

Kuring Gai Police Local Area Command (LAC)

Newsletter # 136 - 05 May 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 Kuring-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 that others may appreciate: NHWGordon@gmail.com. Thank you.

05 April: How well do you protect your personal information? As part of Privacy Awareness Week 2014 (May 4- 10) you should reconsider how well you guard your valuable personal info. Please visit this link for some great advice.



03 May, from the SMH: Facing a fireball: extreme bravery in Cootes truck crash

With a petrol tanker exploding just metres away and fuel spilling down the road in front of them, two firefighters risked their lives to save a man crawling from the burning wreckage. Tragic details have emerged of the crash involving a Cootes tanker on Mona Vale Road last year, which will earn Qualified Firefighter George Cheeke and Senior Firefighter Lloyd Molder bravery awards on Sunday.

Peter Wem, 73, and another passenger died when their car and the tanker

collided. Cootes lost major contracts with Shell and BP after the incident, leading to fuel shortages and massive financial and jobs losses. The NSW government threatened to suspend the company's registration after discovering widespread defects.

As the two firefighters from Mosman station arrived on the scene on October 13, a bystander yelled "There's someone in there" and pointed towards a flaming, disorientated man crawling towards the fire. Without hesitation, they donned breathing apparatus and ran towards him. He was so badly injured they couldn't move him so began first aid while the fire raged around them. Read the full article here.

02 May, from the Hornsby Advocate: Kuring-gai Police seized drugs and stolen property during a daytime raid on a home in **Billarga Rd, Westleigh** yesterday. Click here for <u>STORY</u>.

01 May: One person has died following a crash between a car and truck at Mooney Mooney this afternoon (Thursday 1 May 2014).

About 1.15pm emergency services were called to a crash on the Hawkesbury River Bridge section of the M1. Police have been told a black sedan was stopped in a lane when it was struck from behind by a semi-trailer. It's believed the vehicle suffered mechanical failure prior to the crash. The female driver of the car was able to get out of the vehicle prior to the crash, however her female passenger remained in the car and was killed. The male truck driver was uninjured, but has been taken to hospital for mandatory blood and urine testing. The driver of the car has also been taken to hospital as a precautionary measure.

Emergency services remain on site and there are significant delays for motorists.

Police are urging motorists to remain vigilant and not to divert their attention away from the road as they pass the crash site. For more information on road conditions

motorists are advised to check <u>www.livetraffic.com</u> Police are urging anyone with information about this incident to call **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000** or use the <u>Crime Stoppers online reporting page</u> Information you provide will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

01 May: Fatality Free Friday - 30 May 2014 - will see a call for all road users to make a promise to themselves, their family and friends to consciously drive safely and obey road rules.

The Australian Road Safety Foundation and Police are asking each and every person to take the pledge to save their life on our nation's roads. At a launch for the event, 1,193 number plates were on display, with each number plate representing a life lost on Australian roads last year. As well as attending one of the many Fatality Free Friday public signing events in the lead up to and on the day, road users are also able to make their road safety pledge by visiting www.fatalityfreefriday.com or on the Fatality Free Friday Facebook page.

01 May: Please share this among your contacts, This 76 year old Hornsby man has been missing since the 4th of April. He had links previously to the Lane Cove area, but now resides in Hornsby. Police and relatives have concerns for his welfare, we would like to locate him and reunite him with family.

Missing 76-year-old man – Hornsby

Police attached to Kuring Gai Local Area Command are appealing for assistance from the public to help locate a man missing from Hornsby. **Robert Richards**, **aged 76**, was last spoken to on Friday 4 April 2014 at his home on Muriel Street. Attempts to make contact with Mr Richards have failed, and police and family have concerns for his welfare due to an ongoing medical condition.



Officers are appealing for anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of Mr Richards to contact police. Robert is described as Caucasian appearance, 170cm tall, solid build and balding with grey hair.

Police are urging anyone with information about this incident to call **Crime**Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or use the <u>Crime Stoppers online reporting</u>

page. Information you provide will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

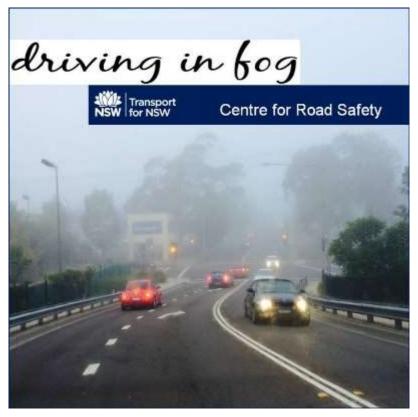
01 May: Police have charged a man with PCA after a collision in West Pymble last night.

