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This email is compiled by Neighbourhood Watch volunteers within the Kuring Gai Police Local Area Command (LAC). Thank you for all your encouraging remarks. Please suggest your neighbours and friends join our NHW Gordon Mailing list: NHWGordon@gmail.com. Thank you. And welcome to any new subscribers!

This weekly update has two sections:

- Project eyewatch: A selection of stories from facebook, as an example of what's been posted for the week (Please note, the detail is no longer timely).
- We always include the Media Release that our Crime Prevention Officer distributes on a Monday morning, covering a few of the incidents from the week before in our area.



A **hazard burn** is taking place at Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park this afternoon.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) together with NSW Fire and Rescue, the Rural Fire Service and Ku-ring-gai Council have begun a hazard reduction burn in the national park between North Turramurra and St Ives Chase. They plan to continue the operation tomorrow.

Gary Dunnett, from the NPWS, said the 73 ha strategic burn would help protect properties from the summer wildfire season and is expected to generate a lot of smoke.

“Smoke will potentially drift into surrounding suburbs from Turramurra through to St Ives but should not impact any major roads,” he said.

“Warrimoo Oval in St Ives Chase will be closed tomorrow for use as a helicopter base.

“Fire agencies have been working hard to complete as many hazard reduction burns as possible while the weather conditions have been suitable.

“Hazard reduction burns are very weather dependent. and can only be done if fuel moisture, wind and temperatures are exactly right.

“We would like to apologise to our neighbours and visitors in advance for any inconvenience.”

For more information on planned hazard reduction burns, visit the RFS website: www.rfs.gov.au

From **Harbourside Command:**

Well another fairly quite weekend across the command. A few items of interest, 3.50am this morning Police were stationary at a set of lights when a car drove past the police vehicle and through the red light..... Not surprisingly Police decided to stop the vehicle and speak with the occupants. The occupants behaviour when spoken to by Police seemed a tad suspicious so a search was conducted during... which Police located drug paraphernalia, scales, small white tablet and an amount of blue liquid believed to be a prohibited drug.....enquires are continuing at this stage.

We have noticed an increase in the numbers of Break Enter & Steal offences occurring in the Mosman Area of late. Please make sure you lock up and if you have an alarm it only works if you turn it on.

Copper seems to be the metal of choice at the moment, a number of schools in the command have been victim to copper thefts, if you see some one out of school hours acting suspiciously around a school please call us!!!!.

Don't forget community forum 26th July North Sydney Oval Convention Centre 7.00pm.

Yours in Policing

Dean LINDLEY
Inspector.

Think Before You Trek is a bush safety initiative between the NSW Police Force and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. It aims to provide bushwalkers and adventurers in the Blue Mountains with a **free loaned** Personal Locator Beacon (PLB).

Every year around 130 bushwalkers get lost and/or require rescuing. Most walkers are found within 24hrs, but occasionally a weekend adventure can turn to tragedy. Between 2004 and 2007 nearly 400 people were reported missing in the Blue Mountains and surrounding area, which led to 200 search and rescue operations.

The Blue Mountains National Park covers over a quarter of a million hectares of land and has Australia's largest network of walking tracks covering over 250 kilometres. It is also NSW's busiest park with an estimated four million visitors a year. Much of the park is remote and difficult to access, except via foot, this makes it extremely attractive to bushwalkers from all over the world.

Think before you TREK promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

T - Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.

R - Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.

E - Emergency beacon (PLB's) are available free of charge from NSW Police Force and NPWS.

K - Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Monday, 21 May 2012 12:42:45 AM

Police assisted a young boy in Wentworth Falls last night, after his fingers got stuck in a bathtub plug hole.

About 6pm (Sunday 20 May 2012), the Blue Mountains Police Rescue Squad and other emergency services attended a house in The Avenue.

Upon arrival they located a 7-year-old boy with three of his fingers stuck in the plug hole of the bathtub drain.

His parents had attempted to remove his fingers from the plug hole however had been unsuccessful.

The plug hole was removed from the bathtub and then it was removed from the boy's fingers about 7.55pm.

He was assessed at the scene by NSW Ambulance Paramedics and did not require any treatment.

