

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## Cheshire News & Appeals



### Latest Cheshire News

#### Tameside nighthawking gang sentenced

A Tameside nighthawking gang has been sentenced after admitting metal detecting at two historic monuments in Cheshire and South Yorkshire. The men appeared at Chester Magistrates on 7 May for sentencing following an investigation by Cheshire Police, Historic England and South Yorkshire Police. All five were handed a five-year criminal behaviour orders which prevents them from metal detecting at any English Heritage site England and Wales - a first for Cheshire, and the North West.



Curtis Barlow, 32, of The Quadrant, Droylsden, admitted taking coins and metal artefacts from Roche Abbey between 13 and 15 December 2019. He was handed a £572 fine along with £85 surcharge. Gary Flanagan, 33, of Winton Avenue, Audenshaw, admitted taking coins and metal artefacts from Beeston Castle and Roche Abbey between 13 and 30 December 2019. He was handed £1,100 fine plus a £85 surcharge. Daniel James Lloyd, 33, of Beech Avenue, Droylsden, admitted taking bronze age axe head's, coins and other metal artefacts from Beeston Castle between 13 and 30 December 2019. He handed £600 fine plus a £85 surcharge. John Andrew Lorne, 29, of Sunnyside Road, Droylsden, admitted taking bronze age axe head's, coins and other metal artefacts from Beeston Castle between 13 and 30 December 2019, and removing coins and metal artefacts from Roche Abbey between 28 and 30 December 2019. He was ordered to pay £1,760 plus a £85 surcharge. Francis James Ward, 32, of Dingle Drive, Droylsden, admitted taking an bronze age axe head's, coins and other metal artefacts from Beeston Castle between 13 and 30 December 2019. He also admitted producing a small quantity of cannabis. He ordered to pay £1,430 court costs plus a £85 surcharge. They were ordered to forfeit all artefacts and their metal detectors which have an estimated value of up to £1,000 and above. The men's illegal activities were unearthed when a number of holes were found in the grounds of Beeston Castle and Roche Abbey, both historic sites in the care of English Heritage, sparking an investigation in December 2019. Further information led them to Ward and on New Year's Eve, officers from Cheshire executed a warrant at his Droylsden home. This then led officers to Lorne and his home was searched during a warrant at which a number of items were seized. Both men were arrested and interviewed while mobile phones and other devices were seized. When analysing their phones officers discovered both men were part of a nighthawking WhatsApp group, leading to the arrest of Lloyd, Barlow and Flanagan. PC Ashley Tether from Cheshire Police's Rural Crime Team led the investigation. He said: *"Their WhatsApp group clearly showed what they were up to and our subsequent forensic investigations alongside South Yorkshire police put them at the locations where the incidents had occurred. What followed was a number of months of carefully identifying and cataloguing the historic artefacts they had taken with the help of Historic England experts. The evidence we put together was such that they pleaded guilty at their first hearing. The theft of historic items and the damage caused to scheduled monuments and listed buildings is an assault on our history and the impact on the historic ground they have damaged should not be underestimated. Although no exact value can be determined for the artefacts taken, they are a piece of national history that help us to understand our past. Once these items are lost or damaged they can't be replaced and we lose the context and the story that may have helped us to understand our ancestors better. The items these men took for their own gain are part of our rich history and need to be protected which is why we embarked on a lengthy and complicated investigation with Historic England and South Yorkshire Police Rural Crime Team.*

*These men are now barred from metal detecting near historic sites in England and Wales and if they want to do so on any other land, they need to show the land owner a copy of the CBO before conducting metal detecting activity - if you see them not adhering to this restriction you can report it to police on 101. Breaching such orders can result in a prison sentence."*

Mark Harrison, Head of Heritage Crime Strategy for Historic England said: "A decade ago, we did not have the skills and techniques necessary to investigate this form of criminal behaviour. We have now developed the expertise, capability and partnerships to identify and prosecute the small criminal minority of nighthawks. The overwhelming majority of metal detectorists comply with the legislation and codes of practice." Mark Harrison added: "When thieves steal artefacts from a protected archaeological site, they are stealing from all of us and damaging something which is often irreplaceable."

