



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

eNewsletter #772 - 28 July 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](#).

22 July, from Auburn command: *Scambling* is a type of gambling scam where criminals use illegal online pokies and casino-style games to steal your money or personal information.

Be cautious, especially if they promise sign-up bonuses, free credits or easy wins. Always Stop. Check. Protect.



Online casino games are illegal in Australia and could be scams.

If you play, you aren't protected.

ScamWatch

Big returns, free credits or referral bonuses?
These could be bait for a gambling scam.

ScamWatch

Offered payment or credits to use your bank account? Stop.
You could be helping scammers move stolen money.

ScamWatch

21 July, from The Hills command: 👤 **Do you recognise these people? – Pennant Hills** 👤 **C 104009050**

Hills Police are seeking assistance to identify three persons of interest following an assault at Wollundry Park and the Pennant Hills Train Station precinct.

On 4 June 2026, three persons of interest were allegedly involved in an assault at the location. Police are keen to speak with anyone who may recognise any of the persons of interest or who may have information that could assist with this investigation. **Reference: C 104009050**

If you have any information, please contact **Crime Stoppers NSW on 1800 333 000**.

Information is treated in strict confidence. 🗑️ Thank you for your assistance. 🙏



21 July, from NSW Police: Can you help us find Ben?

Ben, aged 24, was last seen in Terrigal on Monday, 20 July 2026. Police are keen to speak with anyone with information about Ben's whereabouts, especially between 4am and 1.30pm on Monday 20 July 2026 in the Terrigal-Wamberal area, and especially in the vicinity of Crackneck Point lookout. He was last seen wearing blue jeans, light grey jumper, navy blue jacket with hood and navy blue adidas shoes with pink stripes. Anyone who sees him is urged to contact **Brisbane Water Police District (02 4323 5599)** or **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.

MORE INFORMATION  police.nsw.gov.au/news/article?id=126516



MISSING PERSON

BEN

The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages.

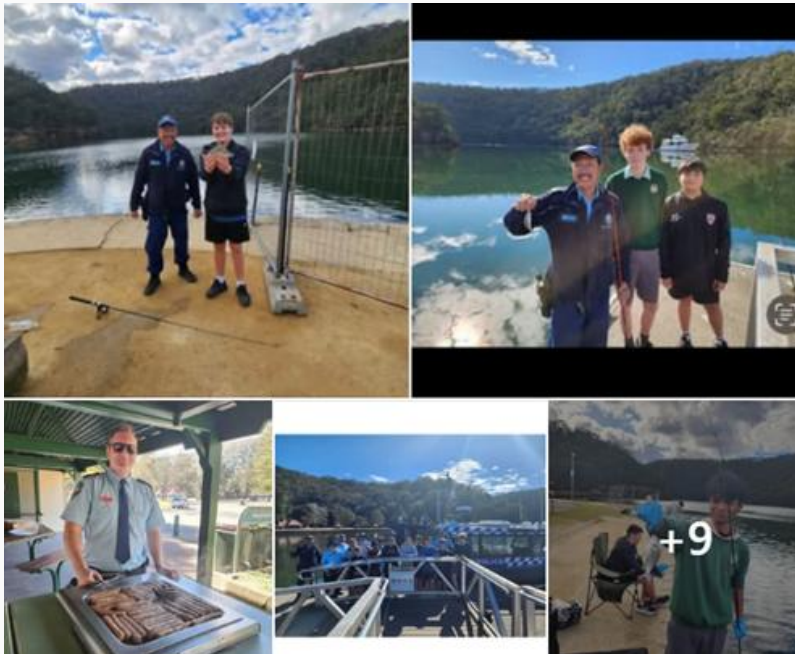
od Watch
e next to



27 July, from Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command with NSW Police Force Youth Command and Marine Area Command - NSW Police Force

Today officers from Ku-ring-gai PAC were joined by members of the [Marine Area Command - NSW Police Force](#) and [NSW Police Force Youth Command](#) to host a fishing event at Bobbin Head Marina. Ten students from Hornsby High School participated in the initiative, receiving fishing equipment from a representative of the [Primary Industries and Regional Development](#). Everyone enjoying a day of fishing and a BBQ lunch.

