



Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

eNewsletter #749 - 17 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](#).

17 February, from NSW Police: Can you help us find Matthew?

Matthew, aged 33, was last seen in Hornsby on Sunday, 15 February 2026. Matthew is known to frequent Ettalong Beach.

Anyone who sees Matthew is urged to contact **Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command 9476 9799 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.

MORE

INFORMATION [➡ https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=123536](https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=123536)



14 February from Ku-ring-gai command: Can you help us find Tyson?

Tyson, aged 27, was last seen in Mildred Ave, Hornsby, at about 10pm on Sunday 8 February 2026. Family and police hold concerns for his welfare as he lives with a medical condition, and his disappearance is out of character. He was last seen wearing brown shorts, a white t-shirt, and slide shoes. Tyson is known to frequent the Hornsby area.

More information: <https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=123499>

Police are urging anyone with information about Tyson's whereabouts, or who may have seen him in recent days, to contact **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.



14 February, from NSW Police: Police are appealing for public assistance as investigations into a possible mistaken kidnapping of a man from North Ryde are underway.

On Friday 13 February 2026, officers attached to State Crime Command's Robbery & Serious Crime Squad commenced an investigation following reports of an 85-year-old man kidnapped from a home in North Ryde, who they believe is not the intended target. As a part of the investigation, police have released an image of the man and appealing for public assistance as inquiries into his whereabouts continue.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.**

READ MORE [➡ https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=123493](https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=123493)



16 February, from NHW K&H: Protect Your Car – Lock Your Plates!

Have you heard about the one-way locking screws available from Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby? These screws replace your standard car registration (rego) plate screws and make it much harder for thieves to steal your plates — a surprisingly common crime that can lead to toll evasion, fuel theft and even more serious offences.

📌 What you get:

- Two locking screws for your front plate
- Two locking screws for your rear plate
- Easy to install with a regular screwdriver
- Works as a simple deterrent to plate thieves

👍 How to request yours:

Contact us with your car's make & model and let us know whether you'd like to pick them up from Gordon or Hornsby Police Station. Then check your junk mail for our reply.

💛 We welcome a gold coin “pay-it-forward” contribution to help keep this

community safety resource going.

Learn more & request your screws here: au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/screws/

Stay secure, look out for one another — that's what community is all about! 🧡



16 February from NHW K&H: Are you already on Facebook and live in KU-RING-GAI or HORNSBY areas?

Neighbourhood Watch is looking for a small number of local volunteers to help manage and update our Neighbourhood Watch Facebook suburb pages. This is a light-touch role — around 10 minutes a day — ideal for someone who checks Facebook regularly and wants to contribute to community safety and awareness.

What you'll do:

- Share approved Neighbourhood Watch posts
- Occasionally post local safety reminders or updates
- Help keep the page active and visible for your suburb

What this role is not:

- Not law enforcement
- Not responding to incidents
- Not political or opinion-based

📄 Volunteers will be asked to review and sign a Position Description.

🔍 References may be requested.

☕ Happy to have a quick coffee and chat if you'd like to know more.

👉 Interested?

Please respond via our Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby website

Contact Us page and tell us which suburb you're in: [au-](https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/contact/)

[nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/contact/](https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/contact/).

16 February, from Mt Colah NHW: Received from a resident back on 11 January.

Sorry for the delay, but still worth posting now:

Good morning, I'm currently in hospital as I was attacked this morning outside my house on Belmont Pde. There was a thief breaking into my brother's car and I tackled him on our driveway, where he stabbed me twice in my back. Police have set up a crime scene, but from the angle of community safety I figured to alert you to this, given it has escalated from petty theft. Take care and stay safe.

16 February, from ABC.NET.AU: Thai raid finds Cambodian scam centre had personal details of 300 Australians

The National Anti-Scam Centre has warned hundreds of Australians that their personal details were discovered in a Cambodian scam compound raided by Thai authorities.

It follows the discovery of a fake AFP office at the O'Smach scam centre, which was seized by the Thai military.

Australians reported nearly \$335 million in scam losses in 2025, including \$172 million from investment scams.

Read article [here](#).

16 February, from Officer Gomez: "Gomez, why are you hating on marijuana?"

Fair question. And let's talk about it like adults who actually want the best for kids, not like it's a comment section cage match. My perspective has changed over the years, mostly because I spend a whole lot of time dealing with youth in the real world, not the highlight reel version of it.

