

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 11th April 2021

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Bag snatcher from Widnes jailed

A 32-year-old man from Widnes has been jailed after snatching handbags from two women in the town. Anthony Parton, of Deacon Road, left one of the victims, a woman in her 40s, needing to go to hospital with a back injury and subsequently unable to walk unaided. He grabbed hold of her handbag as she walked along Coronet Way shortly after 5.30pm on Monday 27 July. The victim refused to let go of it, and lost her footing when Parton was attempting to yank the bag from her grasp. The fall caused her back injury. She also sustained minor injuries to her wrist and thigh as a result of the incident. Parton managed to pull the bag away from the victim whilst she lay on the ground. He then ran off in the direction of Royal Avenue. Parton also ran away after snatching a handbag from the other victim, a woman in her 70s, as she walked along Henderson Road shortly after 8am on Wednesday 22 July. On that occasion he fled towards Mottershead Road. In both instances Parton walked up to the victims from behind before grabbing hold of their bags. He subsequently dumped the bags after taking the small quantities of cash that were inside them. The bags were both found and handed into the police. Officers at Widnes Local Policing Unit (LPU) also gathered CCTV footage regarding both incidents. One of the officers identified Parton as the offender from the footage. He was located and arrested on Tuesday 28 July and a warrant was executed at an address in Widnes he had been living at. Items of clothing that CCTV footage captured him wearing during the incidents were seized from the address. Cell site data regarding Parton's mobile phone also indicated that he was the offender. He refused to answer any questions when interviewed in custody. Parton was charged with robbery in relation to the incident on Monday 27 July and theft from a person in relation to the bag snatch the previous Wednesday. He pleaded guilty to the offences and was sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 6 April. Parton was jailed for four years and ordered to pay a £190 victim surcharge. DC Nicola Dolan, who led the investigation at Widnes LPU, said: "Anthony Parton subjected the victims, who are both from Widnes, to frightening ordeals. His actions left them both extremely shaken up. They also left the younger victim needing to go to hospital with a back injury and unable to walk unaided. Thankfully, we were able to establish that Parton was the man responsible for both bag snatching incidents from CCTV footage, mobile phone analysis and items of clothing we seized from an address he had been living at. With the strength of the evidence we gathered against him, we were always confident that he would plead guilty to the offences he was charged with. I hope the fact that he is now behind bars facing the consequences of his actions provides the victims with some closure. I also hope that this case deters others from committing such offences."



Cheshire Constabulary urges residents to stay safe ahead of further coronavirus restrictions

Cheshire Constabulary is urging residents to stay safe ahead of further relaxation of coronavirus restrictions next week. From Monday 12 April, England will move into Step Two of the Government's roadmap which will

see the reopening of businesses such as non-essential shops, hairdressers, beauty salons and outdoor hospitality. This means that cafés, pubs and restaurants will be able to serve food and alcohol outdoors with no curfew or substantial meal required. The public will be able to visit these venues either with their own household/bubble, in two separate households or by following the rule of six. While attending these venues, social distancing and the wearing of face coverings must continue. Officers will be engaging with residents while assisting local partners to ensure public safety once outdoor venues reopen. ACC Jenny Sims said: "Earlier this week the Prime Minister confirmed that the roadmap out of restrictions is on track and this is certainly the positive news we all need. This shows that the majority of the public are sticking to the rules and following the guidance in place in order to meet the four tests to continue easing the restrictions. However, now that we are successfully moving into Step Two, we must continue to stick to the rules in place in order to keep the rate of coronavirus infections down. This means that when you do go to visit outdoor hospitality venues, you need to follow the measures in place to protect not only yourself, but your loved ones. Our officers will continue to engage and explain the new regulations while assisting local councils and licensing teams to ensure the move into Step Two is done safely." As part of Step Two, indoor leisure facilities such as gyms and spas will reopen along with public buildings such as libraries and community centres. Elsewhere, overnight stays away from home in England will be permitted and self-contained accommodation can open as long as residents visit with members of the same household or support bubble. Outdoor attractions such as zoos, theme parks, drive-in cinemas and drive-in performances can also open their doors. ACC Sims added: "There is no longer the need to stay at home or stay local but I would urge people to remember that coronavirus is still a real threat in this country. Although we can see the light at the end of the tunnel, there is still a long way to go. The Constabulary will continue its work in supporting local communities as we have done throughout the pandemic, but when officers are met with blatant and repeat breaches of the restrictions they will enforce in order to protect the public." To report a coronavirus breach please visit [the Cheshire Police website](#). For more information on the coronavirus measures visit [the Government website](#).

