

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 22nd December 2024

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Cheshire Constabulary in the Community: Cheshire Museum of Policing awarded £8.3k donation by Chief Constable on final day of festive charity initiative

The Museum of Policing, which preserves and researches the heritage of policing in Cheshire, is set to receive a £8,300 donation as part of an initiative to support worthwhile county-based charities and organisations.

At the start of this week, Chief Constable Mark Roberts announced that £50k was set to be donated across six Cheshire-based charitable organisations, whose work helps protect and safeguard the vulnerable and provide education and community engagement for local residents. This £50k worth of donations is Chief Constable Roberts' way for the Constabulary to give back to the good people of Cheshire it serves and protects every day.



So far this week, over £41k worth of donations have been made on behalf of the Constabulary to the South Cheshire Amateur Boxing Club in Crewe, the county-wide Rape and Sexual Assault Support Centres (RASAC), Youth Fed, Warrington Youth Zone and the veterans support charity Forces Employment.

On this, the final day of the Chief Constable's Christmas initiative, Chief Constable Roberts presented volunteers from the Cheshire Museum of Policing with a cheque for £8,300 to reward their efforts in supporting and engaging with the local community and preserving the force's upstanding reputation. Based on Arpley Street, Warrington, and housed within the walls of Warrington Police Station, the Cheshire Museum of Policing is a fully-registered charity funded by donations and run entirely by volunteers.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"This past week, we have been spreading Christmas cheer by donating £50k to six worthy organisations who, like me, want to give back to the people of Cheshire, and it has been fantastic meeting them and hearing their stories. Cheshire Constabulary has been keeping the county a hostile environment for crime for over 160 years and, as the force has such a rich and diverse history, somewhere was needed to document and preserve the countless police artefacts attained over the years for future generations.*

"The Museum is a brilliant example of this - it has captured the attention of so many from all over for nearly two decades and will only continue to flourish with the commitment shown by its wonderful volunteers. Not only does it preserve the Constabulary's heritage, but it is a fantastic way for us to engage with the local community who we serve and introduce young people to the force in a welcoming and positive environment. It's court room has also featured many times on Coronation Street. As a token of my appreciation, and on behalf of Cheshire Constabulary, it is a pleasure to donate £8,300 that will hopefully assist with their initiatives moving forward into the New Year."

Museum Manager Peter Hampson, added: *"It is a great honour to receive the grant as an endorsement that the Chief Constable values what we do. The grant will help us support the hundreds of children across the county who come to visit us for educational trips to learn more about their local force, along with the members of our local community who pass through our doors for numerous engagement events. The money will also go towards conservation of items in our extensive collection. This is important, as if we do not maintain valuable artefacts in good condition, they will deteriorate. We really cannot thank the Chief Constable enough for the support. We will be mindful of how the money is spent to ensure it is used according to best practice."*

Opening its Tardis-style doors into a 19th-century police station in 2006, the museum welcomes thousands of visitors from all over the country through its door every year, with new force recruits, retired senior officers, schools and even ghost hunters taking a trip back in time to see how the county was policed in bygone years. A trip to the Museum includes a chance to hop aboard one of the force's former squad cars and motorbikes, as well as an opportunity to try on helmets and uniforms previously used by officers. Visitors can also expect to find a number of policing artefacts including vehicles, weapons, and investigative tools used to tackle crime in Cheshire over the force's long history.

For more information about the museum, which is funded entirely through public donations, you can [visit the Museum of Policing website](#) or call 01606 365803.

Chester drugs gang jailed for almost 12 years

Three men who were part of a county lines drugs gang which operated in Chester and Rhyl have been sentenced to almost 12 years in prison.

Kyle Scanu, Mataléco Kessley and Dex Goffri were all sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 19 December after earlier pleading guilty to two counts of conspiracy to supply class A drugs (cocaine and heroin). Scanu, 21, of Orchard Court, Chester, was sentenced to 4 years and 10 months in prison; Kessley, aged 22 of Thomas Street, Woodhouse, Leeds, was jailed for 45 months; and Goffri, 21, of Wortley Towers, Farnley, Leeds, was sentenced to 37 months in prison.



Mataléco Kessley

Dex Goffri

Kyle Scanu

The court heard how the trio were all members of a county lines gang who were supplying heroin and cocaine in Chester and Rhyl between 31 May and 6 October 2023. The investigation into the group began in July 2023 and during their enquiries officers established that Scanu was the manager of the gang, while Kessley and Goffri both played significant roles. Between them the group used three 'graft' phones which they used to send flare messages advertising the sale of illegal drugs. During their enquiries officers also safeguarded two children who featured within the investigation. Following a detailed investigation all three men were subsequently charged with two counts of conspiracy to supply class A drugs (cocaine and heroin).

Following the sentencing DC Richard Connolley, of Chester Proactive CID, said: *"It was clear during our investigation that the Black Felix gang were key players in the supply of illegal drugs in the Chester and North Wales areas and I welcome the sentences that have been handed to them. While this gang is now behind bars, our fight against illegal drugs is ongoing and we will do everything in our power to remove gangs like this from our streets to bring an end to the misery drugs bring to local communities. I would urge anyone with any concerns about illegal drug activity in their community to get in touch with Cheshire Police on 101."*

Cheshire Constabulary in the Community: Constabulary donates £8,300 to Cheshire veterans' charities

A locally active veteran's charity has been awarded £8,300 as part of the Cheshire Constabulary in the Community Christmas project in recognition of their work in supporting former service personnel after they return to civilian life.