Here's the part nobody likes to talk about:

Marijuana costs money. Legal, illegal, trendy, normalized, whatever label we slap on it... it still costs money. And teenagers don't exactly have stock portfolios and retirement accounts funding their habits.

So what happens?

For many juveniles, the pattern I see isn't philosophical debates about legalization. It's late nights, low motivation, slipping grades, skipped school, and zero interest in work. When something becomes a regular expense without a regular income, the math gets ugly fast. And yes, from a boots-on-the-ground perspective, a large portion of the juveniles I deal with during late-night car

break-ins aren't saying, "I needed money for textbooks." They are usually breaking into cars or shoplifting to feed their marijuana habit. They're looking for quick cash for wants, not long-term goals.

Now before the internet grabs the pitchforks, let's be real:

Are there successful adults who use marijuana? Sure. There are also people who win the lottery. But as a parenting strategy, I'm not recommending either marijuana or future lottery winnings as a life plan for your kid.

Here's the simplest "school hallway reality check" I use with parents:

When kids start using marijuana regularly, do their grades usually go up... or down? When motivation drops, attendance drops, effort drops, and opportunities quietly pack their bags and leave. That's the part that hurts kids the most. Not the debate. Not the politics. Not the memes. The lost drive. The lost time. The lost chances. I'm not in the business of judging adults. I am in the business of watching patterns in youth.

And the pattern is pretty consistent:

- Less motivation
- More excuses
- Fewer goals
- Lower performance

If I'm coaching a kid for the best possible shot at success, happiness, and independence, I'm telling them to delay anything that messes with their focus, discipline, and future options. Especially during the years that build their foundation.

Because here's the truth parents don't hear enough:

Your child doesn't need to be perfect. They just need to stay motivated longer than their distractions. And anything that regularly drains their time, money, sleep, and ambition is not helping them win in school, work, or life. According to my unofficial data, marijuana is the number two cause of "failure to launch" in young adults.

Happy Parenting, Officer Gomez

15 February from Food Waste - Better Business Partnership: 🚨 Important update! 🚨

Are you in the food business? Then this is something you need to be up to speed on.

From July 2026, some businesses will be required to separate food waste from general waste, across a range of sectors and business sizes. This includes

small cafés, canteens and childcare centres, through to schools and aged care facilities. Any business handling bulk food is likely to be impacted. We know this will mean changes for your kitchen team, including new processes, training, and adjustments to your setup. The good news? The BBP team is here to support you every step of the way. BBP has a dedicated Food Waste page and is bringing together all the resources you need to get your business ready. Start your journey on our Food Waste page and be sure to register for a complimentary food waste audit. Find links in bio or 'Food Waste' highlight button above.

<https://bbp.org.au/sustainability-resources/food-waste/> Proudly Funded by @nsw_epa



14 February, from NHW K&H: Yesterday (Friday) we received this note from a resident:

Just had Police knock on my door regarding a car that was torched at the end of Canoon Road. South Turrumurra this morning. They're looking for anyone with cctv or dashcam footage.

14 February, from NHW K&H: Example of a product - LidStop

Cockatoos or wind lifting your bin lid? LidStop keeps it shut — simple, set-and-forget. Works on bin day and helps stop street litter fast. More information here → LidStop.au

NOTE: Neighbourhood Watch cannot endorse any product or service. We can

only bring it to your attention. You must do your own research.



14 February, from ABC News: Australians looking to learn more about their heritage by sending DNA samples to commercial ancestry websites could be helping police solve long-dormant cold cases.

Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) allows police to generate investigative leads by comparing crime-scene DNA with genetic information voluntarily uploaded to ancestry websites. The ABC wants to hear with you. Have you taken an ancestry test? What did you discover?

Read more: <https://ab.co/4qBZc3l> "DNA genealogy is changing the way NSW Police investigate cold cases"

14 February, from NSW Food Authority: *UPDATED 14 February 2026 to include details of the batch numbers.

#FoodRecall: Nestle Australia is conducting a recall of MILO Dipped Snack Bars 270g, 960g and 160g boxes, and MILO Original Snack Bars 210g box due to the presence of foreign matter (black rubber).