English Heritage Properties Curator Win Scutt, said: "Illegal metal detecting robs us of our past, and whilst this prosecution is good news, sadly the damage incidents like these cause can never be repaired. Beeston Castle and Roche Abbey are protected in law because of the lessons we can learn from their unique archaeology. Unlawful attacks like these can cause such insight to be lost forever. We are grateful to Cheshire Police and Historic England for their persistent and innovative approach to investigating this case, and bringing the perpetrators to justice. The ground beneath us is a wonderful library of our past. Holes dug by metal detectorists cut through these unread pages destroying all the information forever – just to tear out a precious trinket that will usually end up lost in a private collection. English Heritage is dedicated to preserving these nationally important archaeological sites. The damage incidents like these cause can never be repaired and the chance to learn about these important sites is lost for ever. We are grateful to Cheshire Police and Historic England for their persistent and innovative approach to investigating this case, and bringing the perpetrators to justice."



Coins recovered from one of the sites



Axe heads from Beeston Castle

## **42 people arrested and 48 knives seized during week of action**

The easing of Covid-19 restrictions enabled officers in Cheshire to step up their already considerable efforts to take knives off the streets as part of a national campaign. Operation Sceptre was devised to reduce the impact of knife crime in communities throughout England and Wales. During the latest week of action, which started on Monday 26 April, officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in Cheshire did all that they could to identify and pursue suspected knife crime offenders, take dangerous weapons off the streets and educate people about the dangers of carrying such weapons. Adhering to the regulations in place as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cheshire officers and PCSOs:

- Arrested 42 people
- Seized 48 knives, and collected another 226 weapons via 15 surrender bins situated across Cheshire
- Conducted 56 weapons sweeps
- Stopped and searched 156 people
- Executed nine warrants in relation to knife crime
- Communicated with 175 schools regarding important knife crime messages for pupils, many of which were visited in person to talk to young people about the potentially fatal consequences of carrying weapons
- Went to 14 homes to hand out Knife Crime Warning Notices to people believed to be habitual knife carriers

- Visited 46 retailers that sell knives to give product placement advice and ensure that age-restricted sales policies are being followed (it is illegal to sell a knife to anyone under the age of 18)
- Utilised pop-up police stations at seven knife crime hotspot areas to enable people with any concerns to speak in confidence with officers
- Conducted television and radio interviews and wrote social media posts to give important knife crime messages to members of the public.

In addition, Bleeding Control Kits were given to a wide range of community venues across the county, including at police stations, shops and shopping centres, theatres, pubs, recreation centres, sports clubs, cafés, parks, railway stations and community centres. The kits contain equipment and instructions that enable members of the public to prevent knife crime victims from bleeding to death. There are now more than 200 of these life-saving kits located at community venues in Cheshire. CI Sarah Heath, who is Cheshire Constabulary's knife crime lead, said: *"Nationally, knife crime is a growing problem, and the week-long Operation Sceptre campaign is an initiative that the force is always more than happy to support. We were severely restricted in terms of the work we could do during last year's two weeks of action for Operation Sceptre, with them having fallen when the country was in lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. With us now out of lockdown and certain restrictions having eased, there were more engagement and enforcement options available to us during the latest week of action. We grasped these with both hands to tackle knife crime across Cheshire."*



A drug detection dog and arch



The Operation Sceptre logo



A knife sweep in Runcorn

The highlights of the operation at each of Cheshire's eight local policing units were:

#### **Chester**

Two men were arrested on suspicion of possession of class A and B drugs with intent to supply them following knife crime operations held at Chester Railway Station and The Forum Shopping Centre. The operations involved knife arches and a drugs dog. British Transport Police officers were involved in the operation at the railway station. A knife sweep was held at The Meadows during the week and knife surrender bins were utilised. Knife crime presentations were delivered to a number of primary and secondary schools.

#### **Crewe**

Thirteen extra Bleeding Control Kits were distributed, including at Crewe Railway Station and other key town centre locations. Several knife sweeps were conducted and knife crime presentations were given to numerous schools and colleges in and around Crewe. A number of knives, a knuckle duster and a BB gun were seized following a series of dawn raids. They led to a 20-year-old man being arrested and a 40-year-old man being questioned under caution after voluntarily attending a police station.

#### **Ellesmere Port**

Both uniformed and plain-clothed others took part in the week of action. Six knife sweeps were conducted and 19 people were stopped and searched. A knife related arrest was made and a total of eight weapons were recovered, two of which were handed in via a knife surrender bin. A car and two electric scooters were also seized during an operation in crime hotspot areas.