Cheshire Constabulary has been spreading festive cheer this week, as Chief Constable Mark Roberts has been donating £50k to six charities whose work supports the community for our local residents. The £50k comes from funds recovered under the Police Property Act and will go directly to supporting the communities the Constabulary serves. Today, Chief Constable Mark Roberts presented representatives from the Forces Employment Charity with a cheque for £8,300 to support their work in the region.



The Forces Employment Charity stands by ex-Forces personnel, many of whom work within the Constabulary as officers or staff members, providing life-long, life-changing support, jobs and training opportunities to Service leavers, veterans, reservists and their spouses, partners and children. This support is delivered by

experienced advisors, many of whom also served, who are committed to helping veterans succeed by harnessing their military skills for new jobs outside of the service. By working with them, veterans are in the best position to transfer these skills into other sectors, giving them the confidence to progress in their careers and show employers how valuable they can be in their workforce. The charity also works very closely with veterans who have come into contact with the justice system, providing specialist support that takes into account their veteran identity and experiences. Forces Employment Charity stands by ex-Forces personnel, many of whom work within the Constabulary as officers or staff members, providing life-long, life-changing support, jobs and training opportunities to Service leavers, veterans, reservists and their spouses, partners and children.

Chief Constable Roberts said: *"We highly value the skills, attributes and experience of those with an Armed Forces background – including our many officers and staff members who have been involved with the military in some capacity – and the fantastic work they have done, and continue to do, to keep our country safe. The shift into non-military life can bring a number of challenges that can lead to veterans feeling detached, but the work the Forces' Employment Charity does is vital to those who have fought for their country, by getting them onto the road of success in all elements of civilian life once their service ends - whether that's looking for a job or housing, physical or mental health or providing support for addiction recovery. The charity's proprietary and commissioned justice programme has consistently proved that identifying, engaging and supporting veterans can have life-changing – and in many cases life-saving – outcomes, so I am more than pleased to present them with this cheque for £8.3k to help them in continuing to look out for our former servicemen and women."*

Steve Lowe, Regional Manager for Force's Employment, added: *"We have worked closely with Cheshire police for over 9 years, supporting both police staff and the wider community to be able support local veterans and their families as they transition to civilian life. Our justice programmes deliver fantastic outcomes for the entire community. The level of support and understanding of veteran issues in Cheshire police has been phenomenal and we look forward to investing this money back into the community through our work with local veterans."*

To find out more the work The Force's Employment Charity does, you can visit their [website](#).

Pair jailed after man was seriously assaulted in Widnes

A father and daughter have been jailed for a combined total of 11 years after a man was stabbed while celebrating on New Year's Eve.

Conor McQuade, of Appleby Walk, Widnes, and Charlotte McQuade, of Lancaster Road, Widnes, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Monday 16 December where they were both sentenced for section 18 assault.

Conor McQuade, 44, received a six-year sentence, with a further two years to be served on extended licence, while Charlotte McQuade, 21, received five years.



At around 2.30am on Monday 1 January 2024, Cheshire Police received reports that a man had been assaulted outside a nightclub in Victoria Square, Widnes. The victim, who was 20 at the time of the incident, was taken to hospital for treatment for three stab wounds and needed emergency surgery. Following this, he was able to speak to officers and identify Conor McQuade as the man who had attacked him.

The investigation revealed that Charlotte McQuade had been at the same nightclub as the victim celebrating New Year's Eve. She had previously made an allegation against him, but no further action was taken against him following a police investigation. Charlotte McQuade still resented the man and tried to take matters into her own hands. She therefore contacted her father Conor McQuade to point out the victim's location. As the evening progressed, the victim was standing outside the venue when he was attacked by Conor McQuade, who had arrived at the area armed with a knife.

Charlotte McQuade was arrested the following day, meanwhile Conor McQuade was arrested on 6 January. The pair were subsequently charged with attempted murder. However, a trial at Liverpool Crown Court ultimately decided to convict them of section 18 assault instead.

Following the sentencing, DC Gemma Nicolson said: *“I welcome the sentences handed to the two defendants in this case, who clearly showed no regard for the victim, inflicting such horrendous injuries on him as he was enjoying New Year festivities. Officers worked tirelessly to complete extensive enquiries and compile a comprehensive file of evidence, subsequently bringing both defendants before the courts. I hope the conclusion of this case brings the victim some sense of closure and also reassures members of the community that those who commit these types of offences will be arrested and held accountable for their actions.”*

Man convicted of raping a child in Northwich

A man has been found guilty of raping a child in Northwich.

Connor Behan has been convicted of a string of sexual offences following a seven-day trial at Chester Crown Court. On Wednesday 18 December, Behan was found guilty by unanimous verdict of counts of multiple rapes of a girl under 13, multiple sexual assaults by touching of a child under 13, and engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child on multiple occasions. He was found not guilty of an additional count of sexual assault by touching of a child under 13. The 33-year-old of Heath Avenue, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, has since been remanded in custody and is set to be sentenced on Friday 31 January.



Cheshire Police launched an investigation into the abuse in October 2022, following a disclosure made by the victim to a teacher at her school. The jury heard how Behan had sexually assaulted the victim on multiple occasions, starting in May 2019, when the victim was just seven years old. As part of the investigation, a seminal detection dog was deployed which found traces of Behan’s semen on a blanket owned by the victim. Behan was immediately arrested and subsequently charged.