Sold in: ALDI, Coles, Woolworths and independent retailers including IGA in NSW, QLD, VIC, TAS, SA, WA and online.

Date markings:

- MILO Dipped Snack Bars 270g box, 960g box and 160g box - BEST BEFORE END AUG 2026, Batches 5316TD15, 5317TD15, 5318TD15, 5321TD15, 5322TD15.

- MILO Snack Bars Original 210g box - BEST BEFORE END AUG 2026, Batches 5323TD15, 5324TD15.

For full details read [here](#).



The banner features a yellow warning triangle icon with an exclamation mark on the left. To its right, the words "FOOD RECALL" are written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the triangle, the words "FOREIGN MATTER" are written in white capital letters inside a white rounded rectangle. In the center, three product packages are displayed: a 10-pack of "Nestlé MILO Dipped Snack Bars with White Choc" (270g), a 6-pack of "Nestlé MILO Dipped Snack Bars with White Choc" (180g), and a 10-pack of "Nestlé MILO Snack Bars Original" (270g). Each package has a "SOURCE OF FIBRE" label at the top. At the bottom left of the banner, the text "Food Authority" is written in white. At the bottom right, the NSW Government logo is displayed.

14 February from NHW K&H: We were contacted by a resident early this morning with the following information:

On the 11th of February at 11am a boy got carried into the ambulance at Berowra station for overdosing on MDMA. Shortly after they arrived at Hornsby hospital that same boy ran out of the hospital all the way to Hornsby station, where he hid along the train tracks all night, where he managed to injure himself very badly, but still kept going. He ended up at Woy Woy station at 6:30am where cops were waiting for him and brought him to Gosford Hospital.

13 February from Ku-ring-gai Council: Stay scam-aware this Valentine's Day season 🚨❤️

ClickFit is an initiative developed by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) through the Joint Policing Cybercrime Coordination Centre (JPC3) to help prevent individuals from falling victim to scam tactics used in online dating. Scammers fast-track relationships by moving conversations away from dating apps and then love bombing you to quickly gain your trust!

Read more 👉 <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-centre/feature/are-you-clickfit>

Love bombing, no video calls,
wants to move your chat outside
the dating app...

ROMANCE SCAMMERS AHEAD, U-TURN IMMEDIATELY!

 afp.gov.au/clickfit



13 February from NSW Health: Did you know that gonorrhoea diagnoses in Australia have doubled in the past 10 years?

With National Condom Day falling on Valentine's Day tomorrow, it's a great time to brush up on the basics of safe sex!

Watch this video [here](#) to learn how to use a condom confidently and correctly [Facebook login required].

Condoms are the only form of contraception that protect against both sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and unplanned pregnancy. Here's why you should use condoms: - they help prevent STIs, including HIV - they work for all kinds of sex: oral, vaginal and anal - they're easy to buy, carry and use - they can be used to avoid unplanned pregnancy - they come in heaps of types, different sizes, textures, colours and flavours, so there's something for everyone.

Have fun this National Condom Day and Valentine's Day, make sex safer and enjoyable for everyone. Send this post to a friend 

Learn more here: playsafe.health.nsw.gov.au/condoms

12 February, from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA): New rules coming into effect in July 2026 will require commercial radio broadcasters to let listeners know when AI-generated voices are used on air.

The updated code also sets out times when broadcasters must consider whether their content is suitable for children. This includes 8–9am and 3–4pm on school days, when families are more likely to be listening together. These reforms align with community expectations, support informed listening and give families greater confidence at peak travel times.

11 February, from NHW Pymble & West Pymble: Shared with permission from the Upper North Shore Community group:

Hi, I was wondering if anyone possibly witnessed, or has dashcam footage, of a car accident on 10/2/2026 at 7:55am involving a red Mazda 300 sedan with licence plate YDY13A? The driver went up the back of my partner's KIA on the Pacific Highway going towards Chatswood, just across from the Pymble Hotel, then fled the scene. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

11 February, from NHW K&H: We have been warned that the number of frauds pertaining to cryptocurrency is increasing.

And the amounts lost are increasing too. Please don't make a bad decision - if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is! Especially if you are in a WhatsApp group. Take a minute to read "Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for Cryptocurrency". You can download it from our website [here](#). Why not look at other tips while you are there? There's something for everyone [here](#). Maybe share with your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours?



Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for

Cryptocurrency



The cryptocurrency world is unfortunately rife with scammers. Everyone who reaches out to you with an investment opportunity via phone, email or messaging applications will be a scammer who hopes to lure you into sending them your crypto with promises of large returns. There are also many automated scams that lure you into claiming free tokens, but actually drain your crypto wallet. Never give anyone your seed phrase (typically 12 or 24 words) as they will steal your crypto. Assume everyone is a scammer!

1. Use only reputable cryptocurrency exchanges with strong security measures. Make sure the company or website is not named on the government's moneysmart.gov.au/check-and-report-scams/investor-alert-list or on the [International Organization of Securities Commissions \(IOSCO\) investor alerts portal](https://www.iosco.org/investor-alerts-portal), which has warnings from overseas regulators.
2. Only use trusted sources for news and information regarding cryptocurrencies. Ensure the person trying to sell you a financial or investment product, or who is giving you financial advice, has an [Australian Financial Services \(AFS\) license](https://www.afsl.gov.au/).
3. Always enable 2 Factor Authentication on your accounts when dealing with a cryptocurrency exchange website. This adds an extra layer of security. Create strong, unique passwords for each of your accounts and change them regularly. Check your accounts regularly for any unauthorized activity. For long-term crypto currency holdings, consider using cold-storage solutions that are completely offline.
4. Beware of fake crypto wallets - Pay attention to the design, functionality, and usability of the wallet. Look for any red flags, such as unusual prompts or requests for sensitive information, lack of options to set up two-factor authentication (2FA), biometric authentication, and hardware wallet integration. Be alert to strange tokens appearing in your digital wallet that you did not trade yourself.
5. Beware of fake crypto exchanges – Look for signs like: unregistered with AUSTRAC (Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre) and lack of clear information about the company and team. Search the internet for the exchange name with the word 'scam', 'review' or 'warning'.
6. Tokens can easily be created with any name, including well-known currencies. Identify a fake token by comparing its contract address with the official one listed on the legitimate token's website or official communications. Use official token lists – avoid using links from unverified sources. Check creation date, transaction history, and the number of coins in circulation – a newly created token with minimal history is a red flag.
7. Store your cryptocurrencies in hardware wallets rather than online or on exchanges. Update your wallet software regularly and any other security software you use. Backup your wallet regularly and store backups in multiple secure locations. Beware of requests to send crypto directly to personal wallets instead of using the platform's official wallet.
8. Avoid public Wi-Fi for transactions; Use a private Wi-Fi network to connect to your crypto account or wallet. Scammers can intercept information sent over public Wi-Fi.
9. Encrypt sensitive files and data related to your cryptocurrency activities.

FOR EMERGENCIES (Including anyone on your property)	000
TO REPORT ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS (Crime Stoppers)	1800 333 000
POLICE TO ATTEND NON-URGENTLY WITHOUT LIGHTS & SIRENS (Police Assistance Line)	131 444
IF YOU'RE NOT SURE (Hornsby Police Station)	9476 9799
POLICE COMMUNITY PORTAL (Minor crime – no emergency/investigation)	portal.police.nsw.gov.au
TTY—To ask for Police, type PPP	106
SPEAK AND LISTEN	1 800 555 727

