

Police Debunk the Old Myths About Reporting a Person As Missing

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Police will use National Missing Persons Week to debunk the myths about reporting a missing person.

Sunday marks the start of National Missing Persons Week, an annual campaign to raise awareness of the issues and impacts surrounding missing persons.

The aim of this year's campaign is to encourage people to follow their instincts when it comes to a friend or family member that has gone missing.

It is common for people think they need to wait 24 hours, 48 hours, or longer before they can make a missing persons report to police, but this is not true.

An estimated 35,000 people are reported missing to police each year, which equates to one person every 15 minutes.

According to figures from the Australian Federal Police, 99.5 per cent of these people are found and 85 per cent are found within a week of being reported missing.

About two-thirds of missing persons are under the age of 18 and most are found at a friend's house.

Inspector Dubojski encouraged Hunter residents to become more aware of where their loved ones were and help prevent missing persons reports.

"Be aware of where your family are at all times, especially if they are vulnerable," he said.

NSW Police Force will highlight one missing person profile each day during the campaign and so will the Mercury.

Read more in [Maitland Mercury](#).

For more information visit www.missingpersons.gov.au.

Source: www.maitlandmercury.com.au

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