Following the verdict, DS Scott Graves said: *“Firstly, I would like to commend the victim for her bravery and courage shown throughout this investigation and trial. Sadly there are no winners in this case, however I truly hope this result will provide her closure. I would also like to thank my team and all those involved in securing this verdict – an immense amount of work has gone into ensuring the victim and other innocent children are safeguarded from what is an extremely dangerous sexual predator. Behan sexually abused his victim for a sustained period of time – he showed no remorse, denying everything throughout the investigation. Thankfully, the jury were able to see through his lies, and he will finally be held accountable for what he’s done. I hope this result will allow the victim to eventually move on with her life, now that Behan will be unable to hurt her ever again.”*

DS Graves added: *“As this case shows, we treat all reports of sexual offences seriously, with the wishes and needs of the victims as our main priority, and any allegations will be thoroughly investigated. Anyone who has been a victim of sexual abuse – no matter how long ago the incident took place – is urged to come forward and report it to Cheshire Police on 101 or [through our website](#).”*

Boy racer jailed following fatal collision at Warrington car meet

A boy racer has been jailed after he admitted killing a pedestrian at a car meet in Warrington.

Mason Hodgson appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 19 November where he was sentenced to 8 years in prison. The 23-year-old of Glen Road, Morley, had earlier pleaded guilty to causing death by dangerous driving. As well as his custodial sentence, he was also banned from driving for 10 years and 4 months.



The court heard how on the evening of Sunday 10 April 2022, a car meet was taking place on an industrial estate in Woolston, Warrington. Several hundred people were in attendance at the event, including 20-year-old Samuel Harding from Stockport, who had visited with his two friends to look at other cars. Hodgson also attended the event with his friends and shortly after 9.30pm he decided to participate in the car meet by attempting to drive as fast as possible along Kingsland Grange in his black Audi S3. As he drove along the

road, a 30mph zone, Hodgson reached speeds of more than 90mph, before colliding with Samuel who was in the process of crossing the road.

CCTV footage showed that due to the speed he was travelling, Samuel could not see Hodgson's vehicle, when he stepped out into the road. Hodgson was unable to brake in time after seeing Samuel in the road. The impact of the collision caused Samuel to be thrown more than 10ft into the air and as a result he sustained serious head injuries. Police and paramedics were called to the scene and Samuel was rushed to hospital. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, Samuel sadly passed away a short time later.

Hodgson was arrested at the scene in connection with the collision and an investigation was launched by the Serious Collision Investigation Unit, with support from the Major Investigation Team. During their enquiries, officers contacted over 100 witnesses, took statements from 95 people and viewed hundreds of hours of CCTV and mobile phone footage, which showed the lead-up to the collision. An expert in CCTV analyst reviewed the footage and was able to prove that Hodgson had reached speeds of between 83 and 97mph while driving along Kingsland Grange. In the moments before the collision, he was travelling at between 82 and 88mph, and even after applying the brakes, he was still travelling between 58 and 60mph following.

Footage was also recovered from Hodgson's mobile phone which showed him regularly travelling at excessive speed and taking part in competitive driving on public roads. After a detailed investigation, Hodgson was subsequently charged with causing death by dangerous driving.

Following his sentencing Sgt Simon Degg, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit at Cheshire Police, said: *"Samuel was a bright and talented young man who had his whole life ahead of him. He travelled to Warrington that night simply to look at other cars with his friends and have fun. Hodgson travelled to Warrington that night to show off and drive his car as quickly as possible. He showed little skill in driving fast down a straight road. In fact, he demonstrated the opposite. The footage we recovered from his phone showed that he had no regard for the law and regularly took part in street races, even filming himself as he drove at speeds in excess of 160mph on UK roads.*

"In the moments prior to the collision, he reached horrific speeds of more than 90mph, in an area governed by a 30mph speed limit, and even after he had spotted Samuel in the road, he had no way of stopping due to the excessive speed at which he was travelling. "As a result of his selfish, unnecessary, and dangerous actions, Samuel never got to return home that night and the lives of his family have been torn apart.

"While we will never be able to bring Samuel back, I hope that the sentence handed to Hodgson will provide his family some closure and allow them to start to rebuild their lives. I also hope that the devastating consequences of this case will act as a warning to others who are contemplating on taking part in these events."

Drugs seized and two arrested following Congleton stop check.

Officers have arrested two men and seized a quantity of illegal drugs following a stop check in Congleton.

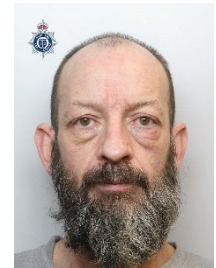
At around 10.30pm on Tuesday 17 December, police were called to reports of suspicious activity in the Windsor Place area of the town. Officers were deployed to the scene and while they were searching the area they spotted a man who was acting suspiciously. The man was spoken to by officers and a search was subsequently conducted on his car, where a second man was located. During a search of the car officers discovered several bags containing class A and class B drugs. The two men, aged 26 and 31, were both arrested at the scene on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class A and B drugs. The pair have since been released on conditional bail pending further enquiries, they are set to report back to officers on Friday 28 February.

Following the arrests PC Johnson said: *"This is a great result which shows the value of information from the local community. As a result of local intelligence, we've arrested two men and seized a quantity of illegal drugs that would have been destined for the streets of Congleton. The corrosive effect of illegal drugs on communities cannot be understated. Behind every single drug deal there is vulnerability and misery, and we are fully committed to tackling the problem and targeting those involved. If you have any information about*

illegal drug activity or any other criminal activity taking place, please report it to us on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, and we will take care of the rest.”

Man jailed after cannabis farm discovered in Winsford.

A man has been jailed for more than two years after a cannabis farm was discovered at an address in Winsford.



Mark Platt appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 18 December where he was sentenced to 27 months in prison. The 55-year-old, of no fixed abode, had previously pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine) and production of class B drugs (cannabis).