Man injured in motorcycle crash - Cowan

Sunday, 20 May 2012 11:24:54 PM

Police are appealing for public assistance following a motorcycle crash at Cowan in Sydney's north today, which left a man seriously injured.

About 10.50am (Sunday 20 May, 2012), a man was riding a Suzuki motorcycle north on the Pacific Highway, when the bike left the roadway and ran into a tree.

Police and other emergency services attended the incident and the 24-year-old man was conveyed to Royal North Shore Hospital with severe head injuries.

He is currently in hospital in an induced coma.

A crime scene was established which was examined by police from the Metropolitan Crash Investigation Unit.

Investigators are urging anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has any information to contact the Metropolitan Crash Investigation Unit or Crime Stoppers.

Kuring Gai residents are advised to keep **front and rear fly screens** and doors locked when they are home. There have been a number of incidents reported of persons walking into homes when residents are home through unlocked front or rear doors. Items have then been removed and the offender/s left without the homeowners being aware.

Man charged after 18 credit cards seized - Hornsby Friday, 18 May 2012 07:14:52 AM

A man is due to appear in court this morning after 18 fake credit cards were seized at Hornsby last night.

Police from Kuring Gai Local Area Command were called to a shopping centre in Florence Street about 7pm yesterday (17 May) after security detained two men who had bought three MP3 players, allegedly with a fraudulent credit card.

Two men, aged 22 and 29, were arrested and their car searched where police will allege a further 17 fraudulent credit cards were found.

The younger man, from Hurstville, was charged with three counts of dishonestly obtain property by deception.

He was refused bail and will appear in Hornsby Local Court later today.

The second man was released without charge.

From the NSW Police, a request for **Community Feedback**. Your chance to have a say.

The NSW Police Force pride ourselves in providing you the community, an ethical and diligent service. In order to continue a high level of service, we would like to receive your feedback on the way you see your Police Force and the role they carry out.

We'd love it if you took the time to complete a short questionnaire about your experience. Here is the link: <https://secure.peoplepulse.com.au/display.php?mid=2060116b2b887848336>

Business owner injured in **attempted robbery - Pymble**

Tuesday, 15 May 2012 10:36:31 PM

Hornsby Detectives are appealing for information from the public following an assault and attempted robbery in Pymble.

About 2 pm today (Tuesday 15 May), a man, disguised by a hooded jumper, entered a business on Grandview Street and demanded money from the business-owner.

The 56-year-old owner, who was the only person working in the shop at the time, refused to hand over cash and told the hooded man to get out.

The man then grabbed a laptop from the store and attempted to leave, but he was grabbed by the owner and a wrestle between the pair ensued.

A witness from an adjoining store came to the owner's aid and they were able to briefly detain the man, however a second man then entered the shop and attacked the owner with a wrench.

Both men then fled the store and were last seen driving in a blue Ford Falcon, west along Grandview Street.

Police were called and interviews with the owner and witness were conducted. The owner was

also treated for a cut to his head, sustained as a result of being hit with the wrench.

Detectives would now like to speak to anyone who may have witnessed the attempted robbery or seen two men driving in the Pymble area in a blue Ford Falcon.

The first man is described as Caucasian in appearance, 180-185cm tall, with a slim build. At the time of the incident, he was wearing a grey-hooded jumper, black and yellow work gloves, jeans and white shoes.

The second man is described as being 30-40 years old, approximately 175cm tall with a heavy-set build. At the time of the incident, he was wearing a grey jumper, blue jeans and white shoes.

Anyone with information that may assist police inquiries is asked to contact Crime Stoppers.

The Police hold a **Holiday Register** that is used for people going away for a significant time. They can record key holders, and can schedule drive pasts, if necessary.

Early notice:

A Project eyewatch Community Training Day is to be held at the Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, Pacific Highway, Gordon, on Friday August 24th at 10-12am. FREE. Places limited. Bookings necessary: NHWGordon@gmail.com This is ideal for anyone in the community wanting to see how the Police use facebook for Crime Prevention. Especially recommended for Neighbourhood Watch volunteers. No previous knowledge of facebook necessary. Morning tea available from 9.30am.

