



## **Media Information**

### **Ryde Police Area Command Thursday 13 October 2022**

#### **Stealing and fraud – Eastwood**

On Wednesday 14 September 2022, a male walked into a store in Eastwood and stole an employee's bag which was situated behind the front counter. The proceeds included a wallet containing credit cards and also Apple airpods.

The male then used the stolen credit card to fraudulently purchase goods at neighbouring stores. Police were led to the possible identity of the male after the victim's airpods tracked to a residential block in Ryde. Further investigation was conducted where Police were able to identify the male through CCTV footage.

On Tuesday 6 October 2022, this male was arrested and charged with stealing and fraud offences.

#### **Stealing and fraud –Macquarie Park**

On Saturday 1 October 2022, a female entered a store in Macquarie shopping centre where she stole a wallet containing bank cards. This female proceeded with using these stolen bank cards to undertake fraudulent transactions within the supermarkets. Further investigation was conducted where Police were able to identify the female through CCTV footage.

On Tuesday 6 October 2022, this female was arrested and charged with stealing and fraud offences.

#### **Assault Police – Epping**

On Friday 7 October 2022, Police were conducting a drug dog operation at Epping railway station when a male attempted to evade Police. The male was stopped and spoken to where he became argumentative and attempted to leave. As Police attempted to stop him, the male punched an officer in the mouth. The male was arrested after a short struggle and charged for assaulting Police.

#### **Ryde PAC urge the community to be vigilant of scams**

Recently, there have been scams in relation to cryptocurrency where the offender/s would entice the unsuspecting victim with investment opportunities. The offender/s have been advertising the scam through the internet requiring the victim to click on a link and then input their personal details and transfer money to the offender/s bank account.

Police are encouraging the community to be vigilant when clicking on any links over the internet or via text message as it could lead to a scam in the making.

### **Ryde PAC urge the community to be vigilant with security of their vehicles**

There has been a growing concern around vehicles being stolen from homes due to a lack of security around them. Unfortunately, there has been a bad habit with regards to owners leaving their vehicles unlocked and even their keys inside their vehicles. Another bad habit is owners leaving personal belongings such as handbags and wallets inside the vehicle whilst it is unoccupied.

The issue with these bad habits is that it exposes the vehicle and the personal belongings as an easy target of being stolen. It may sound like common sense but unfortunately it is a report taken by Police on a regular basis.

Police are encouraging the community to be vigilant with the security surrounding their personal belongings and their vehicles to make it harder for criminals to commit these opportunistic crimes.

### **Ryde PAC urge the community to be vigilant of the wet weather**

Following on from the long weekend catastrophes, the recent poor weather has led to an increase in car accidents on our roads.

Police are encouraging the community to be vigilant when driving on the roads during wet weather because it is a significant factor that leads to drivers losing control of their vehicles and crashing on the road. Police also recommend having your vehicles serviced on a regular basis and checking the quality of the tyres on your vehicle, slow down and get home safe to your families.



### **Media Information**

**Ryde Police Area Command  
Thursday 27 October 2022**

### **Break and Enter - Epping**

About 3:30 am on Saturday the 15th of October 2022 an elderly couple residing in Epping were awoken by the sound of large glass panels within their front door being smashed. Both residents got out of bed to inspect the noise, at which time a male intruder has run up the stairs towards the couple. The male resident was kicked in the stomach multiple times. The female resident managed to push the male intruder out of the room and immediately locked the door.

Police were called to the scene and arrived a short time later. Police and the residents believed that the intruder had fled the premises. The female resident left her bedroom

cautiously to allow police access to the house. However, once the intruder heard the bedroom door open, he raced back up the stairs and assaulted the male resident further.

Police hearing the commotion immediately entered the premises. Police used their taser to cover the intruder and placed him under arrest. The male intruder was charged with the offence of aggravated break and enter.

### **Stolen vehicle – Epping**

In the early hours of Sunday 23 October 2022, the owner of vehicle discovered his was stolen, Oxford St Epping. The victim used GPS tracking, and the vehicle was tracked to a location in Doonside and contacted police.

A short time later, police entered a carpark in the Doonside area and sighted the stolen vehicle. Police approached the vehicle and observed a male situated in the driver seat of the vehicle.

A search of the vehicle resulted in police locating several items, including a balaclava, gloves, and other house breaking items. A search on the male driver which resulted in the finding of drugs. Police also observed other various products and objects in the vehicle which police believed to be recently stolen.

Police seized the vehicle, drugs and other items found; the driver was arrested and charged and will appear in Blacktown Local Court on the 10 November 2022.

### **Drug detection - Epping**

On Friday 21 October 2022, Highway police were patrolling the streets of Epping when the vehicle came under notice. Police stopped the vehicle to conduct random testing on the driver.

The male driver returned a positive roadside drug test for Cocaine. A search of the vehicle resulted in cannabis and cash being seized. The driver was immediately arrested and taken to Ryde Police Station. Investigations are continuing.

### **Resist/Hinder Police – Gladesville**

Around 3pm on Tuesday 25 of October 2022, police attended to check on the welfare of an intoxicated, unconscious male. Paramedics attended the scene and assessed the male. After a medical clearance, police issued the male a move on direction not to return to the location for 12 hours.

After leaving the location the male again came under police notice when crossing the road into oncoming traffic, returning to the location he had been moved on from. The male became increasingly aggressive and confronted police, resisting arrest. A struggle ensued during which police utilised oleoresin capsicum spray.

