

Crime prevention in Hornsby & Ku-ring-gai

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Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby

eNewsletter # 331 - 12 February 2018

This weekly eNewsletter is compiled by Neighbourhood Watch 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 the [Kuring-gai LAC 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 an other 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. 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.](#)

Crime Stats for the weekend 9 - 12 February

OFFENCES	Break & Enter	Malicious Damage	Stealing	Steal from Motor Vehicle	Steal Motor Vehicle
Suburb					
ARCADIA					
ASQUITH			1		1
BEROWRA			2		
BOBBIN HEAD					
BROOKLYN					
COWAN					
GALSTON					
GORDON					
HORNSBY	1		10		
HORNSBY HEIGHTS					
KILLARA			1		
MT COLAH					
MT KURING GAI					
NORMANHURST					
PYMBLE	1	1			
ST IVES			1		
THORNLEIGH		1			
TURRAMURRA			1		
WAHROONGA			2		
WAITARA					
WARRAWEE					
WEST PYMBLE					
WESTLEIGH					
Date range	9 Feb to 12 Feb				

Asquith: Malicious Damage 1, Steal from Motor Vehicle 2

Berowra: Stealing 2

Hornsby: Break & Enter 1, Stealing 10

Killara: Stealing 1

Pymble: Break & Enter 1, Malicious Damage 1

St Ives: Stealing 1

Thornleigh: Malicious Damage 1

Turramurra: Stealing 1

Wahroonga: Stealing 2

10 February, from the Daily Telegraph: Five-point plan to stop deaths on Old Pacific Highway Cowan

A FIVE-POINT plan to stamp out carnage on the Old Pacific Highway at Cowan will see police conduct driver safety forums in the classroom and in community riding clubs.

Hornsby state Liberal MP Matt Kean took up the Advocate's Hit The Brakes campaign following the death of 19-year-old rider Ki Dwyer last month on that stretch of road, which sparked concerns from residents and riders. Read full article [here](#).

10 February, Blacktown LAC - NSW Police Force

SCAM ALERT - Telstra hackers

A scammer posing as a Telstra employee is targeting people by trying to hack into their personal computers over the phone.

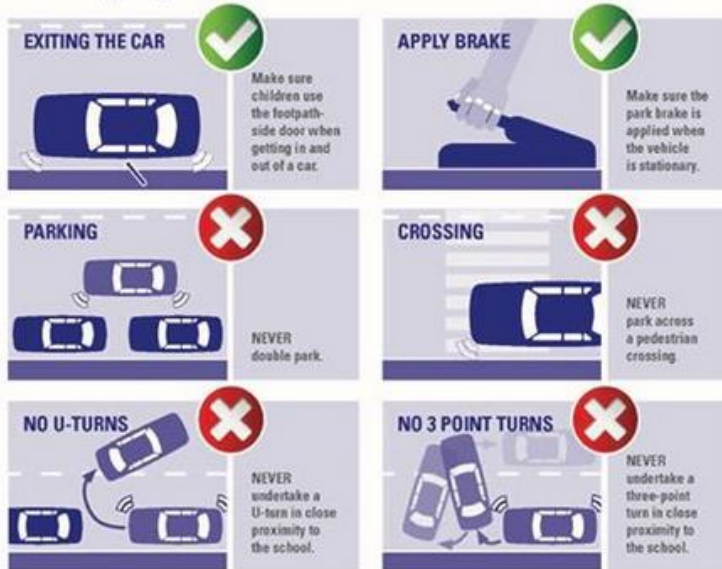
An Ingleburn husband and wife have recently reported they were contacted by a woman over the phone who asked them to log onto their computer immediately as it was being hacked.

Telstra don't do this. Telstra have advised to never give an unsolicited caller remote access to your computer.

Report any such phone calls to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

10 February, Safety Tips for School Zones

Safety tips for school zones:



Safety tips for students:



Demerit Points:

* The **Demerit Points** Scheme is a national program that allocates penalty points (demerits) for a range of driving offences. A driver who has not committed any offences has **'zero'** points. If you commit an offence that carries demerit points, the points are added to your driving record. If you incur the threshold number of demerit points within a three-year period, a licence suspension or refusal is applied. The three-year period is calculated between the dates the offences were committed. It ends on the day your most recent offence was committed.

For further information regarding demerit points please visit: rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/demerits/

8 February, NSW Road Safety - NSW GOV

Sam has a life-changing story. It's one you don't want to miss.

Reducing deaths and serious injuries on NSW roads is a key priority in our new Road Safety Plan 2021.

