



## **Media Information**

### **RYDE POLICE AREA COMMAND**

**Tuesday 29 September 2020**

#### *Male assaults staff member at Commonwealth Bank – Carlingford*

About 2.00pm, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020, a male has entered the Commonwealth Bank branch at Carlingford Court. Whilst waiting in line he has started to complain about the long queue and slow service. He was approached by one of the bank staff who attempted to assist him, however he became aggressive and pushed the staff member in the chest, causing him to stumble backwards. Other staff members then intervened and directed the male to leave the branch. The staff member did not suffer any injuries. Male was described as approximately 40 years old, stocky build, short black hair, and of Middle Eastern appearance. Enquiries are continuing.

#### *Man issued cannabis caution – Denistone*

About 11.50pm, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020, police attended Bellevue Ave Denistone in response to a suspicious male sitting in his vehicle. Upon attendance police located a male in the driver's seat who appeared drug affected. Whilst speaking with the male he has directed them to the driver's side door storage compartment. Police searched the door and located a black plastic resealable bag containing cannabis. The male was issued with a cannabis caution.

#### *Young Person charged with graffiti – West Ryde*

About 11.30am, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 police were patrolling the vicinity of Union Street West Ryde. They have observed a young person walking out of a fenced area near a water viaduct. Police approached the young person who was carrying shopping bags at the time and observed black paint on his hands. Police searched the bags and located several spray paint cans and textas. The young person has directed police to a nearby wall which contained graffiti. The young person admitted spraying the wall claiming it was his artwork. The young person was arrested and conveyed to Ryde Police Station where he was interviewed in the presence of his mother. He was charged and is due to appear at Surry Hills Children's Court, on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

### *Fire at Eastwood apartment caused by cigarette.*

About 1.00pm, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020, police attended an apartment in Rutledge St Eastwood, in response to a fire. Upon attendance police have spoken to a female occupant who stated that she had been sitting on a lounge located on her balcony and accidentally failed to put out a cigarette. Consequently, the foam lounge has caught fire, with black smoke billowing from the balcony. The occupant has called 000 and attempted to put out the fire using a bucket of water. When the smoke became too thick, she has retreated into her apartment and evacuated the building. Fire brigade and ambulance crews attended soon after and commenced evacuating residents from the building. Fire Brigade officers indicated that there was no structural damage to the building and fire was largely contained to the balcony. No residents were injured.

### **Lock it or lose it!**

There are a number of valuable items that are a common target for thieves to steal from vehicles because of their value and ability to be sold for quick cash. They are: Laptops, mobile phones, cameras, sporting goods, tools and cash/wallets.

To reduce your chances of becoming a victim of theft, please consider the following security tips.

- Ensure all valuables are removed from your vehicle or conceal them in the boot of the vehicle before arriving at your destination.
- Lock your vehicles doors and close windows even if the vehicle is parked in your driveway, carport or garage.
- At night park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- Park your vehicle in a garage at night where possible.
- Avoid hiding a second set of keys in the vehicle - if the vehicle is broken into, they may find the keys and take the car as well as your valuables.
- Avoid placing bags and wallets on the passenger seat where they could be easily stolen. Thieves will look into vehicles to see what items can be easily stolen. Even a small amount of cash may be the catalyst for becoming a target. Ensure you conceal or remove all cash and valuable items from your vehicle.



## **Media Information**

### **RYDE POLICE AREA COMMAND**

**Wednesday 07<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

#### **Police Shut down party at Network Place North Ryde.**

About 10.30pm, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 Ryde Police attended Network Place North Ryde in response to multiple calls of excessive noise coming from an apartment block. Upon attending the scene, police could hear loud music and yelling coming from an apartment. Police attended the apartment in question and observed a number of people inside. Police spoke to an occupant who indicated that they were celebrating an 18<sup>th</sup> birthday party. The occupant was then issued with a noise abatement direction, to cease the noise. Soon after several party goers who were highly intoxicated, commenced leaving the apartment block and walked towards North Ryde railway station. As this occurred, a brawl has erupted amongst some in the group, which required police to deploy capsicum spray in order to subdue them. Several people were issued with move along directions to leave the area. Investigations are continuing and further charges are likely to follow.

