into a property with a crow bar in Killara.

Police attended the scene and located a man in a vehicle nearby attempting to leave the scene. The driver was subsequently stopped and searched where police found a crowbar, a chisel, a black surgical mask, black gloves and a hydraulic separator tool. Police also found an Australian Disability Parking permit and Mobility Scheme card in the name of an unknown person. The man was arrested, charged with break & enter dwelling-house, possess housebreaking implements, goods in custody suspected being stolen, and was refused bail. The man will face Hornsby Local Court later this month.



14 January, from NSW Road Safety: If you know the rules around merging, please eMerge for this question... which car must give way? 🤔



Answer: The correct answer is that Car B (yellow) must give way to vehicle A (white) ✓
When you're travelling on a road where the number of lanes or lines of traffic is reduced and there are no longer any road markings, you must give way to the vehicle that's ahead of you. This is called a zipper merge 🚗
Make sure you know the rules ➡ [here](#).

14 January, from ACCC Product Safety: If your kids are playing with ferrite magnetic fidget stones from The Aussie Magnet Co, stop use immediately: they have been recalled.

Small high powered magnets are banned. If swallowed by kids, they can cause serious internal injuries or death. Magnets can stick together in the child's intestine or digestive tissue.

Learn more [here](#).



12 January, from Neighbourhood Watch St Ives: Shared with permission from the St Ives Community Page & Surrounds group yesterday (Saturday):

Witnessed a silver BMW hit a parked car this evening (10/01/25) on Yarrabung Road, just before turning onto Killeaton around 10pm. Unfortunately I don't have any dashcam footage as I was in an Uber, however I was able to catch the number plate. If this was your car, feel free to message me. Happy to pass on the number plate details.

12 January, from NSW Road Safety: 🤔 Let's bust the myth that you only need to give way to vehicles on your right at the roundabout 🗨️

The rule is actually that you need to give way to any vehicle already in the roundabout, whether they're entering on your right, left or directly opposite you 👁️ It's important to know this and be aware of all vehicles in the roundabout before entering to avoid a crash 👍

11 January, from Northern Beaches command: Failing to stop and exchange details after a crash is an offence

**Failing to stop and exchange details
after a crash is an offence**



*You're involved in a crash.
NSW law mandates you must stop
and exchange details with all involved.
If you have hit a parked car or property
and can't find the owner, call us.*

The law says you must exchange only the following:

- your name and address
- your vehicle registration number
- the name and address of the vehicle owner if that's not you.

For more, head to: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/driving-boating-and-transport/roads-safety-and-rules/warnings-and-hazards/crashes>



Northern Beaches
Police Area Command

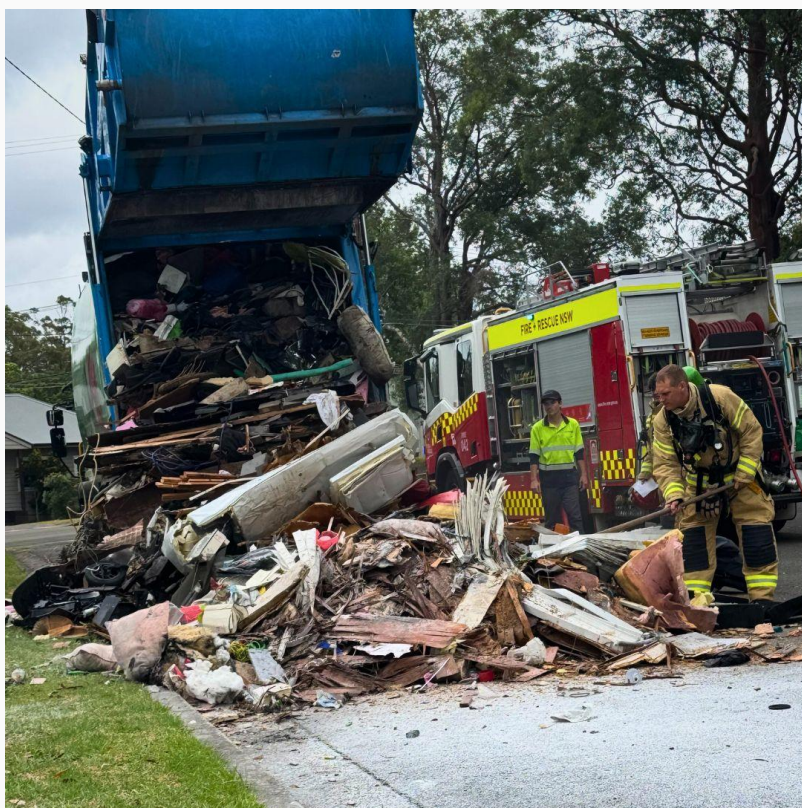
For more, head to the rules [here](#).