#### **Macclesfield**

Three men were arrested on suspicion of possession of an offensive weapon in a public place after a car was stopped and searched by officers. Three knives, two hammers and two axes were seized by the officers. Several knife sweeps were held and several retailers were visited to ensure that robust controls are in place regarding the sale of knives. Knife crime presentations were delivered to a large number of schools.

#### **Northwich**

Four knife sweeps and five education events regarding knife crime were held. A Stanley knife, a claw hammer and two metal bars were found during one of the sweeps. Knife crime presentations were delivered to schools in crime hotspot areas. Officers also patrolled hotspot areas during the week, engaging with members of the public and searching them when there was cause to do so. A total of 10 Bleeding Control Kits began to be distributed to schools and colleges in Northwich and Winsford.

#### **Runcorn**

Thirty people were stopped and searched in the town and four arrests were made. Six knife sweeps and 12 engagement events were held, and three people were issued with Knife Crime Warning Notices. A total of 35 weapons were recovered, the vast majority of which were voluntarily surrendered by members of the public. Officers wearing plain clothes carried out operations at crime hotspot areas. A large number of Bleeding Control Kits were handed out. These can now be found at Runcorn Police Station, The Community Shop at Priory House, McDonald's, The Brindley Theatre, The Queen Of Hearts pub, The Murdishaw Co-Op store, The SPAR shop in Palacefields, Brookvale Recreation Centre, Runcorn Linnets Football Club, Beechwood Community Centre and Swimming Pool, Halton Lodge Creative Support, Esposito's café at Heath Park, The Shopping City, Runcorn ABC at The Shopping City, CHI Community Café and Kyujutsu Archery Club at Phoenix Park, Change Grow Live, Shaw's Butchers and Runcorn Railway Station in the Old Town and community centres in Grangeway, Castlefields, Brookvale, Murdishaw, Halton Brook and Palacefields.

## **Warrington**

Fifteen knife sweeps were conducted in the town and 180 knives, including bayonets, machetes and military knives, were handed in to surrender bins. Six Knife Crime Warning Notices were issued and 40 people were stopped and searched. This led to six people being arrested and two men being charged with possession with intent to supply cannabis following the seizure of a large quantity of the class B drug. Two people were arrested following stop and search operations involving knife arches and a drugs dog at Warrington Central and Warrington West railway stations, which were conducted in collaboration with British Transport Police. The amount of Bleeding Control Kits distributed across the town was taken past the 40 mark.

## **Widnes**

Plain-clothed officers were out targeting offenders in Widnes as part of Operation Sceptre. Four people were arrested, including one who was caught in possession of a large number of wraps of class A drugs, and 11 were stopped and searched in the town. One of the people arrested has subsequently been charged with possession of a lock knife in a public place. Three knife sweeps took place during the week. The same number of community events were held regarding knife crime and a large number of Bleeding Control Kits were distributed to community venues. CI Heath added: *"Knife crime is an issue that the force tackles throughout the year, not just during weeks of action. We have a multi-faceted approach to tackling knife crime and take the issue extremely seriously, with officers working day and night to protect communities. We are proud of the fact that Cheshire has a lower rate of knife crime than most other counties in England, with the number of knife-related offences committed in the county having decreased by 24 per cent from the end of March 2020 to the end of March 2021. When people carry knives, it is only a matter of time before someone suffers life-changing injuries or is killed, and if you carry a knife then you are much more likely to be involved in a knife crime. As all the statistics show, carrying a knife doesn't make you safer. At Cheshire Constabulary we have a structured prepare, protect, pursue and prevent approach to tackling knife crime that involves various partner agencies, including local authorities, education providers, health authorities, third sector organisations, youth representatives and community groups. We work together to achieve long-term change by educating young people about the dangers and futility of carrying weapons. We make sure they know that carrying a knife, even if they have no intention of using it, is a crime and can increase the likelihood of suffering an injury and having a criminal record – anyone found carrying a knife in public, without a reasonable excuse, faces a prison sentence. We also steer them away from criminality and offer them attractive alternative ways to spend their time. Our goal is to achieve weapons-free streets throughout the county and we endeavour – through education, awareness and action – to make Cheshire an area where no-one carries a knife, or feels that there is a reason to do so. However, the police cannot achieve this goal on our own. Knife crime is a societal problem that cannot be solved without the support of the whole society. If you have any information regarding knife crimes, or those who carry weapons, please let us know. If you know someone who carries a knife, reporting it to the police could be enough to save a life."*

Retailers also have an important role to play, by helping to ensure that weapons are not falling into the wrong hands. They are urged to have robust controls on the sale of blades, such as kitchen knives.

