



## **Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby eNewsletter #693 - 21 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](#).

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**19 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: Can you help us find Gabriella?**



Gabriella, aged 53 was last seen in Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby about 1pm on Wednesday 30 October 2024. Despite extensive inquiries, police have been unable to sight her.

She is described as Caucasian, 155cm, large build with grey/white hair.

Gabriella is known to frequent the T9 Northern line between Eastwood and Hornsby.

Anyone who sees her is urged to contact Castle Hill Police Station or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000

More information [here](#).

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**18 January, from NSW Police Force:**

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Police are appealing for public assistance after a woman pepper sprayed three people in Sydney's CBD today.

Anyone with information is urged to contact [Sydney City Police Area Command](#) or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.



More information [here](#).

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### **18 January, from Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command:**

We are continuing to see people become victims to scammers demanding payment via gift cards.

Just remember, NO legitimate company or government agency will ever ask you to make a payment with any sort of gift card. If a company does ask for payment using a gift card, IT IS A SCAM. Don't fall victim to these tricks.

Common scam examples:

A scammer will pretend to be from a law enforcement agency or internet provided and will convince their victim they will help track an offender who has unlawfully accessed the victim's computer. The scammer will claim to do this by sending money via the victim's bank account or gift card serial numbers.

A scammer will pretend to be from the Australian Taxation Office and claim there is a warrant out for the victim's arrest. The scammer will ask the victim to

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pay the 'fine' using gift cards or bitcoin and threaten police will arrest them if they don't pay the 'fine'

For more information, visit scam watch [here](#).



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17 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: **XXXX AI DEEPFAKE SCAMS XXX**  
**X**

Please be aware that scammers are using deepfake AI technology to scam people.

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Read the information below and follow the tips to protect yourself.

# SCAM ALERT

## AI DEEPFAKE SCAMS

Scammers are using deepfake AI technology to generate videos, voices and images resembling people you may know, celebrities, and politicians to manipulate people into investing in fake investments, steal personal information or money.

**PAY ATTENTION**  
to inconsistencies, unnatural expressions, word emphasis, distortion around hands, mismatched lip-syncing, or unusual blinking.

**CREATE A FAMILY PASSWORD OR PHRASE,**  
so if you're suspicious when speaking on the phone or face timing, ask the caller for the password.

**REPORT A SCAM** to <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>  
If you believe you have become the victim of a fraud or scam contact your local Police or report at <https://www.cyber.gov.au/report-and-recover>

**ASK A PERSONAL QUESTION**  
that only they would know.

**DON'T BE PRESSURED**  
into making quick decisions.

**RESEARCH THE LEGITIMACY**  
of any investment firms.





**20 January, from Consumer Protection WA**

**LIDS MAY SHRINK:** These Stanley stainless steel travel mugs are being recalled following injuries.



There's a risk of burns if the lid detaches while the cup contains hot liquid. Several incidents have occurred worldwide, including a number requiring medical attention.

Read the [ACCC Product Safety's](#) recall notice for a list of affected product identification numbers and further advice [here](#).



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### **20 January, from NSW Depart of Community and Justice**

Anyone who has experienced a crime in NSW can contact Victims Services for free and confidential information, advice and referrals to support their recovery. The Victims Support Scheme can also assist people who have been injured by a violent crime or modern slavery in NSW. Support can include:

- Counselling to support recovery after the crime.
- Financial assistance to pay for urgent health and safety needs, and other expenses.
- A recognition payment to acknowledge what happened.

To learn more about victims support and who can apply:

🖥️ visit the Victims Services website: [victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au](https://victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au)

📞 call the Victims Access Line on 1800 633 063 or Aboriginal Contact Line on 1800 019 123 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm).

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### 20 January, from The Hills Police Area Command: 🚓\*\*High-Speed Motorcycle Pursuit and Arrest in Kenthurst\*\* 🚓

At approximately 7:18 PM on Thursday, January 16th, 2025, Hills Highway Patrol observed a red Honda CB1000RR motorcycle allegedly speeding on Kenthurst Rd, Dural. The rider, a 26-year-old male, was allegedly clocked at 105 km/h in a 70 km/h zone and subsequently fled from police, reaching speeds estimated at 160 km/h. The pursuit continued until the rider abandoned the motorcycle on Raym Rd, Kenthurst.

