



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

**eNewsletter #723 - 19 August 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 <u>Ku-ring-gai PAC Facebook page</u> (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.

16 August, from NSW Police: About 4.30am on Tuesday (12 August 2025), officers from Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command were called to Berowra to check on the welfare of a man who had called 000.

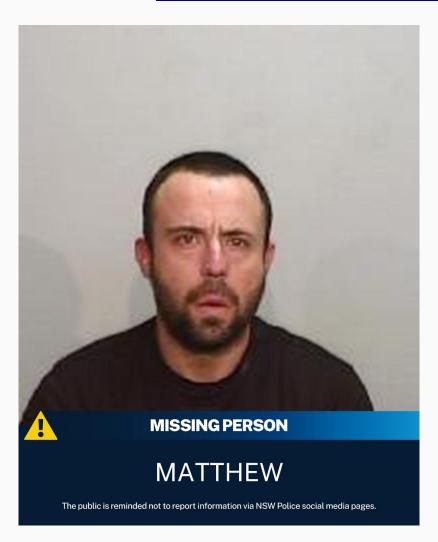
When police went to speak with the 46-year-old man he retreated into bushland. With the assistance of specialised officers from Polair, Dog Squad, Operational Support Group and PORS a search for the man was conducted. Today (Saturday 16 August 2025), about 10.30am police located the body of a man within the search area. Whilst yet to be formally identified the body is believed to be that of the missing man. There are no suspicious circumstances. A report will be prepared for the information of the coroner. Police would like to thank the media and public for their assistance.

### 16 August, from NSW Police: Can you help us find Matthew?

Matthew, aged 32, was last seen in Hornsby at 10:20am on Tuesday, 12 August 2025.

He is known to frequent Hornsby, Ryde and Central Coast areas. Anyone who sees him is urged to contact **Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.

MORE INFORMATION ■ https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=120220



### 14 August, from Ku-ring-gai command: Thank you, Hornsby!

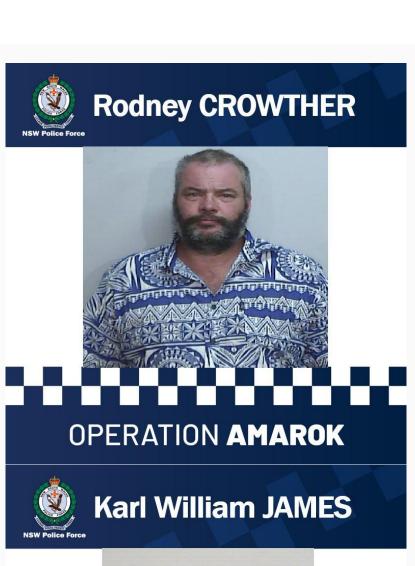
And a big thanks to Westfield Hornsby and Little Sparrow Melbourne for hosting Coffee with a Cop. We had a fantastic morning connecting with our community over a cuppa. Your stories, questions, and friendly chats remind us why we love serving here. Building trust and solving problems starts with conversations like these - and maybe a few too many biscuits. Check out some of the great moments below!



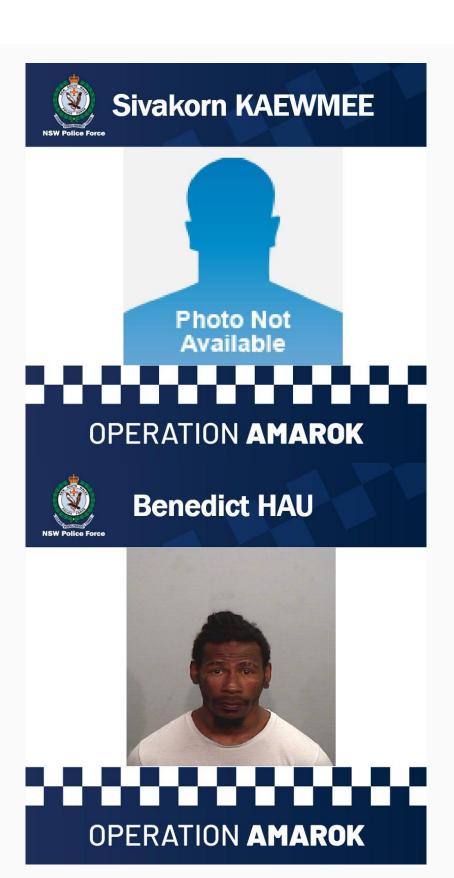
### 14 August, from Ku-ring-gai command: OPERATION AMAROK XI

Operation Amarok XI is a Statewide operation aimed at targeting domestic violence offenders and arresting persons wanted by virtue of outstanding arrest warrants for domestic and family violence offences. Ku-ring-gai Police are urging anyone with information about any of the persons shown below to contact **Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or** nsw.crimestoppers.com.au or **Hornsby Police Station on 02 9476 9799**.

Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via social media pages.





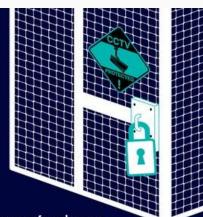






19 August, from The Hills command: Protect your storage cage with these simple steps!

### PROTECT YOUR STORAGE CAGE



Keep items stored in your storage cage safe and secure with these simple steps:

- CONSIDER the structure of the storage cage. Ensure it cannot be accessed, forced open or climbed into
- LOCK storage cage at all times with a high-quality lock
- · AVOID storing expensive items in storage cage
- **CONCEAL** property so it is not easily identifiable. E.g. *Cover* with a tarp
- ENSURE carpark is secure
- DON'T prop doors open
- . ENSURE doors lock and close securely
- RECORD serial numbers of items and photograph
- REPORT any suspicious activity and incidents to police





#### CYBER SAFETY FOR SENIORS

PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE



#### JOIN US FOR AN INSIGHTFUL AND SUPPORTIVE FORUM DESIGNED TO HELP SENIORS NAVIGATE THE DIGITAL WORLD WITH CONFIDENCE:

- Listen to the experts from local police and Services Australia on key cyber safety challenges facing seniors today, discover how to spot scams, protect your personal information, and stay safe online.
- Meet and chat with relevant services including NSW Police, Services Australia, ID Support NSW, Service NSW and Care Finder to help you stay secure.
- Chat with others who share your concerns and experiences.











#### WHEN

9:30am - 1:00pm Wednesday 22 October, 2025

09:30am Registration
 10:00am Opening
 10:15am Part 1

11:15am Morning Tea Service Stalls 11:45am Part 2

12:45pm Evaluation
 01:00pm Close

#### WHERE

Thornleigh Hillcrest Uniting Church 1 Paling St, Thornleigh (Walking distance from the station, car parking available)

#### INQUIRY / BOOKING

Gielie: 0409 092 504 gielieloubser89@gmail.com

Fiona: 0412 477 535 zhou1yan@police.nsw.gov.au



### 19 August, from the eSafety Commissioner: A Ready for round 2?

There's a new industry code for search engines coming in to protect children from exposure to age-inappropriate material, including, high-impact violence, eating disorders, suicide and self-harm. Following our previous post busting a few myths, we wanted to straighten out a few more things

- X Myth: The eSafety Commissioner wrote this code.
- Fact: The code was drafted by industry bodies representing search engines including Google, Yahoo, and Microsoft (owners of Bing). In accordance with Australia's online safety laws, the eSafety Commissioner was consulted on development of the code and assessed the draft to ensure it provided appropriate community safeguards. Having done so, the Commissioner registered the code, making it enforceable under our laws.
- Myth: The government is mandating the use of my ID to browse the internet.

- Fact: You will still be able to use a search engine to browse the
  internet without being logged into an account or verifying your identity. If
  you do log in, the search engine may ask you to confirm your age. The
  age assurance methods that individual search engines use are up to
  them. All measures must be in place by 27 June next year and must
  comply with privacy principles and all Australian laws, including the
  Privacy Act.
- X Myth: This is just a form of censorship.
- Fact: The code does not prevent adults from searching or accessing online material of any kind.

Feeling up to speed now? If you missed our previous posts, you can find out more about:

- How the code will work here.
- Our first mythbusters here.

19 August, Shared with permission from the Lindfield/East Lindfield/Killara/Roseville Community Group: This is not the first time, it's very annoying.

If this is your son please give him something better to do on a cold, wet night. [Video shows knocking and running away.]



### 19 August, from NSW Road Safety: Do you need to stop at a stop sign if no one is around? •••

Yes, yes you do 🙂

The road rules require that drivers come to a complete stop at a Stop' sign and 'Stop' line (single solid line), even if there are no other vehicles or pedestrians approaching

There are different rules for giving way at a stop sign depending on whether you're at an intersection, railway level crossing or pedestrian crossing - more info here.

