



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

**eNewsletter #748 - 10 February 2026**

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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**06 February, from Nepean Police Area Command**

FRIDAY FUNNY

Two males were stopped and arrested by Nepean Police on suspicion of having stolen goods in their possession. One had a car battery and the other had fireworks. Neither had any reasonable excuse for having them.

Both were given a court date and after the matter was heard by the Magistrate, one was charged and the other let off.

Have a great weekend.



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**03 February, from Nepean Police Area Command:**

TRAFFIC TUESDAY

Don't be like Karen!

Don't be like Ken!

DISCLAIMER ~ Apologies to all our Karens and Kens out there who don't block intersections. We'll try to come up with other names in the future.



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### 03 February, from Police Transport Command - NSW Police Force

Police are seeking assistance from the public to identify a male who may be able to assist with their enquiries into an alleged break & enter which occurred at Coles Wynyard around 11:40pm on Thursday 8th of December, 2025.

Police are appealing for anyone who may have witnessed the incident or have knowledge of the identity of the person depicted to come forward.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au> . Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages.

Reference E86869779 / C88003955.



### 10 February, from NSW Food Authority

Find out which food businesses have allegedly breached food safety laws in NSW on the NSW Government's name and shame register:

- 8 premises added this week
- 11 premises removed (publication period expired).

See Register of Penalty Notices [here](#).



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### 9 February, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby



We are often asked how to prevent cockatoos getting into bins. This article has a few ideas. The method of filling two bottles with water and ziptying them to the lid is a local favourite.

Please comment with your successful methods. Then we can share them with residents who want to avoid the mess that the cockatoos make.

Read article [here](#).

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**9 February, from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby**



This article (see below) was brought to our attention over the weekend. One of our volunteers contacted Radek Zarzycki, Traffic and Road Safety Team leader at Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) to clarify the rules on painting driveway white lines in their LGA.

We were advised back in July by two HSC rangers that residents were able to paint, and proceeded to share the good news. However, today we were told "rangers don't make the rule, they only enforce it" and were asked to remove Hornsby residents from our website.

We apologise that we had miscommunicated based on the rangers' advice. If you were to paint the road, HSC workers would paint over it with black paint. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Ku-ring-gai Council LGA residents can happily borrow our kits. More information about borrowing is [here](#).

Read article [here](#).

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**9 February, Shared with permission from the Lindfield/East Lindfield/Killara/Roseville Community Group yesterday (Sunday):**

Hi. Black suitcase fell off back of motorcycle driving through Killara. Unfortunately no tags or contact details on suitcase. If anyone is missing it please contact Gordon police station 02 9418 5399.

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9 February, from ACCC Product Safety

Roses are red  
Violets are blue  
Sunglasses are regulated  
To protect you and your boo!



Show you care for your Valentine by buying them sunglasses that meet the mandatory standard. Sunglasses come in 5 lens categories. Check the label to choose the right sunglasses for your best life!

Check story [here](#).

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**9 February, We've been asked by a resident to share this request for assistance:**

Hi everyone,

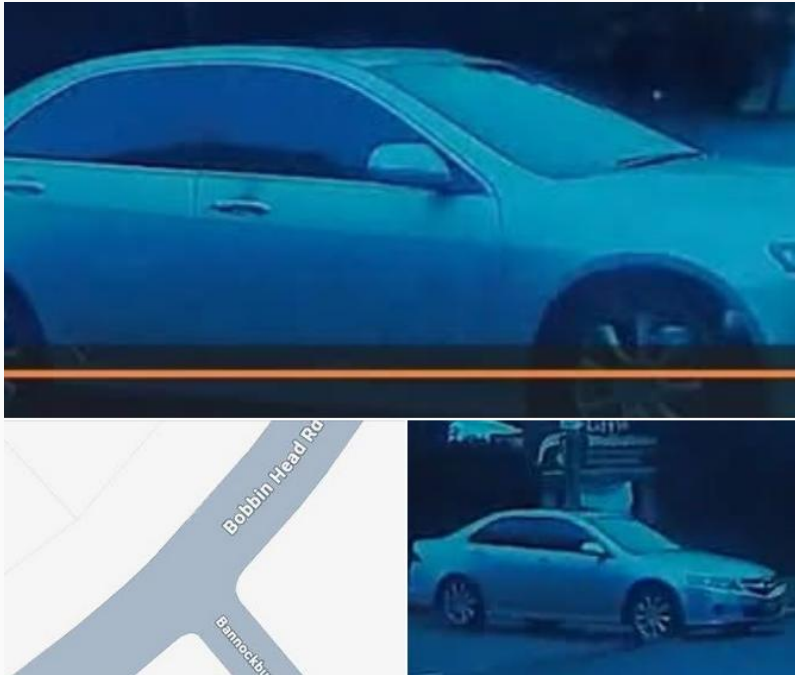
This morning at 10:52am (08/02/2026) I was driving along Bobbin Head Road when a driver in what appeared to be a silver Honda Accord pulled out in front of me from Bannockburn Road, causing a collision and damaging the front of my black Corolla hatchback.