#### **Young person arrested for abusing police in Epping.**

About 12.30am, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2020 Ryde police were responding to an incident outside the Epping Hotel. At this time, the young person in the company of two other males has walked past police on the footpath and commenced directing derogatory comments towards them. Upon concluding their enquiries at the hotel, police have located the young person soon after at a nearby "7 eleven" store. He was unsteady on his feet and appeared intoxicated. Police approached him and attempted to speak to him about his comments towards police. The young person became aggressive and commenced swearing and directing abuse towards police. He was given several directions to stop his offensive language, which he ignored. He was then arrested and conveyed to Ryde Police Station. Due to his level of intoxication he was later released into the custody of his mother. Young person will be dealt with under young offender's act.

#### **Wallet stolen from gaming area – Gladesville Bowling Club – Male Charged.**

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 the victim was seated in the outdoor gaming area of the Gladesville bowling Club at Pittwater Road, Hunters Hill. The victim left his wallet unattended in the gaming area, whilst he has attended the bar to obtain a drink. Soon after a male has entered the gaming area and has picked up the victim's wallet. He has removed

cash from the wallet and then placed it in his pocket, before walking out of the gaming area. The victim has returned to the gaming area and realised his wallet was missing. He alerted staff who reviewed CCTV footage at the club. They identified a male taking the wallet who was still on the premises. The victim approached the male and demanded his wallet back, however the male denied having it. Police attended soon after and reviewed CCTV footage. Staff indicated that the offender was a regular customer and provided his details. Soon after police attended the home address of the male in Hunters Hill and issued him a Court attendance Notice to appear at Burwood Local Court.

### **Male charged with possession of Cannabis – Ryde**

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Ryde Police were patrolling in Joubert Street Hunters Hill. Police observed a vehicle in the street with the engine running and a male in the driver's seat. Police have spoken to the driver and enquired about his presence at the location. The male indicated that he was there to visit a friend, however, was not able to provide details of the friend, and was vague in his responses. Police formed the suspicion that the male was there to purchase drugs and have consequently conducted a search of the vehicle. Police located a bag of green vegetable matter in the centre console, which the male admitted was cannabis. The male was issued with a cannabis caution.

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## **Media Information**

### **RYDE POLICE AREA COMMAND**

**Wednesday 14th October 2020**

#### **Man Charged with possession of cannabis and steroids – Beecroft**

About 3.10am, Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020 police were patrolling the vicinity of Beecroft Road Beecroft, when they observed a silver sedan parked in the middle of the road with the headlights turned on. Police who were travelling the opposite direction have conducted a U-turn in order to speak with the occupant, however the vehicle had driven off. Police continued to patrol the area, and sighted the vehicle soon after, pulling it over on Cheltenham Road Beecroft. Police approached the male driver who appeared affected by either drugs or alcohol. A search of the vehicle was conducted, and a black duffel bag was located which contained a number of steroid vials. A search of the male's wallet located resealable plastic bags containing white powder, which the male admitted being cocaine. The male was arrested and conveyed to Ryde Police Station where he was charged with drug possession, to appear at Burwood Local Court on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

#### **Female arrested for Shoplifting and assaulting staff –Macquarie Shopping Centre.**

About 4.00pm, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 a 29-year-old female from Tregear has entered a store at Macquarie Shopping Centre, whilst pushing a pram. She was observed to enter the aisle containing baby formula and has placed seventeen tins into the pram, under a blanket. She has proceeded to the exit doors of the store past the self- service area, with no attempt to pay for the items. Loss prevention officers from the store approached the female outside of the store and directed her to stop. At this point the female has abandoned the pram and commenced running away. The loss prevention officers have pursued her for a short time and attempted to apprehend her by taking a hold of her. As they have done so the female has begun to lash out by waving her arms around, striking one of the officers in the face. A short wrestle has then ensued in an attempt to bring the female under control. The female has continued resisting and has managed to jump on a one of the self- service counters, by taking hold of a light pole, which caused it to break into several pieces. She was brought under control and police attended the store soon after, placing female under arrest. She was then conveyed to Ryde Police Station where she was charged with shoplifting, assault and malicious damage, to appear at Burwood Local Court on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020.

