



Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby eNewsletter #486 - 02 February 2021

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 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.

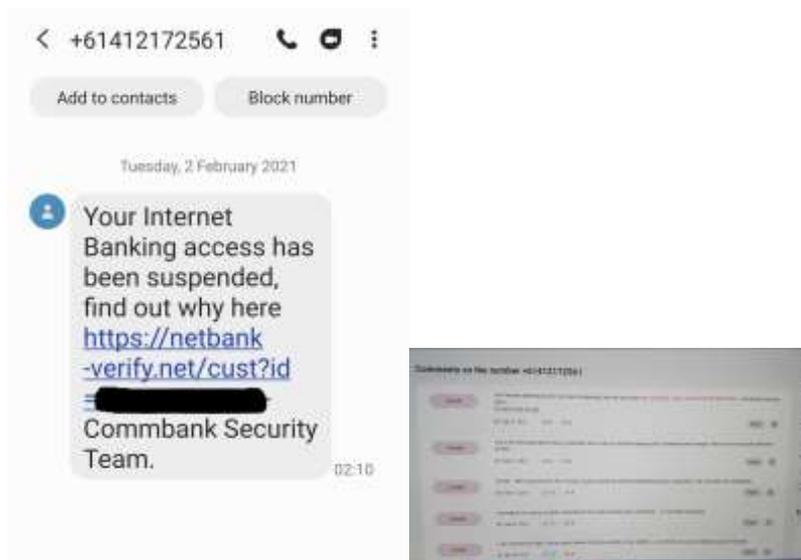
🚗 Reading our eNewsletter for the first time? [Click here to subscribe](#).

02 February, from Ku-ring-gai command: 2AM TEXT MESSAGE SCAM!

Have you received a text message claiming to be from the Commbank Security Team, 'informing' you that your internet banking has been suspended and to click on the link provided to find out why? (See photograph attached). You will note the scam link includes your mobile number (Blacked out portion). I

received this message just after 2am this morning (it woke me - not happy Jan) OK, OK, I forgot to mute the volume – my mistake. Anyway, I immediately knew it was another rehashed scam. Banks and organisations DO NOT send this type of message out to their clientele, asking you to verify or see why, etc. DO NOT trust anything like this, particularly if it is unsolicited by you. The second attachment shows the result of a simple Google search of the suspect mobile number. You'll see that it is a scam as others have received it as well.

Best practice – DO NOT CLICK ON THE LINK PROVIDED - DELETE, DELETE, DELETE!



02 February, from Traffic & Highway Patrol command: IS YOUR MOTORISED SCOOTER, BIKE OR SKATEBOARD LEGAL?

Prohibited vehicle:

It's illegal to ride mini bikes, monkey bikes and some small electric or petrol-powered vehicles on public roads, footpaths, car parks or in parks.

Prohibited vehicles include:

1. all petrol-powered bicycles that:
 - have a petrol-powered engine attached before or after purchase
 - are powered by any other type of internal combustion engine.
2. motorised foot scooters (with or without a seat) with an electric or petrol engine;
3. mini bikes or monkey bikes
4. motorised human transporters such as the WheelMan or Segway
5. skateboards with an electric or petrol motor.

Prohibited vehicles cannot be registered or insured.

It is illegal to use prohibited vehicles on a road or road-related area like a footpath, car park or park. Heavy fines apply.

Safety risks:

Prohibited vehicles can cause serious injuries.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has recalled some mini and monkey bikes and issued a safety warning on hoverboards.

Information on this subject can be found [here](#).



29 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: One would never expect baseball was a sport that takes up so much time of police investigation.

We never really expect any adverse incidents to come from a game of baseball that requires police attention, but last weekend we attended several games to investigate claims that players were stealing bases 😊

On a more serious note, this last week has been fairly busy with stealing from motor vehicles, stolen vehicles break and enters, and malicious damage incidents. We all need to remain vigilant and report any suspicious persons, behaviour or vehicles we see. Call us if you believe someone is acting suspiciously. Calling us at the time gives us the best chance of locating them and engaging with the person.