Instead of stopping, the driver drove off immediately before exchanging details — which is a hit and run.

If anyone was driving in the area around this time and has dashcam footage, especially showing the silver Honda Accord involved, please message me ASAP. Even partial footage (number plate, angle of the car, direction they drove off) would be extremely helpful.

This matter will be reported to police, and any footage will be used as evidence.

Thank you.



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### **8 February, from 9 News Sydney: Possible mass overdose investigated after man dies at Sydney rave**

The possibility of a mass drug overdose at a music festival at [Sydney](#) Olympic Park is being investigated.

A 40-year-old man died, another person was left in a critical condition and five others were hospitalised following the Dreamstate rave last night.

The Dome at Sydney Olympic Park hosted the music festival, billed as the ultimate trance and techno experience.



Read full story [here](#). Watch video [here](#).



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**8 February, Shared with permission from the Berowra Community Page group:**

Hi all,

looking for a bit of community support for a new pedestrian crossing on Crowley road. Particularly those with kids south of BWR and Crowley rd Round about.

Issue: my girls want to walk to school from south of BWR and crowley roundabout.

Problem: that roundabout/crowley is a bit hectic for crossing safely until they are older

Solution: Install a pedestrian crossing about 20m from the roundabout on Crowley rd to make that connection safe.

Potential questions:

Why 20m back? - So it doesn't affect traffic on BWR.

Why not further back on crowley? - Parking is a bit of nightmare. The suggested area is no parking already.

I've written it in a more formal way with a picture of the potential area. If your onboard could you send an email to [hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au) to get a bit of momentum behind it. Hopefully they can do it next FY.

Dear Hornsby Shire Council,

I am writing to request that Hornsby Shire Council investigate the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Crowley Road, Berowra.

At present, there is no safe location for children and other pedestrians to cross Crowley Road while walking to local schools, sporting ovals, and the shopping area. This particularly affects families in the southern area of Berowra. My children, along with many others, are unable to cross the road independently due to the complexity of navigating the roundabout.

The installation of a designated pedestrian crossing would significantly improve safety and provide a continuous and accessible walking route for the community. It would encourage active transport while reducing the risk of accidents involving pedestrians, especially school-aged children.

A suggested location for the crossing is shown in the attached aerial image of Crowley Road.

I respectfully request that Council investigate suitable options for providing a safe pedestrian crossing on Crowley Road and advise me of the outcome of this investigation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely

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8 February, Shared with permission from the St Ives Community Page and Surrounds group:

A colorful poster for 'THE VIBE ROOM' at Chatswood Youth Centre. The title is in large, bold, black letters at the top. Below it, the location is listed: '@ Chatswood Youth Centre, 64 Albert Ave Chatswood'. The poster features silhouettes of four people in dynamic poses, each associated with a colored circle: 'Move' (yellow), 'Chill' (blue), and 'Connect' (pink). A fourth circle is partially visible. Below the circles, a paragraph describes the space as a 'chill after-school space to move your body, have fun and hang out with other teens — no pressure, no performance.' A list of bullet points follows: 'No dance experience needed', 'Come as you are', 'Join in, take a break, or just watch', and 'Music • movement • good vibes'. To the right of the list are silhouettes of two people sitting on the floor. At the bottom right, it says 'Ages 12-16'. Below the main poster, there is a section titled 'JUST TURN UP! ⚡ IT'S FREE!' with a QR code on the left. To the right of the QR code, it lists the 'First session' as 'Monday 9th February, 4 - 5:15pm', followed by 'Then every second Monday Term 1'. Further right, under 'Term 1 dates', it lists: 'Intro session: Monday 9th Feb', 'Session 2: 23rd February', 'Session 3: 9th March', and 'Session 4: 23rd March'. At the bottom right of this section, it says 'Michelle Lowbeer, 0416-502-515'. At the bottom left, it says 'Walk-ins welcome! Or register for updates: bit.ly/viberoomsyd'.

Change of plans for The Vibe Room – Just show up! 🎧🌟

New Teen Hangout in Chatswood! Move • Chill • Connect

Looking for something different for your 12–16-year-old on Monday afternoons?

