



Kuring Gai Police Local Area Command (LAC)

Newsletter # 134 - 21 April 2014

This email is compiled by Neighbourhood Watch volunteers as a service for residents in the Kuring Gai Police Local Area Command (LAC), which includes the Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai areas. Anyone may join our distribution list by emailing: NHWGordon@gmail.com.

Each weekly update includes a selection of 'posts' from the Kuring Gai LAC facebook page (also known as 'eyewatch'). One important post on the Monday is the Media Release from our Crime Prevention Officer.

We add to this all the other stuff we find interesting from a Neighbourhood Watch point-of-view. It could be local newspaper articles, roadwork warnings, crime prevention tips, Neighbourhood Watch meetings and relevant tit-bits gleaned from residents, or other Commands. Have you seen anything we should share with the community?

Please continue to email us anything you may know of, that others may appreciate: NHWGordon@gmail.com. Thank you.

21 April, WARNING FROM OUR CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER

Newhaven Place, St Ives and Stanley Close, St Ives are currently being hit for Break & Enters and for theft from storage cages. Please be vigilant.

- * Use a high-quality lock on your storage cage
- * Don't store valuable goods in these cages

- * Don't let people follow you into the garages
 - * Consider Neighbourhood Watch for your building.
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21 April: Police appeal for witnesses to fatal collision - Mosman

Sunday, 20 April 2014 05:46:27 PM

Police are appealing for witnesses to a **fatal collision in Mosman** yesterday. About 3.30pm (Saturday 19 April 2014), emergency services responded to reports of a collision between a Mercedes and a bicycle on Medusa Street, near Spit Road. The cyclist, a 76-year-old man, died at the scene. The Mercedes driver, a 43-year-old man, was not injured. He was taken to Royal North Shore Hospital for mandatory blood and urine testing.

Police from the Metropolitan Crash Investigation Unit are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident, and would like to speak with anyone who witnessed the crash. In particular, investigators would like to hear from a man who spoke with police at the scene immediately after the collision.

Police are urging anyone with information about this incident to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or use the Crime Stoppers online reporting page: <https://www1.police.nsw.gov.au/>. Information you provide will be treated in the strictest of confidence. We remind people they should not report crime information via our Facebook and Twitter pages.

21 April, from Traffic & Highway Patrol Command: Distraction is a major factor in crashes. With a lot of people travelling home tomorrow after the Easter weekend with kids, we want to know your favourite tip to keep the kids entertained in the car on long trips? Feel free to share to your friends.

Scavenger Hunt



20 April: Please like the [Live Traffic NSW page](#) for regular updates. Very useful during the holiday period!



19 April, from our Crime Prevention Officer: Please read the warning below for Pymble residents. The seller being persistent is not technically illegal and he was selling art i.e. you hand over money, you get something you agreed on, all good. The door to door scammers are different in that you agree on a job for a price and they don't deliver. The info in the hotline mentioned is good advice: say no, don't answer questions or get into arguments, never let them inside and close the door. If they refuse to leave, call police because they are now trespassing. One problem is that our community here is too polite and good-natured (to tell them no and to leave) and in these situations that is to our detriment.

From Ku-ring-gai Council 14 April: Would we please share this email and offer a warning to Pymble residents, who are being targeted.

"I would like to draw attention that there is a rise in door to door art sales (scam?) in Pymble area. Last night, I had a so-called-french guy come to my door. Told me he was part of a group of people who travel around the country and try and subsidize the costs by selling art door to door, not spending too long in one area as they were still traveling. Then he showed me some oil paintings. Each painting cost around \$170. I told him that I was not interested. But he was very persistent. My husband asked him to go. Then he said he was thirsty and would like to get in and to have a glass of water. He got what he wanted and left. He spent nearly 30 minutes at my doorstep.

I heard from my neighbour that they had similar experience too. May I draw your attention that some elders being single at home, could possibly be harassed or pursued by these kind of people. Is it possible for the Council to share this with the neighbourhood to avoid this kind of fraud?"

Stop Travelling Conmen is a campaign to protect the Australian community from misleading and deceptive conduct by people pretending to be legitimate tradespeople. If you are approached call the National Hotline on 1300 133 408.