Hope you all have a great and safe weekend

WAYS OF REPORTING TO POLICE:

“000” Triple Zero for emergency or life-threatening situations

“131444” Police Assistance Line (PAL) for non-emergencies

“1800 333 000” Crime Stoppers – to provide crime information

Hornsby Police 9476 9799

Gordon Police 9418 5399



27 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: Around 5:40pm on Monday 18th January 2021, a violent brawl occurred near the skate park on the oval of

The Village Green in St Ives.

The brawl allegedly involved between 30 and 50 males who dispersed shortly thereafter. Police are appealing for any witnesses who may have seen or recorded the incident. Witnesses are encouraged to contact **Hornsby Police on 9476 9799** or **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**. Event number **E77425606** relates.

27 January, from Ku-ring-gai command: DOOR TO DOOR HOME MAINTENANCE SCAMMERS

We are fortunate enough to reside in a beautiful, leafy part of Sydney but are prone to this type of scam. At times we receive reports regarding scammers posing as tradespeople, moving around the Command looking for the 'right' place to stop at and try to scam the residents who live there. They pose as a legitimate 'trade' person, offering services pertaining to garden maintenance, tree and branch trimming, driveway and roofing maintenance and repair work. These scammers are looking for the vulnerable in our community, often the elderly who reside by themselves. Their methodology is to come across as sincere and friendly, telling the resident they are working in the area and had just noticed (pointing out a potential problem with the property) ie; branches hanging low over footpaths, a driveway which may require cleaning, old roof tiles which they offer to check for the resident. They will then give a verbal quote saying work has to be commenced immediately but they take cash only. On occasion they have driven the victim to the bank to withdraw cash for them. Sometimes these scammers never start the job, sometimes it is started and not completed, with the scammer saying the job is much bigger than they first realised, and they would have to charge more. Sadly, we have had victims who have trusted the person and given thousands of dollars to the scammer. In one incident reported the scammer returned a number of times, eventually scamming over \$8000 from the unsuspecting victim, before family realised the victim's bank account had been depleted. Unless you solicit the work from a

particular company or trade, do not engage their services. Please share this with your elderly or vulnerable family member. Encourage your loved one to contact yourselves or police if they are in doubt of the scammer's intentions or feeling threatened by anyone who comes to their door trying to offer services.



Neighbourhood Watch
Creating Safer Communities

02 February, from Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: Thank you to the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Post, who included an introductory article in their Issue #6, February 2021 Community section (Page 21) about Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby [here](#):

Neighbourhood Watch: How to keep in touch

NEIGHBOURHOOD Watch is a crime prevention program that strives to enhance community safety and reduce localised crime.

As a community-based organisation, Neighbourhood Watch acts as a conduit between the NSW Police Command and the public.

Through their Facebook pages and weekly eNewsletter, Neighbourhood Watch keeps people up-to-date with local crime statistics, offers support for victims and gives advice for deterring crime.

This program is not funded at a community level by the NSW Police Force, but relies upon sponsorships, fundraising initiatives and

volunteers.

Originally established to protect private and commercial property, Neighbourhood Watch has expanded to include new crimes such as identity theft, fraud and cyber-crime.

An A-Z index of crime prevention strategies and resources can be found on their WatchOut! website, including links to relevant government departments and non-profit organisations.

One valuable resource is the ACCC's "The Little Black Book of Scams", which can be downloaded for free on the WatchOut! website.

Awareness and education are one of the most effective ways to protect yourself, and this resource lists common scams, tools used to trick you, warning signs and other important advice.

Neighbourhood Watch also provides free resources to improve community safety.

If parked cars frequently block the entrance of your driveway and impede your visibility, contact Neighbourhood Watch to borrow a free stencil. Marking lines at the end of your driveway will act as a deterrent. Additionally, vehicle registration plates usually come with normal screws, making it easy for number plates to be stolen and used on other vehicles to avoid recognition in speeding cameras and toll roads. Contact Neighbourhood Watch for free one-way locking screws that will prevent number plates from being stolen.

Neighbourhood Watch encourages all criminal matters to be reported to the police, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant.

Most crimes in Hornsby Kuring-gai are solved with information gathered from the community, and any information may be part of a bigger picture or help protect another member of the community in the future.

For more information about Neighbourhood Watch and its services, visit their Facebook page, or visit www.watchout.org.au for a wealth of resources.

