



Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby

eNewsletter #499 - 04 May 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](#).

03 May, from The Hills Area Command



Break & Enter - Windsor Rd x Chelsea Ave Baulkham Hills

Hills Police are investigating a Break & Enter than occurred between 12am and 3am on Sunday the 2nd of May 2021 on Windsor Road near Chelsea Ave, Baulkham Hills.

Two Vehicles were stolen a grey 2016 Nissan XTrail & a Kia Carnival Van.

At 3.00am Hills Police were alerted to a crashed vehicle at Wesson Rd, West Pennant Hills, where the 2016 XTrail was found and recovered. The Kia Carnival is still outstanding. E79987218

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or visit [site here](#). Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages.

02 May, from NSW Police Force [Edited]



NSW Ambulance and NSW Police are appealing to the public to only call Triple Zero in emergency situations to ensure paramedics and police officers can help those most in need.

New figures show thousands of non-emergency Triple Zero calls are being made each week at a time when emergency services have never been busier. In the 12 months to 31 March 2021, NSW Ambulance responded to more than 200,000 jobs where no patient was taken to hospital with reasons ranging from hoax calls to refusal of transport.

For the same period, NSW Ambulance also received a concerning number of calls for trivial matters including 1,036 calls from people complaining about constipation, 662 for a toothache, 215 for earaches, 167 for boils, 157 from people who couldn't sleep and 16 for hiccups.

During the same period, the NSW Police Force received almost 800,000 requests for assistance via Triple Zero, which is in addition to more than 580,000 non-emergency reports through the Police Assistance Line 131 444 and the [NSW Police Community Portal](#).

Of the Triple Zero calls, about 40,000 are transferred to a non-emergency line, but more than 150,000 calls are later deemed to have been more suitable to a non-emergency line.

NSW Ambulance Assistant Commissioner Steven Norris, Director of Control Centres, said non-emergency jobs take paramedics and call takers away from their most important work – saving lives.

“If you are having a medical emergency we will always respond to you but too often our paramedics are responding to calls that we simply don’t need to attend,” Mr Norris said.

“We want the public to think before calling us for trivial matters.

“If it isn’t a medical emergency, please consider other health services such as your GP, a pharmacist or a registered nurse at HealthDirect which is available 24 hours a day.”

30 April, from NSW Police Force

How well do you understand cryptocurrency?



In partnership with Microsoft, we're hosting students from seven NSW universities next week at our inaugural Cybercrime Think Tank. The students will present their ideas in relation to emerging technology issues faced by our community, including the rise of cryptocurrency. Good luck to all those involved!

30 April, from Ku-ring-gai Command:

A couple of weeks ago many of us in the Hornsby area received a text message from the number 0444 444 444. It had a link upon which to click which then showed an image of a gentleman who had been reported as missing. It was through this text that we received a call from a local resident stating that the gentleman was out the front of her home. It was good to have been able to report that he was recovering and doing well.

Usually we do not encourage the clicking on links but in this case we do as it will show a photograph of the person we are searching for. So for you information, this phone number is legitimate as is the accompanying link.

Received a call or text from **0444 444 444?**

If you receive a call or SMS from the number above, it is genuine.

The message is from Emergency Alert, a national telephone warning system that sends voice messages to landlines and text messages to mobile phones in a defined area using geo-targeting technology.

The number may be used to advise about high risk missing persons and emergency situations such as fire, flood, or extreme weather events.



The NSW Police Force is now using geo-targeting to locate high risk missing persons, sending emergency alerts to mobiles in the area where the person went missing.

We remind you that if you receive a text message from 0444 444 444 this is an official alert to seek your assistance. This text will provide you with information and a link to an image.

28 April, from [acc.gov.au](https://www.acc.gov.au): Losses to car ad scams climbing

Australians have already lost over \$288,000 to vehicle scams in the first quarter of this year, more than all losses reported to Scamwatch in 2019, and scammers have now begun impersonating defence personnel to con their victims.

In a vehicle scam, scammers post fake online listings offering to sell in-demand cars at well below market value to lure potential buyers looking for a second

hand vehicle. Scammers seek payment to secure the car for the buyer but never deliver the vehicle.

Vehicle scams are commonly hosted on sites such as Facebook Marketplace, Autotrader, Car Sales, Cars Guide and Gumtree.

“As second hand car sales increased during the pandemic, unfortunately so did vehicle scams. If current trends continue, Australians could lose much more to vehicle scams this year than the \$1 million lost in 2020,” ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said.

“We want to raise awareness of these scams to reduce the number of people who may be vulnerable to them.”

