



POLICE REPORT

Police appeal after attempted armed robbery

Police are searching for two men following an attempted armed robbery at a fast food outlet in South Strathfield this morning. About 12:55am three employees were outside the outlet closing up for the night when two men approached a 25-year-old male employee. The men who were armed with a screwdriver and had their faces concealed forced the employee to open the store. The offenders demanded he open the safe however the employee was unable to open it. The pair left the premises through the front door before fleeing in a light coloured sedan. Detectives from Flemington Local Area Command are conducting investigations and wish to speak to two men who may be able to assist with their inquiries. The first man has been described as being about 183cm tall and of solid build. He was wearing a black hooded jumper and black tracksuit pants.

The second man has been described as about 173cm tall and wearing a grey hooded jumper. As a result of the incident no one was injured. Police attended and established a crime scene and canvassed the area. Anyone who noticed anything suspicious or has information that might be able to assist investigators is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Patrons turn on armed robbers

Three armed robbers got more than they bargained for when patrons turned on them at a club in Five Dock last night.

At 7pm, three men entered the club on Barnstaple Road via a door on the front verandah before making their way through the gaming room to the main bar.

The men wearing balaclavas and armed with machetes and a tomahawk proceeded to steal cash from the registers and threaten a number of patrons. Police have been told some of the patrons turned on the offenders arming themselves with chairs and throwing them at the men. The trio retreated from the club with an amount of cash before fleeing in a black hatchback. The vehicle, believed to be a Daihatsu Charade, was last seen turning onto Ingham Avenue.

Burwood Police attended the club and established a crime scene which was examined by officers from the Forensic Armed Robbery Unit. Investigators wish to speak to three men who may be able to assist with inquiries. The first man is described as being of small build, approximately 160cm tall, wearing a navy blue jumper with two white stripes down the sleeves and a white shirt. The second man is described as being of small build, approximately 160cm tall, wearing a black jacket, dark pants, white shoes and carrying a black bag with orange trim. The third man is described as being of medium build, approximately 170cm tall, wearing a light-coloured hooded jumper, grey jeans and dark shoes. Anyone with information about the robbery or the identity and whereabouts of the three men is urged to contact Burwood Police via Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Police charge two males with break and enter after two separate incidents overnight

Police from the Eastern Beaches have

charged two people overnight after separate break and enter incidents at Kensington and Randwick. About 10pm yesterday the owner of a restaurant in Anzac Parade at Kensington has discovered a boy allegedly hiding in the rear of his closed premises. The man had earlier closed the restaurant and as the staff ate their evening meal heard a loud bang. The 47-year-old man saw a youth sitting on a rear fence of the premises and shouted at him.

As the man moved towards the boy he jumped into the yard and ran through the gate onto Darley Lane. As the man searched the area his wife then allegedly saw the youth in a storage area of the restaurant near where a laptop computer and her handbag were located. Police were called and after arresting the 14-year-old Daceyville youth took him to Maroubra Police Station. He was later charged with aggravated break, enter and steal and is bail refused to appear at Bidura Children's Court today. Approximately 11pm yesterday police received a triple zero call from a witness who observed a man inside a financial institution at a shopping centre on Belmore Street at Randwick.

Police attended and found doors at the southern end of the complex were partially opened. During a search of the premises police saw two males who fled to a fire escape. After a short foot pursuit the officers from eastern Beaches Local Area Command arrested one man while the second was able to evade capture. The man was arrested and conveyed to Maroubra Police Station. The 44-year-old Penshurst man was charged with aggravated break, enter and steal x 2 and refused bail to appear at Waverley Local Court today.

Truck driver charged over incident on F3

Police have charged a truck driver over an incident which occurred on the F3 freeway last month which police allege had the potential to cost lives.

About 10.25am on Wednesday 30 March 2011, a 33-year-old man was driving a semi trailer north on the F3.

