



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

eNewsletter #732 - 21 October 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](#).

20 October from Ku-ring-gai command:

Airbnb hosts — beware!

That “quiet weekend booking”? Not always what it seems... 😬

Be aware of the risks. We've recently had incidents where short-term rental properties were booked under false pretences — only for large, out-of-control parties to be held.

These gatherings can quickly lead to significant property damage, noise complaints, and police attendance.

- ✅ Always verify your guest's identity
- ✅ Set clear house rules
- ✅ Monitor booking platforms for suspicious activity
- ✅ Notify police if you suspect a party is being organised

Protect your property — and your peace of mind.

20 October, from Ku-ring-gai Command

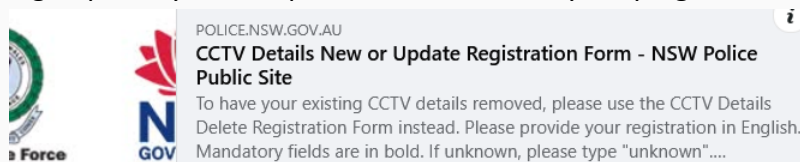
Your cameras could help us catch criminals! 🕵️

We're inviting local residents and business owners to join the CCTV Register - a confidential list that helps police quickly identify who may have footage when a crime occurs in your area.

You're not giving police access to your cameras - just letting us know they exist. When a crime happens nearby, we may contact you to see if your footage can assist an investigation.

- ✅ IT'S QUICK
- ✅ IT'S FREE
- ✅ IT HELPS KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Sign up today and be part of the community keeping watch. Visit



20 October, from Ku-ring-gai command

Thanks to everyone who stopped by our Crime Prevention stalls last week at Pymble and Thornleigh [Bunnings Warehouse Australia](#), in light of Crime Prevention Week.

Police officers from Ku-ring-gai PAC, volunteers in police and volunteers from [Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby](#) spoke to the community about all thing's crime prevention.

🙏 Thanks to Bunnings for hosting us! 🙏



15 October, from NSW Police Force

Organised Crime Squad detectives have charged three men, seized firearms and 415kg of drugs, as part of an investigation into a transnational Organised Criminal Network under Strike Force Barberton.

Strike Force Barberton was established by State Crime Command's Organised Crime Squad and the NSW Crime Commission to investigate the supply of prohibited drugs across NSW by a group coordinated by a broader transnational network believed to be run out of South-East Asia.

MORE INFORMATION ➡ <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=121327>

Watch video [here](#).



21 October, from NHW K&H: Each week we compile an eNewsletter and it flies into residents' email inboxes.

Focus on a suburb - Asquith.

The following crime stats were taken from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) website: <https://crimetool.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/bocsar>

The figures are for the period July 2024 to June 2025. A category with a zero figure wasn't included in the list, eg murder, non-DV assault."