About 1145pm (Wednesday 30 April 2014), a grey Alfa Romeo was driving on

Lady Game Drive and allegedly collided with a rock wall, flipping the car onto its roof. A second car, a white Audi A4, was following the Alfa and collided with the debris from the collision. No one was injured as a result of the incident. Police from Kuring Gai Local Area Command attended and spoke to the driver, a 31-year-old man. He was given a roadside breath test with an alleged positive result. He was arrested and taken to Hornsby Police Station and underwent a breath analysis and allegedly returned a reading of 0.097. His license was suspended and he was issued with a Field Court Attendance Notice for mid range PCA to appear at Hornsby Local Court on Thursday 15 May 2014

From Penrith command: Are your lights on? Be Safe Driving in Fog!

To improve visibility in fog, snow or bad weather, drivers should use fog lights or headlights on low-beam. A driver is only permitted to use fog lights if driving in fog, mist or other atmospheric condition that restricts visibility. It is also recommended that in some daytime situations driving with the vehicle's headlights on can improve the likelihood of being seen by other road users. For more information <u>click here</u>.



29 April, from The Hills command: This is not as silly as it may look-children think that the green walk signal means walk across the road. It actually means stop and look that the cars are stopped before crossing. We have all seen a car go through a red light!



S/Cst Paterson, Youth Liaison Officer



O5 May: Thank you to everyone who came along to the Ku-ring-gai council's **Festival on the Green at St Ives yesterday.** Fantastic weather and fantastic fun activities for all ages. If you missed it, we suggest you make a note for next year. Our local Kuring Gai LAC Police and Neighbourhood Watch had stalls manned with help from our volunteers. Was great to meet some of the faces from facebook.



Photo courtesy of Mary Walker, 'All Areas' Neighbourhood Watch coordinator.

We were constantly sharing copies of the 'Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for' series. Email MHWGordon@gmail.com if you are missing any of the current ones: businesses, car owners, mailboxes, seniors, retirement communities, tradies, new neighbours.

Here's a few more tips from a draft currently being worked on. Have you any favourites to share? Our Crime Prevention Officer at Hornsby Police station assists with all our '20 Tips' and checks them before publishing.

Traveller Tip #1: If worried by those in your train carriage, get off, walk down a carriage and get back on again.

Traveller Tip #2: Avoid sitting near the train exit doors and try to sit near other passengers.

Traveller Tip #3: When waiting for a train at night stand at the "night safe" area (indicated in blue on the platform) to make sure you board the train at the carriage closest to the guard's compartment.

Traveller Tip #4: Consider getting a credit card just for overseas travel.

Traveller Tip #5: Scan your itinerary, passport and travel insurance documents

and save them to a cloud-based storage for easy access (eg Dropbox, googledrive, iCloud). Mark essential documents as 'favourite' for offline access.

St Ives Chase Neighbourhood Watch had their meeting last week. Thanks to everyone.



(Pictured with Alan are Area coordinator Fiona Wright, Secretary Noel McKenzie.)

Alan Lawrance from FRESH TRACKS spoke about the organisation and mentioned the launch of the local community hub for youths with brain injuries at HART, Mona Vale Rd, St Ives (opposite the Showground) 10:30am Tuesday, 20 May 2014. Please show your support.

Unfortunately **S/C Stef Murray** couldn't attend, so, as promised, here is some information about her role as **Youth Liaison Officer** with the NSW Police:

YLO: The Youth Liaison Officer delivers cautions to young people and makes the final decision about referring them to a Youth Justice Conference. This is a forum to bring the offender, their families and the victims together, face to face, to agree on a suitable outcome. YLOs are the key contact points between the local area police command and the Department of Juvenile Justice's conference administrators who organise conferences.

Today, YLOs ensure police meet their legislative responsibilities in relation to the Young Offenders Act 1997 which became effective in April 1998. The Act aims to divert young people from the juvenile justice system and provides guidelines to achieve this. It gives police four ways to deal with offenders aged 10 to 17 years: warnings, Youth Justice Conferences, cautions, court.