What if a con man calls on me? This is what you should do:

â€¢ Don't open the door if you are unsure who the caller is

â€¢ Say no

â€¢ Record as much information as you can, such as their name and vehicle registration

â€¢ Report them to NSW Fair Trading by calling 13 32 20

â€¢ Warn your friends, family and neighbours

Over 2000 people viewed this post, 20 shares, with plenty of comments, including personal warnings for the suburbs: **Mt Colah, Turramurra, Hornsby Heights, Roseville & Ryde**. Here are two:

- This request "can I have a glass of water" is as old as the hills... My elderly grandmother left the person at her front door while she went 2 mts away to her kitchen to get water, only to turn around to find the young man right behind her. He had taken her purse on his way in, with her pension money cards etc....She was devastated. Don't feel bad about saying No!

- I had one in Mt Colah a few years ago selling art - told her I had no money on me and she kindly offered to come to the nearest ATM with me - I kindly declined her offer. I always keep my screen door locked and tell my children to do the same.

19 April, Critical incident investigation underway after man injured during arrest - Thornleigh

Friday, 18 April 2014 09:06:32PM

A critical incident investigation has been launched after a man was injured following a barricade incident at Thornleigh. About 9.30am today (Friday 18 April 2014), police were called to a home on Pennant Hills Road after concerns were raised for the welfare of a male resident. Officers from Kuring-Gai Local Area Command attended and attempted to speak to the 34-year-old man; however, he allegedly barricaded himself inside the home. It's alleged he was armed with a crossbow. A perimeter was established at the home and police negotiators and officers from the Tactical Operations Unit attended. Specialist officers forced entry to the home about 5.30pm and attempted to apprehend the man. A police firearm was discharged and the man sustained an injury to the hip. He's been taken to Royal North Shore Hospital with non life-threatening injuries. A 33-year-old woman was inside the home at the time of the incident but was not injured. A critical incident team from North West Metropolitan Region is investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident.

19 April: Off-duty officer charged - North West Metropolitan Region

Friday, 18 April 2014 11:21:31 PM

A police officer has been charged following a pursuit in Eastwood today. About 3am (Friday 18 April 2014), officers from Ryde Local Area Command were patrolling Balaclava Road when they saw a motorcycle allegedly exceed the speed limit. Police initiated a pursuit when the motorcycle allegedly ran a redlight at Blaxland Road. The pursuit continued through a number of streets, where the motorcycle allegedly travelled at an estimated speed of 120km/h in a 50km/h zone. Officers stopped the vehicle on a pedestrian lane way at the intersection of Anthony Road and Kinson Crescent, Denistone.

The man, a constable attached to a Local Area Command in the North West Metropolitan Region, was subjected to a road side breath test, which returned a negative result. He was arrested and taken to Eastwood Police Station, where he was charged with:

- Police pursuit "not stop" Sky's Law (x1)
- Not stop at red traffic light (x2)

The officer is due to appear at Burwood Local Court on Wednesday 4 June 2014.

18 April: Police are reminding residents to remain vigilant when it comes to securing their homes when heading away this Easter [edited].

Many families across NSW will be preparing to hit the road and head away for the Easter holidays leaving their homes unattended and easy targets for would-be thieves.

NSW Police Force's Corporate Sponsor for Crime Prevention, Chief Superintendent Brad Shepherd, said many people plan their holidays but forget to take steps to secure their homes.

Residents should take the time to check the house is fully locked and hide or secure any valuables before they go away. They should also ensure their home and contents insurance is adequate and up to date and make attempts to make the premises look lived in and occupied. Some home safety tips include:

- * Ensure all windows and doors are locked.
- * Lock gates, sheds and garages.
- * Secure all valuables.
- * Notify your local police of your trip and where you can be contacted in an emergency.
- * Make your house look "lived in" by using timing devices to turn lights and radios on/off at different times.
- * Stop deliveries to your home including newspapers.
- * Have a family member, trusted friend or neighbour clear your mailbox.
- * Arrange for someone to cut your lawn and keep your yard tidy.
- * Never leave your garbage bins out on the street for several days.
- * Ask a relative or friend to regularly check on your home and advise them of your contact details.
- * Let a trusted friend or neighbour know your holiday plans.
- * Have a friend or neighbour parked their vehicle in the driveway of your home.
- * Turn down the volume on your home telephone. Avoid using answer machine messages which indicate you are away.
- * Never advertise your trip on social network sites.
- * Pay essential service bills in advance (electricity, gas, water and telephone) so that your services continue while you are away.