The court heard how in the early hours of Sunday 4 February 2024, Platt was arrested by officers from GMP in relation to an unrelated matter. Following his arrest officers recovered a mobile phone along with the keys to an address on Fieldfare, Winsford. A search was subsequently undertaken at the address where officers discovered a large cannabis farm containing approximately 218 plants at various stages of growth. It was estimated that the cannabis had a potential street value of up to £215,420. As well as the cannabis, officers also discovered approximately 75 grams of cocaine at the address, which had a potential street value of up to £9,350.

Officers also found a number of pictures of the cannabis farm when examining Platt’s mobile phone. Platt was subsequently questioned in relation to the discovery, but he refused to answer any of the questions put to him by officers. Despite his silence, he was subsequently charged in relation to the matter.

Following the sentencing, PC Wayne Thomas, of Northwich Local Policing Unit, said: *“I welcome the sentence handed to Platt and I hope it acts as a warning to others involved in the supply or production of illegal drugs. It is clear that Platt was running a professional cannabis farm, this wasn’t simply just a few cannabis plants, the whole building had been fitted out with thousands of pounds worth of equipment to maximise the potential yield. Thankfully, we were able to seize all of these plants, along with the cocaine, and prevent them from being sold on the streets of Winsford, and Platt is now being held accountable for his actions behind bars. While Platt is now behind bars, our fight against illegal drugs remains ongoing and we urge residents to remain vigilant and anyone who suspects this activity is happening near them to come forward and tell us about it.”*

To report a suspected cannabis farm or any other type of drug-related offence, call us 101, give the details via our website or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Cheshire Constabulary in the Community: Cheshire and Merseyside RASASC to receive £10,000 donation to support sexual assault victims

Cheshire and Merseyside’s Rape and Sexual Assault Support Centre (RASASC) has received a £10k donation from Cheshire Constabulary as part of a week-long Christmas initiative fronted by Chief Constable Mark Roberts.



It is day four of the Cheshire Constabulary in the Community charity project, in which Chief Constable Mark Roberts is set to donate a share of £50k to six Cheshire charities and organisations that put the people of Cheshire first. One of the organisations that is set to benefit from this initiative is Cheshire and Merseyside’s Rape and Sexual Assault Support Centre (RASASC).

With offices in Chester, Crewe, Ellesmere Port, Halton, Northwich, Macclesfield and Warrington, as well as offering outreach support in locations across Cheshire and Merseyside, the group’s core ethos is to provide free community-based support that is tailored towards the needs of people affected by sexual violence, working in partnership with local authorities, such as Cheshire Constabulary and NHS England. All members of the team are highly motivated towards raising society’s awareness of the prevalence and consequences of

sexual violence, as well as helping to challenge common myths and unhelpful perceptions surrounding rape and sexual assault.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"Being a victim of any kind of crime can be frightening and upsetting, but rape and sexual assault are distressingly personal acts that can have long-lasting effects on victims and their wider families and can require specialised support to process the incident and to work through it to recovery. We treat all reports of sexual abuse extremely seriously, and any report is thoroughly investigated, with the wishes and needs of the victim being our main priority. To that end, I have always been an advocate for the work RASASC conducts in supporting victims and their families in the face of horrendous circumstances as it is absolutely critical and exemplifies what reassurance and guidance we collectively want to offer as a force. I am delighted to present the team at Cheshire and Merseyside RASASC with this cheque for £10k on behalf of Cheshire Constabulary, that I know will be put to good use in the coming year."*

Julie Evans, Director of Operations for Cheshire and Merseyside RASASC, added: *"We are delighted to receive this kind donation, and we will use the funds to provide additional counselling support for the women, men and children who access our service. RASASC is a Cheshire-based charity that provides an Information Line, Counselling and Independent Sexual Violence Advisors across all parts of Cheshire. The service is free of charge and works with men, women and children who have been affected by rape and or sexual assault. It doesn't matter whether it happened recently or in the past, we are here to help."*

RASASC can be contacted on 0330 363 0063 or via their website www.rapecentre.org.uk

Man jailed for assaulting an officer in Warrington

A man who assaulted a police officer while on duty has been jailed.

Victor Jefferies, 64, of Orange Grove, Warrington was sentenced to 12 months in prison at Chester Magistrates' Court on Monday 9 December after entering a guilty plea at an earlier hearing. The court heard how at around 3pm on Saturday 7 December, police were called to a public house on Horsemarket Street following reports of an aggressive man attempting to assault staff. Officers attended and found Jefferies had been throwing multiple punches and kicks towards staff. Jefferies then went on to direct his aggression towards officers before brandishing a knife and pointing it towards them. He was quickly disarmed, arrested, and placed in the back of the police vehicle. Whilst on route to custody, Jefferies attempted to headbutt an officer. Jefferies was charged with assaulting an emergency worker, public order, and threats with a bladed article.



CI Neil Drum, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *"Jefferies' actions were utterly unacceptable and caused immense distress, fear and alarm to local members of the community. Officers regularly put their own lives at risk in order to protect others and they don't go to work in order to be assaulted. Jefferies could have caused significant harm to officers and members of the public, and I hope this result demonstrates we will not tolerate this type of behaviour in our town."*

Man arrested following warrant in Warrington

A man has been arrested on suspicion of drugs offences in Warrington following the execution of a warrant in the town.

At 9.25am on Tuesday 17 December, officers from Warrington North Beat Management executed a warrant at an address in Valiant Close, Warrington. This came following intelligence relating to potential drug dealing in the area. Upon entry, officers seized a quantity of cannabis, and a 43-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply cannabis. He has since been bailed pending further enquiries.

