

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association
Week ending 15 January 2023
Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Gang who supplied cocaine and cannabis in Ellesmere Port jailed



Thomas James Simon Parker Luke Gibson

A gang who supplied cocaine and cannabis in Ellesmere Port have been jailed.

Thomas James, Simon Parker and Luke Gibson appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 13 January where they were sentenced to the following:

- Thomas James, 21, of Sutton Way, Great Sutton – Three years and eight months imprisonment
- Simon Parker, 29, of Joseph Groome Towers, Ellesmere Port – Four years and five months imprisonment
- Luke Gibson, 21, of Camden Road, Ellesmere Port – Three years imprisonment

They pleaded guilty to the offences put to them.

The court heard how the investigation team identified a graft phone used by the defendants to deal drugs to the community.

Following further investigation, officers worked to stop a Citroen Berlingo on Doune Court, Ellesmere Port, the vehicle failed to stop and the three men fled.

James and Parker were detained nearby. The Berlingo was searched a quantity of cash and cannabis were recovered along with a Samsung mobile belonging to Parker.

The pair were then further arrested for being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

A Nokia phone was recovered in a bush nearby where James was detained.

Following enquiries, a further warrant was executed at an address on Camden Road, where Gibson lived, with cannabis and cocaine with a value estimated to be close to £10,000 recovered in a tumble dryer.

Hundreds of snap bags and two sets of scales along with another phone were discovered.

Officers continued with their investigation, a further warrant was conducted at Princes Road where more than £8,000 in cash was seized from James's bedroom along with a small amount of cocaine and 17 snap bags of cannabis. Again, phones and sandwich bags were recovered.

The phones seized were examined and messages were found relating to drug deals.

Further analysis showed that the phones were in the areas with the Berlingo.

Police Constable Lee Ashbrook said: *"This trio brought misery to communities in Ellesmere Port and I welcome the fact that they will now be behind bars for a substantial amount of time."*

"As part of the investigation, we seized large quantities of drugs preventing them from finding a way onto the town's streets."

"These drugs can bring neighbourhoods into disarray and we will do all we can to disrupt and deter those who are intent on bringing misery to our streets"

"We will continue with our fight against illegal drugs in the community and we will do all we can to make our area free from illegal crime."

For more details on how to spot the signs of county lines drug dealing, and help make Ellesmere Port a safer place, visit [the Cheshire Police website](#).

Any information regarding drug dealing in your community, no matter how small, should be reported to Cheshire Constabulary on 101, or via [the Cheshire Police](#).

Alternatively, you can contact independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Jury returns verdicts in Benjamin Mendy trial

The jury has returned a number of not guilty verdicts in relation to the defendants Benjamin Mendy and Louis Saha Matturie.

However, it has also been unable to reach a verdict on several remaining charges. The jurors have now been discharged by the judge and the trial has come to an end.

There will be re-trials in respect of the remaining matters. For Benjamin Mendy, this will take place on 26 June, and For Louis Saha Matturie, it will take place w/c 18 September.

Detective Chief Inspector Kate Tomlinson said: *“Following a full and thorough investigation into allegations of rape and sexual assault made against Mendy and Matturie a file of evidence was submitted to the Crown Prosecution Service, who directed that a prosecution case should be pursued.*

“There will now be re-trials for the remaining matters later this year and we continue to support the witnesses in this case, and work with our colleagues at the Crown Prosecution Service.

“We are committed to investigating all allegations of rape and sexual assault – no matter how long ago they took place. If you are a victim of this type of crime, please don’t suffer in silence, come forward and we will listen to you, we will take action and we will provide you with the support that you need.”

Widnes man charged with drugs offences

An 18-year-old man from Widnes has been charged with drugs offences.

Travis McDonnell, from Wright Crescent was charged with being concerned in the supply of heroin, concerned in the supply of crack cocaine and possession with intent to supply a class A drug (cocaine).

He will appear at Chester Magistrates today (12 January).

Macclesfield woman handed two-year Criminal Behaviour Order



A prolific offender from Macclesfield has been ordered to adhere to a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) for the next two years.

Nicola Gregory, of Timber Street, was sentenced to eight weeks suspended for 12 months for the theft of meat and alcohol at a supermarket on Mill Street, Macclesfield at Chester Magistrates' Court on 14 December 2022 after pleading guilty to the offence.

The 45-year-old will have to wear an electronic tag and was also handed a two-year CBO.

The CBO, which was applied for by local officers, prohibits Gregory from entering Macclesfield town centre unless for any pre-arranged appointments with the job centre, probation, or general practitioner to access Macclesfield train station via A537 and Waters Green.

Failure to follow the order is a criminal offence and could result in Gregory being sent back to prison or ordered to pay a fine.

Sergeant Matt Bassirat said: *"Gregory is a prolific offender who causes misery to local shop owners in the town."*

"This is a great result that shows, as well as bringing a case to court, we are using all options available to us in order to secure the CBO."

“Gregory will be under the CBO until 13 December 2024 and if she fails to comply with any of the conditions could see a penalty of five years imprisonment.”

Anyone who encounters Gregory breaching any of the above restrictions is urged to report it via [the Cheshire Police website](#), or call 101.

Cleaner Betty retires after 55 years of service

When Betty Chesters first joined Cheshire Police as a cleaner, Harold Wilson was the Prime Minister and man still hadn't landed on the moon.

Now, an incredible 55 years later, Betty has finally put down her duster and taken well-earned retirement.

The 83-year-old joined the Constabulary in 1967 and has worked at Nantwich Police Station ever since.

She started at the old station on Welsh Row before moving to Beam Street and is renowned for her cooked breakfasts and making tea and toast for officers.