To report any type of crime involving weapons, call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, or 999 in an emergency. Information can also be passed to the force online [via the reporting section on our website](#).

Anyone who knows someone that carries a knife can report it to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or [via the Crimestoppers website](#).

## **Teenager arrested following serious assault in Wilmslow**

Detectives have arrested a 14-year-old boy following a serious assault in Wilmslow. At around 9.35pm on Thursday 6 May police were called to reports that a teenager had been found with serious injuries on Dean Row Road, Wilmslow. Officers attended the scene and a 14-year-old boy from Wilmslow was found with a serious stab wound. The boy was taken to Manchester Children's Hospital for treatment, he has since been discharged. A 14-year-old boy from Stockport was arrested near to the scene on suspicion of section 18 assault. He was taken into police custody where he was questioned by officers before being released on conditional bail. DS Cameron Mair said: *"Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and we are committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what has taken place. As part of our investigation we are urging anyone who was in the area and witnessed the incident, or anything else that may aid our investigation, to get in touch. The same goes for anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage that may be relevant to our investigation."* CI David Moores, head of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, added: *"This type of incident is extremely rare in the Wilmslow area and I understand the concern that it is likely to cause. I'd like to reassure the public that patrols are being stepped up in the area and anyone with any concerns should approach an officer. I would also urge anyone with any information in relation to the incident to get in touch."* Anyone with any information is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 981705, or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tua](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tua) . Information can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## **Man arrested in connection with Handforth burglary**

Detectives investigating a burglary at an address in Handforth have arrested a man in connection with the incident. The man was arrested this morning, Thursday 6 May, when officers Cheshire Constabulary and Greater Manchester Police conducted three warrants at addresses in Wythenshawe and Sharston. The man 24-year-old man from Wythenshawe was arrested on suspicion of burglary in relation to an incident at an address in Handforth in December 2020. He is currently in police custody being questioned by officers. CI David Moores, Head of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *"This morning's raids were carried out as part of operation Hunted and form part of our continued efforts to tackle organized crime. The investigation has been led by detectives here at Macclesfield Beat Initiative Team, and relates to an incident at an address in Handforth in December 2020 during which a high value vehicle was stolen. I hope that this morning's arrest provide reassurance to our communities, demonstrating that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle this type of criminality. I also hope that it acts as a warning to other offenders who are thinking about coming to Cheshire to commit crime."*

## **Officers arrest two men and seize class A drugs at address in Middlewich**

Officers entered an address on Lewin Street, Middlewich at 3.20pm on Tuesday 4 May. A quantity of class A drugs believed to be heroin and crack cocaine were seized along with a significant amount of cash. Two 17-year-old men, both from Liverpool, were arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class A drugs and possession of criminal property. Both have since been released under investigation.

DS Richard Johnson said: *"This is a fantastic result which has led to the removal of a significant quantity of drugs from the streets of Cheshire, as well as the arrests of two individuals who we believe may be involved in the supply of illegal drugs in the local area. I hope that this result provides reassurance to the local community and also acts as a warning to others. Information from the public is vital and I would urge anyone with information about drug activity in their neighbourhood to contact Cheshire Police by calling 101 or via [the Cheshire Police website](#)."*

Alternatively, information can be passed on to Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 or report it via [the Crimestoppers website](#).