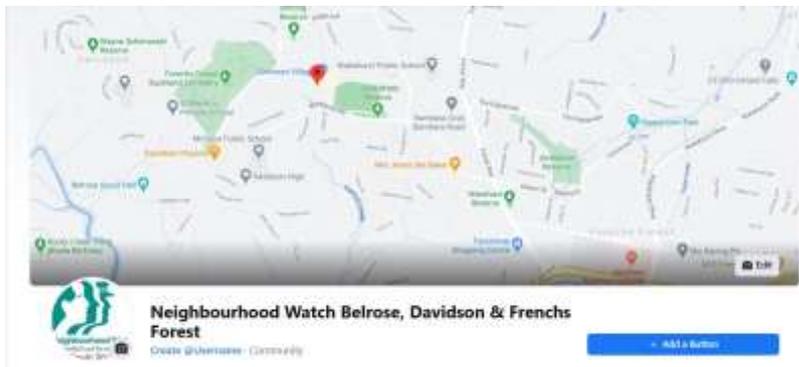
To keep updated with reported crimes in the area, signing up for their free

weekly eNewsletter at www.nhwkuringgaihornsby.org.au.

Do you know anyone who lives in Belrose, Davidson or Frenchs Forest?

They have a new Neighbourhood Watch group, launching at the Glenrose Shopping Centre 830am - 3pm on Saturday 13 February 2021.

The new Facebook page has been set up and is looking for likes and followers, see [here](#). Their private group is set up [here](#).



A new Neighbourhood Watch group has also been set up for Queanbeyan [here](#).

02 February, from NSW Police: Motorists are advised to avoid the M1 northbound at Wahroonga after a crash in which a bull was injured earlier today

About 7:20am today (Tuesday 2 February 2021), emergency services responded to reports a ute towing a trailer that had rolled over on the northbound lanes of the M1, 200m north of the Kuring-Gai Chase overpass. A bull – which was in the trailer – has been seriously injured and is in the middle of the roadway. A vet is now on scene. Major delays are being experienced and

motorists are asked to avoid the area if possible. Motorist are advised to monitor www.livetraffic.com for updates.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>. Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages.

01 February, Shared with permission from the West Lindfield/Killara group:

Mail theft occurred near Killara station around midnight. Do check your CCTVs especially if it's an apartment.

31 January, from Crime Stoppers NSW via Next Door: Safety in Driveways

Three children are unintentionally run over every week in Australia, mostly occurring in the driveway of their homes. This is a tragic incident for all involved.

- Always supervise your children and do not let them play around cars. When near cars always hold their hands to keep them close and safe.
- If you need to move your car (even just a small distance), make sure your child is in a safe, secure area away from the driveway or place them correctly in the vehicle with you while you move it.
- Do not let your child use the driveway as a play area. Keep this area separate from their play areas.
- Use security fencing, doors or gates to keep the driveway separate from the house and yard.
- Always walk around your vehicle before moving it. Even if your car has reversing camera and sensors, a small child may not be seen until it is too late.



31 January, from Crime Stoppers NSW: There's no such thing as a smart criminal, so when burglars break into your home, they are usually predictable as to where they look for your valuables.

The places burglars usually look are:

- Jewellery Box
- Office or desk drawers
- Master Bedroom
- Toilet tank
- Safe or filing cabinet
- Under the Mattress
- Unused purses or handbags

Of course, we are not going to offer suggestions (we are not going to help the bad guys with new places to look 😊) so try hiding your valuable items somewhere different.



31 January, from NSW Police: The NSW Police Force will launch a familial DNA collection pilot program on the state's Mid North Coast next week, which aims to assist detectives with ongoing historic missing persons investigations. [edited]

Following a comprehensive review of operations, the NSW Police Force announced the establishment of the Missing Persons Registry (MPR) and the implementation of new systems and procedures, which came into effect in July 2019. Since that time, the MPR has undertaken a review of all 769 long-term missing persons cases in NSW and identified a lack of Direct or familial DNA profiles for a significant number of historical investigations.