Inspector Lee Hillyard said: *"This warrant was executed after information was received in relation to potential drug dealing in the area. We hope this highlights how seriously we take offences of this nature and reassures the community that we are doing all we can to put a stop to drug-related criminality. If you have*

any information about illegal drug activity or any other criminal activity taking place, get in touch. You will be listened to, and we will investigate the matter."

You can report information to Cheshire Police via our website or by calling 101.

Cheshire Constabulary in the Community: Chief Constable donates £10,000 to support Crewe community boxing club on behalf of Constabulary

Cheshire Constabulary has made a £10k donation to the South Cheshire Amateur Boxing Club (SCABC) as part of Chief Constable Mark Roberts' Christmas charity initiative.



Earlier this week, Chief Constable Mark Roberts announced that six Cheshire-based organisations, whose work helps provide education and community engagement for residents, would be receiving a total of £50k. The money will have a positive impact by being used to give back to the people of Cheshire.

One of the organisations that is set to benefit from this initiative is the South Cheshire Amateur Boxing Club, who have recently launched a project to build a new boxing gym to support local children. The Constabulary is a long-standing supporter of South Cheshire Amateur Boxing Club, which was founded in 2012 by Head Coach, and Cheshire Constabulary Personal Safety Trainer, Nathan Clarke. Since its launch, the club has grown from delivering two classes a week, to having twelve England Boxing-trained coaches, Mini-Boxers, Junior and Adult sections and a number of boxers competing and winning at National Championship level. Not only this but Crewe-based DCI Christian Morris regularly helps out the team with boxing coaching and several of the local PCSOs and staff members have since become members of the club to make use of its gym.

South Cheshire Amateur Boxing Club recently secured funding to transform a piece of derelict land in Crewe to construct a purpose-built building twice the size of their current premises, with the Chief Constable and the wider boxing team hoping that the new gym will act as a hub to encourage as many young people in the area as possible to take up the sport, whilst helping to reduce anti-social behaviour in the town. Today, Wednesday 18 December, Christian and Nathan were presented with a cheque for £10k to support them with their ongoing projects and the day-to-day running of the club, with the pair telling Chief Constable Mark Roberts that around 50 pairs of boxing gloves and training mats would be among the first few items to be purchased.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"I am always happy to support local initiatives such as this to help local residents, especially those that benefit children and help them channel their energy into something positive. Aside from the benefits of regular exercise, boxing teaches discipline and valuable life skills and the team at the club do fantastic work, all as volunteers. South Cheshire ABC has close ties to our Constabulary, with our own Nathan Clarke, Christian Morris, Lisa Haughton and a number of our officers and staff regularly visiting and helping out - this is exactly the type of initiative that we want to support. As their project to develop their new premises gets underway, I am thrilled to present them with this cheque for £10k to aid them in their mission of getting the children of the county involved with a worthwhile pastime."*

Nathan Clarke, Head Coach and Trustee said: *"South Cheshire ABC was delighted to receive the news of the generous donation given by Chief Constable Roberts on behalf of the Constabulary. The money will be spent on well needed additional equipment as the club moves to its new home in April 2025. The club's open door policy means we have outgrown our current location and donations such as this will ensure we can provide a safe and positive environment for the residents of Cheshire for many years to come."*

DCI Christian Morris, Coach and Trustee, added: *"The club would like to go on record to thank the continued support of Chief Constable Roberts and the Constabulary, this £10,000 will make a massive difference to all those visiting the club in the future. The police have been on the journey with South Cheshire ABC since 2012 and the partnership between the two goes from strength to strength as we enter our next chapter in 2025."*

More information about South Cheshire Amateur Boxing Club can be found on their website, [South Cheshire ABC](#).

Widnes man faces charges of malicious communications

A man from Widnes has been summoned to court to face charges of malicious communications.

Following an investigation by Cheshire Police, the Crown Prosecution Service has authorised for Joseph Barton to be charged with two counts of malicious communications. The charges relate to reports of alleged malicious communications online between Wednesday 3 January and Wednesday 20 March, involving two victims. The 41-year-old, of Fox Banks Close, Widnes, will appear at Magistrates Court at a later date.

Crewe man banned from several convenience stores under Criminal Behaviour Order

A 49-year-old man has been banned from five convenience stores across Crewe for three years after being issued with a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)

Andrew Crimes, of no fixed address, but of Crewe, appeared at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Thursday 12 December where he was handed the order following an application by Crewe Beat Management team. Under the order, the 49-year-old has been banned from entering several stores within the Crewe area for three years. These include:

- Tesco Extra on Vernon Way
- Co-Op on Remer Street
- Morrisons on Dunwoody Way
- Morrisons Daily on Gainsborough Road

Crimes, of no fixed address but of Crewe, has also been banned from entering the Queens Park Service Station (Esso) on Victoria Avenue under the order.

PC Justin Taylor, of Crewe South Beat Management: *"Criminal Behaviour Orders are just one of the many tools we use to deter prolific criminals from repeatedly disrupting our retailers. I welcome the issuing of this CBO and I hope this can provide some reassurance to local businessowners and residents that we are doing all we can to deter criminality like this from occurring in our communities."*

If anyone does encounters Andrew Crimes breaching the restrictions of his orders, please contact Cheshire Police via cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/ or call 101. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Cheshire Constabulary in the Community: Warrington Youth Zone receives £6,700 donation from Cheshire Chief Constable

Chief Constable Mark Roberts has donated £6,700 on behalf of Cheshire Constabulary to the Youth Zone in Warrington as part of the ongoing Constabulary in the Community Christmas project.