## Class A drugs dealer from Crewe jailed after being caught red-handed

A class A drugs dealer from Crewe has been jailed after being caught in possession of more than £3,000 worth of heroin and crack cocaine. Mohammed Harun Miah, of Samuel Street, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply the illegal drugs. The 26-year-old also admitted possession of criminal property in relation to a substantial quantity of cash he had on him when he was stopped and searched by officers at around 3pm on Tuesday 30 March. Miah was sat on a stationary black electric motocross bike at the junction of Flag Lane and Wistaston Road in Crewe at the time. Officers stopped and searched him as a man on such a bike who matched his description had made off from a traffic officer in the town earlier that day. Miah had in his possession a quantity of class A drugs heroin and crack cocaine with an estimated street value of £3,380. He was also carrying £750 in cash and two mobile phones. Miah was arrested and officers found a further £515 in cash and two more phones after searching his home. The property also contained drug paraphernalia. When interviewed in custody, Miah admitted he was addicted to crack cocaine and that he was on his way to deliver drugs when he was stopped and searched. Miah claimed that he was doing so to help pay off a drugs debt. He was subsequently charged and pleaded guilty to the offences at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 29 April. Miah was sentenced on the same day. He was jailed for three years and ordered to pay a £190 victim surcharge. DC Laura Hall, who led the investigation at Crewe Local Policing Unit (LPU), said: *"We caught Mohammed Harun Miah red-handed on his way to delivering class A drugs on an electric motocross bike. This case emphasises the importance of the police's power to stop and search people and vehicles they suspect to be involved in crime. It is essential to the vital role that frontline officers play in the detection and prevention of serious and organised crime. As a result of our ability to stop and search Miah as he was waiting at traffic lights, a class A drug dealer and a substantial quantity of heroin and crack cocaine have been removed from our streets. These drugs have a hugely detrimental impact on communities. They cause untold damage to the lives of both those who use the drugs and become dependent on them and the wider community who suffer from the resulting crime. I hope this case, and the fact that Miah is now behind bars facing the consequences of his actions, deters others from getting involved in the supply of illegal drugs."*



CI Fez Khan, also of Crewe LPU, added: *"Drug dealing in Crewe or elsewhere in Cheshire will simply not be tolerated. While this investigation has now concluded, our fight against illegal drugs, and those who supply them, continues. Intelligence supplied by members of the public is crucial to this fight and I urge anyone with any information about suspected drug related activity in their community to get in touch. You will be listened to and we will investigate the matter."*

You can report suspected drug dealing to Cheshire Constabulary directly by calling 101 or giving the details online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>. Alternatively, information can also be given anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

## Latest Cheshire Appeals

### Detectives appeal for witnesses following serious assault in Crewe

Detectives are appealing for information following a serious assault in Crewe. At around 12.20am on Monday 3 May, a 29-year-old man was walking along Alton Street when he accidentally bumped into a man. The 29-year-old walked away towards Walthall Street. The man then began moving towards the victim before grabbing and assaulting him. The man is described as being around 5' 6" tall, of slim build and a tanned complexion with dark hair. At the time of the incident he was wearing jeans and a khaki top. He also spoke with an Eastern European accent. The victim was taken to hospital for treatment to his injuries which are described as non-life threatening. Officers are now appealing for anyone with any information that could help with their investigation to get in touch. DC Jayne Lloyd said: *"This attack left the victim having to go to hospital for stitches to an injury to his ear. A number of enquiries are currently underway to find the person responsible and as part of those enquiries we would ask anyone who witnessed the incident or may have information that could help us with our enquiries to contact us. The same goes for anyone who may have CCTV footage from around the Alton Street and Walthall Street areas of Crewe. Any information no matter*

*how big or small could help us find the male and bring him to justice.”*

Anyone with information is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 978882 or report it via [the Cheshire Police website](#). Alternatively, information can be passed on to Crimestoppers anonymously via 0800 555 111 or report it via [the Crimestoppers website](#).

