

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

## Week ending 01 January 2023

### Cheshire News & Appeals



#### Latest Cheshire News

#### **Class A drug dealers jailed following stop check on the M6**

Three people have been jailed for a total of 27 years and eight months after officers stopped a car in Cheshire that contained more than £250,000 worth of ecstasy tablets.

Emily Phillips, 33, and Robert Dalton, 40, were in the pink Ford Mustang when it was pulled over by officers on the M6 at around 1am on Thursday 21 October 2021.

The car contained thousands of ecstasy tablets.

Michael Smyth's DNA was on some of the class A drugs packages, and a further quantity of ecstasy tablets was found in the 29-year-old's home when he was subsequently arrested by officers.

Phillips, of St Georges Road, Swanley, Kent, pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of class A drugs and dangerous driving. She was jailed for 14 years and four months, with her sentencing taking place at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 22 December 2022.

Smyth, of Compton Road, Liverpool, and Dalton of Old Road West, Gravesend, Kent, both pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs.

They were sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 26 July 2022.

Smyth was jailed for seven-and-a-half years and Dalton was imprisoned for five years and 10 months.

Their downfall came as a result of officers patrolling the M6 southbound spotting the pink Ford Mustang being driven in a suspicious manner.

The car was travelling at between 30 and 40mph and was erratically moving between lanes without indicating, narrowly avoiding a number of collisions.

Additional officers were called to the scene and the vehicle was stopped near to Junction 18 in the Holmes Chapel area.

Phillips, who was driving the car, was arrested at the scene on suspicion of dangerous driving.

She was taken to police custody in Middlewich, along with her Ford Mustang.

Dalton, who was a passenger in the car, was initially taken to Sandbach Services and released by officers.

However, he was arrested a short time later, after officers had searched the Ford Mustang and discovered the ecstasy tablets valued at between £250,000 and £500,000.

The drugs were inside a bag.

An investigation was subsequently launched by Crewe Proactive CID.

Once they got a DNA match for Smyth from the drugs packaging, officers arrested him at his home on Wednesday 26 January 2022.

They searched the property and discovered a quantity of ecstasy tablets valued at between £660 and £1,320.

The officers also found drug paraphernalia at the address.

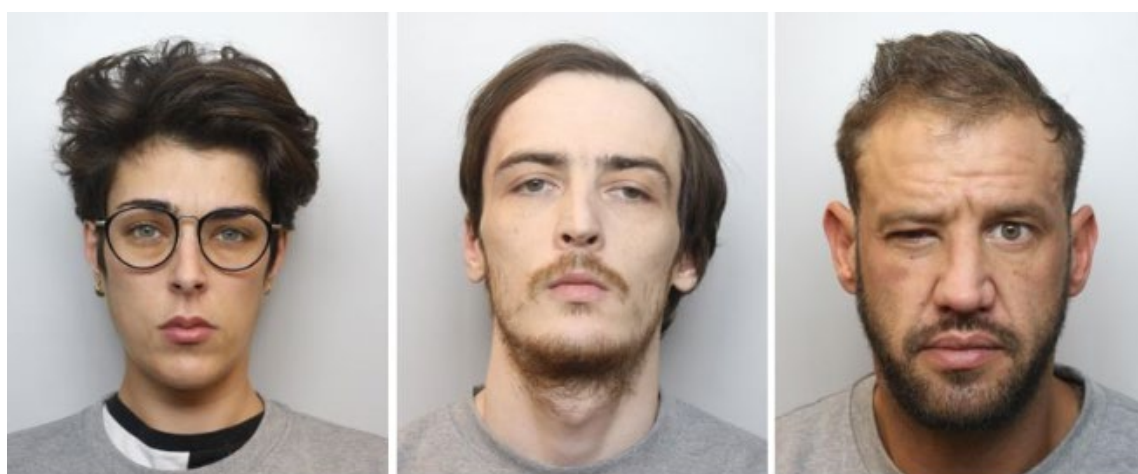
Police Constable Mark Jones, who oversaw the investigation at Crewe Proactive CID, said: *“With the strength of the evidence we were able to gather against Emily Phillips, Michael Smyth and Robert Dalton, they had little choice other than to plead guilty to the class A drug dealing offences they were charged with.*