Find out more [here](#).

Watch video [here](#).

8 February, Crime Stoppers NSW



NEVER PAY A SPEEDING FINE AGAIN!

Important information on how to avoid getting a speeding fine.

1/ As you are driving try to find a speed limit sign on the side of the road. The number displayed is the **MAXIMUM SPEED** of how fast you may go.

2/ Find the speedometer in your car - usually on the dashboard.

3/ Adjust your speed to the number displayed on the speed limit sign on the side of the road. This is the most difficult part for some people, but we have faith in you. You can do it!

If you follow these directions, you should **NEVER** get a speeding fine ever again - **AND** the road will be safer for everyone. 😊:)

Oh, don't forget, most cars nowadays have a cruise control as well. 😊



8 February, Crime Stoppers NSW - Protect your car

Relying on the convenience of a car is something most of us take for granted. However, if your car or contents were stolen or damaged, the effects upon your family, work and finances could be devastating.

PROTECT YOUR CAR FROM BEING STOLEN:



NEVER leave your keys in the ignition when not in your car, even in your driveway at home



ALWAYS keep your car's doors and windows locked, including when driving



CONSIDER upgrading your car's security with a quality alarm or electronic immobiliser



NEVER leave your keys in plain view at home or in public places such as restaurants

PROTECT THE PROPERTY IN YOUR CAR



ALWAYS keep your doors and windows locked when out of your car



NEVER leave valuables such as mobile phones, handbags, GPS or

spare change in plain view " even when parked at home



ALWAYS try to park in a well-lit or populated area



TRADIES always lock your toolboxes and try to avoid parking on the street at night

PROTECT YOURSELF WHEN SELLING YOUR CAR



NEVER advertise your home address when selling your car



ALWAYS view and record any potential buyers identification



NEVER let someone take your car for a test drive without supervision.

6 February, 7 News Sydney

Drink Driving: "From today mid-range drink driving offenders will have to fit their car with an interlock device. It is not acceptable to get in your car, and drive while under the influence" - Gladys Berejiklian - NSW Premier.

"NSW Police now have the power to issue on the spot fines and suspensions for low-range drink driving. "This brings NSW into line with other states."

Mobile Phones: "We are going to make sure that we utilize camera technology to really pick up on people using their mobile phones while driving. Distraction is unfortunately a huge concern in relation to deaths on our roads."

NSW Roads: "We are also going to invest \$125M...to make some of our roads safer in terms of rumbles and other wires to really prevent people from going onto the other side of the road."

NSW Drivers: "We are also ensuring that the Attorney General is able to refer to the Sentencing Council the issue of repeat offenders."

Drug Driving: "We know that drugs, which people are prescribed can affect their ability to drive, and we have experts in health, justice and police coming together to give Government advice if there is anything further that we need to do."

Report on 7 News at 6pm. Watch video [here](#).



Neighbourhood Watch
Creating Safer Communities

12 February, Hundreds of deaths may be linked to creams

Hundreds of fire deaths may be linked to the use of skin creams containing paraffin, a senior firefighter warns.

If people use the creams regularly but do not often change clothes or bedding, paraffin residue can soak into the fabric and act as an accelerant when it comes into contact with a cigarette or a flame from a heater.

A BBC investigation found most creams do not carry warnings despite the risk.

The medicines regulator is conducting a safety review into the creams.

Last March a BBC investigation discovered 37 deaths were linked to skin creams containing paraffin in England since 2010. It is believed there have been a further eight deaths since November 2016.

But fire services are now warning the creams - used for conditions like eczema and psoriasis - may have played a role in many other deaths without investigators realising.

Click [here](#) for details.

10 February, from Australian Taxation Office

Are your employees driving work cars? Make sure you're keeping the right records.

Watch video [here](#).

Copied from NSM group. Thanks Bambi.

Beware NSMs the famous leather jacket scam has come to the north shore. A suave Italian guy in a late model car may ask for directions and while chatting, tells you that he has just come from a fashion show and has some leather jackets which he doesn't want to take home to Italy with him because he will have to pay the import duty, so he wants to either give them to you for free or sell them to you for next to nothing. He says they are Armani and worth thousands. He may give them to you for free and then asks you a favour... he is short on Australian dollars and on his way to the airport and wants to buy his daughter a gift at the airport. Now that he has given you 3-4 free leather jackets you may think that giving him some cash seems ok. I know someone this has happened to today in Pymble. This scam has been around for nearly 20 years across the world and has now arrived on the north shore! So please pass it on. [Here](#) is a link to the story.