The Vibe Room is an opportunity for teens to shake off the school day, move to great music, and connect offline with their peers... in a place where they feel like they belong.

No dancing experience required. And it's FREE!

(It's my way of giving back to the community. And Chatswood Youth Centre have generously donated their space.)

The Vibe Room is

When: This Monday, 9th Feb @ 4:00pm – 5:15pm

Where: Chatswood Youth Centre, 64 Albert Ave

Cost: FREE

The Vibe: No dance experience, no performance, and definitely no pressure.

Bonus: We'll have some snacks and drinks to help shake off the school day!

Thank you for sharing!

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**8 February, from 7news.com.au**

Is it legal to drive with your boot open in Australia? Click [here](#).



## 8 February, from Gold Standard Driving

Watch video [here](#).



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## 8 February, from ThinkUKnow Australia

As term 1 kicks off across the country, now is a great time to request a free ThinkUKnow student presentation for your school

Presentations are available for students from Foundation through to year 12.

ThinkUKnow student presentations cover age-appropriate education about online child sexual exploitation, and how to report and seek help 🌐💻💰

www.thinkuknow.org.au

## ThinkUKnow Student Presentations

**What's in our presentations?**

- What is the internet ✓
- Sharing personal information ✓
- Adult supervision ✓
- Privacy ✓
- Self-generated content ✓
- Online grooming ✓
- Sextortion ✓
- How to get help and report ✓



**Request FREE presentations for your school today!**



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### 7 February, from Triple P - Positive Parenting Program

#### 📢 News Alert 📢

We're proud to launch Stepping Stones Triple P Online, a free program full of positive parenting strategies to help your child with disability thrive and gain key life skills.

Based on extensive research with families of children with disability, it can help yours too!

#### ✅ How can it help?

It's full of ideas to help make getting out the door, bedtimes and communication easier. Choose from 25 evidence-based, practical ideas and strategies.

You know your child best and what their strengths and abilities are, so you can choose which tools to use.

#### ✅ Who's it for?

It's for parents and carers of children with developmental disability, neurodiversity, and additional needs. Children don't need a diagnosis.

#### ✅ How much does it cost?



It's free and online, thanks to Australian government funding.

✅ Can I do it while I'm on a wait list?

Yes, you can. You don't need to worry about waitlists, travel, a diagnosis, referrals or childcare.

Sign up today and get started in just 5 minutes.



The advertisement features a green background on the left with a small illustration of a family. Text on the left reads: "New online parenting program for families of children with disability" and "Now Free In Australia". On the right, the website "TRIPLEP-PARENTING.NET.AU" is listed, followed by the text "Proven to work parenting support for families of children with disability" and "Now Free In Australia".

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## 7 February, Middle Dural Fire Brigade

Middle Dural has some medium-sized news that we think is quite big! We're proud to announce that Middle Dural is now the proud recipient of a brand-new light tanker — a Category 7.

This impressive little beauty replaces our much-loved old Cat 9, which served us faithfully for many years. The new Cat 7 brings more water, more room, and a big boost to our capability on the fireground.



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**7 February, Shared with permission from the Thornleigh Westleigh Pennant Hills Normanhurst Community Group:**

Need witness or dash camera. I'm hoping to get some help from the community.

On Friday 30 January, at around 8:55 am, a traffic incident occurred on Pennant Hills Road, opposite Chagrill Charlie's Thornleigh. The vehicle involved was travelling southbound (north to south) at the time.

The car was driving straight in a through lane, and the incident occurred during a lane change. Both parties exchanged details at the scene, however there was no dash cam footage available.

We're hoping to locate any witnesses, or anyone with dash cam or nearby CCTV footage (including nearby shops or properties) that may have captured the incident.



Location: Near 292 Pennant Hills Rd, Thornleigh NSW 2120

If you were in the area at the time or have any relevant footage, please feel free to PM me.

All information will be used solely for insurance purposes.

Thank you very much for your help.

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7 February, from Ryde Police Area Command



**Crypto Wallet ALERT**

**Criminals are targeting cryptocurrency wallet holders.**

Scammers are posing as cybersecurity claiming personal cryptocurrency wallets or devices have been compromised and urgent action is needed directing victims to malicious sites.

- ✗ Never share personal information.
- ✓ Verify the source.
- ✓ Use official websites.

**Report suspicious activity/scams to the platforms support and scamwatch.**

If you have suffered financial loss report in person at your local Police Station or call Police Assistance line on **131 444** or online at **ReportCyber**.