Chief Superintendent Shepherd said these tips are important to protect your home but also urged people to think about their safety while staying in holiday accommodation.

If your home is broken into call the Police Assistance Line (131 444) or local police immediately. Don't touch anything and if you are unsure if anyone is still inside the house then remain outside and await the arrival of police.

Let the police see your home exactly how the thief has left it and while you are waiting for police to arrive, compile a list of the stolen items including descriptions, model and serial numbers and any engraving details.

17 April: Senior police warn drunken revelers who cause trouble this Easter long weekend face stiffer penalties under recent legislative changes in New South Wales [edited].

Police across Australia will be out in force over the Easter break as part of the latest Operation Unite crackdown on alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour. The public can expect an increased police presence across the state's road networks; within busy entertainment precincts; in and around pubs and clubs and across the transport system.

“Under a March 31 amendment to the Summary Offences Act (1988), the fine for such offences has risen from \$200 to \$1100,” Superintendent Fitzgerald pointed out. Fines for offensive conduct and offensive language have each risen from \$200 to \$500.

Operation Unite will begin on Easter Thursday (April 17) and resume on Easter Saturday and Sunday (April 19 & 20).

17 April, from NSW Fair Trading: Important public safety warning! There has been a statewide ban on the sale of electric hot water bottles, also known as electric heat packs, due to the risk of death from electric shock. The flexible heating pad design does not comply with Australian/New Zealand safety standards. While the majority of the pads have been withdrawn from the marketplace by Havenhall Pty Ltd, inferior imported models continue to be

available online and in some pharmacies. We urge you to avoid these products at all costs. Read the [full warning here](#).



16 April, from St Mary's command: Please take note. During the last car park check (in Gordon commuter multi-storey car park), several **garage remote controls** were in sight. These may give access to your house ...

STEAL FROM MOTOR VEHICLE ON THE RISE... Car owners are reminded not to leave valuable items in their vehicles, especially those parked in driveways, open carports and on the roadway during the hours of darkness.

WHAT DO YOU LEAVE IN YOUR CAR? - Thieves usually steal items like mobile phones, loose change, GPS devices, ipods or anything of value. People should take these items with them when possible, or at least store them out of sight in the vehicle.

WHERE DO YOU PARK? - It's also a good idea to park in well-lit, busy streets whenever possible. It may sound obvious, but always remember to take wallets/handbags with you, ensure all the windows are fully closed & lock your car!

WHO'S AROUND? - Anyone noticing suspicious activity around parked cars is asked to report it to **Hornsby Police on 9476 9799**.



Neighbourhood Watch
Creating Safer Communities

From the Hornsby Advocate, 17 April: Warnings on burglaries

THEFT from underground storage cages continues to be one of the major crime problems across the Kuring gai Local Area Command. This is reflected in the latest Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research figures released last week, which compare reported crime rates from April 2012 to April 2013.

Crime manager Inspector Neil Higgins said theft of valuables left in **storage cages** in the basement of high-rise buildings was a "concern". "We have noticed the peak time is between 3am and 6am," Insp Higgins said. "We had three in Hornsby the other night."

He suggested residents use high-quality padlocks on these cages, not leave valuable items in them, secure cars and not let people follow them into garages. He urged people not to approach anyone suspicious in their garage but to call police. Crime remained fairly stable in other areas.

CRIME STATISTICS

April 2012-April 2013

■ **Break and enter:** Down in Ku-ring-gai (367 incidents), up in Hornsby (362)

■ **Steal from dwelling:** Down in Hornsby (169), up in Ku-ring-gai (165)

■ **Fraud:** Down in Hornsby (607), up in Ku-ring-gai (393)

■ **Malicious damage:** Down in Hornsby (911), up in Ku-ring-gai (496)

■ **Motor vehicle theft:** Up in Hornsby (110), down in Ku-ring-gai (40)

What The Floaties?! Water police hope you're feeling buoyant this Easter

long weekend.