The program was delivered in partnership with [NSW Fisheries](#) and the Marine Area Command, providing participants with education on safe, responsible, and sustainable fishing practices. The initiative aims to build positive relationships with young people while promoting trust, cooperation, and engagement with police.



27 July, from Officer Gomez: Why Officer Gomez Isn't a Fan of Kids Riding E-Bikes and E-Motos

I love seeing kids outside instead of sitting in front of a screen. But when it comes to e-bikes and electric motorcycles in a city setting, I have some serious concerns.

1. They're fast.

Many of these bikes can reach speeds between 20 and 60 mph.

2. They're almost silent.

Unlike a traditional motorcycle, you often don't hear them until they're right next to you.

3. They're small and easy to miss.

Drivers can have a hard time spotting them, especially when they're moving much faster than a typical bicycle.

As a motorcycle rider myself, I actually believe that being loud saves lives. Drivers who don't see you may still hear you, giving them an extra chance to avoid a collision.

The combination of speed and silence is what worries me most.

For drivers, it's difficult to judge just how quickly an e-bike or e-moto can appear from seemingly nowhere.

For pedestrians, they're just as dangerous. Because they're so quiet, people often don't realize one is approaching until the last second. Being startled makes it difficult to know which direction to move, increasing the risk of a collision.

I'm all for kids getting outside and enjoying themselves. I just want parents and riders to understand that these machines aren't simply bicycles anymore. They're fast, powerful vehicles that deserve the same level of respect, training, and awareness as any other motor vehicle.

Note: I'm also seeing people (not just kids) texting and driving while riding e-bikes.

Yikes!

Happy Parenting,

Officer Gomez

27 July, from news.com.au

Stunning \$11 million ketamine haul found in boot of rental car after Airbnb tip-off in Artarmon, Sydney. It started with a call from an eagle-eyed member of the public to an Airbnb in Sydney's affluent lower North Shore. It ended with this extraordinary car boot discovery.

Now, two Scottish tourists are behind bars on remand after a sharp-eyed member of the public raised the alarm, sparking a major police operation that netted an alleged \$11 million haul of ketamine.

Detectives from the North Shore Police Area Command seized a staggering 107 kilograms of the drug - allegedly stashed in everyday luggage and colourful shopping bags in the boot of a hire car.

Police say the massive bust serves as a stark warning for property owners, hosts, and neighbours: if a short-stay rental looks shifty, it may well be so.

Police say the high-stakes operation unravelled on Friday, June 26, after they were tipped off to unusual activity at a short-stay unit on Hampden Road in Artarmon.

Read details [here](#).



26 July, from NHW K&H: Focus on a postcode - 2120 THORNLEIGH, WESTLEIGH

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

The figures are for the period April 2025 to March 2026. A category with a zero figure isn't included in the list, eg murder, non-DV assault.

Domestic Assault 27
Non-Domestic Assault 13
Assault police 3
Robbery without a weapon 1
Robbery with a firearm 1
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm 2
Sexual Assault 10
Sexual touching, sex act & other sex offences 9
Break & Enter dwelling 23
B&E non-dwelling 16
Receiving/handling stolen goods 3
Motor vehicle theft 7
Steal from motor vehicle 28
Steal from retail store 30
Steal from dwelling 10
Steal from person 1
Fraud 80
Other theft 17
Malicious damage to property 44