NSW Police Force NSW GOVERNMENT

The poster features a yellow warning triangle with an exclamation mark at the top right. A white string is tied to the bottom of the triangle and loops around a large, glowing Bitcoin symbol in the center. The background is dark blue with a subtle pattern.

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7 February, from Legal Aid NSW

Wondering if your e-bike is allowed on public transport?

Well, it depends on the type of transport you take to work or school.

E-bikes are allowed onboard NSW trains, light rail and ferries, as long as the motor is under 500 W, cuts out at 25 km/h, and they meet NSW legal standards.

If you ride the bus, leave your bike at home.

Learn more [here](#).

### Can you take an e-bike on public transport?



#### Trains

E-bikes are allowed onboard and on platforms, as long as the motor is under 500W, cuts out at 25 km/h, and they meet NSW legal standards.



#### Buses

Bikes (including e-bikes) are not allowed on any buses because there's not enough space.



#### Light rail, ferries and regional NSW TrainLink

You can bring compliant e-bikes on light rail, ferries, and regional NSW TrainLink services, just ensure there's space and you're not blocking anything.



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## 7 February, from NSW Fair Trading

Thinking of buying, renting, or selling property in NSW?

Before you sign on the dotted line, check the track record of your property agent with our new Name and Shame Register.

This easy-to-search tool brings together regulatory actions against property industry licence holders – including fines, licence suspensions, cancellations, and public warnings – so you can make informed decisions and choose an agent you can trust.

- ✓ Clear, up-to-date information
- ✓ Holds agents accountable for serious breaches
- ✓ Protects consumers from high-risk traders

NSW Fair Trading intends to expand the Name and Shame Register to include other trader types in future.

Explore the register now: [nsw.gov.au/name-and-shame-register](https://nsw.gov.au/name-and-shame-register)

# Name and Shame Register: Promoting transparency for Renters, Buyers, and Strata Residents



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**7 February, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby:**

**Focus on a postcode - 2159 ARCADIA, FIDDLETOWN, GALSTON**

The following crime stats were taken from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) website [here](#). The figures are for the period October 2024 to September 2025. A category with a zero figure isn't included in the list, eg murder, non-DV assault.

Domestic Assault 8

Non-Domestic Assault 7

Sexual Assault 8

Sexual touching, sex act & other sex offences 3

Break & Enter dwelling 9

B&E non-dwelling 2

Motor vehicle theft 3

Steal from motor vehicle 2

Steal from retail store 2

Steal from dwelling 5

Fraud 13

Other theft 3

Malicious damage to property 10

Breach ADVO 3

Breach bail conditions 1

Disorderly conduct 1

Trespass 3

Use/posess other drugs 1

Arson 8

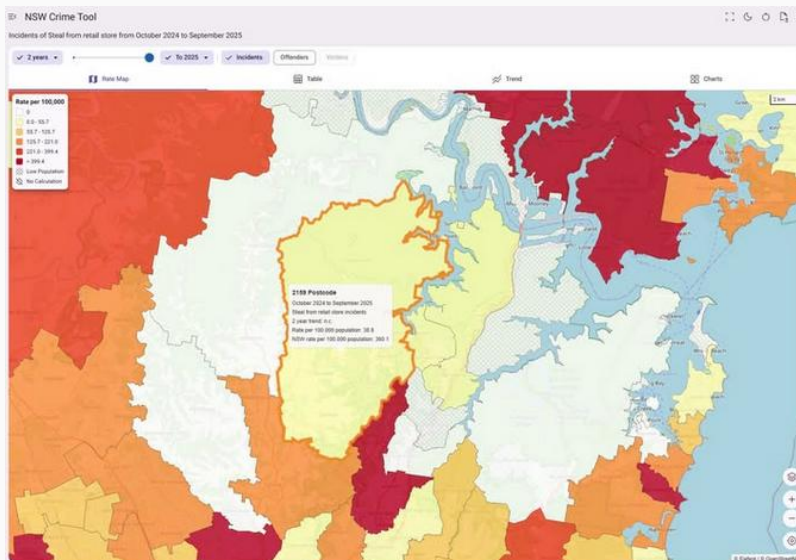
Intimidation, stalking & harassment 4

Other offences against the person 1

Pornography offences 2

Prohibited & regulated weapons offences 2

[Neighbourhood Watch - Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia, Dural - Rural Areas](#)



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**7 February, from Legal Aid NSW**



School isn't optional, it's the law 📖

Here's what NSW parents need to know about school attendance and what happens if your kid skips.