### **Fraud Scam – Offender claiming to be Police Officer.**

About 5.00pm, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020, a 23-year-old female from North Ryde received a phone call from a male caller claiming to be a police officer. The male has threatened the victim with arrest if she did not pay a sum of money. She was directed to purchase gift cards and provide details to the male. The victim fearing arrest has attended several stores and purchased \$4000 worth of gift cards which she sent to the male. Soon after the female has realised that it was a scam and has contacted police. Enquiries are continuing however police are urging people to be aware and cautious of scam callers, particularly when claiming to be from the police or other institutions.

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## **Media Information**

### **RYDE POLICE AREA COMMAND**

**Wednesday 23 October 2020**

#### **Man charged with supply prohibited drug during proactive policing patrols -Macquarie Park**

About 08:05pm on Friday 16 October 2020, police were patrolling the Macquarie Park area when they stopped a 28-year-old man from Cheltenham due to his manner of driving.

Police spoke with the driver, and further police checks were conducted. Police searched the man and the vehicle and located a glove within this vehicle containing a White substance, believed to be Cocaine.

The man was arrested and was taken to Ryde Police Station. He was subsequently charged with supply prohibited drug, as well as several traffic offences.

He is due to appear in Burwood Local Court on the 2 November 2020.

#### **Woman issued with Criminal Infringement Notice for shoplifting – Macquarie Park**

About 12:50pm on Thursday 15 October 2020, a 50-year-old woman from Eastwood has entered a supermarket in Macquarie Park. She has selected several items off the shelves and placed them into bag she had with her.

She as then proceeded to exit the store without making any attempts to pay for the items.

She was stopped by the stores Loss Prevention officer where she was escorted to the security office to await the arrival of police.

Police spoke with the woman before issuing her with a Criminal Infringement Notice for shoplifting. She was also issued with a banning notice prohibiting her from the store for a period of 12 months.

#### **Gas meter sparks fire-Epping**

About 08:40pm on Tuesday 21 October 2020, an owner of a house in Essex St, Epping was alerted to a sound coming from his gas meter. Shortly after a fire has started from the meter and quickly spread to the side of the house. Emergency services were called, as the man desperately tried to extinguish the fire with a garden hose.

Upon arrival of fire crews, they quickly tried to contain the fire however due to the ongoing gas supply the fire continued until the gas supply could be isolated. No persons were injured, and the house sustained extensive damage to one side, as well as some roof damage.

### **Ryde PAC urge community to be aware of scams**

Over the past few weeks there has been several reported scams using a variety of techniques within the Ryde PAC.

Some of the current scams that have raised their head again is the ATO scam. This is where victims are contacted by phone with someone posing as the tax office claiming that they have outstanding tax debts that must be paid immediately to avoid prosecution. The scammers then ask that you pay in a variety of ways including itune cards.

The ATO are never going to ask you to pay with itune cards. They will contact you formally by mail if there are any issues. If you receive a call from someone claiming to be from the ATO, do not give out any personal information, and do not purchase itune cards or transfer any monies. If you have concerns, contact the ATO directly on 132 861.

The other scam that has also been reported to police recently is one involving Fake tradies (also known as travelling con men). They are dodgy tradesmen who offer to do maintenance work on your home or office then disappear with your money, leaving unfinished or substandard work, if they start work at all.

They offer to do jobs such as driveway resurfacing, painting, roof repairs and carpet cleaning at cheap rates. Make sure that you use reputable tradesmen and get several quotes for the work. Do not let strangers into your home and ask them to leave. If they don't go, call the police. Don't be tricked into giving away your money for nothing.

Finally, always report any scams to your local police.