Breach AVDO 14

Breach APVO 3

Breach bail conditions 15

Resist/hinder officer 1

Trespass 21

Criminal intent 3

Use/possess cannabis 6

Deal/traffic cannabis 1

Deal/traffic amphetamines 1

Other drug offences 4

Intimidation, stalking & harassment 47

Arson 1

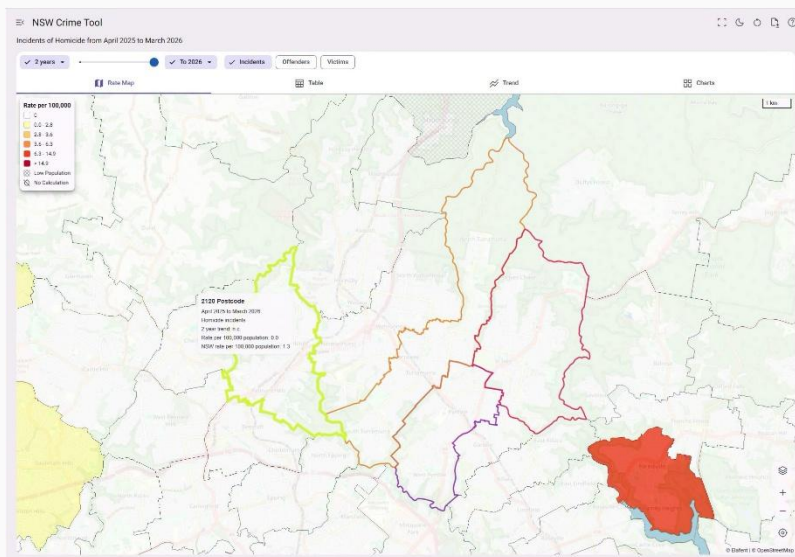
Betting & gaming offences 1

Blackmail & extortion 2

Pornography offences 1

Prohibited & regulated weapons offences 9

[Thornleigh Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page](#)



24 July, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Turns out getting high before getting behind the wheel wasn't this offender's smartest move.

A tip-off to Crime Stoppers NSW led police straight to a drug operation where NSW Police seized meth and other drugs with an estimated street value of \$282,000. After the suspect was pulled over, it was game over; dodgy driving and a traffic violation

escalated into search warrants, multiple arrests and charges laid. That's more drugs and dangerous drivers off our streets. Keep up the good work NSW. Every tip counts. To see how, visit Crime Stoppers NSW at work
Have any info about illegal substances? Contact us in confidence.



24 July, from Hornsby Advocate: Ignoring a government shutdown order proved a costly mistake for a Sydney tobacconist caught repeatedly flouting NSW Health's illicit tobacco crackdown.

See the video 👉 <https://bit.ly/3Ti8alv> [Behind a paywall :(]



news **local**

North shore tobacconist stubbed out by record \$1.18m fine

24 July, from ACCC Product Safety: If you own a Toe Warmers 2-pack from The Reject Shop, stop use immediately: they have been recalled.

The product may rapidly inflate, overheat and burst while in use. There is a risk of serious burn injuries and skin or eye irritation if the product overheats or bursts. Incidents have occurred.

Learn more [here](#).



24 July, from AFP: The AFP continues to seek community input to assist with victim identification in an ongoing child abuse investigation known as Operation Moonbi.

Police are renewing the appeal for any information the community might have about an image depicting a two-tone t-shirt, taken from behind the child at a Putney childcare centre about 9 January, 2018. There is also a fresh appeal to identify a male child whose image was allegedly located on electronic devices seized as part of the investigation. The child, in images taken sometime between March 2020 and July 2025, is wearing Bluey-branded underwear and appears to have a distinctive freckle or mole on their body. Due to the sensitive nature of the images, they cannot be publicly released but police hope the description may spark recognition.

Read more about the appeals [here](#).



24 July, from NHW K&H: Thank you to The Senior for this article from the August copy.



23 July, from Fire and Rescue NSW Station 037 Gordon: 🔥 Two Recent Fires. Two Simple Ways You Can Help Prevent the Next One. 🔥

Over the past week, Gordon Fire Station has attended two very different fires—both carrying important fire safety messages.

- 🗑️ Never put batteries in your household rubbish bin or bulk waste

Last Wednesday, our crews responded to a bulk waste collection truck fire in Pymble. The suspected cause was a discarded lithium-ion battery.

To safely extinguish the fire, the truck was forced to dump its load onto a residential street, where firefighters spent time separating and extinguishing burning rubbish before it could spread further.