With the assistance of a police dog unit, the rider was located hiding in nearby bushland and was arrested. The rider, who was found to be disqualified from driving, provided negative results for both breath and drug tests. He has been charged with multiple offences including police pursuit and drive whilst disqualified. He was bail refused to Parramatta Local Court.

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Stay safe and always follow the rules of the road!



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## 20 January, from Australian Signals Directorate

Identity theft can be devastating for victims and often has long-lasting consequences. Do you know the warning signs?

Remember, anyone can be a victim of identity theft. If you find yourself in this situation, act quickly.

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Learn how to report and recover from identity theft [here](#).



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### 20 January, from NSW RFS Ku-ring-gai Brigade: 🌩️ Storm Damage 🌩️

After kicking the year off with fires in Tamworth it was a quick pivot for our firefighters this week to storm damage tasking. Since the storm first hit on Wednesday night our crews have out been supporting our friends at [NSW SES Ku-Ring-Gai Unit](#) clear trees, branches, and debris from houses, roads and driveways.

If you have logged a job with the SES and no longer require assistance please let them know by calling back on 132 500 so that they can continue to prioritise help to those who still require it.

RFS crews had a reprieve today (Monday 20th) as the majority of jobs required energy companies to make the area safe before crews could get to work but remain ready to assist later in the week should the SES require it.

⚡ Remember to treat all fallen powerlines as live and to stay at least 8m away

🌧️ For assistance in floods and storms call the SES on 132 500

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 In and emergency always call 000.



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**20 January, Shared with permission from the Neighbourhood Watch Kuring-gai & Hornsby group:**

Please keep an eye out, there is a \$50 reward if found. Thank you!

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20 January, from The Hills Police Area Command

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🚩 Do You Recognize This Person? 🚩 Ref No. E97640420



Quakers Hills Transport Command Police are investigating an alleged bike theft and we need your help!

On 20th November 2024, a POI was involved in a bike stealing incident at Hills Showground MTS.

Police are keen to speak with the person shown in the photo below, as they may have important information that could assist with our enquiries.

If you have any information about this incident, please contact Crime Stoppers NSW at 📞 1800 333 000 or visit their website. All information is treated with the utmost confidentiality. 🔒

Please remember, do not report information via NSW Police Force social media pages. Thank you for your assistance! 🙏

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**20 January, from NSW SES Ku-Ring-Gai Unit**

UPDATE @ 22:30 - Road closures completed. Immediate public safety risk managed.

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## PARTIAL ROAD CLOSURE ALERT - Pacific Highway, Killara

NSW SES received a report earlier this afternoon of a tree threatening to fall onto the Pacific Highway. Recon crews quickly attended and confirmed that the tree posed a direct threat to public safety.

SES crews are now on-site, supported by Transport for NSW and SES contractors, preparing to remove the tree. Ausgrid emergency crews are also in attendance, as power needs to be isolated to allow this work to be safely completed. This may result in a short interruption to power supplies in the area. To safely complete this work, lanes of Pacific Highway, on the southbound carriageway, may be closed to give our crews space to work.

Please avoid the area if possible, use alternate routes or delay your journey. If you are driving in the area, obey the directions of traffic controllers, drive slowly and be aware of emergency workers in the area.

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## 20 January, from Ryde Police Area Command: 🚔 Do You Recognise This Person? 🚔

Ryde Police Area Command are investigating an alleged Stealing. We need your help!

At approximately 12pm on Sunday 5 January 2025, two suspects entered a store and stole several items from the display counter.

Police would like to speak with the person shown in the photo below, as they may have important information that could assist with our enquiries. Ref No. E 99181626.

If you have any information about this incident, please contact Crime Stoppers NSW at 📞 1800 333 000 or visit their website. All information is treated with the utmost confidentiality. 🔒

Please remember, do not report information via NSW Police Force social media pages. Thank you for your assistance!

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**20 January, Shared with permission from the Hornsby Heights Community Group:**

Gold Rope style neck chain lost at Hornsby Pool on Thursday, leisure pool.  
Very precious to me, offering a reward to the finder.

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**20 January, from 9news.com.au: Two women have been rescued after a large tree branch fell on a garden in Sydney.**

The women, 70 and 54, were trapped by a section of the tree, which fell on the garden in Pymble today.

A man in his 60s was also hurt.

Paramedics freed them all.

The older woman suffered a back injury and the younger woman had multiple injuries.

Both were in a serious but stable condition in hospital tonight.