11 January, from Hornsby Shire Council: ⚠️ Yesterday at North Epping our contractor's waste truck caught fire whilst collecting bulky waste.

Thanks to swift action by the driver, the truck was unloaded on the street at North Epping, Fire and Rescue NSW attended to extinguish the fire. Fortunately, nobody was injured. Thank you to local firefighters for prompt handling of the situation. It is believed that the fire was sparked by a battery disposed of incorrectly in a bulky waste collection. Household batteries, particularly lithium ion or low-quality batteries, pose a serious fire risk when placed in household kerbside bins or bulky waste. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident, with used batteries causing three fires every week in waste and recycling collection trucks.

We need our community's help to create a safe and clean environment by disposing of batteries correctly. Make sure that you are recycling your batteries at an accredited B-cycle drop off point, including the Thornleigh Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and many major retailers.

Find your nearest B-cycle drop-off point [here](#).



11 January, from Northern Beaches command:

Stolen number plates

Police and community working together

We're having a run of reports involving stolen number plates. Top of the list over the past six months are Cromer, Mona Vale, Brookvale, Dee Why, Manly, Frenchs Forest and Warriewood but most suburbs on the Beaches have been involved.

We're asking our community to pass on any information about the thefts or suspicious activity in your area that could help us identify and charge those responsible.

Our advice:

- fit anti-theft screws obtainable from hardware stores
- if posting a picture on social media or marketplace sites, make sure the number plate can't be read, the vehicle's location is obscured and turn off any geo-location apps on your camera so the vehicle can't be tracked.

Report thefts to the Police Assistance Line—131 444

NORTHERN BEACHES PAC

FRENCHS FOREST

MONA VALE

WARRIEWOOD

**Northern Beaches
Police Area Command**

One-way locking screws available from our website: <https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/take-it/>

10 January, Shared with permission from the Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby group:

Hi. This ficus bonsai was stolen from Campbell drive Wahroonga last night. The tree is over a foot tall and bushier now than in this pic. It has some wiring on the branches and is in a reddish ceramic pot. This tree was planted as a memorial for someone who has died and is very important. If you stole this please return it in good faith. If anyone sees it or it is put up for sale or auction please notify me or police. Thank you so much.



From Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Have you white lines at the edge of your driveway?

Borrow a kit from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby and paint your own. Kits can be requested via our website: <https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/borrow/>
Need help? Our volunteers can assist.



From Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Have you a house number on your kerb?

Borrow a kit from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby and paint your own. Kits can be requested via our website: <https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/borrow/> Need help? Our volunteers can assist.



09 January, from NSW Historic Police Museum: Traffic and Highway Patrol Command - NSW Police Force, St Ives Driver Training School Instructors and Certificate of Proficiency

Who has one of these from back in the day?!!!!



09 January, from ACCC Product Safety: 🌞🌊 Summer means fun in the sun!

But let's keep safety in mind so you can enjoy those sunny days worry-free.

🌊 **Pool Safety Alert:** With drowning incidents peaking in summer, it's crucial to stay vigilant around pools. Portable pools, including pet pools, may look innocent, but they can pose serious drowning risks. If your pool is over 30cm deep, make sure to fence it off.

👁️ Most importantly, adult supervision is essential! Keep your eyes peeled while everyone is splashing about.

More info [here](#).

Be Summer Safe
with portable pools:
kids can drown in
shallow water



PRODUCTSAFETY.GOV.AU

Swimming pools (portable and inflatable) guide

Young children are at risk of drowning when portable pools aren't emptied between use or...

09 January, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: We have been contacted by a resident:

We had 2 Amazon parcels stolen from our front door in Normanhurst on 4 January at 2:29pm. We have CCTV footage to prove this. The thief was a male on a bicycle. How and where do I report this? The total value of the parcels is about \$50 only, but this is stealing. I would also like the neighbourhood to be aware that these petty crimes are happening and keep an eye out for this person.

Hair Length: Crew

Describe the clothes, shoes and accessories that they were wearing: Blue T-shirt with "Just Do It" logo. Blue Jeans shorts. Coloured Shoes. Suspect is on a bicycle. Carrying a small black shoulder bag.

Describe any features of the person that stood out or were very recognisable: Tattoo on the left forearm.