*“Their convictions and the significant custodial sentences they have been handed by Chester Crown Court are the results of great work by all the officers involved in the case, which shows the value of police stop checks.*

*“What started as a basic stop check resulted in the seizure of a substantial amount of class A drugs.*

*“On top of that, Phillips, Smyth and Dalton are all now behind bars facing the consequences of their actions.*

*“I hope that the sentences they have been handed act as a warning to others and sends out a clear message that if you come to Cheshire to commit crime, you will be caught and you will be brought to justice.”*



Emily Phillips

Michael Smyth

Robert Dalton

## Man dies following house fire in Daresbury

A man who was seriously injured following a house fire in Daresbury has sadly died.

Kieran Naylor, 33, passed away at 8.45pm on Monday 26 December.

His death comes two weeks after his fiancé Rebecca Foster, 32, passed away.

The couple sustained serious injuries during a fire at their home on Delph Lane, Daresbury, in the early hours of Monday 12 December.

In a tribute, Kieran's family said:

*"Words cannot express how completely heartbroken and devastated we are to have lost Kieran. Our lives will never be the same.*

*"Kieran really was the best son, brother and uncle that anyone could have wished for and he will be sorely missed by everyone who had the pleasure to have known him.*

*"Kieran and Rebecca are now reunited forever and they will always be in our hearts.*

*"We would like to thank everyone who tried to help Kieran and Rebecca following the fire and would ask that we are left to grieve in peace at this time."*

Investigations into the cause of the fire are still ongoing, but it is not believed to be suspicious.



## Burglar who held pillow over face of elderly woman in Crewe is jailed



A burglar who held a pillow over the face of an elderly woman while she was house-sitting a property for a friend has been jailed.

Martin McGinley 30, of Smallbrook Walk, Crewe, appeared at Chester Crown Court on 20 December where he was sentenced to 38 months imprisonment after pleading guilty.

He was also handed a restraining order against the victims and ordered to pay a surcharge of £228.

The court heard how on 13 September 2022, an 82-year-old woman was house sitting an address in Wistaston when there was a knock in the door.

She opened the door and spoke with a man who was asking after the owner. She informed him that he wasn't home and asked who she should say called. The man said 'Martin' and then left.

Around 30 minutes later, he returned but said that he had confirmation from the homeowner that he could borrow a spanner from the property.

He walked inside the property, closing the door behind before pushing the woman towards the bedroom.

McGinley then forced a pillow over the woman's face and she fought back, attempting to shout for help but McGinley put his hand over her mouth.

As he did this, he searched through drawers and the wardrobe, putting items into a Nike rucksack he was carrying.

McGinley told the woman he wouldn't hurt her but to not call the police and then left.

The woman rang the owner of the house who then reported the incident to police.

Officers quickly attended and managed to recover the CCTV footage from the address which clearly depicted McGinley attending and leaving the address.

In the early hours of 14 September, police attended McGinley's address and arrested him on suspicion of burglary.

The clothing he was wearing in the CCTV, along with the rucksack, were seized from his property. He was subsequently charged.

Detective Constable Vicki Greenhoff said: *"The elderly victim was left extremely distressed following the ordeal she had to endure at the hands of McGinley.*

*"He showed no remorse to the victim or the homeowner and was only thinking of his own selfish gain.*

*"I welcome the sentence handed down by the courts and hope that with McGinley behind bars, the victim can begin to move on after this horrendous incident.*

*"We will continue to do all we can to tackle burglary and will not stop targeting those who think they can get away with this type of crime."*

Anyone who wants to report an incident of burglary can do so by visiting [the Cheshire Police website](#) or call 101.

## **Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)**

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