Neighbours said it sounded like the tree might have been struck by lightning.

NSW Ambulance Inspector Carolyn Parish from said the trio were "very lucky" because of the way the tree fell.

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While the weather improved on Sunday, Sydney has been smashed by wild storms since the middle of last week.



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**19 January, Shared with permission from the Wahroonga Community Group yesterday (Saturday):**

Someone just tried to break into my parents house around 10:45am in Bareena Ave while they were home ... has anyone else had similar thing happen just now ? Police hasn't arrived yet.

Then: Just saw the police on Grosvenor Street stopping a pedestrian. Apparently it was him ... good on the police for finding him.

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**18 January, Shared with permission from the Pennant Hills/Thornleigh/Westleigh & Surrounds Community group:**

Hi Everyone I'm posting on behalf of my neighbour.

Last night around 10-11 pm someone got into her car and stole her laptop - this occurred in Morris Avenue, Thornleigh. If anyone has any information please contact me thanks.

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**Dates for your Diary**

**Thursday 16 January - Thursday 03 July: LifeLine Connect 1.00 pm - 5.30**

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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

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18 January, from NSW Government



Tragically we lost 340 lives on NSW roads in 2024, the same as 2023.

Things to remember:

- speeding is the main cause of road deaths – slow down to save lives 🚗
- regional areas still have high fatalities, so drive extra carefully on regional roads 🚗
- fatigue and impaired driving are major crash factors, so make sure you're rested before driving, take breaks and have a Plan B if drinking 🍷
- motorcyclist deaths increased by 34%, so we're looking at changes to the licensing scheme for motorcyclists 🏍️

We all have a part to play in making our roads safer and to reduce the road toll in 2025.

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18 January, Shared with permission from the Thornleigh, Westleigh and Normanhurst Community group:

Is anyone missing a ring?

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Looks like it could be a wedding band...?

Found on Loch Maree Ave in Thornleigh. Some angel popped it into our street library.

PM me please to claim, or it will be handed in to Hornsby police station on Monday.



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### **17 January, from Ku-ring-gai Council: Storm update** 🌧️

Thank you to NSW SES and RFS volunteers, Ausgrid and Council staff who have been working around the clock to keep residents safe and repair damage. For residents who have no power, hot showers are available at no charge at the Ku-ring-gai Fitness & Aquatic Centre, Prince of Wales Drive, West Pymble.

For storm assistance contact:

- \* Trees down on private property impacting your access or building call SES 132 500

- \* Trees down on Council land call Council on 9424 0000 (Mon to Fri)

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\* All tree issues after hours call SES 132 500

\* Emergency assistance in a life threatening situation call 000.

For more info on who to contact for fallen trees and blocked drains visit our website: [krg.nsw.gov.au/stormupdates](http://krg.nsw.gov.au/stormupdates)



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### **16 January, from Traffic and Highway Patrol Command**

On Sunday, 12th January 2025, Police attached to Hawkesbury Highway Patrol attended Woodlands Industrial Estate, Wilberforce, after receiving complaints of cars and bikes are conducting burnouts.

Upon arrival Police could smell fresh rubber burning which was consistent with the recent burnouts being conducted. Immediately after, Police observed the Grey Coloured Utility approaching the Police direction whilst revving very loudly, large white smoke and sparks coming out of it.

An inspection was conducted on the vehicle where the rear wheel was completely burnout, and the rim metal was scarping the bitumen. Police stopped and spoke to the male driver, 17 years old, who was very apologetic of his actions. He was charged for Aggravated Burnout and the matter is before the court.

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### **16 January, from Careflight**

Shortly after 11am today the Mounties Care CareFlight Helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance to Mona Vale after a teenage boy was pulled from the surf unconscious.

On duty lifeguards performed CPR and the young male regained consciousness. With assistance from NSW Police, the CareFlight crew landed behind the Mona Vale Surf Club and upon arrival, CareFlight's specialist doctor and NSW Ambulance paramedics provided treatment at the scene before the patient was flown to the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick in a stable