OTHER DUTIES: Additionally, the Youth Liaison Officer might:

- undertake innovative problem solving with young people to reduce youth crime and victimisation
- implement and coordinate crime reduction programs
- coach other police to interact effectively with young people and network with other agencies and community groups
- support the Police Service's Youth Policy Statement
- represent the Service at youth related community forums and meetings.

On August 1, all credit and debit cards need to have a personal identification number (PIN). Consumers will no longer be able to sign for goods.

The industry-wide move to expand PIN at the point of sale (POS) and phase-out the signature as a form of verification on Australian credit and debit cards will take place over a short transition period from 1 August this year. Starting with some of the nation's largest merchants, the move will see all of Australia's 800,000 merchant payment terminals undergo a software update to no longer accept signature as the main form of card authorisation for Australian cardholders.

There will be no change to contactless or online transactions and only in some circumstances such as when using a card issued from a bank overseas, will signature still be a valid form of verification. Contact your bank or card issuer for more information on how to get your PIN.

PIN safety tip #1 Choosing your PIN - Don't choose a number that's easy for someone to guess

Stay away from numbers based on your birth date, driver's licence, phone numbers or other public/semi-public personal information as fraudsters can easily guess them. Choose something easy for you to remember, but hard for anyone else to guess.

What happens when I travel overseas, but have a longer PIN of six digits?

If you have changed your PIN from the originally issued four (4) digit PIN to a six (6) digit PIN, some of your transactions may not be successful overseas. You may also encounter an error with your four digit PIN in some countries that require a six digit PIN. The most widespread standard currently, however, is a 4 digit PIN. Please be aware some countries and overseas banks have different PIN rules to those in Australia. If you have further questions about PIN usage overseas, please contact your bank/card issuer for further information.

More information at the PinWise website.



From the Hornsby Advocate, 01 May:

Assault woman hides in closet A MOTHER of three was found hiding in her children's cupboard after allegedly assaulting a police officer at Hornsby on Anzac Day. About 6pm, police spoke to three people at a Galston Rd bus stop, including a 23-year old woman who had four outstanding warrants for arrest. The woman allegedly pushed an officer before running away. Police later went to a Hornsby address where they found the woman. She was charged with her warrants as well as assaulting police.

BEROWRA A 70-year-old man has been charged with the indecent assault of a nine-year-old girl in a supermarket. The girl was in Coles at Berowra Shopping Centre at 5.30pm on Saturday when she told police an elderly man snarled at her. It is alleged he touched and pinched her backside. A shopper then called police. The offender, who is thought to be suffering from dementia, was charged with indecent assault and common assault.

HORNSBY A man who police claim put a bag down his pants was charged with possessing \$1000 worth of ice. Police patrolling the Pacific Highway at Hornsby at 11.25am on Tuesday spoke to the 24-year-old and allegedly found nine bags, a total of 2.5g, of methamphetamine on him. He was charged with possessing a prohibited drug.

WAHROONGA Three houses on Fox Valley Rd at Wahroonga were robbed of copper downpipes on Monday. Between noon on Monday and 9am on Tuesday, thieves took the lengths of copper from the adjoining properties. In total, they took more than \$3900 worth of pipe. Anyone with information about the theft should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

GLENORIE Police say thieves attempted to steal a broken down ute, which was found on its side in Glenorie on Sunday. The 20-year-old owner told police his black Commodore had broken down several weeks ago and he had arranged for it to be towed. At 3.50am on Sunday, police found the ute lying on its side with smashed windows and a stolen stereo. An attempt was made to put it on a trailer, police believe. Witnesses should phone Hornsby police on

HORNSBY A woman with green hair riding past police on her bike allegedly threw a bag of cannabis into bushes when she spotted the officers. Police were on the Pacific Highway at Hornsby at 7pm on Friday night when they allegedly saw her wave her hand near some bushes. They allegedly found a bag of cannabis in the bushes and the 37-year-old was charged with possession of a prohibited substance.