Joiner sentenced after stealing more than £20,000 from duped customers

A professional joiner who stole more than £20,000 by taking deposits for furniture he never delivered has been sentenced. Allan Kenneth Barke, who also used the name Allan Kenneth Bradley, ran CFF Joinery, a bespoke furniture company that was originally based in London Road, Macclesfield. Between June and October 2016, he took deposits totalling £22,970 from 19 customers across Cheshire and Greater Manchester for a variety of different items. Despite taking significant deposits of up to £3,300, none of the furniture was ever delivered. The fraudulent activity was reported to Cheshire Police, and investigated by DC Paul Cundy of Northwich CID. Barke was charged with, and pleaded guilty to 22 counts of fraud by false representation. The 34-year-old, now of Cotswold Way in Winsford, was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 1 April. He was sentenced to 22 months in prison, suspended for two years. He was also ordered to complete 35 days Rehabilitation Activity Requirement and 300 hours unpaid work. Barke was also banned from driving for two years after he admitted to driving while disqualified and without insurance. Investigating officer Paul Cundy, who is now the Beat Sergeant for Winsford, said: "Barkes victims trusted him. They believed that he was running a reputable business and paid him significant amounts of money for items which he never delivered. In each case, Barke attend the victim's home and convinced them that they could buy bespoke furniture from him. Little did they know that he had no intention of ever delivering the furniture. Once he had received their deposits, he made repeated excuses as to why he wasn't delivering their items, including saying that his van was broken, he had been in Hospital, and that his mother was about to pass away. When asked for refunds, he cut off contact. Whether you are buying online or face-to-face,

you should always research the company that you are buying from to make sure that it is a reputable supplier."

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Police appeal for information after two men abscond from HMP Thorncross

Police are appealing for information after two men absconded from a Warrington prison. Vincent Bland, 38, and Steven White, 29 were last seen at HMP Thorn Cross in Appleton on the morning of Saturday 10 April. Bland has links to Winsford, Wigan and Ellesmere Port. White has links to Doncaster and Salford, or they both could be in the local area. If you see them, do not approach them, contact police on 999. Police are making a number of enquiries to trace the men and are urging anyone with information on their whereabouts to contact police. Bland is 5ft 8in tall with a stocky build. He has brown hair, hazel eyes and is clean-shaven. He was last seen wearing a dark tracksuit top and bottoms, black beanie hat, black trainers with a thick white sole, and hi-vis orange work mans jacket. White is 5ft 10in tall with a normal build. He has black hair, green eyes and is clean-shaven. He was last seen wearing a dark tracksuit top and bottoms, black beanie hat, black trainers, and hi-vis orange work mans jacket. Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or 999 if you see him. Quote IML 960378. Information can also be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Appeal for information following collision on M56

Police investigating a collision on the motorway are appealing for information. The collision involved a silver Vauxhall Corsa travelling on the M56 westbound carriageway between junction 15 and junction 16. It occurred shortly before 5pm on Saturday 3 April. The Vauxhall Corsa left the carriageway and came to a stop in an adjacent field. The driver, a 22-year-old man, was taken to Aintree Hospital by ambulance with serious injuries to his legs. An investigation into the cause of the collision is underway and officers are appealing for dash cam footage. PC Karen Mitchell said: "At this stage we know that the silver Vauxhall Corsa was overtaking a blue Vauxhall Astra when it left the carriageway. As part of our ongoing enquiries I am encouraging anyone who may have witnessed the collision, or may have any information or dash cam footage, to please get in touch." If you can assist officers with their enquiries please call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 954895.

Police are appealing for witnesses following an assault in Wilmslow

Police in Wilmslow are appealing for witnesses following an assault on a man. Sometime between 2pm and 2.22pm on Monday 5 April a 36-year-old man was walking down steps to Pavillion Fields when he was assaulted by three men. He was treated by paramedics for minor injuries on his return to his address. Police made a search of the area but the suspects were not located. Enquiries are continuing. The suspects are described as all having short dark brown hair and were wearing grey tracksuit bottoms. The first male had a tuft of hair at the front of his head, he was wearing a sky blue t-shirt and spoke with a Liverpool accent. The second male was wearing a black hoodie with a small logo on the left crest. He also had a tattoo on the right-hand side of his neck, just to the right of his Adam's apple. The third male was wearing a black parka style coat with fawn coloured fur round the hood. He had a scar through his left eye-brow. Insp Andy Baker said: "I'd appeal to anyone who saw a man being assaulted or saw three men acting suspiciously in the area to

contact us so that we can find those responsible.” Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 956404. Alternatively information should be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Police investigate robbery of elderly man in Chester