The truck was travelling in the third lane of the three lane road as it approached the RTA heavy vehicle checking station at Mt White. On drawing level with the checking station, it is alleged the truck came to a sudden stop whilst still in the far lane. Vehicles travelling behind the truck had to take evasive action to avoid crashing into the back of it.

The truck remained stationary for about 50 seconds before the driver allegedly began to reverse his vehicle against the flow of traffic, causing many near collisions. After reversing, the truck began to merge across all three lanes in order to pull into the slip lane to the checking station. It's alleged many vehicles had to come to a sudden stop to avoid a collision as the truck blocked all three lanes.

Following an investigation by officers attached to Brisbane Water Highway Patrol, the truck driver was yesterday served a future court attendance notice for the offences of drive vehicle recklessly/furiously and negligent driving.

He is expected to appear at Gosford Local Court on 31 May 2011.

The MIA welcomes better protection for overseas students

The Migration Institute of Australia (MIA), the peak professional body for Registered Migration Agents (RMAs) in Australia, welcomes Government measures to protect overseas students in Australia through new legislation.

The Education Services for Overseas Students Legislation Amendment Act 2011 deals with the registration of approved education providers, providing for enforcement and monitoring of Act compliance and establishing an Overseas Students Ombudsman. The National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011 transfers the regulatory responsibilities for the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector to the Commonwealth.

Australia's hosts some half a million international students. These are young people attempting to navigate a complex system, often with limited English language abilities and without an inbuilt safety net.

"These measures benefit international students by providing a greater guarantee of quality education through the nationally consistent and stronger regulation of education providers," said MIA CEO Maurene Horder. "This will help ensure the improper practices by some education providers of recent years do not happen again."

In step with these legislative changes, the MIA has this week extended Institute membership to qualified, registered Education Agents in an effort to further protect overseas students by beginning the process of separating the good Agents from the bad – a direction initially recommended by the Honourable Bruce Baird in his review of the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000, released last year.

Community fun can save a plant from extinction

The Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney has created a new fun way to allow people and community groups to become 'everyday heroes' and help save plant species at risk from climate change and human activities.

Acting Executive Director of the Botanic Gardens, Dr Brett Summerell said all people have to do to Save a Species from extinction is involve themselves in any activity they enjoy, set up a challenge to achieve a goal and get people to sponsor them.

"You could do it alone or get your school, workplace or community group to create a challenge," Dr Summerell said.

"To give you some ideas, you could compete in the City2Surf (alone or form a team); join one of our supporting sporting groups here at the Garden or if you have a hobby or ability in some area, set yourself a challenge and persuade others to sponsor you to achieve your goal. "Saving a Species is a serious business and our challenge is to raise at least \$50,000 this year through community support for the NSW Seedbank. So far the NSW Seedbank has helped bank 10 per cent of the world's plant species and with our international partners is committed to banking 25 per cent by 2020.

"In Australia we have 25,000 species of plants and at least 23 per cent are under threat of extinction. Our Seedbank is tar-

geting plants most at risk from climate change and human activities to ensure powerful blueprints contained in plant DNA aren't lost forever," he said.

Anne Geddes, Australia's most celebrated photographer for creating visually outstanding images of new born babies in beautiful settings said the NSW Seedbank and the Save a Species campaign inspired her most recent project.

"I came into contact with the NSW Seedbank when creating my book 'Beginnings' which was about the beginnings of all of the elements of nature, including seeds. I found my enthusiasm for new life was equalled by the enthusiasm of the staff at the NSW Seedbank and their quest to save plant species from extinction," Anne said.

"In fact my latest project, a publication and proposed TV series is inspired by a seed pod sent to me from Leah Seed who works at the NSW Seedbank. My new project will feature photographs of around 20 pregnant women with images of seeds, buds, nests and other elements of nature and I'm continuing to photograph seeds from the NSW Seedbank as part of my inspiration," she said.

An image from Anne Geddes book 'Beginnings', a beautiful still shot of an Australian rainforest tree seed, the *Harpullia pendula* is featured in the Save a Species campaign.

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