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## 7 February, from Hannah's Blue Butterflies Road Safety Awareness Inc: SIGNALLING YOUR INTENTIONS USING YOUR INDICATORS!🚗



It is regulation you must use your indicators to signal intentions to turn, change lanes, merge, pull out from a kerb, or leave a roundabout.

Signal early. Ideally 100 meters before turning and always cancel the signal afterward.

A 5-second signal is mandatory when pulling out from a stationary position.

#### Key Rules for Proper Indicating in Australia-

➡ General Turns and Lanes: Indicate for long enough to give sufficient warning before turning, merging, or changing lanes.

➡ Roundabouts:

Turning Left: Indicate left on approach and keep it on until you exit.

➡ Turning Right: Indicate right on approach and indicate left when exiting.

➡ Straight Ahead: Do not indicate on approach. Indicate left, if practicable, when exiting.

➡ Stationary/Parking: Indicate for at least 5 seconds before pulling out from a parked position.

➡ Roundabout Exiting: You must signal left when leaving a roundabout, if it is practical to do so.

➡ Hand Signals: If indicators are not working, you must use hand signals to indicate turning or stopping.

#### Common Mistakes to Avoid.

➡ Late Signalling: Indicating at the last moment prevents others from reacting safely.

➡ Not Cancelling: Failing to turn off your indicator misleads other drivers.

➡ Ignoring Roundabout Rules: Not indicating when exiting a roundabout is a common error and is legally required.

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### 6 February, from Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation

⚠ Trigger warning: content may be distressing to some people.


Is this kitchen familiar? Investigators know this image show a Telstra modem and a Peacock airpot flask on the counter.

🔍 You can see the image in more detail on the webpage at [accce.gov.au/trace](https://accce.gov.au/trace). If you recognise this kitchen, or may know its location, please use the report form to provide this information to our Victim Identification investigators.

This image is part of our [#TraceAnObjectAUS](#) series. The [#TraceAnObject](#) initiative asks you to help identify objects and locations from the background of child sexual abuse images and videos to help [#StopChildAbuse](#).

Out of respect for victims, we urge you not to share any personal information (recognisable pictures, names, etc.) on social media.

**Do you recognise this kitchen  
with the Telstra modem?**



To provide information, visit:  
**[accce.gov.au/trace](https://accce.gov.au/trace)**

 STOPCHILDABUSE  
TRACE an OBJECT

 AFP

 Australian  
Centre to Counter  
Child Exploitation

6 February, from Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Rural Fire Service



The NSW RFS and Ku-ring-gai Council invite you to a local community meeting to discuss upcoming hazard-reduction burning in your area. These works are an important part of keeping our community safer from bush fires, reducing fuel loads, and protecting lives, homes, and the local environment.

Representatives from both agencies will be available to explain the proposed hazard reduction, answer questions, and discuss how the works help improve community safety and resilience.

- Why is hazard reduction needed in this area
- How the works reduce bush fire risk
- What residents can expect before, during, and after the works
- Smoke impacts and mitigation
- How can you prepare your home ahead of the bush fire season
- Q&A with NSW RFS and Council teams



Date: Thursday 12/2/2026  
Time: 7pm



Guiders Park  
19 Glengarry Ave, North Turramurra NSW 2074

We hope to see you there



**RFS**



## COMMUNITY MEETING – GLENGARRY AVENUE HAZARD REDUCTION

The NSW RFS and Ku-ring-gai Council invite you to a local community meeting to discuss upcoming hazard-reduction burning in your area.

These important works help keep our community safer from bushfires by reducing fuel loads and protecting lives, homes, and the local environment.

Representatives from both agencies will be available to explain the proposed hazard reduction, answer questions, and talk through how the works support long-term community safety and resilience.



### What We'll Cover

- Why is hazard reduction needed in this area
- How the works reduce bush fire risk

- What residents can expect before, during, and after the works
- Smoke impacts and mitigation
- How to prepare your home ahead of the bush fire season

THURSDAY 12/2/2026 AT 7PM

Guiders Park

19 Glengarry Ave, North Turramurra NSW 2074

[Ku-ring-gai Council](#) [NSW RFS Ku-ring-gai Brigade](#) [Hornsby Rural Fire Brigade](#) [Westleigh Rural Fire Brigade](#)

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## 6 February, from Ryde Police Area Command

Romance Scams: A scammer pretends to form a romantic relationship to gain trust and steal money, obtain images or personal information.

Protect yourself: Never share your personal information with someone you do not know.