The 27-year-old man was transported by ambulance to Concord Hospital for a medical assessment after which he was discharged into police custody. The man has been charged with multiple offences including assault police.

He was refused bail and will appear in Hornsby Court on the 26 October 2022

### **Ryde PAC urge the community to be vigilant of scams**

#### **- Foreign currency scams**

As the holiday season approaches, there is a desire to travel and this has led to an increase in foreign currency exchange scams where the unsuspecting victim would contact the offender/s normally through social media platforms in an attempt to have Australian dollars converted into the currency of their choosing.

The offender/s would request a transfer of money to be made by the victim before the foreign exchange of currency. Once the offender/s receive the money, they will cease contact with the victim.

#### **- Employment Scams**

There is a worker shortage across the nation in our current job market and this has led to a rise in employment scams normally advertised throughout the internet and social media platforms.

With these scams, the offender/s are advertising 'work from home' opportunities or job offers, particularly those that offer a 'guaranteed income' or require to pay an upfront fee. Do not deal with an employer or company that does not have a street address, they can be difficult to contact or trace later on. Never agree to transfer money for someone else, this would make you a 'money mule' and this is money laundering which is a criminal offence.

Police are urging the community to be vigilant of these employment scams for when you do go out looking for a job and avoid being a victim or becoming a 'money mule'.



## **Media Information**

### **Ryde Police Area Command Thursday 03 November 2022**

#### **Assault – Ryde**

Around 3:30pm on Thursday 27 October 2022 the victim was sitting in his car on Church Street, Ryde, when he was approached by a 35-year-old male known to him. After a short conversation, the victim attempted to leave his vehicle and was punched numerous times. An altercation took place between both parties and shortly afterwards the male left the location. Police are appealing for any witnesses to contact police.

Investigations are continuing.

#### **Search Warrant- Pennant Hills**

Police received information relating to suspected drug supply activity from a residence in Pamona Street, Pennant Hills,

Around 9:40am on Thursday 27 October 2022 police executed a search warrant on the residence. A large amount of cannabis leaf, cannabis oils, cash and other drugs were seized. A 55-year-old male was arrested and charged with numerous drug offences including supply.

The male was refused bail, appearing before Hornsby Local Court on Friday 28 October 2022.

#### **Break, Enter and Steal – Macquarie Park**

On Saturday 29 October 2022 the 45-year-old male victim arranged to meet a female at a Hotel on Talavera Road, Macquarie Park. The victim parked his vehicle outside the hotel and checked into a room. Around 2:25pm the female arrived in a stolen vehicle, accompanied by two other males. The female entered the victim's room and a short time later a male known to the female knocked on the door to the hotel room. When the victim answered the knock, a male forced entry by pushing his way into the room. Fearing for his safety, the victim left the room and approached reception staff for assistance.

The male took the cash and the keys to the victim's vehicle before fleeing via the fire stairs, to a waiting stolen vehicle in carpark bay.

The couple, who were identified through CCTV footage, were arrested around 9:30pm the same day and conveyed to Ryde Police station. The female denied any involvement in the incident and was released pending further investigations. The male made full admissions to stealing the vehicle however, denied knowing where the victim's stolen vehicle was. The 37-year-old man from Merrylands was charged with several offences including aggravated Break and Enter. He was bail refused and will appear in Hornsby Local Court on the 22 December 2022.

One stolen vehicle was recovered and the other male and victim's vehicle remains outstanding with enquires are continuing.

### **Accident – West Pennant Hills**

Around 7:20pm on Monday 31 October 2022, the 9-year-old boy was attending the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church, Eaton Road, West Pennant Hills, with his parents. At the conclusion of the service, church attendees were outside when a loud 'crack' was heard. A large branch from a gum tree has fallen approximately 10-12 metres and landed on the boy, causing internal head injuries.

Police and paramedics attended the scene, and the patient was transported to Westmead Children's Hospital for treatment.

An urgent request has been submitted to Hornsby Shire Council for arborist assessment of the tree.

### **Malicious Damage – Putney**

Around 2:50pm on Tuesday 1 November 2022, the residents of home in Small Street, Putney, returned to find an unknown male had climbed on to a Jacaranda tree in the back yard and was using a chainsaw to cut off branches. When the owners yelled out to the male, he hastily left the location in a white utility vehicle. Investigations are continuing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Gladesville police station on 9879 9699 or Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000.

### **Ryde PAC Scam Awareness Community Engagements**

Between 7-11 November 2022 is Scam Awareness Week. Scams Awareness week is encouraging people to become scam savvy, by identifying scams. Scams cost consumers, over 300 million Australia wide, last year alone.

Ryde PAC are warning people to be vigilant and alert with would be scammers. As the old adage says, "If sounds too good to be true.. It is!" Ryde PAC will be out and about during Scam Awareness week with information stalls at various locations, to help raise awareness and educate the community on the current scams, to prevent them from being a victim of a scam.

Ryde PAC Crime Prevention Officers will be at the following venues from Monday 7 November:

Monday 7 November - Carlingford Shopping Centre 9am to 12pm

Tuesday 8 November - Bunnings Gladesville 8.30am to 10.30am

Tuesday 8 November - Bunnings Dural 1pm to 3pm

Wednesday 9 November- Eastwood Mall 9am to 12pm

Thursday 10 November – Macquarie Shopping Centre 9am to 12pm

For more information on Scams please visit the [scamwatch.gov.au](http://scamwatch.gov.au) or Ryde PAC Facebook page.