# 19 August, from Traffic & Highway Patrol: Keep left unless overtaking - a commonly misunderstood road rule!

The "Keep left unless overtaking" sign and lack of drivers adhering to this rule has struck a chord with many motorists. It is an offence to drive in the right lane contrary to this sign, but did you know it is also illegal to travel in the right lane of a multi lane road if the speed limit is greater than 80kmh unless the driver is

overtaking. The penalty for this offence is \$423 and two demerit points. More info about this rule is available in the video <u>here</u>.

19 August, from Hornsby Shire Council: ☑ A Victorian company has been fined \$5,000 for illegally dumping tree trunks and branches in a drainage easement, after removing a tree from a local property in West Pennant Hills.

They were also charged an additional \$750 for the service of the penalty notice. The dumped material blocked the easement for several weeks before a keen local resident reported it. Thankfully, we didn't experience heavy rain during that time as the blockage caused by the trees and branches could have flooded surounding properties.

When hiring someone to do work on your property or remove waste, remember to:

- Land Ask where the waste is going
- Equest proof of insurance
- Get a tax invoice for the service

If you see illegal dumping in Hornsby Shire, report it straight away by calling our **Waste Hotline on 13 70 30**.

For more details, visit here.



18 August, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: On Friday, Peter Wilkinson, one of our favourite volunteers, was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Peter has stepped down after numerous years of involvement with Neighbourhood Watch. His wisdom will be missed.



Photo taken at the Marian Street Café, Killara: Jimmy Lennon, Simon Lennon (NHW K&H V.P.), Peter Wilkinson, Julia Eagles (NHW K&H President), Gay Balasubramanian (NHWK&H Secretary).

# 16 August, from NSW Road Safety: ■ Seatbelt detection cameras have been on our roads for over a year now, but do you know how they work? В

Existing fixed and portable mobile phone cameras capture images of passing vehicles that are reviewed by AI software Images that are likely to show that a seatbelt is not worn or is worn incorrectly are then verified by trained personnel. Images that don't show an offence are permanently and irretrievably deleted, typically within an hour. Whether you're the driver or the passenger, make sure you've always got your seatbelt on correctly.



### 16 August, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: We have been contacted by a resident and asked to share this: RECKLESS DRIVING

Trail Bike Riders x 4 bikes (one bike with 2 guys on it). Driving illegally & dangerously. Thursday 14th August at 4:21pm. Driving their Trail bikes on to medium strip of traffic lights. Ignoring the RED ARROW & continuing to turn right into Link Road from Mona Vale Road, St Ives into oncoming traffic. Dashcam footage. Parents of these boys - please have a good talking to about the road rules. As we are all know this is an extremely dangerous intersection  $\mathfrak{L}$ 



[Image taken from 2 x dashcam videos]

# 16 August, from NHW Thornleigh: Shared with permission from the Thornleigh Westleigh and Normanhurst Community group yesterday (Friday):

Can anyone check their dashcam to see which tow truck company dumped a white car without plates at the entrance of Wild Ash on Duffy Ave this afternoon between noon and about 2pm?

And from the comments, the car was already seen there at 12:20pm.

# 16 August, from NHW Hornsby: Shared with permission from the Hornsby Heights Residents group:

Looking for witnesses and the people who talked to both parties after an accident, please?

Jenny???? Who's phone number ends in 378 and her daughter was moving out of a nearby unit ⊌

Also after any dashcam or video footage at approximately 8:10-8:30am Wednesday 13th at or near 215 Peats Ferry Road Hornsby (very close to ARC aquarium & Plus fitness centre).

Vehicle was exiting driveway, rider (me) was on the bike path.



15 August, from NHW Australasia: Noticed any non-working lights in the parking area of your local shopping centre, train station, or park 'n ride? When the lights go out, it creates dark areas that can make it easier for thieves to break into vehicles unnoticed. Contact the property manager, council, or transport authority to report the location and the number of lights out. If it's urgent or you see suspicious activity, call your local police. Let's work together to keep our community spaces safe, visible, and welcoming for everyone.