## SCAM ALERT

# ROMANCE SCAMS

### HOW TO SPOT A ROMANCE SCAM

- The relationship moves fast and they soon have strong feelings. !
- May try to move the chat to another platform. !
- There is a need for the relationship to be kept secret. !
- Excuses are made to avoid meeting, they may say they are overseas. !
- An emergency or a sad story which requires urgent financial help. !
- They offer easy money making opportunities. !

### PROTECT YOURSELF

- Don't accept friend requests from people you don't know.
- Never send money to someone you have never met.
- Don't keep online relationships a secret.
- Don't share personal information or intimate images with someone you don't know.

If you believe you have become the victim of a romance scam contact your local Police or report at <https://www.cyber.gov.au/report-and-recover> or Police Assistance Line 131 444.

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**6 February, from the latest Cyber Sushi eNewsletter: SIM Swap Scams: When Your Phone Isn't Really Yours**



## **The Cyber Sushi**

**(serving up the cold facts,  
with some phish bytes)**

Scammers are increasingly targeting mobile phone users with SIM swap attacks, which can give criminals access to your calls, messages, and even bank accounts.

### **How it happens**

In early October 2025, a couple reported to IDCARE that they lost around \$25,000 after their phone numbers were secretly transferred to a scammer's SIM. Late on a Saturday night, their phones suddenly showed 'Emergency Calls Only', but by then the scammer already had control of calls and verification codes.

Scammers often gather personal details from data breaches or online sources, then call your phone provider pretending to be you. If successful, the scammer can transfer your number to a SIM they control. Unfortunately, this does happen — with enough personal information and a convincing story, scammers can sometimes fool telco staff into believing they are the legitimate account holder.



The following day, the couple realised something was seriously wrong when a routine outing; paying for a haircut, ended with their card being declined. Checking their bank account revealed the full scale of the loss, with only \$136 remaining.

#### Red flags to watch for

Your phone suddenly shows 'Emergency Calls Only'. This is the clearest warning that your SIM may have been hijacked.

NOTE: Phones can show this for other reasons — poor network coverage, temporary outages, airplane mode, or a mis-seated SIM. But if it happens suddenly and unexpectedly, especially while missing verification messages, treat it as urgent.

#### Our tips

If your phone suddenly shows 'Emergency Calls Only' or you notice missing alerts, treat it as urgent. Call your bank immediately, freeze accounts, and report suspicious activity.

Set up an authenticator app on your device and link it to your bank or other accounts instead of relying solely on SMS codes. Authenticator apps generate codes on your device, which you enter when logging in or performing transactions. Even if someone hijacks your phone number, they cannot intercept these codes. Linking the app to your online banking can replace SMS verification entirely, making your accounts much more secure against SIM swap attacks.

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#### 6 February, from ACCC Product Safety

If you own a Sensory game controller toy from Kmart and Target, stop use immediately: they have been recalled. There is a risk of serious injury or death if small parts separate from the toy and are placed in the mouth. Incidents have occurred. Click [here](#).



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**5 February, Shared with permission from the St Ives Community Page and Surrounds group:**

**SCAM ALERT**

Hi all, i received a scam letter in the mail today claiming to be from “recoveries corp” trying to get a payment from an NRMA insurance claim acting on behalf of NRMA. The car is in my Mother's name, so there would be no reason to contact me for it. The message was sent from Melbourne law courts' P.O. box....

Second to that, they misspelt my last name, along with a false address, nor was there any inclination as to what the claim was about. If I wasn't careful, I was looking at \$2500+ to pay.

There were many other things written that alluded to a scam (weird ways to pay an insurance claim e.g. paying over phone with credit card details on a number different to the real company's number, signature with no name attached, writing saying they were “unable to contact me”).

Please stay vigilant and make sure that if you know anyone who might be susceptible to these scams, to let them know about it. Thanks everyone.

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**5 February, from CareFlight**

This morning, shortly before 10am, the Mounties Care CareFlight Helicopter was tasked by [#NSWAmbulance](#) to [#Killara](#), after a woman in her 30s became trapped in her vehicle by a fallen tree.

CareFlight's specialist doctor and NSW Ambulance paramedics treated the patient on scene for injuries to her head, neck and back before she was transported via road to Royal North Shore Hospital in a stable condition.



NHW K&H received this note:

Could you please do a shoutout to the two ladies driving directly in front & the gentleman driving directly behind the incident,

for all selflessly assisting at what can only be described as a confronting scene?

They were visibly shaken, but showed only 100% care for the injured driver.

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#### **5 February, from NSW Maritime**

⚠️ Don't go overboard with the drink. When you're on the water, alcohol affects your judgement, coordination, vision and balance, greatly increasing the risk of having an incident 😬

We work together with [Marine Area Command - NSW Police Force](#) to conduct random breath tests, ensuring everyone is operating safely.

