



Police Briefs

Police have reported that a student left a laptop for a short time on a table near the McKinnon Building but when the student returned the computer had been stolen.

Police have also reported students living in the Gwynneville area losing computer equipment and mobile phones. Unknown offenders removed the flyscreen from an open window and climbed into a residence to take property while the resident was either not at home or in another room of the house.

Police are asking students to take care of their valuable property and to keep property secure at all times.

Senior Constable Mary Patterson from the Wollongong Crime Prevention Unit has stressed the need for students to be aware of the dangers and pitfalls of not securing property.

With the return of re-enrolling students this is an important message.

With the arrival of new students Police are asking that students be aware that valuable property such as laptops and mobile phones need to be kept under constant supervision and should never be out of immediate control.

Safety Escorts

After dark UOW Security Officers are available to walk students or staff to a car or bus stop.

If parked off campus, Security Officers can arrange a Bike Patrol Officer to escort as far as Murphys Avenue.

To arrange an escort, Security can be contacted on ext. 4555 (4221 4555) or on any security telephone on campus by dialling #3. Allow at least fifteen minutes to arrange an escort.

Accommodation Facilities

Students looking for accommodation outside the University accommodation are encouraged to look through respected commercial sources, e.g. rental property agents, etc.

If looking at private rental properties ask for references and carefully assess the arrangements under which you will rent and live.

Shared accommodation in the private rental market is an area in which students should very carefully consider before making any agreement or signing any documents. Look at what is on offer and who are you going to be living with.

Make sure you will be safe and that your personal property is protected.

Consider the following:

- ◊ Who will you be sharing the property with?
- ◊ Is it a family?
- ◊ Is it a single person owner?
- ◊ Do they have references from other students who

have lived there before? You could contact these students to see if they have been happy with the past arrangements.

- ◊ Are you comfortable with the agreement and living arrangements outlined to you?
- ◊ If not, then trust your instincts and look elsewhere.

Students Need to Know

Students have the responsibility to:

- ◊ Screen any accommodation providers and the facilities they offer.
- ◊ Review the accommodation provider, the facilities and the conditions on which the conditions are offered.
- ◊ Students are strongly urged to visit the dwelling prior to any agreement being made or signed.
- ◊ What arrangements are in place for any losses or damages that a student might suffer or experience while living in the intended accommodation arrangements?
- ◊ Arrangements made by students in shared accommodation can involve risk so be certain that you trust the people you will be living with.

Read "The Renting Guide", which is available from the Student Service Centre, before meeting a vendor.

Suspicious Activity

If you notice something out of the ordinary, or suspicious behaviour that may affect the safety of you or other staff and students, make sure this is reported to UOW Security on ext. 4555 (4221 4555). Advise the Officers what you have seen and where. A brief description will help Officers to investigate what is happening. You may see something happening in a carpark or around a bike rack.

UniShop

When leaving bags on the rack outside the shop, do not leave wallets, cash, mobile phones or laptop computers with unattended bags.

Message from Wollongong Police Crime Prevention Unit

Issued on behalf of the Crime Prevention Unit Wollongong Police.

Wollongong Police are asking the public for assistance in identifying a male that may be able to assist with two incidents that occurred on 17 February. A female walking on the University Avenue bridge around 8.40pm was confronted by a male who physically took hold of her. She pulled away and reported the incident to Police.

A short time later a female was walking on the cycle track near the Wollongong TAFE when a male uttered some words towards her and touched her - she challenged him and he left.

Description: Aged late 20's medium to solid build 180 to 185cm tall olive complexion possibly European or Indian/Pakistani in appearance.

All students should be reminded of safety tips and to take advantage of shuttle bus services running between the Wollongong Campus and North Wollongong Railway Station.

TIPS:

- ◇ Try and walk with other people rather than by yourself.
- ◇ Be aware of your surroundings and avoid long conversations on your mobile or sms texting while walking.
- ◇ At night stay in well-lit areas where there are lots of people.
- ◇ Be alert assertive and confident.
- ◇ If you feel like you are being followed or threatened, cross the road, change direction and vary your

pace. Enter a shop or seek assistance from an occupied house.

- ◇ Report any incidents or suspicious activity to Police or UOW Security immediately.

Wollongong Police:
Telephone: 4226 7899

UOW Security:
Telephone: 4221 4555
Mobile: 0407 287750

2009		
INCIDENTS	Jan	Feb
Stealing	-	*
Break-ins	-	*
Stolen Cars	-	*
Stealing from Cars	1	*
Stolen Bicycles	-	*
Malicious Damage	4	*
Suspicious Persons	-	*
Assault	-	2
Robbery Related	-	*

* Not available at time of printing

Police, Fire, Ambulance Triple Zero (000) <small>In an emergency</small>	For urgent assistance
Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 <small>Report crime anonymously</small>	Anyone with information about illegal activities or suspected perpetrators are encouraged to call Crime Stoppers on their toll free number
Police Assistance Line 131 444 <small>For non-emergencies</small>	For non-emergencies Call 131444 or Wollongong Police on 42267899