It is day two of the Constabulary in the Community Christmas charity initiative, which will see Police Chief Constable Mark Roberts donating a total of £50k of funds to six worthy charities and organisations from across Cheshire. Warrington Youth Zone is one such charity. It has supported the young people of the town from its state-of-the-art facility since 2022, but its history spans over 70 years, having first been established as the Warrington Boys Club in the 1930s. Over the next seven-plus decades the club adapted and operated out of several locations across the town and welcomed generations of young people from all walks of life, genders and backgrounds, before changing its name to Warrington Youth Club in 2003 and becoming a registered charity.



The Warrington Youth Zone has built upon the legacy of the Youth Club and, today, offers a variety of different activities and initiatives to support young people's development, offering opportunities to gain, increase and develop skills, knowledge, self-awareness and confidence, and enabling them to make positive and healthy life choices. Whether young people want to meet old friends, make new ones, work out or get involved in a sport, or simply find somewhere where they can relax and have a hot meal, the Youth Zone is available to them for just 50p a visit. Today, Tuesday 17 December, representatives from the Youth Zone were presented with a cheque for £6,700 by Superintendent Adam Ross on behalf of the Chief Constable and the Constabulary to support their upcoming projects for the new year and the continued day-to-day running of the facility.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"The Youth Zone is integral to the children of Warrington and has a long legacy of helping them become the best version of themselves, which is why I am delighted to present their team with this cheque for £6,700 to support them in doing so through 2025. It is very important that the young people have a safe place to go to where they can develop their skills and abilities, pick up a new sport or hobby, or meet up with friends and socialise. Their work also helps us as a force, as the opportunities the Youth Zone provides gives these young people an alternative to engaging in crime or anti-social behaviour, instead giving them a safe environment where they can freely express themselves and have fun with others of a similar age."*

Dave McNicholl, of Warrington Youth Zone, added: *"We are delighted to have been awarded such a generous donation of funding from Cheshire Constabulary to support our work with children, young people and families. Warrington Youth Zone provides high quality social opportunities for young people across Warrington and from our base at the Youth Zone on Dallam Lane. We work with children and young people aged 7 – 19, or up to 25 for those with additional needs. When school closes, we open, from 4pm each day and every weekend and school holidays, our members can take part in our sports programmes including rock climbing, boxing, dance and drama, arts and crafts and football on the 3G pitch on the roof. We work with children from across Warrington providing a range of universal open access sessions, alongside targeted programmes to support some of the more vulnerable and marginalised young people. This funding will allow us to continue to support young people at risk of involvement in anti-social behaviour and criminality by providing a rich array of diversionary activities and raise their awareness and understanding of the implications of their current choices. We look forward to work closely with Cheshire Police in providing the highest level of support to those who need it most."*

To find out more information about the Warrington Youth Zone, contact them on 01925 977277 or visit their website at [Warrington Youth Zone](#)

Over 130 Warrington taxis checked under joint licencing operation

Warrington Local Policing Unit joined forces with immigration officers, the motorcycle unit and representatives from Warrington, Halton and Wolverhampton Councils in an operation designed to keep you safe when traveling via taxi this festive season.

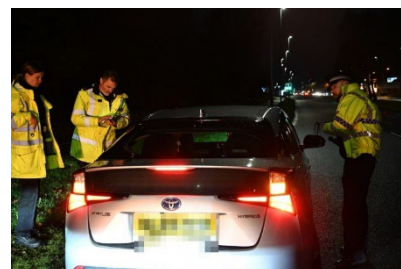
Whether it's a shopping trip for Christmas presents, travelling to see family members or heading home after a work party, many of us will be relying on taxis to get us to and from our homes this festive season. As part of a wider operation to keep residents safe when out and about, Warrington Local Policing Unit, supported by the Motorcycle Unit, the Special Constabulary, Immigration Officers and the Warrington, Halton and Wolverhampton taxi licencing teams, launched Operation Confederation across the town to ensure that the taxis ferrying visitors and residents were correctly licenced.

The operation, which was conducted on Friday 15 to Saturday 16 November and Friday 6 December to Saturday 7 December respectively, revolved around officers conducting inspections of both locally licenced taxis and those licenced in other council areas that operated in Warrington. Whilst this is not illegal for taxis in licenced in other areas to operate in Warrington, it makes it much harder for drivers and vehicles to be safety checked by local authorities to ensure that they are suitable to transport the public.

Over the four nights, officers were deployed to the Bank Quay and Central stations, a main hub for taxis registered both in and outside of Warrington. Whilst at the ranks, officers from both the LPU, Warrington and Halton Council and Wolverhampton council engaged with the drivers and conducted a number of safety checks, including: making sure all vehicle lights were fully operational, drivers were in possession of their IDs and, where appropriate, CCTV cameras were in operation. During the first weekend, the Motorcycle Unit was utilised to create a checkpoint for stopping vehicles along Winwick Road and Stockton Heath and close to the M6 junction at the top of Manchester Road. These checkpoints were not used during the second weekend due to the impact of Storm Darragh.