Water police had that sinking feeling when these life jackets were found during inspections of people's safety equipment this weekend. Police urge boat owners to properly prepare, carry good quality safety equipment and check it regularly. Friends and families of boat owners can use peer pressure to encourage them to practise safety.



From Hornsby Shire Council: Resolving unreasonable noise attributed to a dog

If you are disturbed by noise from your neighbour's dog, there are a number of things you can do. [Click here](#) for the council website link.

St Ives Chase Neighbourhood Watch - next meeting at **8pm on Tuesday 29 April at St Ives North Public School, Memorial Avenue, St Ives**. Special attendance by the Kuring Gai LAC Youth Liaison Officer, Snr Con Stef Murray, and guest speaker Alan Lawrence, talking about **FreshTracks**. Everyone welcome.

From St Ives Chase Neighbourhood Watch group:

ST IVES CHASE AREA, APPEAL TO RESIDENTS: COMMUNITY FIRE UNIT MHP 488

For than more than twenty years there has been a Community Fire Unit (CFU) in an area bounded by Timbarra Road, Yarralumla Avenue and Phillip Road. At present there are not enough operational members for it to continue for much longer. This is a bushfire prone area which means that at some time we will be subjected to a bushfire attack, either directly or by embers.

Here are some things that you should know about the CFU unit:

â€¢ It has a fixed area of operation.

â€¢ It does not fight fires. It is about preparation, prevention and protection.

â€¢ It would not operate if the fire danger rating were to be Catastrophic or Extreme.

â€¢ The unit has a trailer with standpipes, hoses, a Davey Pump and other equipment. This will go if the unit is disbanded.

â€¢ Membership requires completion of a training program and further training during each year.

â€¢ As a member you learn how to prepare yourself, your family and your home ahead of the bushfire season. You learn how to make informed decisions about whether to leave early or stay and defend your property when bushfires threaten.

â€¢ There are several types of membership. You do not need to be an operational member, but the unit needs a minimum number of operational members to continue.

We ask you to give serious attention to becoming a member of this unit and help to keep it going. We urge you to look at the information on [the CFU portal](http://cfu.fire.nsw.gov.au/) at: <http://cfu.fire.nsw.gov.au/>

If you are interested in joining the unit **please contact Tom Nash at: 0405 136 439**

EASTER SHOW. From NSW Fair Trading: Every year we head out to the Easter Show to make sure all the goodies in the showbags meet Australian safety standards. This year we inspected 346 different showbags and delivered the show a clean bill of health. [Click here](#) to read more.

19 April, from CareFlight: A CareFlight doctor flew to treat an injured man at an equestrian centre near Fiddletown, in Sydney's north-west, today.

Ambulance co-ordinators called the rapid-response trauma team shortly before 10.30 am to the property at Peebles Road. The CareFlight doctor teamed with ambulance paramedics to stabilise the 44-year-old man, from Arcadia, who suffered leg fractures when thrown after his horse shied approaching a jump. After stabilisation the man was flown by CareFlight to Westmead Hospital. The man remained in a stable condition on arrival at the hospital.



From Stay Smart Online: Tent, food, bikes, fishing rods – forget something? Like us on Facebook and stay smart online this Easter!



From NakedSecurity: Don't share your location with your friends on WhatsApp. Full warning [click here](#).

From NSW Fair Trading: In Australia there were 21 quad bike related deaths in 2013. Our partners at [ACCC Product Safety](#) have a new video highlighting the dangers when these bikes are not used with due care or when ridden by youngsters for which they are not designed. Watch [the video here](#).

From ACMADOTGOV: Last year the ACMA Hotline conducted over 3,200 investigations into online child sexual abuse material. We work with Australian police and INHOPE – the international community of hotlines - to help eradicate this material from the internet. Our new infographic provides a rare insight into the nature of the problem.



Email NHWGordon@gmail.com if you'd like the original larger size copy sent to you.