TURRAMURRA Hundreds of dollars in malicious damage was done to a car and motorbike in Turramurra last week. Between 11.15pm on Wednesday, April 23, and 8am on Thursday, April 24, a Toyota Hilux parked at a home on Kissing Point Rd had several windows smashed. A Suzuki motorbike had its handlebars twisted and its fuel tank dented. The damage was estimated at \$900. Anyone with information should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

WAHROONGA A gum tree brought down powerlines in Wahroonga last Thursday afternoon. At around 3.30pm, the tree came down in Water St, landing on a ute, damaging a power box, as well as a heritage fence. Traffic was diverted and the area cleared at about 7.30pm.

THORNLEIGH Police are looking for witnesses to an incident at The Brickpit sports complex in Thornleigh. About 8pm on Sunday, three men on scooters were seen on CCTV footage to ride over two vehicles, a Camry and a Corolla. The trio left in a dark blue or purple Corolla. Anyone with information about the incident should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

BEROWRA A driver pulled over for a random breath test at Berowra was charged with high-range drinkdriving on Anzac Day. The man, 45, was stopped on the Pacific Highway at 10.45pm and allegedly told police he had consumed six drinks. He allegedly returned a reading of 0.162.

HORNSBY Two cars on Lisgar Rd at Hornsby were broken into on Wednesday, last week. Between 10am on Wednesday, April 23, and 7am on Thursday, April 24, the cars were rummaged through but nothing was taken.

HORNSBY A handbag was stolen from a doctor's office at Hornsby Hospital on Saturday. Between midnight and 8.45am, the bag, containing a wallet, was taken from the unlocked office.

From Hornsby Advocate, 24 April:

WARRAWEE Police responding to a noise complaint about loud music have charged a 20-year-old man with drug possession and supply. They attended a home in Blythswood Rd about 3.50am yesterday and found a group of men in a garage with pipes, vegetable matter and resin. Police found 344 grams of cannabis plus \$1700 in cash.

BEROWRA Two teenagers were lucky to escape with just a broken thumb after their car ploughed into a brick fence and telegraph pole in the early hours of Good Friday. The two 19-year-olds were in a Volkswagen on Wideview Rd at Berowra Heights when they failed to negotiate a bend about 2.40am. The car mounted the footpath, hit the fence and pole and then bounced onto another car. The passenger was treated for a broken thumb. The driver was given a fine for negligent driving.

GALSTON Investigations are continuing into claims that a Pplater who was allegedly impersonating police. He was seen flashing red and blue lights inside his car in the Galston Gorge and at Mt Colah last week. About 10pm on April 16, a driver was pulled over by the black Holden station wagon before the driver said, "Just kidding". A similar incident occurred in Mt Colah on the same night.

BROOKLYN A 17-year-old girl was reportedly stalked by a middle age man, who followed her home from work on Tuesday. About 7.30am, the victim was at Hawkesbury River railway station when she saw the man as she left for work. When she returned at 6.20pm, he allegedly followed her. About 8.20pm, the girl heard a tap on her bedroom window but her father could not find anyone. The man

was described as walking on one crutch, with dark skin, 45-50 years old with a beard, of thin build and 165cm tall. Witnesses should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

TURRAMURRA Police are trying to track down a motorist who allegedly hit an 88-year-old driver in Turramurra on Tuesday afternoon. About 3pm, the female victim was crossing Ray Rd when a car, approaching slowly, hit the woman. The victim had a sore ankle and cuts to the face and head. The elderly driver allegedly left her details but police have not been able to track the woman down. Anyone with information about the accident should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

HORNSBY A motorist who claimed to have stopped drinking at 3am was charged with drink-driving nine hours later. About noon on Tuesday, the motorist stopped suddenly on Jersey St North, causing an accident. The 65-year-old man returned a reading of 0.100 and was charged with midrange drink-driving. He was not sure how much he had drunk but said the last drink was at 3am.

WAHROONGA Cash, credit cards and jewellery were stolen from a home on Fox Valley Rd on Easter Sunday. Between 8am and 7pm, the home was entered by forcing open the garage door. Thieves took two credit cards, cash and cuff links totalling \$800. Witnesses should please phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

TURRAMURRA Two windows were smashed at Turramurra High School last week causing \$200 worth of damage. The incident occurred between 2.45pm on Thursday, April 17, and 5.45pm on Friday, April 18. The windows were smashed on A Block at the school. Witnesses should phone Hornsby police on 9476 9799.