In total, over the two weekends officers checked over 130 taxis, with most of the breaches of licencing being minor, mainly concerning drivers who were not correctly displaying their ID badges - which under legislation needed to be physically viewable on their person on a lanyard and another present in the vehicle itself. However all were able to produce their IDs when asked. Other highlights from the weekends of operation included:



- The issuing of a community resolution to a passenger who was in the possession of cannabis
- The stopping of an Uber that was not displaying proper signage, a breach of licence conditions. This driver was also issued with a traffic report as his number plates did not comply with regulations and was reported to the DVLA by due to concerns with the his driving licence
- A vehicle seized after it was spotted driving with a light out and its driver found to be in possession of a provisional licence
- Three vehicles being given defect notifications for issues such as lights out, bald tyres and unsafe vehicle panels

Insp Christopher Webster, of Warrington LPU's Neighbourhood Team, said: *"With the busyness of the festive period in mind, Warrington Neighbourhood Police, supported by Road Policing and local partners including immigration and taxi licencing officers for Halton, Warrington and Wolverhampton came together to launch Operation Confederations, an operation focusing on licensed passenger vehicles. The aim of Operation Confederation is to provide reassurance to those using taxis in Warrington, that they are safe to use and road worthy with enforcement action being taken where appropriate. It was really reassuring to see that so many of the taxis that operate in our town were compliant with the appropriate legislation, with the few found to be in breach being swiftly removed from the road. Our officers will continue to support the legitimate taxi drivers in Warrington throughout December, with this operation continuing well in to the festive period and new year to ensure those enjoying a night out in Warrington can return home safely."*

Pair charged with arson following fire in Henhull

Two people have been charged with arson following a fire at an apartment block in Henhull.

Daniel Wollaston, 31, and Charlotte Wollaston, 36, of Laurel Place, Henhull, were arrested on Saturday 14 December. The pair have since been charged with arson with recklessness as to whether life was endangered. They were also both charged with perverting the course of justice. Both appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court today (Monday 16 December) where they were remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Monday 13 January. The charges relate to an incident that occurred at 8.43am on Saturday 14 December, when officers in Nantwich were notified by Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service of a fire at an apartment block on Laurel Place, Henhull, near to Nantwich.

Man jailed for two and a half years following drugs Poynton stop check

A 24-year-old man has been jailed for two and a half years after officers found a package containing class A drugs in his trousers, which he later tried to hide in a police car during his transport to custody.



Onick Hossain appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 11 December where he was sentenced to two and a half years imprisonment. During his hearing, it was heard that on Tuesday 15 August, Cheshire Police patrols spotted a Renault Clio that was linked to the supply of class A drugs. The Renault was pulled over on Copperfield Road, Poynton, with officers finding Hossain behind the wheel and being subsequently searched. During the search, officers felt what they believed to be a package concealed within Hossain's trousers which made a rustling sound. Four phones were also seized. As a result of this, Hossain was swiftly arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class A drugs and was taken into custody.

Upon arrival in custody, Hossain was stripped searched. However, officers were unable to locate the package that had been initially felt during the search. Officers then proceeded to search the police vehicle Hossain was transported in, soon finding a large quantity of white and brown powders wrapped in clingfilm that had been placed there by Hossain whilst he was detained in the rear of the police car. Subsequent forensic tests concluded that it was Hossain who had hidden them there. It was estimated that 40 wraps and snap bags of crack cocaine and heroin were found within the package that Hossain had hidden and had an estimated street value of £330 and £250 respectively. Hossain answered no comment during his interview and was subsequently charged, appearing at Chester Crown Court where he was sentenced to two and a half years (30 months) in prison.

PC Christopher Howard, of Macclesfield Beat team, said: *"Hossain thought he could get away scot-free by hiding a substantial amount of drugs in his underpants, thinking we would not find them. We found them. Then during his transportation to custody, he then further utilised his hiding skills by getting the drugs out of his trousers and secreting them under his seat. Again, we found them. Hossain thought he was untouchable and above the law, but unfortunately for him, we don't give up that easily. I hope this sentence demonstrates that dealers like Hossain are not untouchable, and our committed team of eagle-eyed officers are always watching and are always one step ahead."*

You can report suspected drug dealing to [Cheshire Constabulary online](#) or by calling 101. Information can also be reported anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Cheshire Constabulary to donate £50,000 to Cheshire charities for Christmas

Cheshire Constabulary is set to spread festive cheer this week, as Chief Constable Mark Roberts has announced that six charities who are doing fantastic work in the community for our local residents are to receive a share of £50,000. Kevin



As part of the Cheshire Constabulary in the Community Christmas initiative, Chief Constable Mark Roberts is spreading the Christmas cheer by donating a share of £50,000 to six Cheshire charities that make a real difference in our communities. The £50k comes from funds recovered under the Police Property Act and will go directly to supporting the communities the Constabulary serves.

Cheshire Constabulary Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: "The countdown to Christmas is well and truly underway and, in the spirit of the season, we are looking to spread some festive cheer by giving back to the people of Cheshire that we serve day in, day out, 365 days a year. Over the course of this week, we will be presenting six worthy causes with a share of the £50k to help them continue with their efforts in making Cheshire a better place for everyone who lives, works and visits here."

Youth Fed is one such charity and, last week, representatives were presented with a cheque for £6,700 by Supt Michael Ankers, Head of the Western Local Policing Unit, on behalf of the Chief Constable. With offices across Cheshire, Halton, St Helens and the Wirral, Youth Fed supports over 5,000 young people between the

ages of 10 and 29 in Cheshire and Merseyside, helping to improve their lives through celebrating them and delivering engaging activities. Their work helps to enable young people to thrive and achieve their full potential, regardless of their background or personal circumstances. This includes helping them through recreational and curriculum-enriching activities and supporting their developmental skills, capacities, and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"The work of Youth Fed empowers our young people, some of whom may not have had the best start to their lives, to secure opportunities such as further education or employment. Their work is essential in protecting their futures and enhancing their prospects for a brighter life. Their work also helps our officers, by providing activities to the children and young people of Cheshire, they are given an alternative to embracing crime - whether low-level anti-social behaviour or something more serious. Providing our county's young people with opportunities and activities that support their overall growth and development is crucial to ensure that they have a chance to be the best version of themselves, which is why I am thrilled to make this donation to Youth Fed on behalf of the Constabulary."*