### 15 August, from Crime Stoppers NSW: What happens when you report to Crime Stoppers?

Every tip you give us is taken seriously. It's documented and sent to police for investigation, evidence gathering and potential charges. You don't have to provide your contact details. There's no caller ID or online tracking. The details you share could be a crucial piece of the puzzle that helps build a case. So please keep reporting and help keep NSW safe. Report any tip, any crime, any time: <a href="nsw.crimestoppers.com.au">nsw.crimestoppers.com.au</a> or **1800 333 000** 



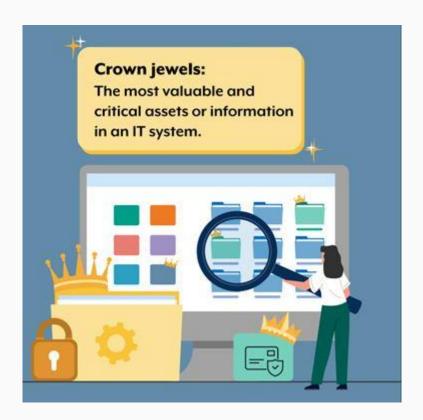
### 15 August, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Texting while driving puts you and everyone else at risk.

If you see anyone on their mobile when driving, please report their number plate or upload your dashcam footage HERE <a href="nsw.crimestoppers.com.au">nsw.crimestoppers.com.au</a> or call **1800 333 000.** 

# 15 August, from the Australian Federal Police: Have you heard of 'crown jewels' as a cybersecurity concept?

It could help to protect you from cybercrime. While the list of digital assets we need to keep secure can seem endless, identifying your crown jewels is about deciding on your priorities.

This could mean your most important accounts or files, for example, services such as your email, banking or cloud storage. The idea is you take extra care to protect your 'crown jewels'. For example, by setting up a passkey or, if this isn't possible, setting up multi-factor authentication and a different passphrase for each important account. Then, only access these accounts on a trusted device, and avoid ticking 'remember me' options when logging in.



15 August, from ACCC Product Safety: There have been deaths reported overseas involving a Fisher-Price Cradle 'n Swing (Little Snugabunny and Dots & Spots).

If you own one, stop use immediately: they are unsafe for babies and can cause suffocation when bedding materials are added. Learn more <u>here</u>.



15 August, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby will have a crime prevention stall at this year's St John's Anglican Church annual fête on Saturday 11 October.

We also plan to bring the police dress-ups for the kids, 'Catch-the-Crim' photo

booth and colouring-in. So please pop the date in your diary.



#### IT'S TIME!!!



Time to start telling your friends about the St John's Fête On 11th October 2025

#### Enjoy

- the famous St John's OP Shop
- a chance to have lunch with your friends
- various food stalls Asian foods and Aussie BBQ





### Family Fun in the Crypt

A new event this year!!





Lots of dress-up ideas available, then you have your photos taken for fun!

Here is the chance to have your family and friends update their group photo

Don't forget the Chocolate Wheel, Raffle, Garden Stall, Cakes, etc

We need help and enthusiasm!!

### **Dates for your Diary**

Thursday 21 August: FREE eSafety Commissioner 'Al-assisted image-based

abuse: Navigating the deepfake threat' webinar. 12:30-1:15pm. Info.

Thursday 28 August: FREE CPR & Basic First Aid workshop' for the Korean

community. 10am-12:30pm @ Hornsby Aquatic & Leisure Centre. Info.

Friday 29 August: Wear it Purple Day Info.

Thursday 04 September: FREE eSafety Commissioner 'Safer online shopping

and banking' webinar. 10am. Info

Saturday 20-Sunday 21 September: Killara RFS Get Ready Weekend. venue

etc tbc.

Tuesday 23 September: FREE eSafety Commissioner 'iPhone Basics'

webinar. 10am. Info

Thursday 25 September: FREE eSafety Commissioner 'How to use

government websites' webinar. 3pm. Info

**Saturday 11 October:** St John's Fete, Gordon. NHW will have a crime prevention stall, photo booth, police dress-ups and colouring-in.

**Wednesday 22 October:** Cyber Safety for Seniors 9:30-1pm @ Thornleigh Hillcrest Uniting Church, 1 Paling St, Thornleigh. Info & Booking: Gielie 0409 092 504.

**Saturday 15 - Sunday 16 November:** Ku-ring-gai Council Chemical Clean Out weekend @ St Ives Showground. Info.

14 August, from ALDI: ALDI takes product safety seriously and due to a low number of returns, we wish to remind customers of an active recall of the Workzone Double USB Powerpoint, which was sold at ALDI Stores from 27 May 2023 to 4 August 2023.

Defect: The powerpoint does not comply with the relevant electrical safety standards due to unreliable contacts in the powerpoint. If you have not already, customers should immediately stop use and return the product to your nearest ALDI store for a full cash refund. If the powerpoint has already been installed, use the dedicated webform link to arrange for a free replacement installed by a licenced electrician. We apologise for any inconvenience.