E-Watch St Ives#1 has been investigating the **rabbit issues**. Dick Whitaker, the coordinator has recently shared this advice from Ku-ring-gai Council's Manager of Open Space Services, Mr. Matthew Drago (edited version):

Given the resistance to environmental control viruses and the wet weather we have experienced over recent months, as outlined in the information below, Council will not be undertaking any baiting or release of viruses until conditions become more favourable in the future.

With reference to private property, Council does not have any power to undertake rabbit control on land that it is not the owner.

The following are the options;

1. Harbor removal. That is, where possible, removing potential habitat for rabbits. Reducing dense under storey vegetation, fencing off feed areas such as lawns and vegetable gardens, blocking holes in rock walls and warrens etc. Harbor reduction must take into account potential impact to native fauna and flora and is not suitable for areas of bushland. It is more suited to residential properties and areas of open space, parks, golf courses etc.
2. Poison baiting with the use of Pindone.
3. Biological controls.
4. Shooting. This is a highly effective option and one of the most ethical as death is relatively quick in comparison with other methods. However it can only be undertaken in a safe situation where shots are clear and guaranteed to hit the target. This again makes control in heavily vegetated areas difficult to impossible. Shooting is not a method used by Council at this stage as the efficiency of other options are being reviewed prior to using this method.
5. Fumigation of warrens is also undertaken when they are able to be found.

Council recommendations for rabbit control on small residential blocks; fencing rabbits out of particular areas e.g. the vegetable garden, removing harbor where rabbits live on your property. When undertaking control of pests on your own property you must abide by the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979. The best approach would be to contact a vertebrate pest control company/contractor to undertake the work. Ku-ring-gai Council is committed to controlling rabbits but we cannot eradicate every rabbit in every situation.

The following link will lead you to our report's, feral animal page, It would be appreciated if you could take the time to fill in the information as this will help us gauge the numbers and locations of rabbits in the area. <http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/www/html/4893-report-a-feral-animal.asp?intSiteID=1>

At the present time, due to the wet weather we have had over the last months we have been able to use Pindonebait and the rabbit population is also showing resistance to RHD virus making biological control unviable. Once these barriers abate we will resume our program of both baiting and biological control.

I hope this information is useful to your Neighbourhood Watch group.

From our Kissing Point Road group coordinator, who asked for advice on parking rules re: council verges etc:

197 Stopping on a path, dividing strip, nature strip or painted island

(1) A driver must not stop on a bicycle path, footpath, shared path or dividing strip, or a nature strip adjacent to a length of road in a built-up area, unless:

- (a) the driver stops at a place on a length of road, or in an area, to which a parking control sign applies and the driver is permitted to stop at that place under these Rules, or
- (b) the driver is permitted to stop under another law of this jurisdiction.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

Note 1. *Bicycle path* is defined in rule 239, *built-up area*, *dividing strip*, *footpath*, *nature strip* and *parking control sign* are defined in the Dictionary, and *shared path* is defined in rule 242.

Note 2. A *separated footpath* is a particular kind of footpath—see rule 239.

(1A) A driver must not stop on a painted island.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

Note 1. *Painted island* is defined in the Dictionary.

Note 2. Rule 85 deals with the give way rules applying to a driver entering a turning lane from a painted island and rule 138 deals with keeping off painted islands.

(2) Subrule (1) does not apply to the rider of a bicycle or animal.

Note. *Bicycle* is defined in the Dictionary.

(Advice given by **Tony McCormack** | Team Leader (Regulation) | Ku-ring-gai Council)

VandalTrak System : (extract from Mount Colah Neighbourhood Watch newsletter - but meaningful to everyone!) The growing concern regarding property vandalism, in particular graffiti, has been an ongoing challenge for so many that it seems to be a losing battle. VandalTrak has been established to assist in bringing back the balance of power and control to the key stakeholders being community, business, government and Law Enforcement. Un-reported graffiti only encourages those participating in this type of activity to continue without consequences. ***Our aim is simple***, by being able to catalogue all graffiti in our community, we can begin to track just how much damage is being caused by each of the graffiti vandals. This information remains in the system long after the graffiti has been cleaned and will stay active until matched against a person/s of interest (POI). For further info and to register (a 5 min process) for reporting graffiti then visit www.vandaltrak.com Why not register now so you are ready to report graffiti later on?