Dates for the Diary:

Tuesday 06 February: International 'Safer Internet Day'

Tuesday 06 February: PCYC Internet Awareness Evening 6:45pm for 7-8pm session. [Registration & Info.](#)

Tuesday 06 February: Q&A How to Keep your Child Safe Online 8pm
Online chat on [NSW Public Schools Facebook page.](#)

Wednesday 14 February: Planned formal launch of www.watchout.org.au.

Tuesday 20 February: Friends of Mt Colah meeting 6:30pm @ Mt Colah Pizzeria

Wednesday 21 February: "The facts about Dementia" - free public education event - sessions at 12.30pm (register [here](#)) and 3pm (register [here](#)).

Saturday 03 March: The North Shore Black & White Charity Ball 7pm @ Killara Golf Club. [Info.](#)

Sunday 04 March: Clean Up Australia Day

Monday 19 March: Gordon 3/4 (Turrumurra) Neighbourhood Watch meeting 7:30pm @ Turrumurra Uniting Church Lounge area, Turrumurra Ave, Turrumurra

Sunday 25 March: Neighbour Day

Sunday 25 March: Bobbin Head Cycle Classic. Supporting Lifeline, Ku-ring-gai/Hornsby Women's Refuge & Rotary. [Info.](#)

Sunday 06 May: Ku-ring-gai Council Festival on the Green, St Ives. 10am-4pm. [Info](#)

Crime stats for Killara Jan 2018:

FURTHER_CLASS	ADDRESS	PREMISE_TYPE	START_D	ATE	START_TIME
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BREAK/ENTER AND STEAL	PACIFIC		
HWY RESIDENTIAL		16/01/2018	1200
BREAK/ENTER AND STEAL	MAITLAND		
ST RESIDENTIAL		20/01/2018	1720
SCAM - OBTAIN FUNDS CULWORTH			
AVE RESIDENTIAL		9/01/2018	1330
MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	SPENCER RD && PACIFIC		
HWY OUTDOOR/ PUBLIC PLACE		6/01/2018	1800
GRAFFITI	SPENCER RD && PACIFIC HWY		
OUTDOOR/ PUBLIC PLACE		6/01/2018	2030
STEAL FROM DWELLING	PACIFIC HWY		
BUSINESS/ COMMERCIAL		2/01/2018	15
OTHER STEAL	MARIAN		
ST CARPARK		21/01/2018	2000
OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOUR	OUTDOOR/ PUBLIC		
PLACE		14/01/2018	1855

Crime Stats for Pymble Jan 2018:

FURTHER_CLASS	ADDRESS	PREMISE_TYPE	START_D
ATE	START_TIME		
ASSAULT COMMON	PENTECOST		
AVE RESIDENTIAL		6/01/2018	1030
SCAM - OBTAIN FUNDS CARINYA			
RD RESIDENTIAL		4/01/2018	900
SCAM - OBTAIN			
FUNDS	BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL	3/01/2018	1815
FORGERY (OTHER THAN IDENTITY DOCUMENT	LIVINGSTONE		
AVE RESIDENTIAL		17/01/2018	1930
FORGERY (OTHER THAN IDENTITY DOCUMENT	PACIFIC		
HWY BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL		11/01/2018	1643
UNAUTHORISED ACCESS OF FUNDS	BROMLEY AVE && MONA		

VALE RD	OUTDOOR/PUBLIC PLACE	18/01/2018	700
MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	WOODLANDS		
AVE	OUTDOOR/PUBLIC PLACE	15/01/2018	1730
OTHER STEAL	ORINOCO		
ST	RESIDENTIAL	2/01/2018	1100
OTHER STEAL	AVON RD	INDUSTRIAL	6/01/2018
OTHER STEAL	LIVINGSTONE		700
AVE	RESIDENTIAL	10/01/2018	1700
STEAL FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	BRIDGE		
ST	CARPARK	23/01/2018	825
STEAL FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	BOBBIN HEAD		
RD	OUTDOOR/PUBLIC PLACE	29/01/2018	1120
OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOUR	CLYDESDALE PL && PACIFIC		
HWY	OUTDOOR/PUBLIC PLACE	14/01/2018	955

Email us for the December crime stats for your suburb:

NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com.

From Ku-ring-gai Council: Home Insurance Help

Is your insurance adequate for a severe weather event?

