



POLICE REPORT

Community urged to be on lookout for mint-condition \$5 notes

Police on the state's north coast are urging locals to be on the lookout after a number of mint-condition \$5 notes were discovered in circulation. It's believed an unknown man, aged in his 40s, used the pristine notes to pay for goods at a number of Ballina businesses last Thursday (7 April).

The notes have been described as being in "unused" condition and pale in colour, with green serial numbers beginning in the letters "AA". Police from Richmond Local Area Command are conducting inquiries.

Investigating officers do not believe the notes are counterfeit but suspect they might have been stolen from a rare and valuable collection. Investigations are ongoing and anyone who finds any of the notes or has information that might be of assistance to police is urged to contact Ballina Police Station via Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Police investigate man's death

Police from the Canobolas Local Area Command will prepare a report for the Coroner following the discovery of a man's body in the state's central west.

About 2pm on Sunday 10 April, police were called to a property at Ophir, approximately 18 kilometres north-east of Orange. Police are yet to formally identify the man, but believe there are no suspicious circumstances surrounding his death.

Police investigations are continuing.

Police remind community about safety and traffic arrangements for the scuttling of Ex-HMAS Adelaide

NSW Police are advising members of the public who are thinking of attending the scuttling of the Ex-HMAS Adelaide at Avoca tomorrow (Wednesday 13 April), weather permitting, to plan ahead and heed the directions of police and event organisers.

Brisbane Water Local Area Commander Superintendent Geoff McKechnie said that Operation Monument has been set up to assist the management of the event which is expected to draw large crowds.

"The NSW Police Force has committed significant numbers of resources both on the water and on the ground to ensure people enjoy the event and any associated festivities in a safe and secure environment. The resources include General Duties police, Highway Patrol, Marine Area Command and Public Order and Riot Squad officers. "We are urging spectators not to put themselves, friends or family members at risk by using vantage/viewing points which are dangerous. That includes cliff edges that are not fenced by council – they should be avoided. "Members of the public should also be aware that Alcohol Free Zones will be enforced and police will not tolerate alcohol related crime, violence or stupidity, Supt McKechnie said.

Police are also advising that spectators;

- Do not enter the ocean if you are affected by alcohol.
- Do not overload decks or balconies.

· People hosting private gatherings need to ensure that their premises can safely cater for the numbers invited.

Supt McKechnie said that while police respected individual's rights to protest, they must do so in a lawful manner.

"Any protest activity that disrupts the event or the comfort of spectators will result in police intervention and those people who break the law will be arrested and charged," Supt McKechnie said.

Police will also be focussing on the following.

Traffic:

Police are asking motorists to be patient as they might experience some delays due to road closures or changes. As parking is extremely limited all visitors should utilise the free park and ride services.

Boating:

Every skipper is responsible for the safety of their boat and all those on board, and only vessels suitable for use offshore should consider attending.

NSW Maritime safety advice for skippers is as follows:

- Ensure your boat is suitable
- Carry all required safety gear
- Check the weather

Don't go out if in doubt about the weather. The 1000-metre exclusion zone, marked by yellow buoys fitted with yellow flashing lights, will be patrolled by the NSW Water Police and NSW Maritime, with the support of Marine Rescue NSW.

NSW Maritime will maintain an exclusion zone above the scuttled ship and no diving will be allowed on the site until safety inspections have taken place.

Law business damaged by fire

Police suspect a fire which damaged a small law business in Revesby last night was deliberately-lit. About 11pm, emergency services were called to Selems Parade after reports of smoke coming from the building. The fire was quickly extinguished before it could spread to adjoining shops. The law firm offices sustained moderate fire and smoke damage. Police from Bankstown Local Area Command established a crime scene and were told a dark-coloured sedan was seen leaving shortly before the fire took hold. Investigators believe that car is the same one found burnt-out on nearby Polo Street a short time later. They want to hear from anyone who has details about the occupant/s of the car.

Man charged and clan lab uncovered at Hurstville

Asian Crime Squad detectives charged a man and uncovered a large clandestine drug laboratory in a unit at Hurstville yesterday. About 3pm, detectives attended a unit on Queens Road at Hurstville, where they discovered a clandestine drug laboratory. A 33-year-old man was arrested at the scene and taken to Hurstville Police Station. He has been charged with manufacturing large commercial quantity of a prohibited drug, posses drug manufacturing apparatus and operating a drug premise.

He was refused bail to appear at Bankstown Local Court later today. Investigators will be at the site today while clandestine lab is examined and dismantled.



Residents join forces to show their pride

Community Pride Day saw more than 200 residents join forces on Saturday 9 April at Rosella Park, and march through the streets of Harris Park to show their pride in our City to help put rubbish away for good.

Community Pride Day was an initiative of Lord Mayor of Parramatta, Cr John Chedid, offering residents an opportunity to learn about how they can work together to keep our streets clean and prevent illegal dumping, while having fun at a community event.

"Community Pride Day was a great success. It provided an opportunity for residents to come together, clean up our streets and celebrate our beautiful City," Cr Chedid said.

"The event promoted importance of clean-city living and sent an important message that residents in Parramatta won't tolerate our City being dumped on," Cr Chedid said.

"Illegal dumping costs the community in excess of \$800,000 a year and it is vital that we con-

tinue to educate our local residents and businesses on how to deal with the matter," he said.

The City's 'Clean-up Crusader', 12-year-old Laith Jamal, addressed the crowd on the day with his views on keeping our City clean.

"We, the young people of Parramatta, have a job to educate all our parents about illegal dumping so that they are good role models," Laith said. Cr Chedid said Council plans to have more Community Pride Day events in the next 12 months, as there is still plenty of work to do. Volunteers were guided by Council staff through dumping hot spots throughout the City and following the clean up, volunteers were treated to live entertainment and family fun including face painting and an animal petting zoo.

For more information about Community Pride Day, contact Council on 9806 5669.

For more information about the correct disposal of rubbish, go to Council's website at www.parracity.nsw.gov.au and go to LIVE > Waste and Recycling.

Teenager charged over hotel armed robbery

Police have charged a teenager in relation to an armed hold-up at a hotel in Sydney's southwest last night. About 6.30pm, a male armed with a shortened firearm and wearing a balaclava entered the betting section of the hotel on Woodburn Road at Berala. The male demanded money from two employees behind the bar and ordered several patrons to lie on the floor. He left empty-handed, ran through the car park and jumped a fence onto the adjacent railway tracks. General duties officers from Flemington Local Area Command attended the scene and description of the male was circulated via the police radio. A short time later, the male was arrested on nearby Burke Street. Police recovered a number of items, including the firearm and balaclava, which had been thrown into the front yards of several homes on the street. The firearm was found to be a replica. The 16-year-old was taken to Auburn Police Station and has been charged with a number of offences including attempted robbery. He has been refused bail and will appear in Parramatta Children's Court later today.

**ANY PERSON WHO CAN ASSIST SHOULD CONTACT
CRIME STOPPERS ON 1800 333 000**