ENGLISH

10. Be wary of phishing scams and never click on suspicious links or provide personal information. Stay informed about the latest threats and best practices in cryptocurrency security.
11. Always stop and check before you act. The scammers will often pressure you to act quickly. Don't let them rush you into a bad decision. Double-check all transaction details before confirming in order to avoid mistakes.
12. Be cautious of too-good-to-be-true investment opportunities and do thorough research. Read websites carefully. Verify listed addresses or phone numbers. Look for broken links, spelling mistakes or bad grammar. Be wary of a promise of large instant rewards if you sign up now, or large returns over a short period of time. Avoid crypto service providers that withhold investment earnings for 'tax purposes'.
13. Beware of requests for payment in crypto. It is very unlikely that any legitimate financial services firm will ask you to pay exclusively in crypto. Be wary of any recruiter, online romantic partner, or online acquaintance who asks for a crypto payment.
14. Scammers sometimes get you to install custom crypto broking software to supposedly track your crypto holdings. If you do, it could infect your computer with viruses and other malicious code. The scammer may be able to search your computer for personal details, steal your ID, and access your finances.
15. Scammers use cryptocurrencies, like Bitcoin or Ethereum, because they are not easily recovered. Crypto can be sent overseas quickly with limited oversight. Be aware that crypto is technically complex, but in some ways it's like a form of digital cash. Once it has been spent or transferred, it's impossible to retrieve, which scammers like. (Also be aware that the value can go up or down quickly and there are no guaranteed returns.)
16. Avoid sharing details about your cryptocurrency holdings publicly or with untrusted parties.
17. If you think you have been interacting with a crypto scammer, and have paid them money, contact your bank and other important services and let them know. You can ask for the fraud department, which will guide you through steps to secure your finances and other information.
18. If you think you have been scammed, it's important to change the password or passcode you use to access the computer, your main email password, and the master password of your password manager, if you use one.
19. Report any scam on the Scamwatch web site at scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam. This will help the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) investigate this scam and others like it, and allow them to issue warnings to others. Crypto scams are new and any information you give will be very valuable in helping limit the activities of these scammers. You can also report any online scam as a Cybercrime to the police via the Australian government's ReportCyber website at cyber.gov.au/acsc/report.
20. Check the following websites for further information about scammer's tactics, etc: moneysmart.gov.au/financial-scams/investment-scams, scamwatch.gov.au/types-of-scams/investment-scams, beconnected.esafety.gov.au/topic-library/identifying-and-avoiding-scams/crypto-scams/what-is-a-crypto-scam, beconnected.esafety.gov.au/topic-library/identifying-and-avoiding-scams/crypto-scams/report-crypto-scams-and-update-your-details, austrac.gov.au/business/your-industry/digital-currency-cryptocurrency

This information was compiled by volunteers with Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby. Please contact your Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) at Hornsby Police Station for more information. Phone: 9476 9799. Tips and other resources are available to download free from the Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby website: au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/Tips/. See also the community's one-stop-shop of crime prevention information: WatchOut.org.au. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) or at our [website](#). Contact us at: NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com.

Jan 2025 V1 Crypto ENGLISH

11 February, from NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Focus on a postcode - 2077 WAITARA, HORNSBY, HORNSBY HEIGHTS, ASQUITH

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 114

Non-Domestic Assault 121

Assault police 16

Robbery without a weapon 10

Robbery with a firearm 1

Robbery with a weapon not a firearm 3

Sexual Assault 44

Sexual touching, sex act & other sex offences 17

Break & Enter dwelling 52
B&E non-dwelling 26
Receiving/handling stolen goods 33
Motor vehicle theft 25
Steal from motor vehicle 49
Steal from retail store 180
Steal from dwelling 51
Steal from person 8
Fraud 128
Other theft 78
Malicious damage to property 123
Escape custody 1
Breach ADVO 48
Breach APVO 7
Breach bail conditions 199
Fail to appear 20
Resist/hinder officer 18
Other offences against justice procedures 3
Trespass 33
Offensive conduct 8
Offensive language 3
Criminal intent 11
Use/possess cocaine 6
Use/possess narcotics 4
Use/possess cannabis 50
Use/possess ecstasy 4
Use/possess amphetamines 17
Use/possess other drugs 15
Deal/traffic cocaine 1
Deal/traffic narcotics 1
Deal/traffic cannabis 2
Deal/traffic amphetamines 0
Deal/traffic ecstasy 0
Deal/traffic other drugs 1
Cultivating cannabis 0
Manufacture drug 0
Other drug offences 17
Arson 2
Blackmail & extortion 8
Intimidation, stalking & harassment 131