Our response:

Please report to the police. You can phone the Police Assistance Line 131 444. Or if you prefer to report online via the police community portal you can also upload the cctv video: <https://portal.police.nsw.gov.au/>

Report. Report. Report. If we don't report, the police don't know. And it all adds up to a bigger picture.

Thank you for being so community-minded.

You can have parcels delivered to a free Aus Post parcel locker [here](#).

Note: Neighbourhood Watch cannot endorse any product or service. You must do your own research.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 16 January - Thursday 03 July: LifeLine Connect 1.00 pm - 5.30 pm @ Hornsby Library. FREE. Drop-in or make a booking: **8287 1142**.

Tuesday 21 January: 10am-Noon @ Ku-ring-gai Library - 精通技术讲座 (普通话) Tech savvy seniors - Mandarin. Intro to Apps on smart phones. [Info](#).

Tuesday 21 January: 1-3pm @ Ku-ring-gai Library - Tech savvy seniors - English. Intro to Apps on smart phones. [Info](#).

Sunday 26 January: Neighbourhood Watch NSW Information Session #4 @ 3:30 for 4pm. Zoom link available [here](#).

Sunday 26 January: Neighbourhood Watch NSW "Considering a new NHW group?" Session @ 5pm. Zoom link available [here](#).

Tuesday, 28 January: 10-12 Mandarin 1-3 PM English. @ Gordon Library. Sharing photos and other attachments

Thursday 30 January: **FREE** 10-10:45 or 11-11:45am @ Hornsby Library. Learner Licence Workshop presented by Youthsafe. Age 16-19yrs who don't have their learner licence. Info & bookings [here](#).

Tuesday 04 February: 10-12 Mandarin 1-3PM English. @ Gordon Library. Intro to cyber security

Thursday 06 February: 10-12 Mandarin 1-3PM English. @ Gordon Library. Intro to apps on smartphones

Tuesday 11 February: 10-12 Mandarin 1-3PM English. @ Gordon Library. Intro to online shopping and banking – Part one

Thursday 13 February: 10-12 Mandarin. 1-3pm English. @ Gordon Library. Sharing photos and other attachments

Thursday 20 February: 10-12 Mandarin. 1-3pm English. @ Gordon Library. Intro to cyber security

Thursday 27 February: 10-12 Mandarin. 1-3pm English. @ Gordon Library. Intro to online shopping and banking – Part one

Sunday 02 March: CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

08 January, from the Daily Telegraph: ‘Won’t cower’: Rabbi defiant after man’s alleged gun gesture

A man has been charged with allegedly making threatening gestures outside a Synagogue in Sydney’s upper north shore.

Read more [here](#). [Apologies, this is behind a paywall - Ed.]



08 January, from Fire and Rescue NSW Station 377 Minmi: CANDLE SAFETY

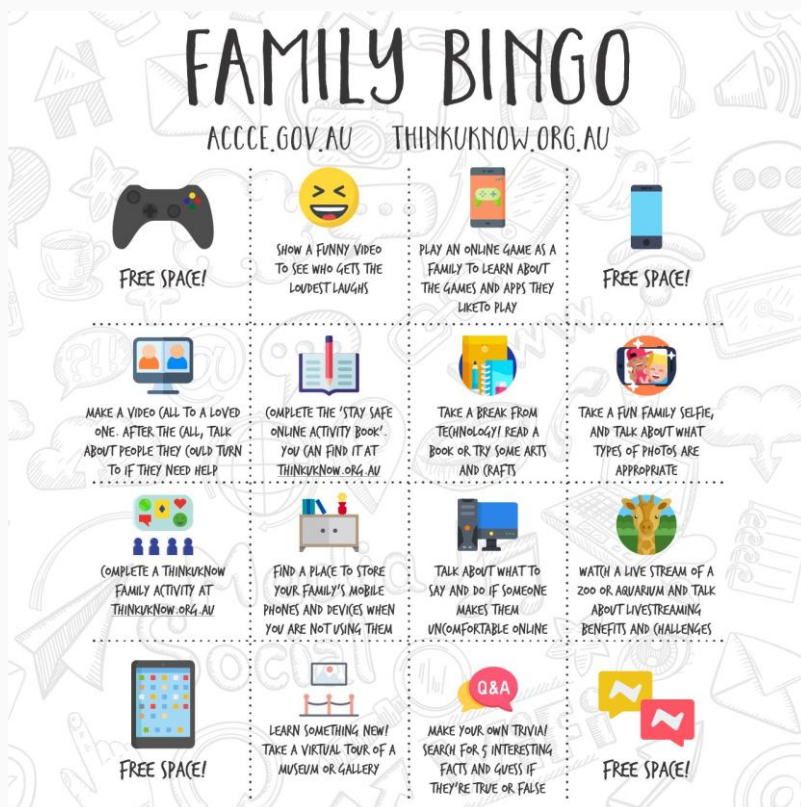
Do not burn candles in caravans or tents, and never leave them unattended.