State Crime Commander, Acting Assistant Commissioner Darren Bennett, said the collection of DNA samples is a fundamental function of missing persons, unidentified bodies and human remains investigations. "Currently in NSW, we have 769 long-term missing people and approximately 330 unidentified bodies or human remains cases, with just over 100 unidentified bodies or partial

human remains physically on hand with NSW Health,” Acting Assistant Commissioner Bennett said. “In a joint-agency project between the NSW Police Force and forensic and scientific experts from NSW Health Pathology on the Human Skeletal Remains Initiative (HSRI) – Direct DNA profiles for all unidentified bodies and human remains on hand have been developed.

Full Media Release [here](#).

31 January, Shared with permission from the West Lindfield/Killara group 2 days ago:

Hi everyone... just a heads up.. we are in Eustace Parade, Killara.. overnight someone broke into our house while we were all home sleeping.. stole my handbag.. which had all my keys and stole my car! We thought our spare key hiding in our bbq out the back was a good spot... it's not!!!!

And in the comments: The police have come, finger printed and said as there have been a number of similar break ins, so might be setting up a task force.

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 10 February: 'All Areas' Neighbourhood Watch meeting for coordinators & volunteers via Zoom @ 6pm. [Email us](#) for more info, or suggestions for discussion.

Saturday 13 February: Launch of NHW Belrose, Davidson & Frenchs Forest, 830am-3pm @ Glenrose Shopping Centre.

29 January, from Australian Transport Safety Bureau: Carbon monoxide exposure likely significantly degraded the ability of the pilot of a Beaver floatplane to safely operate the aircraft before it collided with water in

Jerusalem Bay on the Hawkesbury north of Sydney in December 2017, fatally injuring all six people on board, the final report from ATSB investigation into the accident has found.



Explanatory video [here](#).

29 January, from the North Shore Times: Two drivers have been issued with court attendance notices for street racing in St Ives.

Police said officers detect two vehicles racing at speeds of more than 140 km/h in a 60km/h zone about 11pm on Friday January 22. Police followed the cars through Pymble and the St Ives CBD before the cars were stopped near Woodbury Rd. Both drivers had their licences confiscated and a licence suspension notice was issued on the spot.



29 January, from NSW Police: The missing 13-year-old boy has been found safe and well on a houseboat about 50 meters offshore from the Mooney Mooney public wharf.

About 4.40pm (Thursday 28 January 2021), a member of the public noticed the boy and approached the houseboat. He brought the teen back to shore and contacted police. He has no visible signs of injuries and is currently being assessed by NSW Ambulance paramedics. Police would like to thank the public for their assistance.

28 January, from the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News: BURNOUT FALLOUT

A 28-year old man has had his car confiscated by police and after he allegedly did burnouts in a residential street in Glenorie on Australia Day.

Police were told a man attended Cairnes Road Glenorie in a Holden SS Commodore and allegedly commenced to conduct a number of burnouts at about 4pm on Tuesday, January 26. The burnouts caused a large amount of smoke to blanket the street and reduce visibility. The rear wheels shredded

causing the car to drop to the road. Several men assisted the driver to move the car to a nearby street where the car was parked, and the occupants left the area. The incident was reported to police and an investigation commenced by officers attached to the Traffic Operations Group.

About 4pm yesterday (January 27), officers attended a house in Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills and issued a 28-year-old man with a court attendance notice for aggravated burnout. He was issued with a suspension notice for his licence and his vehicle was confiscated for three months.

Traffic and Highway Patrol Commander, Assistant Commissioner Karen Webb said behaviour like this on our roads is totally unacceptable.

“It is alarming to see a person behind the wheel of a car - particularly at 4pm on a public holiday in a residential street - behaving in this manner.

“People should be able to celebrate Australia Day safely and acts like this put people at risk.”

From Ray Hadley, two videos of the hoons [here](#) and [here](#).

28 January, from 10 News First Sydney: Parents are being warned to be careful with what they put online as their kids return to school - Federal Police say sex offenders can use social media posts to learn a lot about a child, including their name, age or local suburb.

28 January, from Crime Stoppers NSW: Driving under the influence of drugs is a serious offence and can lead to an injury or death.

If you are drug driving, you are breaking the law. Someone is watching and you will get caught. Everyone can help keep our roads safe. If you see, suspect, or know something call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online at nsw.crimestoppers.com.au. Save Triple Zero (000) for emergencies.