Domestic Assault - Hornsby 9

Non-Domestic Assault 9

Assault police 1

Robbery without a weapon 1

Sexual Assault 6

Sexual touching, sex act & other sex offences 8

Break & Enter dwelling 24

B&E non-dwelling 3

Motor vehicle theft 5

Steal from motor vehicle 15

Steal from retail store 10

Steal from dwelling 5

Fraud 15

Other theft 3

Malicious damage to property 17

Breach AVO 4

Breach bail conditions 6

Resist/hinder officer 3

Other offences against justice procedures 1

Trespass 3

Offensive language 1

Use/possess cannabis 2

Cultivating cannabis 1

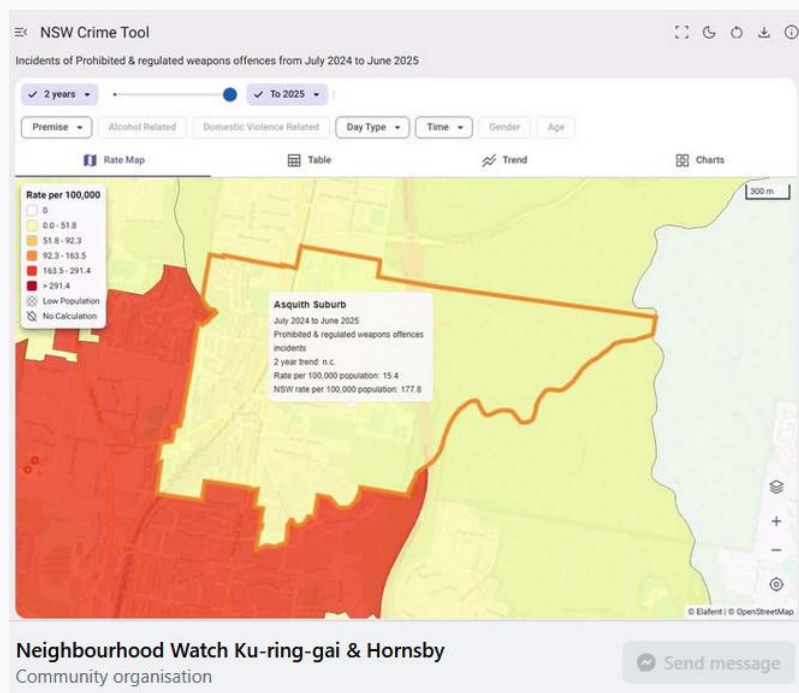
Other drug offences 1

Blackmail & extortion 1

Intimidation, stalking & harassment 18

Other offences against the person 1

Prohibited & regulated weapons offences 1



20 October, Shared with permission from the Berowra Community Page group yesterday:

If you own a grey Ute with the number plate beginning with EKL and it's parked in the old commuter carpark at Berowra station, please get in contact with me. I witnessed a 'hit and run' (more like hit run and park) this morning and have all the evidence for you. The young lad didn't leave you a kind note.

18 October, from 9 News Sydney: Cancelling a gym membership? These are your consumer rights in Australia

There's nothing worse than deciding to cancel a gym membership only to be slapped with hefty termination fees.

The average Australian with a gym membership spends \$756 per year on working out according to Canstar, which is equivalent to about \$63 per month.

Here's what you need to know about your consumer rights when cancelling a gym membership.

Read details [here](#).



18 October, from Choice

Our reviews have found most of trampolines on the market don't meet safety standards. Here's how to shop safely: <https://www.choice.com.au/.../buying->

[guides/trampolines...](#)



18 October, from Ku-ring-gai Council: FREE car seat safety checks!

Make sure your precious cargo is transported safely by having your child car seat checked by a Roads and Maritime Services authorised fitter on Wednesday 29 October.

<http://krg.nsw.gov.au/.../Child-car-seat-safety-program>.



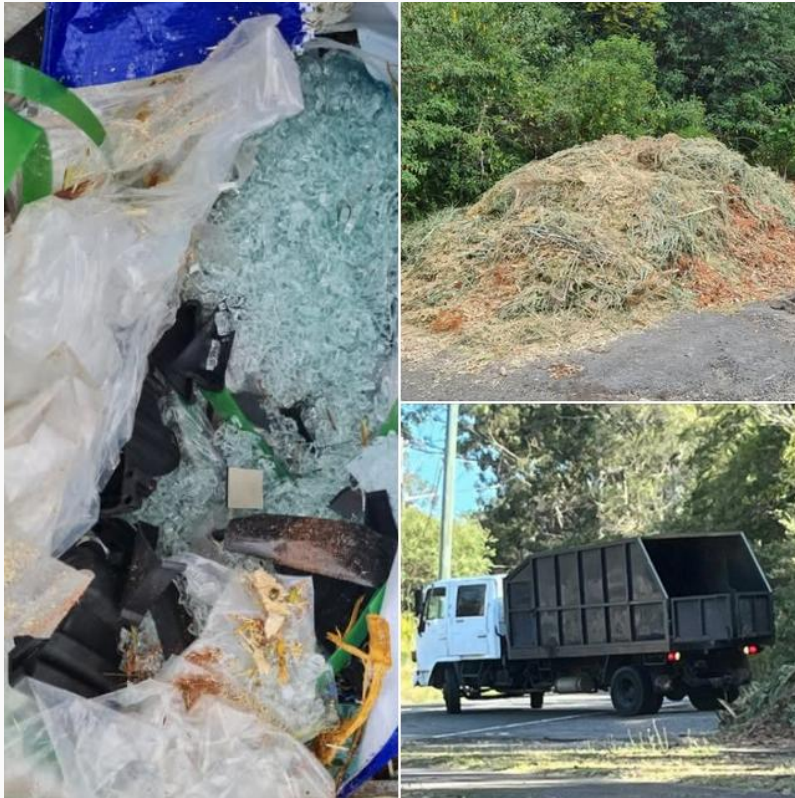
18 October, from Ku-ring-gai Council

About 4.20pm on Thursday 16 October, at the intersection of Lady Game Drive and De Burgh Road Killara, a significant illegal dumping incident occurred.

A tip truck is alleged to have dumped predominately green waste, mixed with a small amount of building waste and broken glass onto Council land as shown in these images.

If anyone has any information regarding this incident, please contact Council (quote case RMWA25/12579) on 9424 0000 or krg@krg.nsw.gov.au. All information provided

will be treated confidentially.