Dates for the diary:

Tuesday 29 April: St Ives Chase Neighbourhood Watch - meeting at 8pm, at St Ives North Public School, Memorial Avenue, St Ives. Guests: local NSW Police Youth Liaison Officer and **Fresh Tracks**.

Sunday 04 May: Ku-ring-gai Council Festival on the Green, Village Green, St Ives. Crime Prevention stall.

Sunday 04 May: FreshTracks - Team Wheelathon, Narrabeen Academy of Sport & Rec 10am-2:30pm. Info: www.freshtracks.com.au/wheelathon

Monday 5 May: FREE Supervisor of Learner Drivers Workshop at 6:30-8:30pm, Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers. Bookings essential.

Monday 12 May: KYDS Alcohol fueled Violence Parent Forum. 6:30-8:30pm, Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers. Bookings: 9424 0837.

Friday 16 May: Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter Benefit Night. 6:30 for 7pm at Asquith Leagues Club. Phone Keith Murray 0400 745 644.

Saturday 21 June: PCYC's Trivia Night at [PCYC Hornsby / Ku-ring-gai Club House](#). Info: **9477 2310**

Saturday 06 September: Gordon Shopping Centre, Dads are Great! Crime Prevention, Neighbourhood Watch, etc - more info nearer the event.

Please always refer to the local police facebook page as your primary source of information: <https://www.facebook.com/KuringGaiLAC>

NB: THIS FACEBOOK PAGE CAN BE ACCESSED WITHOUT BEING SIGNED INTO FACEBOOK.

Scheduled Roadworks - thanks to Live Traffic NSW, Hornsby Shire Council and Ku-ring-gai Council

DURAL New Line Rd at Sebastian Dr: Mon 14 Apr 2014 - Fri 31 Oct 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week

Mon to Fri (7am to 6pm) Both directions affected. Sat (8am to 1pm) Both directions affected. Check signage. Reduce speed. Road improvement works, including new traffic signals and road widening. Traffic controllers will be on site.

There will also be night works from 8pm to 5am between Monday 14 April and Thursday 17 April and between Tuesday 29 April and Saturday 3 May.

GORDON Pacific Hwy at Moree St: Mon 7 Apr 2014 - Mon 26 May 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week

Sun to Thu (10am to 2pm) affected. Check signage. Allow extra travel time.

LINDFIELD Pacific Hwy near Westbourne St: Thu 1 May 2014 - Tue 6 May 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week

Thu to Tue (8pm to 5am) Both directions affected. Check signage. Allow extra travel time. One night shift will be required to carry out the works. Minor delays can be expected. Traffic controllers will be on site. Access to properties may be affected during work hours.

Pymble:

Yarran Street / Cross Street / Cultowa Road : Road resurfacing rescheduled for two nights during week commencing 28 April.

ROSEVILLE Babbage Rd at Boundary St: Mon 5 May 2014 - Sat 10 May 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week

Mon to Sat (8pm to 5am) Both directions affected. Allow extra travel time. Check signage. One night shift from 8pm to 5am between Monday 5 May and Saturday 10 May, will be required for these works. Minor delays are expected due to changed traffic conditions.

Partial lane closures will be in place while work is carried out to ensure safety of road users and workers.

There will be temporary changes to street parking during this essential work. Traffic

controllers will ensure vehicles are not parked on certain sections of Babbage Road between 5pm and 5am on the day of work.

THORNLEIGH Pennant Hills Rd at Wells St: Mon 7 Apr 2014 - Fri 30 May 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week

Sun to Thu (9pm to 5am) Both directions affected. Check signage. Reduce speed.

Safety improvement work including installing traffic signals and a median barrier. Motorists are advised to expect partial lane closures and minor delays.

Traffic controllers will be on site. There may also be some day work between 10am and 2pm.

Turramurra, Fairlawn Avenue: Road resurfacing rescheduled for May.

Wahroonga, Westbrook Avenue (between Burns Road and Gladys Avenue): Road patching is complete. Shoulder construction works scheduled to commence in early April. Road resurfacing scheduled for April.