For further information please visit <u>aldi.com.au/product-recalls</u> or visit Product Safety Australia at <u>productsafety.gov.au/recalls</u>



12 August, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Do you know anyone who lives or works in the Northern Beaches?

There is now a Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group set up on Facebook for the

community to share information about crime in the area. Suggest they join and...

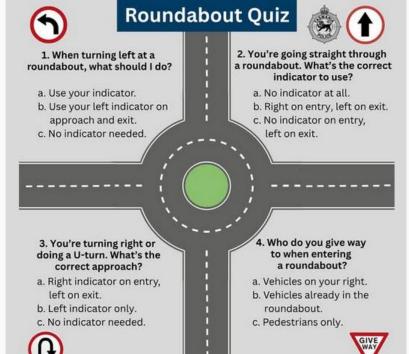
- learn more about what's going on
- learn crime prevention techniques
- be more community-minded and warn others
- learn how to report crime
- ask Neighbourhood Watch volunteers how, why and where?

Neighbourhood Watch can point you in the right direction. Here are a selection of queries this week:

- barking dog? Council
- suspicious behaviour? Police
- where to get those LED lights to put at the end of the driveway? We can share a few websites, but NHW cannot endorse any product or service - you must do your own research.

Click on this link and start connecting with other like-minded people in the Northern Beaches

community: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1EWnU69aUX/">https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1EWnU69aUX/</a>



07 August, from Tasmania Police - Last week's quiz answers

Answers: B, C, A, B

Approaching a roundabout?  Slow down and be prepared to give way.  Always give way to vehicles already in the roundabout.
☐ Turning left?
Use your left indicator as you approach. Stay in the left lane (unless otherwise marked). Exit using your left indicator.
Going straight?  No indicator needed on approach.  Stay in the correct lane (if marked).  Indicate left just before your exit.
Turning right or doing a U-turn? Use your right indicator on approach. Stay in the right lane (unless otherwise marked). Indicate left just before your exit.
<ul> <li>Common mistakes to avoid:</li> <li>X Not indicating when exiting.</li> <li>X Entering without giving way.</li> <li>X Changing lanes inside the roundabout.</li> </ul>

### The Office of the eSafety Commissioner has the 'Be Connected' program.

Each week we will share a course that may help you. They are often designed especially for the elderly.

### Google cloud Apps

Do in your own time <u>here</u>

In this course, you'll learn about all the cloud apps that come with a Google account, how they work and what the difference is between the free and paid apps available.

Google can be a good choice for cloud apps and storage if you like to do a lot of things online, and you have a mix of Apple, Windows, or Android devices.

In this presentation, you will discover:

- All about Google apps
- Getting started with Google apps
- Using Google apps
- Paid vs free Google apps
- How Google storage works

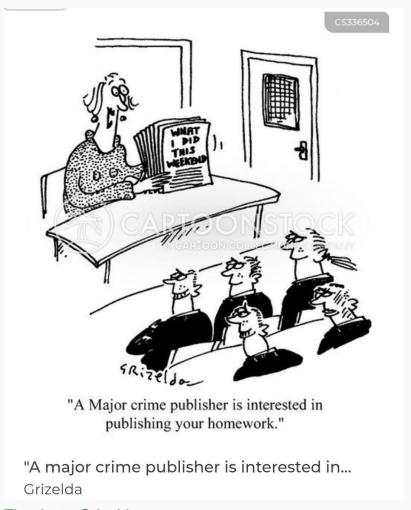
A Summary Sheet is available as a pdf in English and 8 other languages. Download from **here**.

### Thanks to UK Cop Humour: This is absolutely true care of UK Metropolitan Police Instruction Book 1968.

Chapter IV.

Para 7. Calling for help. "A Constable in difficulties who wants help at once should blow three sharp blasts on his whistle. At night time if he does not wish to raise an alarm, he should signal with his lantern in the direction in which he believes there is another Constable. The signal is to be answered in the same way."

Para 79. "When an Officer endeavours to stop a runaway horse he should run in the same direction as the horse."



Thanks to Grizelda

#### **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. For Police to attend non-urgently without lights & sirens.

### **NSW Police Community Portal**

Online reporting of non-emergency minor crime: lost property, intentional damage, graffiti or theft. No emergency/investigation.

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 NSW - 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 - Mt Colah (paused)

Neighbourhood Watch - Turramurra (The Chase) (paused)







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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