TURRAMURRA The Turramurra Lookout Gardens have once again been attacked by vandals. This time graffiti was sprayed on a bench and a table between noon and 3pm on Tuesday.

East Killara Neighbourhood Watch had their meeting on 09 April. Minutes are

available on their Facebook page, or via email.

We have been asked to share:

- If anyone sees anything untoward at Killara High School, please call the **General Assistant 0439 399 953**.
- Speeding in local streets: Please take down number plates and report to **Hornsby Police on 9474 9799** as our streets are not safe with these speeding cars.

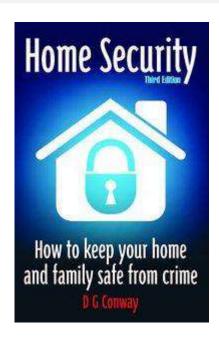
Mentioned at last week's Kuring Gai Community Safety Precinct Committee meeting. (Apologies for the error in last week's email, stating a 'May' date.)

Minutes will follow soon.

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. **COMPLETE SELL OUT! Thank you.**

This publication has been recommended by one of our Neighbourhood Watch community, and is on loan from our local Ku-ring-gai Council library at Gordon.

Home Security - How to Keep your Home Safe from Crime, by Conway D.G. (2010) Dewey Ref: 643.16 CONW



One of our Neighbourhood Watch community is sharing the following advice they were given, after an unfortunate experience. Hope it helps someone.

"If a product to be purchased in store does not obviously have the usual security device fitted, or has been obviously tampered with, please advise the store management promptly."

Have you signed up for the government's alert service at Stay Smart Online?

The Stay Smart Online Alert Service is a free service for Australian internet users, to explain recent online threats and how they can be managed. Currently there are serious warnings for Internet Explorer and Adobe Flash Player. This week a security patch was shared for the Internet Explorer vulnerability. For more info and the IE patch, click here.

From the Australian Red Cross: Preparation is key to lots of things in life – and we know that being prepared for an emergency can help people get back on their feet more quickly.

If you have children one simple thing you can do, right now, to help them prepare is make sure they have this card – with key emergency numbers - in their pocket, wallet or school bag. Print out the card from <u>click here</u>.



Dates for the diary:

Monday 12 May: KYDS Alcohol fueled Violence Parent Forum. 6:30-8:30pm, Kuring-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. Sunday 25 May: Meet local Emergency Services - FREE BBQ & family games day. 10:30am to 12:30pm, grounds of Wallarobba Arts & Cultural Centre, 25 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby. Info: 9847 6994. 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. **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. Have you seen the updated commuter car park on Werona Ave, Gordon, or the new zebra crossing on St Johns Ave, Gordon, just up from the station? Looks like more is happening around there too... **LINDFIELD** Pacific Hwy between Bent St and Westbourne Rd: Tue 29 Apr 2014 - Fri 16

May 2014

Scheduled lane closures for this week
Sun to Mon (9.30pm to 5am) Both directions affected
Mon to Tue (10pm to 5am) Both directions affected
Tue to Wed (10.30pm to 5am) Both directions affected
Wed to Fri (11pm to 5am) Both directions affected
Fri to Sat (11.30pm to 6.30am) Both directions affected
Exercise caution. Check signage. A contraflow will be in place to allow motorists to pass
the site in both directions.
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PYMBLE Ryde Rd at Minnamurra Ave: Mon 5 May 2014 - Tue 13 May 2014
The contraction of the contracti
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.
ROSEVILLE Babbage Rd at Boundary St: Mon 5 May 2014 - Sat 10 May 2014
The state of the s
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.
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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 <u>NSW Live Traffic</u> and the <u>Ku-ring-gai Council</u> Roadworks page.

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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This email has been forwarded to you by Gordon Area 12 / 24 Neighbourhood Watch group. Please share the information with anyone you think may be interested, and encourage them to join our Distribution lists. Thank

you. If you live outside the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai LAC, please contact your local Crime Prevention officer for similar information for your locality. If you are unaware of an active Neighbourhood Watch group in your area, please consider starting one.

Our mailing address is:

Neighbourhood Watch within the Kuring Gai NSW Police Local Area Command P.O. Box 585 Gordon, NSW 2072 Australia

Add us to your address book