WEST PYMBLE Ryde Rd at Minnamurra Ave: Mon 5 May 2014 - Tue 13 May 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week

Sun to Fri (8pm to 5am) affected. Allow extra travel time. Reduce speed. This work will take place for one night shift only.

Hornsby Shire Council areas: If you would like to enquire about any work taking place please **phone 9847 6666** or email hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au. Stay up-to-date with the latest roadworks by following us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/hornsbycouncil.

For further information, see [NSW Live Traffic](#) and [the Ku-ring-gai Council Roadworks page](#).

From the Hornsby Advocate, 17 April:

1 THORNLEIGH Police pursued a teenager who was accused of robbing two young boys at Thornleigh skate park on Monday night. Two youths, aged 15 and 16, allege they were robbed of a bag by a trio who fled across train tracks.

At 6.25pm, police chased a youth, who had a bag containing a camera. He and a second youth were given an official police caution.

2 BEROWRA A motorcyclist caught by police doing a wheelie twice on the M1 has been charged with dangerous driving.

At 10.43am, police saw the rider, 29, of Haberfield, pull up on to one wheel at Berowra. He was pulled over and given several defect notices for the exhaust and wheels on the bike, as well as being charged.

9 MT KURING-GAI Two shops in Mt Kuring-gai were targeted during a robbery on Sunday night. Between 10.30pm and 5.40am on Monday, the bakery was robbed of \$1000 in cash. The thieves failed to gain access to the nearby butcher.

5 HORNSBY

Police are investigating claims a dog was poisoned

in Hornsby over the past few weeks.

A resident of Hall Rd said her 19-month-old mini pinscher had been vomiting over the past few weeks.

She said on Tuesday morning she found some mince in her backyard.

Anyone with any information about the incident should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

10 WAHROONGA A \$13,000 racing bike was stolen from a home at Wahroonga over the weekend. Between noon on Sunday and 11am on Tuesday, the white men's bike was taken from a home on Grosvenor Ave.

WATCH OUT FOR THE SCAMMERS - Police tips to avoid being scammed:

- Don't rush into deals that seem too good to be true
 - Be wary of purchasing a vehicle that you are unable to see
 - Take time to verify the vehicle's details and location
 - Avoid trading with people who want to make a sale outside of the auction process. If you do this, you lose any protections that the website operator offer to their users
 - Avoid dealing with anyone who asks for payment via wire transfer
- Remember, never send your personal, credit card or online account details

through an email

FRAUD IS A REAL DANGER

WHEN it comes to fighting fraud, NSW Fair Trading Commissioner Rod Stowe doesn't mince his words. "We want to inoculate people to the scourge," Mr Stowe said. Fraud continues to cause **significant problems in the Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai local government areas**, according to Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research figures released last week.

Reported incidents are up in Ku-ring-gai from 324 to 393 in the past 12 months, but starting to drop in Hornsby from 665 to 607.

Mr Stowe has seen it all, and even his wife and staff at Fair Trading have been contacted by scammers in recent weeks. Describing fraud as a "real and present danger", he said it came in all shapes and sizes and was very difficult to track. "Most is perpetrated from overseas and they do a lot of work in covering their tracks," he said. "We have found call centres set up in the Subcontinent and websites run out of China and Russia." Prevalent stings include scammers calling to tell victims they are owed money and must pay \$50 to claim it. At tax time, people will call claiming to be the Australian Tax Office asking for personal details. Mr Stowe said older people were often a target.

"We had an 83-year-old who was told he had money owing and was asked to make more and more payments," he said. "It was only that the staff at Australia Post questioned him that he realised it was a scam."

Important Contacts

Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance) 000

Kuring Gai Local Area Command (LAC) 9476 9799
Hornsby Police Station 292 Pacific Highway, Hornsby 2077

Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

Report crime anonymously

Report suspicious activity asap

Police Assistance Line (PAL) 131 444

For non-urgent minor crime

Kuring Gai Crime Prevention Officer 9476 9723

Local Police facebook page [Kuring Gai LAC](#)

Non-emergency two-way communication

Never be afraid or embarrassed to report a crime, concern or fear you have to the Police. The Police are here to help you.

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