Event Details:

Council Event

For :	Everyone	When:	Tue 13 Feb 2018 at 5:30 PM -7:30 PM
Where:	Council Chambers 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon	Contact details:	Contact Person: Margaret Macindoe
Cost:	Free	Telephone:	9424 0893
		Email:	sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au
		Website:	N/A

10 February, How to Turn Off Smart TV Snooping Features

Smart TVs collect data about what you watch with a technology called ACR. Here's how to turn off this tracking.

How much does your TV know about you? That's one of the basic questions we asked when Consumer Reports undertook an analysis of smart-TV privacy and security for five major U.S. TV brands: LG, Samsung, Sony, TCL, and Vizio.

What our investigation found is that all smart TVs can collect and share significant amounts of personal data. We also uncovered several privacy weaknesses and security vulnerabilities, which you can read about in [our full report](#).

**From Hornsby Advocate, 8 February: [View online edition here](#)
Street Watch on page 8**

HORNSBY HEIGHTS

1 A group of cyclists surrounded a taxi on Somerville Rd just after 5.50am on Wednesday and pummelled on his roof and doors. Hornsby police said the taxi driver came upon the group of six to eight cyclists who were riding alongside him. He moved out across the double white line to allow them plenty of room. When the taxi driver stopped to pick up a fare the cyclists caught up with him and surrounded the car, shouting and swearing at the driver and hitting his car. The driver could not identify the cyclists but he reported the incident to police who are investigating the incident. A police spokesman said most cyclists had headcams so if the group felt the driver had done something wrong they should present proof.

HORNSBY

2 A 71-year-old Iranian tourist went on a shoplifting spree in Westfield on Tuesday just days before she was due to return home. She stole a handbag, scarf, tops and a jar of honey, all worth \$246. She was followed around the centre for 20 minutes by security staff who called police. Shop owners decided not to press charges because the woman was returning to Iran days after the theft. Police decided not to issue an infringement notice.

MT KURING-GAI

3 A fire in a set of pallets at Beaumont Rd about 9pm on Saturday was put out by RFS and Mt Ku-ring-gai fire brigades. Hornsby police are investigating whether the fire was deliberately lit.

BEROWRA

4 A 57-year-old man had to be rescued by a four-wheel drive ambulance at Ti Tree Cres firetrail after falling off his mountain bike and losing consciousness. The man was with a group of friends at 8.30am when he cycled down a small hill and came off the bike. He was taken by ambulance in a stable condition to Royal North Shore Hospital.

HORNSBY

6 Two teenagers – a boy and girl – stole a Bluetooth speaker on Sunday about 2am from a kiosk inside Westfield by jumping over the store's counter. They were seen on CCTV inside the centre until at least 2.45am. Shopping centre security staff were unable to apprehend them and police are studying CCTV and investigating.

COWAN

7 The dangers of setting off on a bushwalk unprepared were highlighted on Sunday when a man and his five-year-old child failed to return from a trek along the Great North Walk from Cowan to Brooklyn. The pair set off at 5pm and believed it would take an hour to complete the walk. Six hours later the man's partner raised the alarm at 11.50pm and Pol Air attempted to

locate the pair. Meanwhile a police vehicle entered the fire trail near Brooklyn. Pol Air found the boy and his father 5km into the trail. Senior Constable Paul Cleary urged anyone attempting a bush walk to plan ahead with food, water, a first aid kit and a mobile phone and not set off just before the evening.

WAITARA

5 A GROUP of construction workers assaulted a Hornsby Council ranger at Waitara Ave on Tuesday at 9.50am after he chalked the tyres of parked vehicles. A worker came running out of the site when he saw the ranger working and allegedly said: "Are you seriously chalking me, you fat f---". The ranger pointed out he was not booking anyone. Four other men then came out of the site and also started yelling at the ranger. One of the men grabbed the ranger's uniform and he nearly fell over. More threats followed and when the ranger started to take pictures, police said he was struck in the chest. Police are talking to the construction workers after the ranger made a statement.

Scam

Con job: People scammed through Western Union between 2004-17 should take action by February 12. Details: westernunion remission.com

From The North Shore Times, 8 February, [View online edition here.](#)

Servo Theft

TWO men made off with more than \$12,000 in cigarettes after breaking into a service station. The men broke into the service station on Northwood Rd, Longueville, about 4.15am on Tuesday morning by smashing the glass door. Once inside, the pair used power tools to open the cabinet, emptying the cigarettes into a sack. Security footage shows the men wearing a black hooded jumpers and navy tracksuit pants, with black face coverings. They

were seen fleeing the scene in a red Mitsubishi Lancer. Anyone with information should contact Chatswood Police.