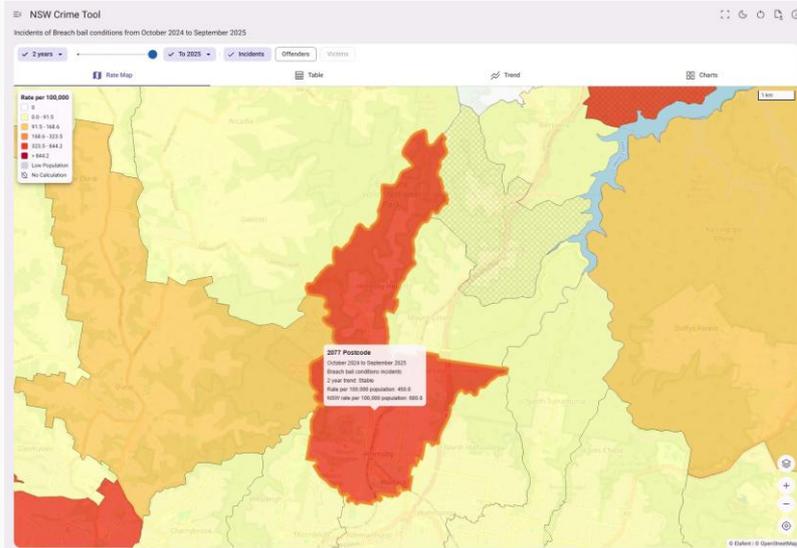
Liquor offences 11

Other offences against the person 6

Pornography offences 1

Prohibited & regulated weapons offences 42

[Neighbourhood Watch Hornsby Facebook page.](#)



11 February, from Neighbourhood Watch Hornsby: Shared with permission from the Hornsby and Surrounds Community Noticeboard group:

Looking for any witnesses to accident on corner George st and Burdett st, Hornsby, 17th January approx 3pm. Was between silver VW multivan and white Toyota Corolla. To jog anyone's memory it was the extremely wet day in Sydney. Looking specifically for two lovely teenage boys who witnessed but we didn't get their names and also the L plate driver passenger who was behind us (we were in the van). Please please contact me if you witnessed or can provide any info. Many thanks 🙏

11 February, Shared with permission from the Thornleigh and Surrounds Incidents group:

Kiss n tell time! Anybody have a neighbour who has an old beaten up Hyundai Getz that looks like it kissed this car outside Westfields Hornsby and failed to stop. Please tell them to woman-up! You hit a man who is uninsured and single dad doing it tough. Please forward me your claim number or write out a cheque for \$7700. Police will get your info through Westfield number plate recognition when U left the boom gates and crashed into this car head on. Do the right thing. We all make mistakes! Even me!



10 February from Hannah's Blue Butterflies Road Safety

Awareness: MONKEY SEE. MONKEY DO!

So what's wrong with this picture? "Look mummy I'm copying you".

This is precisely the issue. Our children and grandchildren are exceptionally intelligent, absorbing their surroundings from a very young age and imitating those around them. We often overlook the fact that every time we speed, drive through a red light, talk on the phone, or teach a child to enter a vehicle from the traffic side of the road, or display impatience and anger while driving, our children are watching.

Why wouldn't they mimic your actions? They look up to you and replicate your behaviour, and it's often when they do that we realise our influence may not be entirely positive. We urge you to be exemplary role models behind the wheel for the sake of your children and grandchildren. By setting a good example, we can

ensure the next generation is comprised of safe and competent drivers.



10 February from the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE): ⚠️ Trigger warning: content may be distressing to some people

Do you recognise this ankle bracelet?

🔍 If you have any information for our investigators, you can make a report via our website accce.gov.au/trace. 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. Share this post to your community. Out of respect for victims, we urge you not to share any personal information (recognisable pictures, names, etc.) on social media.

Have you seen this ankle bracelet before?