A new technique we are seeing is scammers pretending to be defence personnel. In 97 per cent of reports received this year, the scammer claimed to be in the military (navy, army and air force), or to work for the Department of Defence, and said they wanted to sell their vehicle before deployment. This sought to create a sense of urgency with buyers and explained the unusually low listing price of the vehicles and why buyers could not inspect them prior to payment.

Email addresses that do not bear the legitimate the defence email format of @defence.gov.au may be an indication of a scam, but even the correct email format does not guarantee the car ad is not a scam, as scammers are able to spoof email addresses. It is best to look for all warning signs to avoid being scammed.

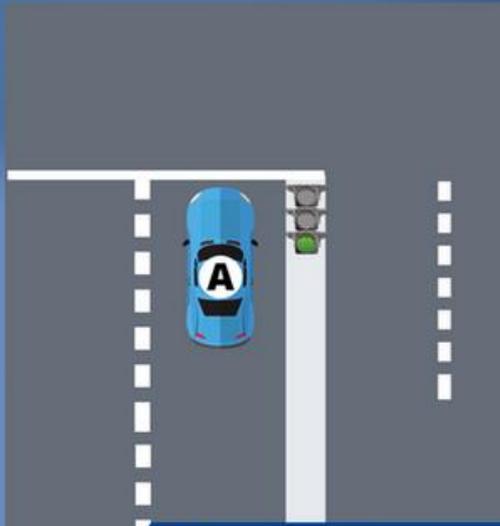
Read full article [here](#).

There are no other signs and 'A' has a green light. Can they legally do a U-turn?



**TRAFFIC
TUESDAY**

There are no other signs & 'A' has a green light. Can they legally do a U-turn?



 **THE HILLS
POLICE AREA
COMMAND**

The answer to last week's traffic quiz: At traffic lights. Drivers are not permitted to make a U-turn at traffic lights unless there is a U-Turn Permitted sign displayed



Neighbourhood Watch
Creating Safer Communities

VOLUNTEER EXPO

TUESDAY 8 JUNE, 11AM-1PM

HORNSBY MALL, FLORENCE ST, HORNSBY

FREE

Try volunteering! Make new friends, help your community and have fun.

Come along to the Hornsby Volunteer Expo and ask about volunteering with your local community organisations.



For more information visit
hornsby.nsw.gov.au



Dates for the Diary

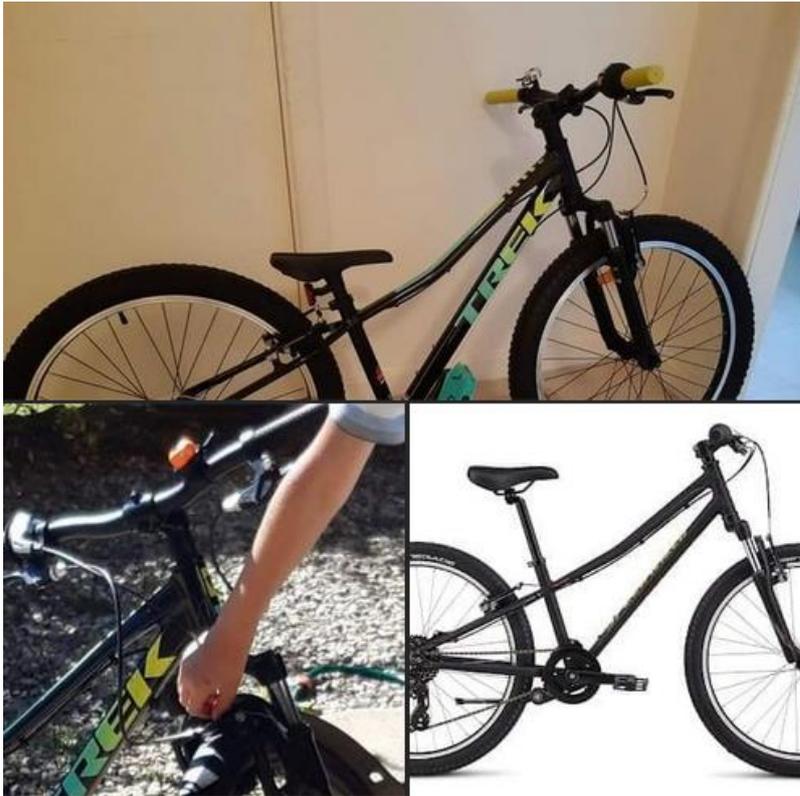
Tuesday 04 May: St Ives Crime Prevention Forum 7-830pm @ Turramurra Bowling Club. Our Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) S/C Colin Mitchell will be discussing the crime situation. Julia Eagles and NHW volunteers will be there to answer NHW questions and give out NHW goodie bags. Thank you to Penny Howell for organising.