10 February, From the latest consumer reports newsletter

Samsung and Roku Smart TVs Vulnerable to Hacking, Consumer Reports Finds

Security and privacy testing of several brands also reveals broad-based data collection. How to limit your exposure.

Consumer Reports has found that millions of smart TVs can be controlled by hackers exploiting easy-to-find security flaws.

The problems affect Samsung televisions, along with models made by TCL and other brands that use the Roku TV smart-TV platform, as well as streaming devices such as the Roku Ultra.

Click [here](#) for details.

8 February, Shared from North Shore Mums. Thanks Sarah.

From a friend who works in aged care:

There was an alert sent out by the police via email this week to aged care facilities on the north shore of Sydney particularly between Hornsby & Gordon. There are 2 suspected Caucasian males from the central coast aged late 20's-30's that are targeting aged care homes & elderly residents @ their own homes, either entering their homes & stealing credit cards or pick pocketing at shopping centres, then calling up & posing as bank personnel asking for card PIN numbers. If you know anyone in this area who would be @ risk pls share the information, & advise people to be especially mindful of locking their doors when even leaving for a short time (in the case of aged

care homes close doors & draws), being mindful of their bags/belongings in shopping centres, & not give out banking information over the phone.

8 February, Woman killed by garbage truck while walking with baby in northern beaches

A driver has been charged after a woman, who was walking her grandson in a pram on Sydney's northern beaches, was hit and killed by a garbage truck.

Emergency services were called to Moorilla Street, near Pittwater Road, in Dee Why about 11.45am on Thursday and found the woman, 58, unconscious under the truck with severe lower body injuries, an ambulance spokesman said.

Click [here](#) for full story.

8 February, Missed call phone scam still catching Australian mobile users off guard, ACCC says

The consumer watchdog is warning mobile phone users to avoid returning unexpected calls from overseas numbers as a wangiri scam returns to our shores.

Its latest victim was a 10-year-old Brisbane boy who was bombarded by missed calls from a number starting with +247.

Click [here](#) for details.

7 February, from The NRMA

Seven changes to school zone offences

1. Stopping in intersection

\$439 penalty plus 2 demerit points

2. Stop within 20m of intersection (traffic lights)

\$439 penalty plus 2 demerit points

3. Stop within 10m of intersection (no traffic lights)

\$439 penalty plus 2 demerit points

4. Stop near bicycle crossing lights

\$439 penalty plus 2 demerit points

5. Obstruct access to ramp/path/passageway

\$330 penalty plus 2 demerit points

6. Not parallel park in the direction of travel

\$330 penalty plus 2 demerit points

7. Parallel park close to dividing line

\$330 penalty plus 2 demerit points



Recent changes by the NSW Government will see harsher punishments enforced when these parking offences are committed in a school zone.

Fines have increased by up to 200 per cent: Click [here](#) for details.

7 February: A warning from one of our volunteers. Thanks Mary.

Today I received a phonecall. A robotic voice said they were calling about social security and offered a menu. I selected option 1 to verify bank details. After that I decided to hang up and ask advice from Neighbourhood Watch, as to whether someone had now got access to my bank accounts.

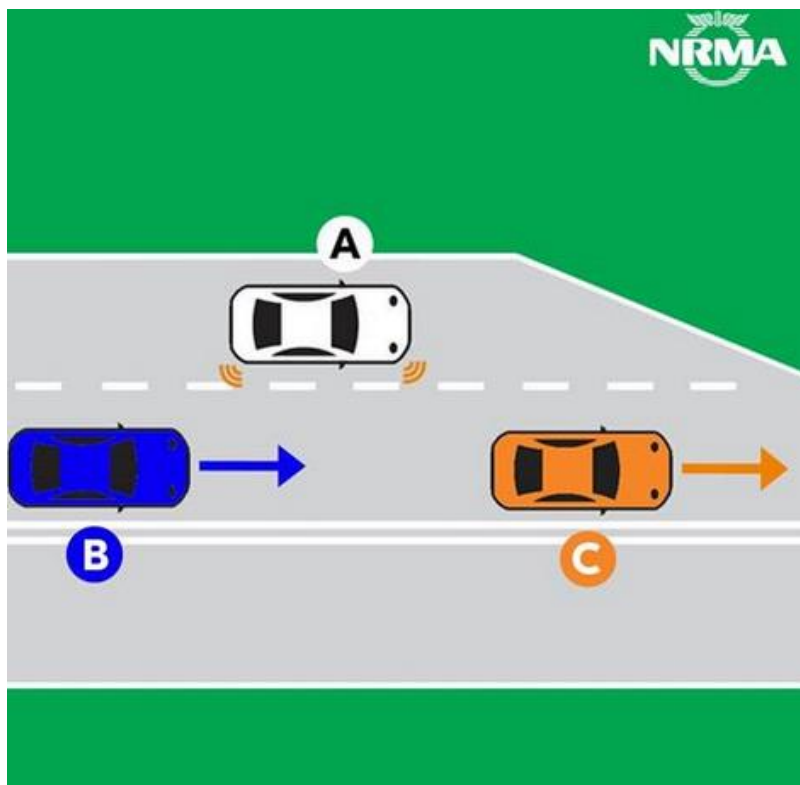
Our response was to reassure Mary. It did sound like a scam. Nothing she had done would affect her bank accounts. However, she may incur a big phone bill. How big? We wait and see.