Always stay under the 0.05 alcohol limit.



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#### **5 February, from Australian Communications and Media Authority**

As part of our crackdown on mobile number fraud, Lycamobile has been penalised \$376,200 for breaching rules designed to protect Australians from scams.

Our investigation found Lycamobile failed to properly verify customer identities when transferring mobile services.

These failures were exploited by scammers on 131 occasions in 2024, leading to consumer losses of at least \$175,000.

In addition to the financial penalty, Lycamobile is also required to strengthen its security systems under independent oversight and report regularly to the ACMA.

All telcos are legally required to verify the identity of customers before transferring mobile numbers. These rules exist to protect you, and we will act when providers don't follow them.



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**5 February, Shared with permission from the Buy Nothing Gordon and Pymble group:**

You're invited to our local Clean Up Australia event on Sunday 1 March. Meet us at Killara's Selkirk Park (on Marian Street, just next to the station) at 9:00am to join in the

clean up. Click [here](#).



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### 5 February, from The NRMA

Keep your kids safe on their way to school with these practical tips for preparing for



the new school year. Click [here](#).



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#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Tuesday 10 February:** Safer Internet Day. [Info](#).

**Tuesday 10 February:** FREE Be Connected webinar - Can you spot a scam? 3-4pm. [Info & Bookings](#).

**Tuesday 10 February:** FREE 互联网入门 - Introduction to Internet (Mandarin).

10:15am-12:15pm @ Hornsby Library. [Info & booking](#).

**Wednesday 11 February:** FREE Tech Savvy Seniors - Introduction to Internet. 10:15am-12:15pm @ Hornsby Library. [Info & booking](#).

**Tuesday 17 February:** FREE Be Connected webinar - Safer online shopping and banking. 10-11am. [Info & bookings](#).

**Tuesday 17 February:** FREE 智能手机简介 – Introduction to Smartphones (Mandarin) 10:15-12:15 @ Hornsby Library. [Info & booking](#).

**Wednesday 11 March:** FREE Child car seat safety check day 9am-2:30pm @ Wade Lane

car park. Bookings open 09 Feb. [Info & booking](#).

**Sunday 01 March:** Clean Up Australia Day [Info](#).

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### 5 February, from NSW Fair Trading

🚗 A 10-year-old car with barely any kms?

If it sounds too good to be true... it probably is.

Some sellers wind back odometers to make a vehicle look newer or more valuable than it really is. Don't get caught out.

🔍 Protect yourself:

- Research the vehicle and compare listings online
- Check the registration to view its recorded odometer history

👉 Check a vehicle registration [here](#).



Buying a used car? Know  
your rights before you buy.

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## 5 February, from Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

Using public computers at libraries, hotels, or internet cafés can put your financial information at risk.

Avoid accessing online banking or making purchases on shared devices whenever possible.

If you must use one, follow these tips:

- ✗ Never save passwords
- ✓ Always log out completely
- ✓ Close the browser before leaving

A moment of caution can prevent serious financial loss. 🗑️💻



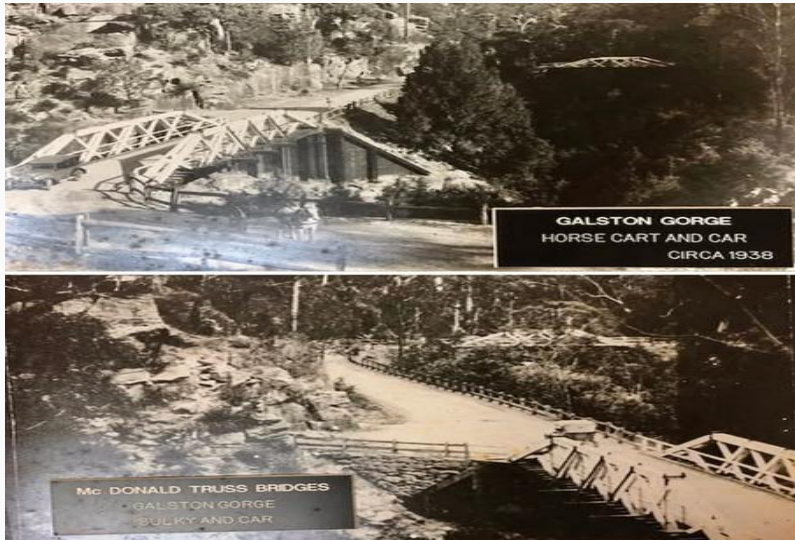
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## 5 February, from Galston, Glenorie, & Hills Rural Community

Galston Road in NSW will be fully closed for essential maintenance from 11th January to 14th February 2026. The work includes bridge strengthening, slope stabilisation, and general maintenance. Expect significant detours and increased travel time.

