



POLICE REPORT

Youths charged over home invasion - Wellington

Two youths have been charged after a home invasion in Wellington last night during which a man was allegedly assaulted with swords.

About 8.45pm, a 50-year-old man was at his home in Thornton Street, Wellington, when three persons in dark clothing and balaclavas and armed with large swords knocked at the door.

When the man opened the door, the three people allegedly entered the home and struck the man with the swords several times, causing large lacerations to the man's head. The three people ransacked the home, stealing a number of items.

The victim was taken to Wellington and Dubbo Hospitals for treatment.

Police from Orana Local Area Command commenced an investigation and shortly after the incident arrested two youths at an house on Pierce Street, Wellington. They were taken to Wellington Police Station and both charged with special aggravated enter dwelling with intent to commit serious indictable offence.

The 16-year-old and 17-year-old boys were refused bail to appear at Dubbo Local Court today.

Investigations into the incident are continuing and anyone with information should contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Police seek help to find elderly missing person

Editor's note: An image of Gerard Chetcuti is available by contacting NSW Police Media Unit on (02) 8263 6100

Police are seeking public assistance to help locate an elderly man who has gone missing from his home in Sydney's west.

Gerard Chetcuti, 88, was last seen by a family member at about 5pm yesterday (27 April) at his address in Lucretia Road, Toongabbie. He was found to be missing at 7.30am this morning.

Police have serious concerns for his welfare because he suffers from a medical condition which may make him disorientated.

Mr Chetcuti is described as being of Middle Eastern/Mediterranean appearance, 170cm tall, of a slim build, balding with a small amount of hair around the sides. He was last seen wearing a blue flannelette shirt, blue jeans, and brown moccasins.

Police from Blacktown Local Area Command are conducting extensive inquiries to locate Mr Chetcuti, and anyone with information as to his whereabouts is urged to contact Blacktown Police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Convenience store armed robbery - Mascot

Police from the Botany Bay Local Area Command are appealing for public assistance following an armed robbery in Mascot overnight.

Shortly after 11pm, (Wednesday 27 April), two men entered the convenience store on Oriordan Street, armed with a knife. The armed man approached the male attendant threatening him with the knife while demanding cash and cigarettes.

The attendant opened the register and

handed the men the property before they ran from the store.

No one was injured during the robbery and police have established a crime scene that will be forensically examined.

One of the men was wearing dark clothing with a white scarf covering his face. He was about 183cm tall with a solid build and was of Pacific Islander/Maori in appearance. The second man was described as being Caucasian with a slim build and wearing a dark coloured jumper with a hood covering his head.

Anyone with information about this matter is asked to contact Botany Bay Police via Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Man charged following alleged drug lab explosion - Kemps Creek

Police from the Green Valley Local Area Command have charged a man following an explosion and subsequent death of a man in Kemps Creek last year.

Just after midnight on Thursday 14 October (2010), police and the NSW Fire Brigade responded to reports of a large explosion and fire in a shed at the rear of a property on Western Road, Kemps Creek. A search of the home allegedly located a 23-year-old man suffering severe burns. He was taken to Concord Hospital where he later died.

A second man, aged 31, who was also inside the home, was suffering significant burns. He was taken to Liverpool Hospital, and then transferred to Royal North Shore where he spent a number of months recovering in the burns unit.

After a lengthy investigation by Green Valley Detectives, assisted by the State Crime Command Chemical Operations Unit, Fire Investigators and Crime Scene Officers, police yesterday charged the 31-year-old man.

He was taken to Liverpool Police Station where he was charged with knowingly taking part in the manufacture of a large commercial quantity of a prohibited drug.

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

Firearm produced during warehouse robbery - Greenacre

A number of staff members working overnight in a warehouse at Greenacre have been threatened with a firearm during their shift tonight.

Shortly before 3am today, (Thursday 28 April), three men entered the warehouse on Roberts Road, one armed with a firearm. The men threatened staff members while loading a white van with communication equipment.

The three men fled the location in the van. Witnesses at the scene believe there may be a second vehicle travelling with the van which has only been described as a white sedan.

A crime scene has been established and Flemington detectives have commenced the investigation.

Anyone with information about this matter is asked to contact Flemington Police via Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.



Greek-Australian serial-killer film gets ticket to Cannes

A new Australian film based on the gruesome confessions of a Greek-Australian serial killer and cannibal has been selected for screening at the Cannes Film Festival (May 11-22).

"Snowtown," which made the cut to be among the seven films that will be up for a jury prize, earned critical acclaim following its first screening at the BigPond Adelaide Film Festival, which ended on March 8.

The thriller documents the brutal murder of 12 people -- committed in South Australia between 1992 and 1999 and which the media also dubbed the "Bodies in Barrels Murders" because of where the victims' remains were found -- through the prism of Greek Australian James Spyridon Vlassakis (known as Jamie), one of the four key suspects and the Crown's star witness, who is currently serving a life sentence. The case sent shock waves across Australia and has gone down in history as the most horribly repugnant in the country's history. It was largely solved thanks to the testimony of Vlassakis, who was drawn into the gang of murderers by the man believed to be at the heart of the crime spree, John Justin Bunting.

"Snowtown" received special praise for the performances of the two lead actors playing Vlassakis and Bunting, Lucas Pittaway and Daniel Henshall respectively. It will open at theaters in Australia on May 19.



Artifacts from Greece for first-ever Cycladic Art exhibition in Turkey

The first-ever Cycladic Art exhibition in Turkey will take place in May, at the noted Sakip Sabanci Museum, with 68 artifacts that will travel to Turkey from Greece, on loan from the collections of the Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art and the National Archaeological Museum.

The artifacts, comprising Cycladic figurines, clay pots and marble and bronze items from the two Greek museums will make the journey to Istanbul following the recent approval by Greece's Central Archaeological Council (KAS). This will be the first exhibition of Cycladic art ever held in Turkey, according to Cycladic Art Museum director

Prof. Nicholas Stampolidis, who had the idea for the exhibition.

Stampolidis told ANA-MPA that the exhibition will cover the period from 3200 BC to 2600 BC, beginning from the Early Bronze Age (3200 BC), while another 200 artifacts from Turkey that will be on display, coming from Turkish state foundations such as the Archaeological Museums of Istanbul, Izmir and Troy, among others, will underline the similarities and differences between the two regions, both cultural and commercial, at the peak of the Cycladic civilisation in the 3rd millennium BC.

The exhibition, which will be inaugurated on May 23, will run through August 28.

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