Please simply hang up. Don't interact. If (big if) it's a legit call, you'll be rung back. Robots just call the next number on the list.

Have a look at our WatchOut! [website](#) for links to other information to protect yourself:

7 February, from The NRMA

TEST TIME: You are driving vehicle A. Your lane ends and you need to merge lanes (there are lane markings). Which vehicle gives way?



TEST ANSWER: Vehicle A must give way to vehicle B and C. If the lane the driver is travelling in comes to an end, and the driver has to cross a lane line

to merge, the driver must give way to traffic already in the lane they are moving to.

Click [here](#) for detailed road rules.

6 February, from Crime Stoppers NSW

OBSCURE NSW ROAD RULES...

Did you know that in NSW splashing a person waiting for a bus with mud is not okay.. but water is.

Road Rules 214 (291-3/a,b&c)

We donâ€™t recommend doing either if you can help it. 😊

NSW Seniors Festival

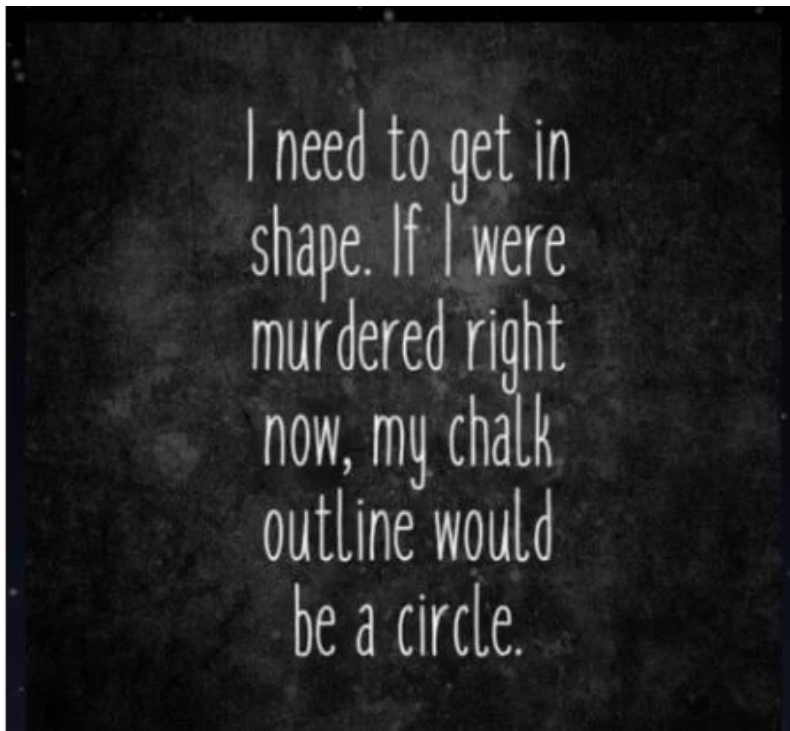


Mark your calendars! We'll be bringing you the NSW Seniors Festival from Wednesday 4 April to Sunday 15 April this year. There will be hundreds of events taking place across the state. Be the first to receive updates from us by signing up to our newsletter [here](#).

Wititudes

Not exactly crime, but a volunteer spotted this and suggested it may amuse our readers.

Watch video here.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS & LINKS

Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): 000

NSW Police - Kuring-gai Local Area Command (LAC): 9476 9799

Hornsby Police Station, [292 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby 2077](#)

Kuring-gai Crime Prevention Officer: 9476 9723

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

Non-emergency two-way communication

Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000

Report crime anonymously

Report suspicious activity asap