

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 19 05 2024

## Cheshire News & Appeals



### Latest Cheshire News

#### Prolific shoplifter banned from shops across Macclesfield

A prolific shoplifter has been banned from entering several shops across Macclesfield after officers secured a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

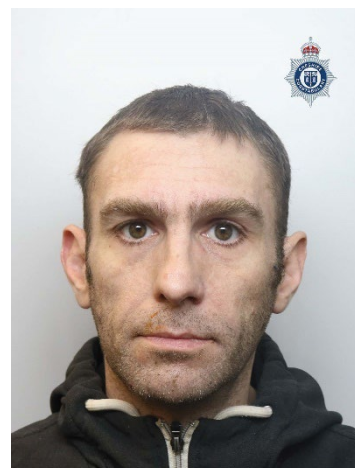
Jack Collins, of no fixed abode, Macclesfield was served with the two-year order at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 15 May, following numerous incidents of shoplifting across the town.

As a result of the order, the 38-year-old has been banned from entering the following stores –

- Any Co-Op store in the Macclesfield area
- Any Tesco in the Macclesfield area
- Sports Direct, Pickford Street, Macclesfield
- Mountain Warehouse, Mill Street, Macclesfield
- Sainsbury's, Cumberland Street, Macclesfield

In addition, Collins is also banned from being in possession of any open containers of alcohol in public. If he fails to comply with the CBO, he will be committing a criminal offence which may result in recall to prison or fine.

Sergeant Matthew Bassirat, of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *"Collins is a prolific shoplifter that has frequently stolen from shops across the town for a long time; hopefully the securing of this two-year criminal behaviour order will deter such actions in the future. I also hope that the order will provide reassurance to local businesses, demonstrating that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle shoplifting across Macclesfield. Anyone who encounters Collins breaching the restrictions of his order is urged to contact Cheshire Police via [cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/](https://cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/) or call 101, to report it."*



#### Man charged with drug offences following stop check in Widnes

Officers have charged a man with drugs offences following a police stop check in Widnes.

Gareth Lambert was stopped by officers on patrol in the Factory Lane area of the town on Wednesday 16 May. The 38-year-old of Little Heath Road, Liverpool, has since been charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine), and

possession of criminal property. He has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Chester Magistrates Court on Friday 17 May.

## **Congleton man jailed for multiple sexual assaults and exposure offences**

A prolific sex offender who repeatedly filmed himself carrying out indecent acts across Congleton and Macclesfield has been jailed.

Lewis Spencer appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 14 May where he was sentenced to two years and six months in prison. The 23-year-old, of Birch Road, Congleton, was also ordered to sign the sex offenders register indefinitely. Spencer had previously pleaded guilty to five counts of sexual assault, seven counts of exposure and possession of extreme pornography.



The court heard how on Tuesday 26 December 2023; Spencer was due to start his first shift at a fast-food establishment in Macclesfield. The victim, a 21-year-old woman, also worked at the store. She began taking a stock count at around 5.40pm that day when she noticed Spencer standing close behind her. The victim had a feeling that Spencer was recording her, but she continued working, assuming it was nothing. She then felt Spencer touch her with something. She turned around but Spencer apologised and put his phone away. After their shift ended, the victim told her manager about the incident and how it had made her feel uncomfortable. The manager checked a CCTV camera in the store which revealed Spencer had been carrying out a sexual act behind the victim, without her knowledge. During the incident he touched her with his penis while he recorded himself on his mobile phone.

The incident was immediately reported to police and Spencer was arrested on suspicion of sexual assault at his home address on Thursday 28 December 2023. Following examination of his mobile phone, which was seized upon arrest, officers discovered 17 videos of Spencer committing similar sexual offences against a number of women between Sunday 10 December 2023 and Tuesday 26 December 2023. All of the videos depicted Spencer carrying out sexual acts near to or behind women of various ages, all of whom appear to be unaware of what he was doing.

Following enquiries, officers identified two women from the videos that had previously worked with Spencer. Extreme pornography was also recovered from his phone. He was subsequently charged with four counts of sexual assault, seven accounts of exposure, and one count of extreme pornography.

