

7 April 2008

Press Release

North Shore Local Area Command

Here is the latest Press Release from the North Shore LAC. It would be great if you could spread the message about the first item as we continue to experience problems with these offences. We did manage to get some very good information after an alert neighbour disturbed an offender in the process of breaking in to a home on the weekend. It showed the value of the NHW message.

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North Shore Police are again encouraging local residents to secure their homes after a series of break-ins to occupied homes in recent weeks. The offences have occurred in suburbs around Longueville, Greenwich and Roseville, typically in the early hours of the mornings. In most cases offenders have used unlocked doors and windows to access homes, and have targeted small, easy to carry valuables such as cash, jewellery, or camera / electronic equipment. In some cases offenders have also stolen the victim's cars after finding the keys laying around the home. Offenders generally do not approach or disturb the residents, and as such these are not violent offences. Police are encouraging residents to ensure all doors and windows are secured, even whilst they are at home. Security doors or window locks allow for ventilation to the home whilst still maintaining security. Valuables such as wallets, car keys or jewellery should be kept in bedrooms at night and not left in unoccupied parts of the house. Victims of these offences should report the incident to their local Police as soon as possible after the offence to allow Police the best opportunity to investigate it.

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Police are encouraging users of ATM's to check the machines carefully before using them after a number of machines have been manipulated in the Chatswood area. Police have received reports of offenders placing objects in the cash slots to conceal the notes when they are dispensed. This causes the user to think that the money has not been issued. The offenders normally wait nearby and return once the user has left to remove the obstruction and take the cash. Users of ATM's should be aware of anyone who appears to be loitering around the machine. Before using the machine people should check the various openings to make sure there are no foreign objects obstructing them. If anyone finds a machine which appears to have been interfered with they should call police immediately. If a machine fails to issue cash the user should immediately contact the relevant bank or business where the machine is located.

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