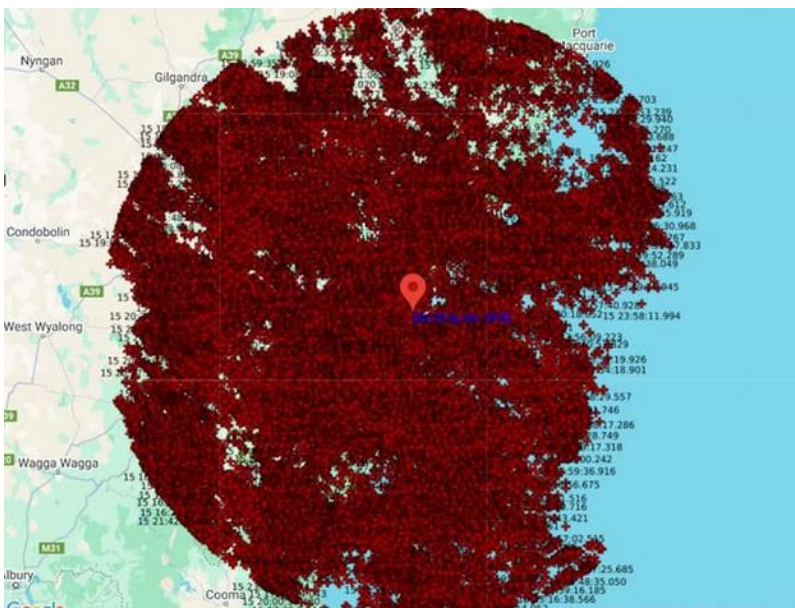
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condition.



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16 January, from Ausgrid: This is what over 150,000 cloud to ground lightning strikes looks like. ⚡ These strikes can have a big impact on the power network, leading to major power outages.



When lightning hits, it can damage poles, wires, and other critical equipment. Even nearby strikes can trigger power disruptions as safety systems automatically shut down parts of the network to protect the grid and the community.

Our crews have been working tirelessly to check the powerlines in the areas without power for faults and damage, and make repairs when needed. If you're

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currently without power, rest assured we're doing everything we can to restore it as soon as possible.

📱 Remember to stay safe and report any fallen powerlines by calling 13 13 88.

Always assume they are live and stay at least 8 meters away.

Thank you for your patience as we make progress. Stay tuned for updates.

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### **15 January, from North Shore Times**

NSW paramedics could soon be armed with stab-proof vests following the fatal stabbing of a paramedic that sparked calls for urgent measures to protect frontline workers. [FULL STORY](#) here.





## **From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: 'Frequently Asked Questions #27: 'HOW CAN I BE SAFE ON A FIRST DATE'?**

First dates are supposed to be impression dates, where the admirer shows you they are

worthy of your interest. There are no rules when dating. Do things at the speed you feel

comfortable with and both agree to. Get to know the person first, before getting too close.

Arranging the date:

**1.** It is better to meet in a neutral public place, where there are plenty of people around.

Consider an activity such as simply having a coffee. A shorter first date is an easier one

to remove yourself from if you feel uncomfortable. Or perhaps at a bar/restaurant or an

activity including your friends, eg bowling?

**2.** If the first date is the first time you've met, then it is advised you don't go to their home

address, where they have control over the situation.

**3.** However, if you do decide to go to their address, check it out beforehand. Be aware of

transportation; you don't want to be stranded. You might want to ask them why they

want to meet at their home and let them know your concerns. If they aren't a bad person,

they probably won't mind the questions. Some people may assume that by agreeing to

go to their place it is a sign that you are willing to get intimate.

**4.** If you find yourself in a private place, such as a car, alleyway, or park, and you aren't

comfortable with having sex, make that known.

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For the complete FAQ, ie checking a licence, choosing a tradesperson, and how to report etc, see the FAQ#27 [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.



Thanks to UK Cop Humour

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**IMPORTANT CONTACTS & LINKS**

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**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](#)  
**Facebook Group** [NHWKuringgaiHornsby](#)  
**Twitter** [@NHWKRGHornsby](#)  
**Email** [NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com](mailto:NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com)



**WatchOut! - the NHW NSW one-stop-shop for crime prevention links:**  
**Website** [WatchOut.org.au](http://WatchOut.org.au)  
**Facebook** [@NHWWatchOut](#)

**Local NHW Facebook pages:**  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Berowra](#)  
[Brooklyn Neighbourhood Watch](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - East Killara](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia, Dural \(Rural Areas\)](#)  
[NHW Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia & Dural \(Rural Areas\) Facebook Group](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Gordon](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Killara](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Colah](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Kuring-gai](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Normanhurst](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Pennant Hills](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Pymble & West Pymble](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - St Ives](#)  
[Neighbourhood Watch - Thornleigh](#)

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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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