08 January, from ThinkUKnow Australia: We've got another fun activity for the whole family to do over the holidays! 🐼

Our family bingo, created alongside Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation, is a fun and interactive way to start conversations about online safety. First to get four in a row wins, but why stop there? Try and complete the whole board for bragging rights!

Download [here](#). Or email us [here](#) for a copy in your inbox.



08 January, from Riverstone command: Safe Choices for older Adult Pedestrians

Download [here](#). Or email us [here](#) for a copy in your Inbox.



08 January, from Blacktown command: We all know that this is way over the top, but the message remains the same.

Ensure that all your doors are locked when you go to bed tonight.



07 January, Shared with permission from the Berowra Community Page group:

Hello everyone I was wondering if anyone could help me? Someone hit and ran my car this afternoon/ evening. My car was parked on the bottom of Hillcrest Road near the pre-school for a short period of time. Someone hit my car and did not bother leaving a note between 2:15pm to 5:45pm on the 6/1/2025. I need help with this. If anyone has been a witness or if anyone has a camera that may have captured this please PM me. Thank you.



07 January, from the Australian Federal Police (AFP): Modern Slavery in Australia

Australian Federal Police • Following
• Reels • Jan 7 • 0

Financial exploitation

They may:

- not have access to or control over their wages
- receive little or no pay
- believe they must keep working for someone to pay back a particular debt
- have financial pressures within the family
- show signs of economic abuse, dowry abuse or someone else getting a financial benefit from the arrangement.

Modern slavery is happening here in Australia. Would you know how to spot a victim? A new modern slavery website has been launched to help raise awareness of this crime and how to identify the warning signs.

Modern slavery or human trafficking can involve a person being forced to work, marry or do other things against their will.

Victims are often controlled, manipulated and threatened with violence. Crimes include slavery, servitude, forced labour, forced marriage, debt bondage, deceptive recruitment, and child labour.

You can help us fight modern slavery by being aware of the possible indicators and making a report to police, so victims don't go undetected and can receive help and support.

They may:

To learn more, visit: www.modernslavery.gov.au See less

Quick exit Back to top

Living and working conditions

Watch the video [here](#).

More information [here](#).

From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: 'Frequently Asked Questions #26: WHAT IS A 'BITUMEN BANDIT'?

'Bitumen bandits' are bogus tradespeople who rip-off unsuspecting and vulnerable consumers, by peddling bitumen-laying services for a supposed "substantial discount". They use misleading and deceptive conduct. The scam starts when someone knocks on your door and tells you they have asphalt or bitumen leftover from a "nearby job" and offer to sell it to you at "a heavily reduced cost". Consumers are forced to comply because if the work isn't finished, they're unable to use their driveway. Regardless of how solid the offer seems, itinerant bitumen layers often leave consumers out of pocket:

- they may ask for a deposit and simply never return to do the work, or

- they do such a substandard job with watered down bitumen, it may cost you a lot more money to fix the job, or
- they do (more) damage, or
- they may initially quote a low cost, but then a much higher payment is demanded during the work for it to be completed...

For the complete FAQ, ie checking a licence, choosing a tradesperson, and how to report etc, see the FAQ#26 [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.



The first webcam was invented in 1991 by researchers at the University of Cambridge. To save people working in the building the disappointment of finding the coffee machine empty after making the trip to the room, a camera was set up providing a live picture of

the coffee pot to all desktop computers on the office network.

Thanks to Weird Facts.



Thanks to The Last Governor

[My First Day As A Cop]

Me: Suspect is dancing naked through the streets of downtown.

Dispatch: Copy that.

Me: I'll try but I'm not much of a dancer.



Thanks to [The Last Governor](#).

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](https://www.facebook.com/NHWKuringgaiHornsby)

Facebook Group [NHWKuringgaiHornsby](https://www.facebook.com/NHWKuringgaiHornsby)

Twitter [@NHWKRGHornsby](https://twitter.com/NHWKRGHornsby)

Email NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com



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

Website 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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