Please Join the Camden Local Area Command Crime Prevention Officer and Youth Liaison Officer on the 12th of April at the above location to discuss safety tips for seniors.

Camden Police are issuing tips to help older community members stay safe and reduce the likelihood of them becoming victims of opportunistic crime.

Be careful about supplying personal information, and be alert to your surroundings this can help prevent you becoming a victim of crime.

Older people are often a target of thieves because they can be more vulnerable. A few simple precautions can help protect you and your property.

Safety at home

- If you are harassed, attacked or robbed, tell the police immediately
- Lock all doors when you are at home
- Leave spare keys with a trusted friend rather than hiding them
- Keep a photographic record of your jewellery and engrave valuable personal items with your name, address and license number
- If you are going away ask a trusted neighbour to keep an eye on your home and collect your mail
- Don’t keep large amounts of money in the home
- Make sure your house number is clearly visible to ensure police can locate your home quickly if you need assistance
- If you live alone, don’t publicise this
- Do not publicise whether you are Ms, Miss, Mrs or Mr
- Arrange to have regular contact with someone you trust.

Visitors

- If you are not sure who it is, don’t open the door
- Remember if it seems to good to be true, it probably is
• Be suspicious of people wanting to enter your home. Ask for identification, look at it carefully and contact their office for verification
• If someone wants to use your phone for an emergency, offer to make the call for them, but don’t let them in

Con artists
They’re friendly and clever, and they want to trick you out of your money or property. If they attempt to bully you, call the police. Beware of:
• Something for nothing or any ‘cash only’ promotions
• Tactics they may use such as ‘You have won a contest’
• Home improvement offers or service calls you didn’t request
• Get rich quick schemes.

Nuisance phone calls
• Never give caller person information
• If a caller tries to upset you, hang up and report it to your phone company.

Out and about
• Don’t carry large sums of money. Pay your bills by cheque or B-Pay
• If you carry a handbag, hold it under your arm or in front of you and never leave it unattended. If you use a wallet, put it inside your jacket or a front pocket
• Have your car keys ready before you get to your car or front door
• If you believe you are in danger, call for ‘help’ and make a scene and go into the nearest shop or busy place.

Banking
• Vary the routine of your banking: days, times and branches
• Put away your money before leaving the teller
• If you must carry a large sum of cash, separate the money and put it in different parts of your clothing.

Legal matters
• Read documents carefully and check with your solicitor before signing them
• Keep all legal documents in a safe place at home, in a bank or in your solicitor’s office.

Anyone with concerns, or who witnesses suspicious activity, is asked to contact [insert LAC] Police on 1800 333 000.