Tuesday 11 May: 'All Areas' NHW Coordinator & Volunteers meeting #30 6pm via Zoom (enabled by NHW NSW). Email us any agenda items:

NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com

Tuesday 08 June : Hornsby Shire Council Volunteer Expo 11am-1pm @ Hornsby Mall. NHW will be participating with a crime prevention stall.

02 May, Shared with permission from the Lindfield/ East Lindfield/ Killara/Roseville Community Group



:Either yesterday (1/5) or the night prior to that (30/4), someone broke into my neighbour's yard at the end of Bayswater Road, Lindfield and stole their children's bikes. As you can imagine, they're absolutely devastated. If you have any information or footage of this incident, please comment here or DM me so I can pass the information on to those affected— or, if you were the one who stole the items, please return them. There will be no consequences if you do so. The first two images are of the youngest child's bike. The handlebars have been changed since the first photo; you can see this in the second image. The third image is an example of the eldest's bike. The brand is "specialized" and the size is 24 inches. Please be on the lookout for these bikes! These are kids

who rode their bikes every single day. It would be lovely to see them found/returned.

30 April, from North Shore Times



A man who covered up with a surgical face mask and fedora hat stole several tins of baby formula in a brazen theft from St Ives Coles. [STORY here.](#)

30 April, from North Shore Times



It has been revealed how a North Shore security guard, 21, managed to steal \$28K worth of electronics while on the job – before eventually being caught in the act. STORY [here](#). Unfortunately our volunteers don't have a subscription.

30 April, from Australian Federal Police: How good is the AFP at investigating fraudulent Microsoft support businesses?

We EXCEL at it.

The AFP has collaborated with Microsoft in an investigation into an alleged fraudulent technical support business, falsely offering Microsoft technology support to Australian customers.

Police allege the business linked Australian victims to offshore scammers who would request remote access to their computers and convince their victims to purchase new software to fix genuine computer issues. The software provided was outdated and sold at an inflated price. During the remote access the scammers also deactivated antivirus software and other programs designed to protect the victim's computer from malicious software and further unauthorised remote access.

We encourage you to be vigilant and careful when allowing businesses to remotely access your computers. Allowing scammers access to your computer may put you at risk of malware, computer viruses or even the theft of your identification details and sensitive personal information via remote access that can occur without your knowledge.

Remember to only download software from the Microsoft store or official Microsoft partner websites. The AFP will continue to investigate and dismantle any businesses involved in fraudulent activity, you have our WORD.

For more information on scams, how to report them and tips on how to protect yourself, visit [site here](#). If you are concerned that your identity has been compromised, contact the national identity and cyber support service [here](#).

29 April, Shared with permission from the St Ives Community group
[Edited to include police response]

Dear Chasers,

There's a group of teens (approx 14yo?) who hang around Michael and Maggie's on their bikes (Warrimoo shops). I had 2 of my boys (9, 12) in the car with me when we drove in an hour and a half ago, to pick up a missing ingredient. My 12 year old didn't even want me to park the car. He implored me to keep driving home and repeatedly told his little brother not to look at them. I kept driving and asked them what that was about. My 9 year old said these boys tried to take his shoe off when he was at the shops with a friend on the weekend, and my 12 year old said they have said mean things to him as well. Not just once, but quite a few times. I really wanted to drive back there and have a Mama word, but decided against it. Plus my 12 year old warned me that I would get bashed if I went over to them. I doubt I would have, but he was distressed so I opted against it.

Can I please ask that we all be extra vigilant when making trips to the little Warrimoo shops, so we can ensure our young people are kept safe and feel safe? It's such a shame that this little cohort is instilling fear in other children, who are innocently going up to grab a treat.

TIA

The response from our Crime Prevention Officer Snr Cst Colin Mitchell:

If your children are being bullied at school, resulting in fear both while at school and outside school, please bring this to the attention of the School as soon as you are able. The school representative can contact our School and or Youth officer with either of them being able to speak with the school, your child and the bullies.

If this originated from within the school this approach should stop things occurring both at school and outside school.

If, on the other hand, as it likely appears on this post, that it is an unrelated group of youths causing dramas at the shops, I would encourage the shop owners or person's intimidated by them to contact police at the time where we

can attend, identify, speak to them and call their parents about their behaviour and move them on.

No person should feel uncomfortable when shopping with or without their children.

29 April, from NSW Police Force

Homicide Squad detectives are continuing to appeal for public information into the murder of Kalim Saliba one year on from his death in Sydney's north-west. Just before 12.30am on Wednesday 29 April 2020, emergency services were called to a home on Tallowood Avenue, Cherrybrook, following reports two men had forced entry to the home.

Police attended and located the occupants, an 86-year-old man and 84-year-old woman, with serious head injuries.

They were treated at the scene before being taken to Westmead Hospital where the man, Kalim Saliba, later died.