For updates, contact 1800 735 563.

Click the link in the comment to learn more.



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4 February, from Northern Beaches Police Area Command

### **NANGS - cooking our kids' brains**



Young people think nangs are harmless  
They're not  
Each attempt at a quick rush involves breathing  
Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) deep into their lungs

Frequent inhaling of Nitrous oxide can lead to:  
memory loss; permanent damage to brains and spinal cords; incontinence;  
risk of kidney and liver damage; psychological disturbances as well as  
miscarriage, birth defects, kidney and liver disorders.

Please have a conversation with your children about nangs:  
Are the short term effects worth **PERMANENT DAMAGE** to their bodies and minds

Police and community working together



Northern Beaches  
Police Area Command

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4 February, from Nathan Tilbury, Independent for Hornsby: **ACTION ON CURRENT GRAFFITI CRISES**

Sadly, as can sometimes be the case during the school holiday period, there is currently an unpleasant spate of graffiti damage occurring across the Hornsby Shire. Particular problem areas that residents have reported to me include Mt Colah,

Berowra and Beecroft/Cheltenham where fences, buildings, vehicles and signage have been targeted.

The best way to deal with graffiti is to remove it as soon as possible, and the removal is the responsibility of the property's owner.

Council has always had a policy of aiming to remove graffiti damage on council assets within 48 hours of it being reported. Graffiti vandalism on council property can be reported via council's website (where images & short videos can be uploaded) or by calling council's graffiti hotline 1800 199 282.

When using Council's website to report graffiti damage there are also direct links to report to other organizations if their assets have been targeted, such as Ausgrid, Australia Post, Service NSW, State Transit and Sydney Water.

You can also report graffiti and other vandalism via the NSW Police Force's Community Portal, where you will receive an email within 48 hours with a NSW Police event number.

My personal preferred option is to report graffiti using the [www.vandaltrak.com](http://www.vandaltrak.com) website. This is an easy-to-use single reporting source that works directly with local councils, businesses, the police and other organizations to combat graffiti vandalism.

When reporting graffiti via VandalTrack photos of the incidents can be uploaded. This is important as these images are collated and stored, ready for when a perpetrator is apprehended and their current and historic "tag" damage can be attributed to them, even if it has long since been removed.

To encourage and support residents to quickly remove graffiti from their own property, Hornsby Council is working towards making available basic graffiti removal kits. The contents of these proposed kits are currently being finalized, and Hornsby Council hopes to launch the initiative shortly.

Authorities are aware of the current graffiti situation and are allocating resources accordingly, with a focus on catching the tagger(s). From previous experience we know the best way to stop a graffiti problem is hold the offender(s) accountable. This will often deter others, including potential offenders, and, often, many of them "grow out" of this pathetic crime.

Finally, I discourage people from putting up images graffiti on Social Media. Sadly, the offenders get a kick out of seeing their handiwork "published". All images that I have used here have been modified to ensure the vandal does not enjoy seeing their work posted.





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### **The Federal Government's Office of the eSafety Commissioner has a 'Be Connected' program.**

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

#### **Artificial Intelligence Explained**

Artificial intelligence (AI) help machines think like humans and mimic our actions. So where can we find AI in action in our daily lives? What are the benefits and risks of the technology? And, will AI enable machines that are conscious and self-aware, like a human being? Master of Information Technology, Steve Nouri, joins host Valens Quinn to explore these and other fascinating possibilities.

#### **Discover more:**

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- Listen to [more podcast episodes](#)
- [Join us on Facebook](#)
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- [Valens Quinn on LinkedIn](#)
- [Steve Nouri on LinkedIn](#)
- [Steve Nouri on Twitter](#)

All of the FREE Be Connected online learning courses are [here](#).

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

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**I spotted the council inspecting potholes the other day.  
Apparently they're not bad enough to do anything with them yet. 🤔**



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#### **IMPORTANT CONTACTS & LINKS**

**Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): 000**

**TTY: 106**

**NSW Police - Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command (PAC): 9476 9799**

Hornsby Police Station, 292 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby 2077

**Local Police Facebook page:** [@Kuring Gai PAC](#)

Non-emergency two-way communication

**Police Assistance Line (PAL): 131 444**

For non-urgent minor crime. 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](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](#)

[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)