Detectives investigating the robbery of an elderly man in Chester are appealing for information. The incident took place at 9.55pm on Monday 5 April on Westminster Road. An unknown man has approached the 85-year-old and grabbed hold of the bag he was carrying before leaving the scene. The elderly man fell to the floor and received minor injuries to his hand, which required hospital treatment. The suspect is described as being around 5’8” in height. Police have been conducting a number of lines of enquiry and are appealing for CCTV footage of the area and any witnesses who may have information to come forward.

DS Simon Owen, from Chester Local Policing Unit, said: “While we have been following a number of enquiries I am appealing to anyone who has information and not yet spoken to police to contact us. If you saw a man acting suspiciously in the area, witnessed the robbery take place or have CCTV or dash cam footage which could assist the investigation then please get in touch.” If you have any information please contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 956775 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Police investigate arson at barbers in Frodsham

Detectives investigating a fire at a barbers in Frodsham are appealing for information. The incident took place at around 8.30pm on Monday 5 April and is currently being treated as arson. Two men were seen in the area at around the time the premises, on Main Street, was deliberately set alight. The pair then fled the scene – one of the men was riding a motorcycle and the other was on a scooter. Enquiries in relation to the arson are ongoing and detectives are appealing for anyone who has not provided police with information to get in touch. DS Simon Owen, from Chester Local Policing Unit, said: “I want to reassure the local community that incidents like this are very rare in this area and an investigation is underway to find those responsible. We are currently treating the fire as arson and we believe it to have been a targeted attack. While we have conducted a number of enquiries and spoken to witnesses, I am still keen to hear from anyone who may have information and has not yet contacted us. Likewise if you have CCTV or dash cam footage that may assist the investigation please get in touch.” Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 956725 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal for information following serious collision in Alderley Edge

Officers are appealing for information following a serious collision in Alderley Edge. At around 3.30pm on Thursday 1 April police attended following reports of a collision involving a white Peugeot car and a wall on Davey Lane. The driver of the vehicle, an 84-year-old man, was taken to hospital with serious injuries. Sadly, the man died a short time later. His next of kin have been informed. Police are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the collision or may have any dashcam footage of the vehicles before the incident to come forward. Anyone with information is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 952990 or report it via [the Cheshire Police website](#).

Appeal for information following serious collision in Winsford

Police are appealing for witnesses and dashcam footage following a serious collision in Winsford. Shortly before 4.20pm on Monday 5 April police were called to reports of a collision at the junction of Station Road and the A54, near to the Marina. Officers attended and found the incident involved a blue Suzuki motorbike and a silver Vauxhall Astra. The rider of the motorcycle, a 25-year-old local man, sustained serious injuries as a result of the collision. He was taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital where his condition is described as stable. The driver of the car, a 41-year-old local man, was uninjured. He was arrested at the scene in connection with the incident and has since been released under investigation. Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and officers are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the collision or captured dashcam footage of the incident to come forward. They would also like to hear from any nearby residents or businesses who may have CCTV footage of the collision. Information can be provided to Cheshire Police by calling 101 quoting IML 956502 or report it via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> . Alternatively, information can be passed on anonymously via Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555 111 or via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>.

Police appeal for information after man absconds from a Warrington prison

Police are appealing for information after a man absconded from a prison in Warrington. Joseph Halsall was last seen at HMP Thorncross in Appleton at 4.30am on 5 April. Officers are currently carrying out a number of enquiries in a bid to trace the 25-year-old and they are urging anyone with any information as to his whereabouts to get in touch. It is believed that Halsall could be trying to make his way back to the Liverpool area, where he is originally from, and he may try to get a lift. Inspector Christian Morris said: "We are doing everything we can to locate him and there are a number of enquiries ongoing in the local area and further afield. I would ask anyone with any information as to his whereabouts to please get in touch. "Whilst we do not believe that Halsall poses a risk to the public, anyone who sees him is urged not to approach him but to call 999 as soon as possible." He is described as white, 6' tall, of slim build with short brown hair and blue eyes. He was last seen wearing black trainers, dark coloured jeans and a grey long sleeve zip top with a dark blue long sleeve top underneath. Anyone with any information should contact police on 101 quoting IML 956123. Information can also be passed on anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.



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