17 October, from The NRMA: \$200 million road repair blitz targets Sydney's damaged roads

Sydney's roads are set for a \$200 million maintenance boost, with the NSW Government announcing a fast-tracked blitz to tackle thousands of potholes and degraded corridors following one of the city's wettest winters on record.

The announcement comes just months after [The NRMA's annual road safety survey](#) revealed potholes, poor road conditions, and distracted driving are among the top concerns for motorists in New South Wales. More than half of respondents said they encountered dangerous road surfaces weekly, with many linking these hazards to increased repair costs and crash risks.

Read details [here](#).



17 October, from NSW Fair Trading

“For sale: Front row tickets to your favourite artist for half price”

Immediately no. That’s a major red flag 🚩

Fake tickets and resale scams are everywhere right now, so if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

- ✅ Only buy from official sellers and websites
- ❌ Use secure payment methods such as PayPal
- ⚠️ Be cautious of “bargain” tickets on social media or resale sites

Think you've been scammed? Report it here: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/.../types-of-scams-and-cybercrime>



Fake ticket scams are on the rise

Be cautious of “bargain” tickets

17 October, Shared with permission from the Thornleigh Westleigh and Normanhurst Community group:

A heads up for locals to ensure your cars are locked. This was Sunday evening 29 September at 10.50pm in Thornleigh.

Stills taken from video.



17 October, Shared with permission from the Berowra Community Page group:

LOW ACT (posting on behalf of a friend) Ryobi Battery stolen from Tool in driveway !

Battery pack stolen from Blower on my property.

(Momentarily unattended)

Boundary Street, Berowra.

Advise that you return ASAP, as you are on camera!



17 October, from 9news.com.au: Investigations under way into explicit deepfake photos of female high school students in Sydney

Investigations are under way into reports that explicit deepfake photos were made using the faces of female high school students in Sydney.

[The ABC reported](#) that families alerted police upon learning the digitally altered photos were circulating online, after a male student was sent one of the images and told the school.

NSW Police has confirmed officers in the Ryde area, north-west of the CBD, are investigating the report.

For details, click [here](#).



16 October, from Hawkesbury Police Area Command

Back to basics! Door knocks & letterbox drops!

[Hawkesbury Police Area Command](#) took to the streets to remind residents to lock their vehicles & protect their homes!

Not everyone has social media to keep them connected to what's happening in the community. Look out for your neighbours!

If you see someone acting suspicious contact Windsor Police on 4587 4099.



16 October, from Trend Micro Home: Fake Friends, Real Threats: How to Spot Scam Requests Online

Social media accounts are often targeted by scams. You may encounter fake messages or friend requests designed to trick you into sharing personal details or clicking on malicious links.

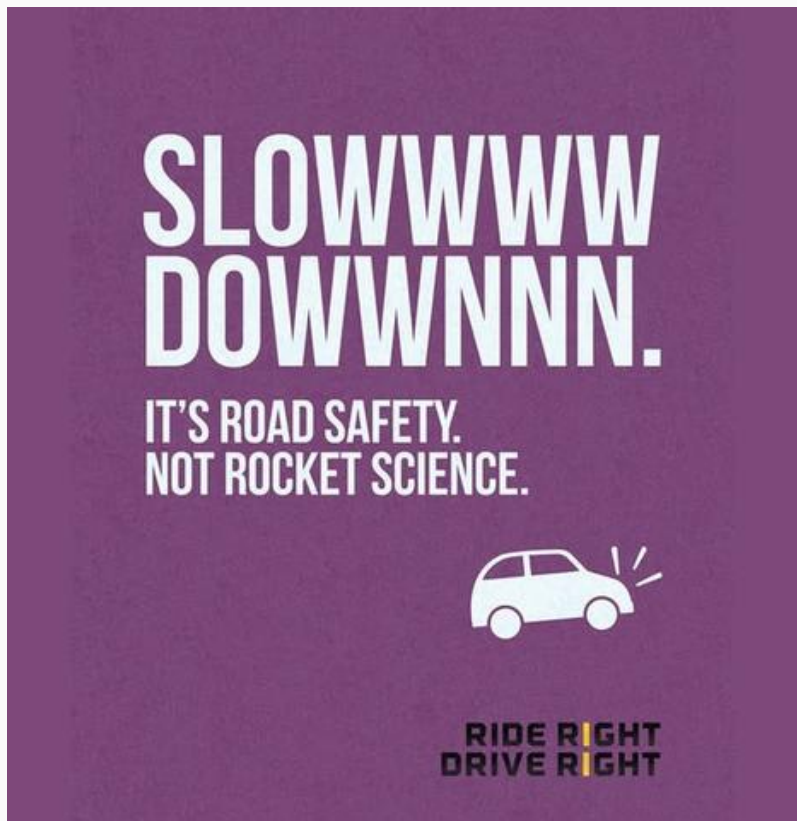


How Can I Tell If a Follow/Friend Request Is a Scam?