Lithium-ion batteries are found in everyday items such as power tools, toys, phones, laptops, e-bikes and rechargeable household appliances. When they're crushed during waste collection, they can ignite without warning, putting waste collection crews, emergency responders and the community at risk.

- 🔋 Never place batteries in your household or bulky waste bin. Instead, recycle them at free battery collection points available at many supermarkets, Bunnings stores and other approved recycling locations.
- Find your nearest recycling location here:
- 🖱️ <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/.../recycl.../never-bin-a-battery>

- 🧺 Clean your dryer's lint filter

On Monday, Gordon crews, alongside firefighters from Beecroft, Lane Cove and Willoughby, responded to a clothes dryer fire at Macquarie Centre.

Fortunately, the fire was contained to the shop of origin by the building's automatic fire sprinkler system before firefighters extinguished the remaining fire.

One of the most common causes of clothes dryer fires is a build-up of lint.

- ✅ Clean the lint filter before every load.
- ✅ Ensure the dryer has adequate ventilation.
- ✅ Never leave a dryer running while you're asleep or away from home.

Think your dryer doesn't have a lint filter? Almost every clothes dryer does. If you've never cleaned yours, now is the time to check your owner's manual and locate it. A clogged lint filter not only increases the risk of fire—it also makes your dryer work harder and less efficiently. Small actions can prevent big fires. Stay safe, and help us stop the next fire before it starts. 🇺🇸



23 July, from Crime Stoppers Victoria: Our literal nightmare 🤔

Help us by doing your part. Report suspicious activity anonymously on our website [here](#).

Our top 5 horror movies:

1. Thinking "someone else will report it"
2. Ignoring suspicious behaviour in your neighbourhood
3. Dismissing a crime because it seems minor
4. Staying silent because you're worried about getting involved
5. Criminals who think nobody is watching

23 July, from NHW Queensland: 🚒 TOOL THEFT PREVENTION 🚒

Your tools are valuable to your livelihood – and unfortunately, they're valuable to thieves too. Tool theft can have a significant impact on tradies, contractors and small business owners. Beyond the cost of replacing stolen equipment, theft can result in lost income, delayed jobs and disruption to your business. Queensland Police are working with the community to help prevent tool theft and are encouraging tool owners to take simple steps to protect their equipment:

- 🚪 Lock your home, shed, garage and vehicles when unattended
- 🧰 Secure tools and equipment whenever possible

- 📌 Mark and record your tools for easier identification and recovery
- 👁️ Be aware of suspicious behaviour and report it to police

Taking a few extra precautions today can help keep your tools safe and your business moving.

If you see suspicious activity, report it to the Police Assistance Line (PAL) on 131 444 or in an emergency call Triple Zero (000).



We see the value in the tools of your trade but so do offenders.

Here are some tool security tips to help you keep them safe.

TOOLS

- Traceability of your tools**
 - Document your tools' brand, colour, serial numbers and model numbers and store the information either electronically or physically in a safe place for later reference.
 - Consider engraving or marking your tools for identification purposes.
- Ownership of your tools**
 - When purchasing a new tool, make it a habit to take a photo of the receipt. This will help with easily identifying ownership and can also aid in your insurance claim, if required.
 - Photograph your tools against a ruler to further assist in determining ownership and identification.
- Outwit opportunistic offenders**
 - Place valuable items such as keys, wallets and tools out of sight and avoid leaving them on car seats or ute trays as they can be easily targeted and are quick to remove.
 - Keep them out of sight and out of the opportunistic offender's mind.
- Lock up your tools**
 - Ensure you have a good quality lock on your toolbox and remember to use it every time you are leaving your vehicle unattended.
 - Make it a habit to lock external car doors, windows and toolbox lids, even when you are in your premises or out in the yard.
- Store your tools and vehicle safely**
 - Consider whether your vehicle is stored in the safest location.
 - Can you keep it secured in a garage or in a location that is well lit or covered by CCTV cameras?