Officers from Ryde Police Area Command established a crime scene and commenced inquiries into the incident, before detectives from the Homicide Squad took carriage of the investigation under Strike Force McCleery.

Homicide Squad Commander, Detective Superintendent Danny Doherty, said police are continuing to investigate several lines of inquiry to identify those involved.

"Today marks one year since the death of Mr Saliba and police would like to thank the community for their help as investigators continue to work toward providing the Saliba family with answers," Det Supt Doherty said.

"Two masked men viciously attacked an elderly couple in their home, a place where they have the right to feel safe, resulting in a family losing a loving husband, father and grandfather.

"Someone out there knows something and we are encouraging them to look into their conscience and come forward."

As police continue their search for answers, the Saliba family appealed for those with information to come forward.

“Our family is devastated and continues to grieve, and we are urging anyone with information to contact police to share what they know, whatever that might be,” Kalim’s son, Joseph Saliba said.

“Dad will be forever cherished by our family as a loving father, grandfather and friend taken from us too soon,” he said.

“We would like to thank the NSW Police for their support and know they will not stop until they find justice for our family.”

Investigations under Strike Force McCleery are continuing.

Anyone with information that may assist Strike Force McCleery investigators is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or visit [site here](#). Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages.

28 April, from Crime Stoppers NSW

SAFETY FOR SENIORS...(part 5 of 7)

If you have an elderly loved one, you can sometimes worry about their safety. Elderly people can be more trusting and come from a time when things were simpler. Share with them these tips to help keep them safe.

OUT AND ABOUT:

- ✔ Don't carry large sums of money.
 - ✔ If you carry a handbag, hold it under your arm or in front of you and never leave it unattended. If you use a wallet, put it inside your jacket or a front pocket.
 - ✔ Have your car keys ready before you get to your car.
 - ✔ If you believe you are in danger, shout out and make a scene and go into the nearest shop or busy place.
-

27 April, from Australian Cyber Security Centre



Are you thinking of discarding or selling an internet-connected device like your smart watch? It may give others access to your personal information or data.

Before disposing of your device:

- 🗑️ Erase all data and personal information
- 🔄 Perform a factory reset
- 🔗 Disassociate it from mobile phone and other devices
- 📀 Disconnect removable media

For more information check out our website [here](#).

27 April, from NSW Police Force

The success of SMS geo-targeting technology has once again been highlighted in NSW Police Force's latest podcast, after an 83-year-old man who suffers from dementia was found safe after going missing on Sydney's North Shore earlier this month.

The technology, already utilised by other government agencies such as the Rural Fire Service, sends a targeted message to residents near where a person goes missing.

Listen to the heart-warming back story [here](#).

⚠️ **REMEMBER:** If you receive a text message from 0444 444 444 this is an official alert to seek your assistance. This text will provide you with information and a link to an image.

27 April, Shared with permission from the NHW in Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby group this afternoon:

On behalf of another page

Please be aware - JUST NOW AT 3.50pm

my girls were just followed home from Thornleigh Station by a man about early-40s (they think) they described him as.....Tall, brown hair , grey headphones, grey shirt with a grey type design on it, black pants coffee cup in his mouth and a brown phone case. they tried to ditch him and weaved their way through the streets to Thornleigh West public -they are obviously shaken. Please keep an eye out for this man... keep your children safe

From NHW in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby: 'Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for Apartment Security'

Tip#9. Reduce the chances of 'tailgating' by waiting until the doors/gates to your carpark close completely after you, before moving further within.

Tip#12: Don't tell burglars you live alone. Leave an answering machine greeting that says "We can't come to the phone right now... " even if you live alone. When someone is at the door, call out loudly to your imaginary roommate that you will answer it.

Tip#17: Do not leave your car park remote control or any valuables on view in your vehicle, even if it is locked and in the secure parking area.

Tip#20: Natural ladders are a risk. Don't provide easy access to upper level balconies, eg wheelie bins, lattice, trees, nearby fences.

For more tips and translations, look at our website 'Tips' page [here](#). Or try our

WatchOut! website [here](#), for links to some great information available on the internet. Or request a copy in your inbox [here](#).

Thank you to Townlife Magazine

Waiter: "How do you like your steak, sir?"

Sir: "Like winning an argument with my wife."

Waiter: "Rare it is!"

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](#)

[Neighbourhood Watch - Warrawee](#)

Face-to-Face/printed newsletter groups:

Neighbourhood Watch - East Killara

Neighbourhood Watch - Gordon (part)/Killara (part)/Pymble (part)

Neighbourhood Watch - Hornsby (Jubilee St)

Neighbourhood Watch - Mt Colah

Neighbourhood Watch - St Ives (Lynbara Ave)

Neighbourhood Watch - Turramurra (The Chase)