- Unknown Profiles
 - Follow requests from accounts you don't recognise.
- Incomplete Profiles
 - Accounts with little information, few posts, or generic pictures.
- Urgent Messages
 - Direct messages that use urgent language, asking you to act quickly.
- Suspicious Links
 - Links that seem odd or unfamiliar, often found in messages.
- Too Good to Be True Offers
 - Promises of rewards or financial gains that seem unrealistic.
- Requests for Personal Info
 - Asking for sensitive details like passwords or bank information.

More [here](#).

16 October, from Road Sense Australia



16 October, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

Ku-ring-gai's former Mayor has been charged with allegedly threatening to kill a fellow councillor, and will face Hornsby local court this morning. [Paywall]

Alternative article: <https://www.skynews.com.au/.../3ff4a5757b1e09244678eb9d9c...>



The Sydney Morning Herald

16 October, from NSW Ambulance: SAVE A LIFE: Today is Restart a Heart Day - a global initiative dedicated to raising awareness about cardiac arrest and promoting bystander CPR.



Did you know only 1 in 10 people survive an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest? Together, we can change that. By learning CPR and how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), you can make a life-saving difference while waiting for paramedics to arrive.

If you're in Martin Place, Sydney, join us from now to 2pm. Our paramedics will be providing free CPR demonstrations and teaching the community how they can help in an emergency.

This is also the perfect time to sign up for the GoodSAM app - which alerts registered volunteers when someone nearby needs CPR. GoodSAM is integrated with the Triple Zero (000) dispatch system, so you'll be guided by an emergency medical call taker from NSW Ambulance until paramedics arrive.

Join us in saving lives today! Learn more and get involved at:

ambulance.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/goodsam

16 October, from Alcohol and Drug Foundation: 🚨 Queensland Health released a drug alert.

5-cyano-isotodesnitazene (isotocyanazene) has recently been found in toxicology and powder samples, in South-East Queensland.

There is limited potency or toxicity data available on 5-cyano-isotodesnitazene globally as it is a novel nitazene only recently detected for the first time in Australia. Nitazenes are very strong synthetic opioids that work like heroin or fentanyl and could produce life-threatening toxicity in small amounts.

The appearance of the sample is a white powder in a plastic bag marked 'opioid F5'.

Find more info from The Know 🖱️ <https://brnw.ch/21wWEMi>



16 October, from Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Rural Fire Service

🔥 It's been a busy few days for the volunteer firefighters of Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai District. 🔥

Since Friday we have responded to 16 calls at all hours of day and night:

- Six bush/grass fires.
- Three house fires (one with a second storey bedroom alight).
- Three truck fires, including a b-double and prime mover well alight.
- Three automatic fire alarms (luckily false alarms).
- One complex casualty recovery of an injured bushwalker.

Our members train hard to be ready to protect the community, and work closely with our colleagues from [Fire and Rescue NSW](#) and [NSW Ambulance](#). While we don't like

getting called out, because it means someone needs help, our firefighters do a great job whenever they respond.

We're also on Insta: @hornsby_kuringgai_rfs_district.



16 October, Shared with permission from the Gordon Community (NSW) group:

Hey guys my car has recently been side swiped by someone and currently do not know who has does it.

If anyone has seen or knows anything about this please let me know ASAP.

Car was damaged in the 15/10/25

The car has been parked on Rosedale road Gordon and is a gold Volvo



Dates for your Diary

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

🔥 **Wednesday 29 October:** Get Ready Ku-ring-gai Street Meet 5:30-7pm. Gwydir Avenue Reserve, North Turramurra

Wednesday 29 October: FREE Hornsby Shire Council's 'Teaching your learner driver' online via Teams. 6-7pm. [Info & Booking](#).

Saturday 15 - Sunday 16 November: Ku-ring-gai Council Chemical Clean Out weekend @ St Ives Showground. [Info](#).

16 October, from Australian Signals Directorate: Windows 10 will reach end-of-support today.



Did you know the risk of a cyber security incident is much higher when you're using a product that isn't supported anymore?

'End-of-support' is when a device, software or system no longer receives technical support, like software updates. This could leave you vulnerable to cyber attacks.

Other common end of support products include Windows 7, Apple iOS 14.8.1, Apple macOS BigSur and Android 10.