To provide information, visit:
accce.gov.au/trace



STOPCHILDABUSE
TRACE an OBJECT



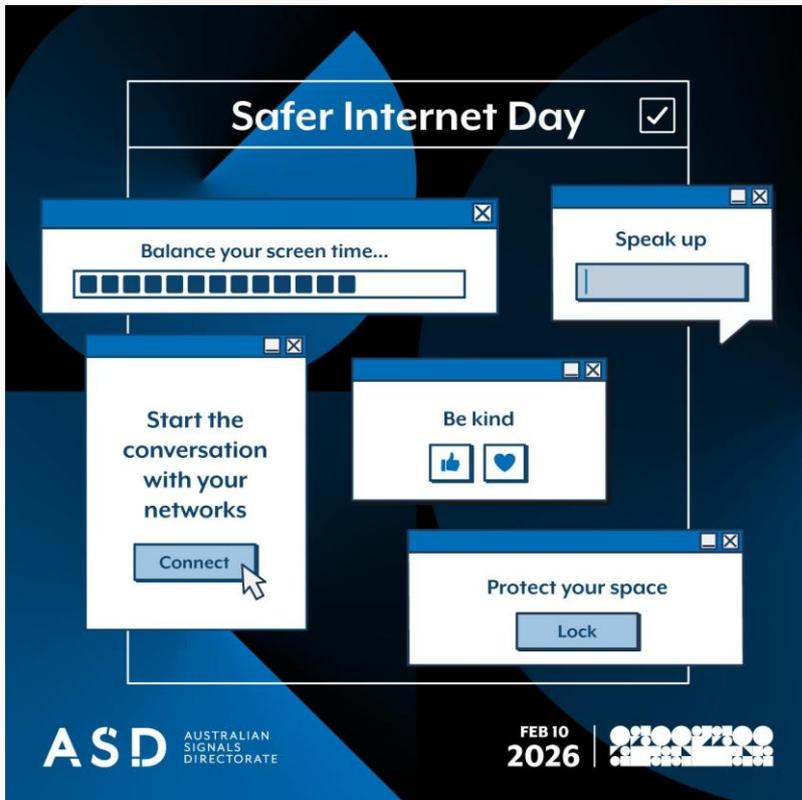
10 February, from Australian Signals Directorate: Safer Internet Day 2026 is here!

The internet connects and inspires us, and the eSafety Commissioner reminds us that safety is what keeps those experiences positive and impactful. This Safer Internet Day, we are sharing 5 simple tips that can help everyone stay safe online and contribute to a kinder, more respectful digital world:

- Be kind: Show empathy, respect and kindness in every online interaction.
 - Balance your screen time: Make space for offline connection, rest and reflection.
 - Speak up: Report online abuse and harmful content to eSafety.
 - Protect your space: Use privacy settings, strong passwords or parental controls.
 - Start the conversation: Talk about online safety with your networks.
-

Small steps. Smarter habits. A safer internet for everyone. What tip will you commit to today?

Learn more 🙌 [eSafety.gov.au/SID](https://www.esafety.gov.au/SID)



10 February, from NSW Department of Education: Ready to level up your online safety this #SaferInternetDay? 🖥️👤

The eSafety Commissioner provides information and resources to help families stay safe online, including a range of free webinars and online safety courses. Register today [here!](#)

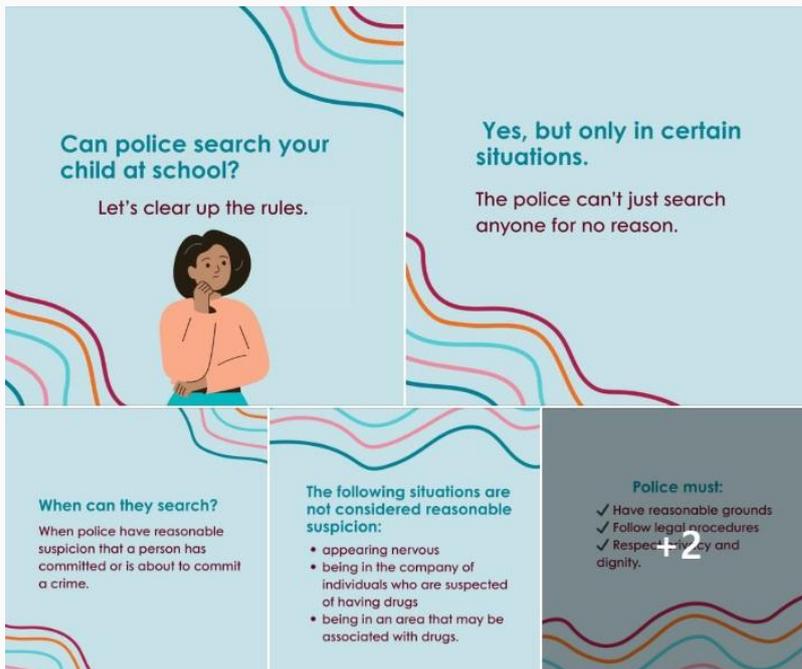
Tuesday 24 February: Webinar - Parent and Carer series: Social media age restrictions explained – a guide for parents and carers 12:30-1pm FREE. [Info & bookings.](#)

10 February, from Legal Aid NSW: Do you know when police can search a student at school in NSW?

Police can only search a student if they have reasonable grounds to suspect they possess a dangerous item, drugs, or stolen goods. There are strict rules and safeguards in place to protect students' rights. Whether you're a parent or professional supporting young people, knowing what rights a child has if

approached by the police is important.