If your tools have been stolen, to make a report, visit <https://forms.police.qld.gov.au/launch/StolenProperty>

Licence URL: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode>
Please give attribution to: © State of Queensland (Queensland Police Service) 2023

22 July, Shared with permission from the Thornleigh Westleigh and Normanhurst Community group:

While we are on interesting parking techniques... outside TWPS...



22 July, from NHW Victoria: Cheapest isn't always safest when it comes to home security.

Look for quality: trusted brands, solid reviews, a decent warranty and devices that play nicely with any smart home gear you've already got. Hiring an installer in Victoria?

Make sure they're VicPol licensed. [Same for NSW - Ed]

Not sure where your gaps are? Take the free quiz → howsafeismyplace.com.au

Quality over cost

What to look for in home security?



Security Signage

A visible deterrent



Sensor Lighting

Lights up automatically
to movement outside



Entry Sensors

Alerts the moment a
door or window opens



Doorbell Camera

See and speak to
visitors from anywhere



Visit [howsafeismyplace.com.au](https://www.how-safe-is-my-place.com.au) for more personalised tips

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 30 July: FREE Be Connected webinar - Technology & your Health 3-4pm. [Info and bookings.](#)

Thursday 13 August: FREE Be Connected webinar - Useful tips for using your Android phone. 3-4pm [Info & Bookings.](#)

Thursday 20 August: FREE Be Connected webinar - How to use government websites. 10-11am [Info & Bookings.](#)

Tuesday 25 August: FREE Be Connected webinar - Can you spot a scam? 10-11am [Info & Bookings.](#)

Wednesday 02 September: FREE Community Connections @ Hornsby Library features Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command and Services Australia. 10:30am - 12:30pm. [Info.](#)

Wednesday 02 September: FREE Emergency Redi Workshop with Australian Red Cross at Hornsby Library 11am - 12noon. [Info & bookings.](#)

Tuesday 15 September: FREE Be Connected webinar - Helpful apps for your smart device 3-4pm [Info & Bookings.](#)

Tuesday 22 September: FREE Be Connected webinar - Protect yourself against scams. 10-11am [Info & Bookings.](#)

Thursday 24 September: FREE Be Connected webinar - All you need to know about data and public Wi-Fi 3-4pm [Info & Bookings.](#)

Sunday 27 September: FREE Bike collection day 10am - 1pm. [Info.](#)

22 July, from myPolice Logan: A home that appears occupied is less likely to attract unwanted attention.

Try these simple tips:

-  Set timer lights for the evening.
-  Put the radio or television on a timer.
-  Ask a neighbour or friend to collect your mail and put your bins out.

While we continue increasing patrols, you can help us stay one step ahead of opportunistic thieves. 

22 July, from ACCC Product Safety: The ACCC has commenced Federal Court proceedings against Dusk Australasia Pty Ltd over alleged breaches of an undertaking it had previously provided to the ACCC and for the sale of non-compliant button battery products.

We allege that Dusk supplied thousands of homeware products containing button batteries that did not comply with mandatory safety and information standards. Button batteries can cause severe injury or death in 2 hours or less if swallowed or inserted by young children.

Learn more [here](#).

22 July, from North Sydney Council: 🐇 Have you spotted wild rabbits in North Sydney?

We recently received a report of a rabbit in the Balls Head area, prompting a reminder about the impact feral rabbits can have on local bushland and open spaces. While rabbits may seem harmless, they can damage native vegetation, create burrows that become trip hazards and quickly establish breeding populations that are difficult to manage. If you spot a rabbit, rabbit burrow, fresh digging or droppings, please report it rather than attempting to capture or relocate the animal yourself. Early reporting helps Council respond quickly and protect our local environment.

Report sightings through RabbitScan: feralscan.org.au/rabbitscan

22 July, from Ku-ring-gai Council: Can you help?

Council is seeking witnesses to an alleged attack by a large, black dog to a woman on Monday 20 July at 11.30am near the intersection of Tryon Road and Sydney Road in East Lindfield.

Please contact **Council's Companion Animal Officer on 9424 0000** if you have any information about the incident.



Thanks to Say Awesome



Thanks to Say Awesome



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](#)