Hornsby Police news,
21/05/12

The following relate to local issues in the Kuring gai Local Area Command.

Incident: Drugs Arrest
Time/Date: About 1.15 pm on the 17th of May 2012
Place: Bobbin head Road, TURRAMURRA
Person 1: 21 year old male

Details: Police have sighted a male whose appearance was identical to description given for a possible Break and Enter suspect. A search of the male revealed a small bag of green vegetable matter police will allege is Cannabis, as well as a substantial amount of cash police believe are the proceeds of drug transactions. The male was arrested and charged.

Court: The male is to appear at the Hornsby Local Court on the 30 of May charged with possess prohibited drug, supply prohibited drug, Goods in custody and deal with suspected proceeds of crime. Police are advising the cash to be forfeited to the crown.

...

Incident: Drug detection
Time/Date: About 9.00 pm on Friday 18th May 2012
Place: In the vicinity of St Ives School Yarrabung Road, ST IVES
Person: 16 Year Old male

Details: As the result of a number of vigilant residents police have attended the location in response to loitering and suspicious behaviour by a number of youths. Police have searched the youths and located a plastic bag police allege is Cannabis. The 16 year old male was dealt with by caution.

...

Incident: Fraud

Time/Date: About 6.10pm Thursday 17th May 2012
Place: Myers in Westfields Hornsby
Person: 22 Year Old Male

Details: A twenty two year old male attempted to purchase three iPods valued at \$987 using fraudulent credit cards. As a result of alert security staff the male was identified from an earlier instance at a nearby Westfields. Police have attended locating three fraudulent credit cards were found on the male's person and a further seventeen in the vehicle the male had used.

Court: A twenty year old male appeared before Hornsby Local Court on Friday 18 May 2012 where he entered a plea on three charges of Obtain Benefit by deception. He will be sentenced At Hornsby Local Court on Wednesday 23rd May.

...

Incident: Break, Enter and Steal
Time/Date: Between 5.30pm Wednesday 16th May and 8.00am Thursday 17th May
Place: Residence in Korangi Road, PYMBLE

Details: Some time between the mentioned times person or persons unknown have entered the premises by what is believed an unlocked ground floor door, as a result the residents handbag was taken containing cash and valuables. The residents were home at the time but were otherwise engaged in another part of the premises.

...

Incident: Break, Enter and Steal
Time/Date: Between 4.30pm on Tuesday 15th May and 8.30am on Thursday 17th May
Place: Residence in Church St, PYMBLE

Details: Person or persons unknown have entered the premises via a ground floor unlocked door while residents were home

and stolen a handbag with cash and valuables to the value of \$2000.

...

Incident: Break, Enter and Steal
Time/Date: Between 10.30am and 3.30pm on Saturday 19th May
Place: Residence in Mahratta Avenue, WAHROONGA

Details: Some time between the stated times person or persons unknown have entered the premises by unknown means and stolen jewellery and cash to the value of \$7000. Police or residents were unable to determine a point of entry.

Police are appealing to witnesses who may have information relating to the above incidents to contact Hornsby police on 9476 9799, or phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 to report any information relating to the matter anonymously.

Extra warning:

Police are requesting residents of Kuring-gai to remain vigilant. There has been an increase in the number of reports of Break and Enters. The disturbing factor is the residents were home at the time of the break in. It is advisable to keep doors and windows locked even when home.

If residents have contracted work on their homes, to put all valuables out of sight, do not leave items of value on bench tops or chairs. Remove keys, any correspondence that personally identifies you, eg, credit card or bank statements. Remember when you allow tradesmen and contractors into your home it is highly likely you do not know these persons, and you are allowing a stranger into your home.

END

Remember to report any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood directly to Hornsby Police on 02 9476 9799. **DON'T DELAY IN REPORTING**

Please encourage your neighbours and friends to join our NHW Gordon Mailing list.

Forward this email to a friend

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
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