Speaking about her service Betty said: *“It doesn't feel like it has been that long. I've always worked with a bunch of lovely people and that's what I've really enjoyed.*

“You have to keep going and make sure you stay active. I've loved every minute of it and will miss all the people at the station. I'll still pop in to make sure they are keeping it clean and tidy.

“I'll be at a loss now I've retired. I do go on holiday quite a bit so I'll need to plan more trips. My last holiday was to Ibiza and I do enjoy cruises too, so I'll need to book my next one.”



Betty at her surprise party

Betty worked all through the pandemic without missing a single day. She was also handed a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Constabulary's ACE Awards in 2016.

She officially retired on 2 January, and on 5 January her colleagues in Nantwich arranged a surprise party to give her a special send off.

PC Marson said: *"Betty has been the glue at Nantwich which has kept us all together and we will all miss her. She is one of a kind."*

"The station is always spotless because everyone respects her so much and looks after everything. We all love her to bits and it was great to be able to give her a proper send off."

Chief Constable Mark Roberts presented Betty with a Constabulary plaque and glass to mark her retirement and said: *"To reach 55 years of service is an incredible achievement and something Betty should be extremely proud of."*

"I know all the staff at Nantwich are extremely fond of her, and we wish her all the best for her retirement."

Local Policing Supt Claire Jesson added: *"On behalf of everyone working in the east of the county I'd like to say a huge thank you to Betty for her service and wish her well for her retirement."*

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Detectives release image of man they would like to speak to following a sexual assault in Warrington

Detectives appealing for information following a sexual assault in Warrington have released an image of a man they would like to speak to.

On Thursday 29 December police received a report that at some time between 11pm and 11.15pm, a 16-year-old girl was walking along Rhodes Street, Orford when an unknown man, who was riding an electric scooter, approached her.

The man got off his scooter and assaulted her before pushing her to the floor.

He then fled the scene on the scooter.

Enquiries into the incident are ongoing and the victim is being supported by specialist officers.

As part of their investigation, detectives have now released an image of a man they are keen to speak to.

They also want to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have seen something that could be relevant to the investigation.

Detective Sergeant Maggie Cassidy of Warrington CID said: *"I understand that this incident may be concerning to the local community, and I want to reassure all those in the area that we are doing everything we can establish exactly what has happened.*

"As part of our investigation, we are keen to speak to the man in the image and urge him or anyone who recognises him to get in touch.

"We are also appealing to anyone who was in the area at the time and believes they may have witnessed the incident."

Anyone with any information in relation to the incident is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 or [visit the website](#) quoting IML 1445468.

Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Police continue to appeal for witnesses to Little Sutton serious collision

Police are continuing to appeal for witnesses and dashcam footage following a fatal collision in Ellesmere Port.

At around 6.20pm on Saturday 31 December 2022, officers were called to a collision on the A41, Chester Road in Little Sutton.

Pedestrian, 55-year-old Sean Coffey, was involved in a collision with two cars, a black BMW X5 and a grey Land Rover Discovery, and sadly died.

The incident occurred in the road near to the junction of Smithy Lane.

Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and officers are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the collision or may have dashcam footage of the incident to come forward.

Sgt Claire Bailey said:

“The drivers involved have been very helpful, but so we can conduct a thorough investigation, we really need more witnesses to come forward. At the time of the collision it was very busy with pedestrians and motorists who are likely to have witnessed the collision and events running up to it.

“We are particularly interested in speaking with a female who was very close to the collision when it occurred, she went into the Nice Kebab and Pizza House on Chester Road to call for help. We believe that she would be able to assist us in our investigation.

“I’d urge anyone who witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage that will help us establish the circumstances to contact us for the sake of Sean’s devastated family.”

Anyone with any information is urged to call 101 quoting IML1446529 or visit [here](#).

Alternatively, anyone with information can report to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via the [website](#).



Detectives appeal for information following assault in Chester

Detectives are appealing for information and footage following an assault in Chester.

At around 3.30am on New Year's Day (1 January) an 18-year-old man was walking along Foregate Street near to the Bars Roundabout when he was approached by an unknown man.

The man then punched and kicked the victim causing him to fall into the road before leaving the area on foot.

The victim was assisted by members of the public and was taken to hospital suffering from serious facial injuries.

The man is described as white, aged in his 40 then left the area on foot.

Officers are now appealing to anyone who may have information to get in touch.

Detective Constable Ben Jones said: *"The city centre would have been extremely busy at this time of night with streets full of vehicles and passers-by having celebrated the new year.*

"We would urge anyone who may have witnessed the incident or have dashcam footage, and have not yet spoken to police, to please get in touch.

"The same goes to anyone who may have information as to who is responsible."

Anyone with information can contact Cheshire Police via [the Cheshire Police website](#) quoting IML 1446905 or by calling 101.

Information can also be passed on to Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 or visiting [the Crimestoppers website](#).

Police appeal for witnesses to Ellesmere Port street robbery

Police in Ellesmere Port are appealing for witnesses following a street robbery.

At around 7.35pm on Saturday 7 January 2023, a 19-year-old man was riding his bicycle through the Valley, heading from Delamere Drive towards Valley Drive. As he approached the pathed area immediately before the foot bridge, he was approached by a person, described as being a black male, around 6'1" tall, with a medium build.

The man asked to use his phone. and the victim stopped and got out his phone, planning to allow him to use it. At this point, the man became aggressive, threatening him with an axe, and took the phone and other property including a quantity of cash from the victim.

The suspect has then made off with the property, backing off a long Mill Lane as the victim fled over the bridge towards Valley Drive on his bike.

DC Katie Ashcroft said:

“Thankfully the victim wasn’t harmed, but he was left shaken by the incident. We’re appealing for anyone who may have witnessed the robbery or has any information which could help us with our enquiries to contact us.”

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML 1451425.

Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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