Although your device or software will continue to function, the best way to stay protected is to upgrade to a supported product, like Windows 11. But if you can't do this, there are still things you can do to take action and stay secure.

To understand end-of-support risks and what you can do, visit 🖱️ <http://cyber.gov.au/.../how-update-your.../end-support>

16 October, from Australian Signals Directorate: Message on Cyber Security
Watch video [here](#).

15 October, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

Today we held crime prevention stalls with our local [Kuring Gai Police Area Command](#) at Bunnings Pymble and Bunnings Thornleigh as part of Crime Prevention Week. Thank you to volunteers Diana, Gay and Julia. It was good to chat with the many customers, along with our Crime Prevention Officer, Snr Cst Gemma Stokes and the Crime Coordinator, Sgt Steve Whalley, and to meet a new volunteer, Daniel. We gave away quite a few 'No Junk Mail' and 'Do Not Knock' stickers, colouring-in and word search puzzles. Thank you to Bunnings, especially Thornleigh who supplied prizes for the free raffle and chocolate!

P.S. We love your new carnival-style photo stand, Gemma!



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.

[All about Android phone](#)


Getting started on your Android phone is easier than you may think. This topic shows you how to set up and customise your phone with helpful step-by-step videos and a fun interactive guide that shows you all the features you need to know about.

Android phone: Interactive guide

The interactive guide below shows you the different features of your Android phone. Click Explore this device, then click on each of the purple circles to learn more about its features, e.g. volume control, the Home button, the camera and more! Once you've explored each of the features on the front of the phone, click View back to view the features on the back of your Android phone.

Subscribe to the Be Connected newsletter [here](#) - Get the latest updates on new courses, articles and more straight to your inbox.

14 October, from Hornsby Shire Council

 Planning a road trip or weekend getaway with a trailer or caravan? Make sure you're towing safely and confidently!

[Transport for NSW](#) is offering a FREE 2-hour Safe Towing Workshop to help you hit the road with peace of mind.



Saturday 25 October 2025








Sessions at 10am and 1pm



Berowra Community Centre, The Gully Road, Berowra

These interactive workshops cover:

-  How to safely load and tow trailers and caravans
-  The importance of weight distribution
-  Understanding towing capacity and GCM
-  Rules for carrying bikes
-  How to check if your trailer is loaded correctly

Spots are limited. Bookings are essential at: <http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/.../free-safe-towing-workshops>



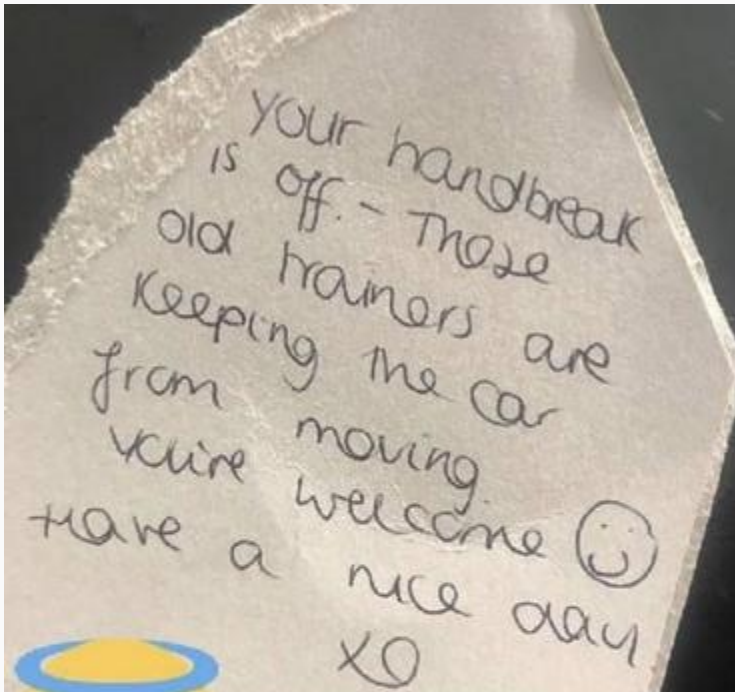
14 October, from Alcohol and Drug Foundation

Zero-alcohol drinks are becoming more common and are often stocked on supermarket shelves.

They are drinks with little or no alcohol content (less than 0.5% alcohol by volume), that mimic the flavour, style and packaging of traditional alcoholic drinks.

As a parent or guardian, there's a risk of giving your kids zero-alcohol drinks, and you might be wondering how to approach this topic. We've put together some evidence and tips to help!

Find out more [here](#).



Thanks to GraphicsPedia



Thanks to Meanwhile in Australia

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)