Kevin Bradburne, Director of Operations for Youth Fed, added: *"Youth Fed are incredibly grateful for this generous donation from Cheshire Constabulary and Chief Constable Roberts. This funding will play a vital role in supporting young people across our region, enabling us to deliver impactful programmes that empower them to overcome challenges, develop essential skills, and make positive life choices. By providing opportunities and support, we can help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, creating safer communities for everyone. For over 70 years, Youth Fed has been committed to making a meaningful difference in the lives of young people, and this donation ensures we can continue to drive that mission forward."*

More information can be found on the Youth Fed website: <https://youthfed.org.uk/>

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal for witnesses and footage following fatal collision in Mobberley

Officers are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with footage to come forward following a fatal collision in Mobberley.

Shortly after 12.10pm on Thursday 12 December, police were called to reports of an incident in Mill Lane. Officers attended and found the collision involved one vehicle, a silver Kia Sportage. After exiting the car, the driver, an 80-year-old man, and the passenger, an 80-year-old woman, are believed to have been struck by the vehicle. The driver suffered serious injuries and sadly later died in hospital. The passenger remains in hospital with serious injuries at this time. Enquiries are ongoing to establish the full circumstances and officers would now like to ask anyone who witnessed what happened to get in touch with them.

Insp Steve Griffiths from Cheshire Police's Serious Collision Investigation Unit said: *"This is a tragic incident that has happened so close to Christmas. It is vital we can piece together the events of last week to establish exactly what happened. We would like to ask any witnesses to come forward. We would also urge anyone who may have been in the area at the time to review their CCTV or dashcam footage for anything relevant. You can report information to us via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us or call 101, quoting IML-1982984."*

Police appeal to trace wanted man from Warrington

Police are appealing for help from the public in tracing a wanted man from Warrington.

Graham Truesdale is wanted in connection with failing to appear at court. The 34-year-old is described as white, 6' tall, of a medium build, with dark brown hair and brown eyes. As well as Warrington, Truesdale has links to the Manchester area.

Anyone with any information as to Truesdale's whereabouts should contact Cheshire Police [via the website](#), or call 101, quoting 24001025291.



Appeal for information following reports of burglary in Congleton

Officers are appealing for witnesses and information from the public following reports of a burglary in Congleton.

At around 4.30pm on Thursday 12 December, police were called to reports of a burglary at an address in Leek Road, Congleton. The incident is believed to have occurred at some time between 8am and 4.15pm and involved unknown suspects smashing a rear patio door to gain access to the property. A quantity of jewellery was stolen.

PC Sam Fraser said: *"Enquiries have been ongoing since this incident, and we are now appealing for anyone who witnessed what happened to get in touch with us. The same goes for anyone with any relevant CCTV, video doorbell or dashcam footage, or anyone who was in the area and may have seen anything suspicious. You can contact Cheshire Police via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us or call 101, quoting 24001045050."*

CCTV image issued following assault in Warrington

Police have issued a CCTV image of a man they are looking to speak to after a man was assaulted in Warrington.

At around 10.15pm on Friday 4 October, the victim, a 27-year-old man, was with two women in an alleyway at the rear of a restaurant on Bridge Street, when he was hit on the head with a broomstick by an unknown man. The victim sustained a laceration to his forehead as a result of the incident. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and as part of the investigation officers have now released a CCTV image of a man they are looking to speak to.

PC McAufield, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *"Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and as part of our investigation, we are keen to speak to the man in the CCTV images as we believe he may hold important information. Anyone who recognises the man is urged to contact us on 101, or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, quoting 24000849832. "I would also like to appeal directly to the man in the CCTV images to get in touch."*



Appeal for information following fatal collision near Sandbach

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a fatal collision near Sandbach.

Shortly a 11.45am on Monday 16 December, police were called to reports of a collision on the A534 Haslington Bypass. Officers attended the scene and found there had been a collision between a white HGV tractor Unit and a silver Vauxhall Crossland near to Wheelock Farm. The driver of the car, a 74-year-old woman from Sandbach, sustained serious injuries as a result the collision and was taken to hospital. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, she has since passed away. Her next of kin are aware and they are being supported by specialist officers.

DS Simon Degg, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit said: *“Enquiries in relation to this collision are ongoing and we’re committed to doing all we can to establish what took place. The A534 is an extremely busy road and as part of our investigation we are keen to hear from anyone who witnessed what took place. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage which may aid our investigation.”*

Anyone with any information or video footage which may aid the investigation is urged to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, quoting IML 1985880.

CCTV appeal following reports of shoplifting in Knutsford

Officers investigating reports of shoplifting at a convenience store in Knutsford have released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to.

The incident is reported to have occurred at around 3.30pm on Friday 22 November at a store on Princess Street. During the incident, an unknown man exited the store without paying for a quantity of Baileys alcohol to the amount of £324. Officers have now released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to in relation to the incident.



PC John Milman, of Macclesfield Neighbourhood Team, said: *“Enquiries are currently ongoing and as part of our investigation, we would like to speak to the man pictured in the CCTV images. If anyone recognises him, please contact us [via the website](#) or call 101, quoting 24000989483. I would also like to appeal directly to the man pictured to come forward.”*

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

c/o Corporate Comms | Cheshire Constabulary HQ | Clemonds Hey | Oakmere Road | Winsford | Cheshire | CW7 2UA

Email: cheshirenw@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.cheshirenw.org>

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw



Scan to visit [website](https://www.cheshirenw.org)

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: www.cheshirenw.org