**The
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**CRIME
STOPPERS**
1800 333 000

**Someone is watching.
You will get caught.**

If you see, suspect, or know something
call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000
or report online at nsw.crimestoppers.com.au



**27 January, Shared from Thornleigh, Westleigh & Normanhurst
Community group:** Sharing post. Hope they find this family heirloom.



Tiffany Schick ► West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook MUMblers

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Hello all! So we have been moving back into our house in the WPH valley and a very large handmade rocking horse was on our front lawn. Somebody (I guess assuming we were doing council clean up????) has taken it! It's an extremely precious family heirloom which has a time capsule of my husbands family history in its stomach. It would have required 2 people to lift and a trailer. If any one knows if it's whereabouts pleas PM me!! It has 2 name plates engraved on it - Riley Kate and Jay Schick. Thanks



27 January, from Mt Colah NHW: I have just had yet another Australian fabric flag (1 x .5m) with cable ties cut off from the gates my property on Foxglove Rd Mt Colah.

Discovered after my Australia Day party with neighbours at 8pm tonight!!! I attached several large flags to the 3 gates on my property but only one on the main gate was cut off and removed. I also had one stolen from the same gate in 2017! How un-Australian is this Mt Colah residents? Theft is theft no matter how minor! Very disappointed now.

From 'Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for New Neighbours':

- **Tip #15: LIST ROOM-BY-ROOM YOUR VALUABLES WITH MODELS &**

SERIAL NUMBERS etc. PHOTOGRAPH ALL JEWELLERY ITEMS WITH A RULER ADJACENT FOR SCALE. Keep the list & photos safely off-site.

- **Tip #16:** ENGRAVE YOUR LICENCE NUMBER ON VALUABLE PROPERTY. SENSITIVE ARTICLES (eg screens, laptops) CAN BE MARKED WITH AN ULTRA-VIOLET PEN. Ask Neighbourhood Watch for the loan of an engraver and/or UV Pen. Contact via NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org.au.
- **Tip #17:** NOTE WHERE YOUR ELECTRICITY MAINS SWITCH IS AND THE WATER & GAS SUPPLY SHUT-OFFS FOR YOUR PROPERTY. Consider an ETSA padlock on the meter cupboard (a special lock available from locksmiths).
- **Tip #18:** FORMULATE YOUR BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN & MEETING POINTS. CHECK ALL WINDOWS CAN BE OPENED. Get extra window lock keys cut and place them nearby to the windows, but NOT on view!
- **Tip #19:** VARY YOUR DAY-TO-DAY ROUTINES SO AS NOT TO BE PREDICTABLE TO A BURGLAR.

For more tips and translations, look at our website 'Tips' page [here](#). Or try the " page on our WatchOut website [here](#), for links to great information available on the internet.



Thank you to Lisa (ScamWatch Dog 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 (Only victims may report.)

NSW Police Community Portal
Online reporting of non-emergency minor crime: lost property, intentional damage, graffiti or theft.

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 within Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby:

Website NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org.au

Facebook [@NHWKuringgaiHornsby](https://www.facebook.com/NHWKuringgaiHornsby)

Facebook Group [NHWKuringgaiHornsby](https://www.facebook.com/NHWKuringgaiHornsby)

Twitter [@NHWKRGHornsby](https://twitter.com/NHWKRGHornsby)

Email NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com



WatchOut! - our own one-stop-shop for crime prevention links:

Website WatchOut.org.au

Facebook [@NHWWatchOut](https://www.facebook.com/NHWWatchOut)

Local Facebook pages/groups:

[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](#)

[Gordon \(NSW\) Community \(incl NHW\) Facebook Group](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Killara](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Colah](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Kuring-gai](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Normanhurst](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Pennant Hills](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - St Ives](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Thornleigh](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Turramurra](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Wahroonga](#)



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This email has been forwarded to you by Neighbourhood Watch within Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby. 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 area, 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 Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby

c/o Crime Prevention Officer, Ku-ring-gai NSW Police PAC - Hornsby Police Station
292 Peats Ferry Road
Hornsby, NSW 2077
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