## **Appeal following catalytic converter thefts in Runcorn**

Officers investigating the thefts of catalytic converters in Runcorn are appealing for information from members of the public. Shortly before 10pm on Tuesday 4 May two men stole a catalytic converter from a red MG car parked in Blantyre Street in the Old Town area before fleeing in a silver Vauxhall Vectra in the direction of Brindley Street. One of the men pointed a baseball bat at a woman who challenged him whilst the theft was taking place. He told her to go away as the other man was lying under the MG car so that he could access its catalytic converter. The man with the bat is described as white, approximately 5' 6" inches tall with a proportionate build. He was dressed all in black, including a zipped hooded top, and had a black mask covering the lower part of his face. Soon afterwards, two men stole a catalytic converter from a black Mazda car parked in Swinden Close, Windmill Hill, before fleeing in a silver Vauxhall Vectra in the direction of Windmill Hill Avenue. The incident occurred shortly after 10pm and the offenders were both white and wearing all dark clothing, including black hats. One of the offenders looked to be around 6' tall and had a slim build. The other had a stockier build. The incidents are believed to be linked. Enquiries in relation to them are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with information or footage that may aid their investigation to come forward. DS Rob McLoughlin, of Runcorn Local Policing Unit, said: *“I would like to reassure members of the Runcorn community that we are doing everything we can to establish who stole the two catalytic converters and make them face the consequences of their actions. As part of our ongoing enquiries we want to speak to anyone who was in the Blantyre Street and Swinden Close areas of Runcorn that night and witnessed anything that may be relevant to our investigation. We also want to hear from anyone who believes they have may have CCTV or dashcam footage of the offenders, or know who they are. The same goes for anyone who thinks they may have footage or information regarding the silver Vauxhaull Vectra that the offenders were travelling in.”*

Anyone with any information or footage that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 980200, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Catalytic converter thefts have been on the rise across the country in recent times, due to the precious metal they contain. It takes specialist tools to remove a catalytic converter. There are a number of steps that motorists can take to reduce their chances of becoming a victim, including:

- Protect your car by asking your dealer if they can give you any advice on locks or guards that are approved by the vehicle manufacturer and tested to Sold Secure Gold
- If you can, park your car in a locked garage when it is unattended – otherwise, park as close to your property as possible or in a well-lit area clearly covered by CCTV
- Try to park so that the catalytic convertor cannot be easily reached, close to a wall, a fence or tightly between other cars for example
- If you are using a car park, use a ‘Park Mark’ one to ensure that it has been assessed and approved for security
- Consider installing a Thatcham approved alarm to your car – ones that activate if your vehicle is lifted or tilted are particularly effective
- Mark your catalytic converter with a forensic marker and register your converter to make it harder for thieves to dispose of it
- If your converter is bolted on, the bolts can be welded shut – this would not stop a determined thief but would slow them down.

## Appeal to identify man following Chester theft

Officers investigating a theft from a shop in Chester have released a CCTV image of a man they are looking to speak to. At around 9.30am on Tuesday 23 March more than £6,500 worth of items were stolen from the Boots store on Foregate Street in Chester city centre. PC Richard Connelly, from Chester Local Policing unit, said:

*“This investigation is ongoing and as part of our enquiries we’re keen to speak to the man in the CCTV image as we believe he may have crucial information which may help us in our investigation. If you think you recognise the man, or have any information in relation to the incident, please call the team here at Chester on 101. I would also like to appeal directly to the man in the CCTV image to get in touch to help us progress with our investigation.”*

Anyone who recognises the man, or anyone with any information which may aid the investigation, is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101, quoting IML 950143 or give us the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about> .



## Appeal for information following armed robbery in Crewe

Police are appealing for witnesses and dashcam footage following an armed robbery at a convenience store in Crewe. At around 10.15pm on Monday 3 May an unknown man armed with a pistol entered the Bargain Booze store at the corner of Tollemache Drive and Parkers Road. Once inside the man walked towards the store assistant and ordered them to open the till; he then stole a quantity of cash before fleeing the store. The suspect is described as a white man, approximately 6’ 2” tall, of slim build but with broad shoulders. He was wearing a green jacket, with his hood up and a black hat underneath, black trousers, black shoes and black gloves. He also had dark sunglasses, a black snood type mask and a surgical mask. The suspect was also carrying a green rucksack. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are keen to hear from anyone with any information which may aid their investigation. DS Richard Johnson said: *“While the victim did not sustain any physical injuries as a result of the incident, they were left shaken and we are committed to doing all that we can to trace the person responsible. I would like to reassure residents that patrols are being stepped up in the local area. As part of the investigation into the incident I am keen to hear from anyone who was in the area around the time it occurred and believes they may have witnessed something that may be relevant to our enquiries. I also want to hear from motorists with dashcams who were driving on Parkers Road or Tollemarche Drive between 9.45pm and 10.45pm.”*

Anyone with any information which may assist the investigation, no matter how small, is urged to call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 979460 or give the details via

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> . Alternatively, information can be reported to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously> .



To find out further information about the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association, to log into your account or for Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Literature please visit our website: <http://cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk/>