Learn more [here](#).



10 February, from NHWA: Planning a trip this year?

Consider these tips to protect your finances while travelling:

- Let your bank know where and when you'll be travelling
- Use secure payment methods like travel cards
- Avoid public Wi-Fi for banking
- Never exchange money through unofficial sellers.
- Keep cards and cash separate so you're not caught out if something goes missing.

A little forward planning goes a long way to keeping your money safe.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 20 February: StrokeSafe Seminar 2-2pm @ Hornsby Library
FREE. [Info & bookings](#).

Monday 23 February: Anti-Discrimination NSW Information Session 11am-12noon Online via Teams. [Info & bookings](#).

Tuesday 24 February: eSafety Commissioner Webinar - Parent and Carer series: Social media age restrictions explained – a guide for parents and carers

12:30-1pm FREE. [Info & bookings.](#)

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

Wednesday 04 March: 컴퓨터 소개 – Introduction to Computers (TSS Korean)

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

Tuesday 10 March: Tech Savvy Seniors – Introduction to Internet - Mar

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

Wednesday 11 March: FREE Child car seat safety check day 9am-2:30pm @ Wade Lane car park. Bookings open 09 Feb. [Info & booking.](#)

Wednesday 11 March: 인터넷 소개 – Introduction to Internet (TSS Korean)

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

Thursday 12 March: CPR & Basic First Aid Workshop 10am-12:30pm

@ Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre. FREE. [Info & bookings.](#)

Tuesday 17 March: Tech Savvy Seniors – Introduction to Smartphones - Mar

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

Wednesday 18 March: Grandparents as carers (incl First Aid) 10am-1pm

FREE @ Council Chambers. [Info & bookings.](#)

Wednesday 18 March: 스마트폰 소개 – Introduction to Smartphones (TSS

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

Tuesday 24 March: Be Connected webinar - Protect yourself against scams

3pm FREE [Info & bookings.](#)

Wednesday 27 May: Learner driver workshop online 6:30-8pm FREE [Info & bookings.](#)

Thursday 11 June: Be Connected webinar - Managing your emails safely

10am FREE [Info & bookings.](#)

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.

Avoiding Common Scams

We have all heard of the scams and tricks that can happen online. In this course you will learn some tips to stay safer online. Avoiding tricks and scams can be as simple as following a few simple steps: be careful, go slowly, and always be on the look out for warning signs.

The following course is based on the latest information about scams from the ACCC's ScamWatch and Little Black Book of Scams.

Visit www.scamwatch.gov.au for more information.

1. [Avoiding common scams](#)
2. [Phishing scams](#)
3. [Romance scams](#)
4. [Investment scams](#)
5. [Remote access scams](#)
6. [Crypto scams](#)
7. [Text or SMS scams](#)
8. [Tips for shopping safely online](#)

Topic Activities:

- Impersonation scams
- The unexpected money scam
- Money for nothing scams

Print or save these short guides for a helpful reference tool. You can use them to refresh your knowledge or practise what you have learnt.

Our new printable guides are easier to read on a small screen and they use less toner to print at home. You can also still save them as a PDF. Find out more in our [quick step-by-step instructions](#). English available. More languages coming soon.

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.

Thanks to the Australian Federal Police: Got an ex who's up to some criminal activity and don't want them to be alone tomorrow?

We'd love to be their date! We'll give them some jewellery (shiny silver bracelets), have long conversations late into the night and hold them tight in our cells. To nominate them, call **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000** or jump onto their website at crimestoppers.com.au/ and share why they're eligible.



Thanks to Australian Red Cross Lifeblood: Your phone holds screenshots from 2020, a list of restaurants you'll definitely forget to book and passwords you swore you'd remember.

But does it have your donor card, blood type and next donation date? Download the Lifeblood app [here](#), save your donor card to your digital wallet and be ready to save lives - no screenshot required.



Thanks to UK Cop Humour.

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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