Following the sentencing, Detective Inspector Robert Lees said: *"Spencer is an incredibly dangerous and perverse individual who preyed on innocent and unwitting women who were simply going about their daily lives. He was surreptitious in his actions, with his victims having no idea of the depraved acts he was carrying out. Despite all of the work undertaken by our officers to find and contact the women, some of them were unidentifiable from the videos and may not even be aware they were victims."*

*"His behaviour is completely unacceptable, and I'm glad he's being held accountable for his actions behind bars, where he can no longer pose a threat to women. Putting an end to violence against*

*women and girls remains a top priority for the force, and we will continue to remove sexual predators like Spencer from our county and ensure they see justice.”*

*“We treat all allegations of sexual offences extremely seriously, and any allegation will be thoroughly investigated, with the wishes and needs of the victim as our main priority. Victims should never feel ashamed to talk about what they have been subjected to. They will receive the help and support they need from our specialist officers, as well as from other support agencies we work alongside, and all victims of sexual offences have the right to anonymity.”*

To report any sexual offence, call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or [visit the website](#).

## **Two charged in modern slavery investigation**

Following a joint operation launched by Cheshire Constabulary and BTP's County Line Task Force, two men have been charged in connection with drugs and modern slavery offences.

In the early hours of Wednesday 8 May, police officers from Chester Proactive and BTP's County Line Task Force conducted warrants at two addresses in Leeds. Two men were arrested as part of the investigation into modern slavery and drug conspiracy and have since been charged.

Mataleco Kessely, 22, of Thomas Street, Leeds, and Kyle Scanu, 20, of Chapel Lane, Chester, have both been charged with conspiring to arrange or facilitate travel of another person with a view to exploitation and two counts of conspiracy to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine). Kessely has been remanded in custody and is next due to appear at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 13 June. Scanu, who was produced from prison upon arrest, will remain in prison until he appears at Chester Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 11 June.

## **Cheshire Constabulary partnering with Warrington Wolves in support of Operation Sceptre**

As Operation Sceptre week continues across the county, Cheshire Constabulary is proud to announce that it has partnered with the Warrington Wolves in support of delivering community engagement and policing.



To celebrate the continuation of Operation Sceptre week, in which the Constabulary is tackling the impact of knife crime within our wider Cheshire community, we are proud to announce that we will be launching an ongoing partnership with Warrington Wolves Rugby Club.

Since the start of the week of action, officers in Warrington have been working hard to ensure their streets remain weapons-free, with knife arches being deployed at schools and colleges, knife sweeps in local parks and safety talks being delivered to the local community.

Warrington residents have also been engaging with officers from the Local Policing Unit and members of the team's squad across the town as they share the message that no one needs to pick up a knife in order to feel safe or protected.

Operation Sceptre will continue through to Sunday 19 May, with Warrington officers planning to join the Wolves at their home ground at the Halliwell Jones Stadium for a number of safety talks at the Youth Zone on Saturday 18 May. During this event, residents will be invited to voluntarily surrender any unwanted knives or bladed articles to police as part of a knife surrender event, with a surrender bin located outside of the stadium itself.

Following the week of action, the partnership between the Constabulary and 'The Wire' will begin to incorporate other aspects of community engagement and policing as well as collaborative support with further police campaigns and initiatives where applicable.

Superintendent Adam Ross, Northern Area Commander for Warrington, said: *"This campaign has been a great opportunity to showcase the work our officers put in on a daily basis to keep our streets safe from knife crime, as well as highlighting all the engagement we deliver to various local community groups and the work we do with our partner organisations."*

*"This week of action is special for us here in Warrington in particular, as it marks the start of a long-running collaboration between the Constabulary and the team at Warrington Wolves, who will be helping us deliver the message that no one needs to carry a knife in order to feel safe or protected on our streets."*

*"Since the start of the week, my officers have been out across the town with members of the squad, engaging with the local community, visiting Warrington's young people at schools and colleges and within youth organisations."*

*"The squad have also kindly agreed to host our officers at the Halliwell Jones Stadium this weekend for a knife surrender event, in which residents can safely and securely dispose of any unwanted blades, and several safety talks that we will be delivering at the Youth Zone."*

*"Moving forward, our work with the Wolves will incorporate other aspects of community engagement and policing and will allow us to strengthen our relationship with the local community throughout Warrington, particularly with the younger generation."*

*"We want everyone in Warrington to feel that they can come to us with any issues, especially those as serious as knife crime, so we can take immediate action."*

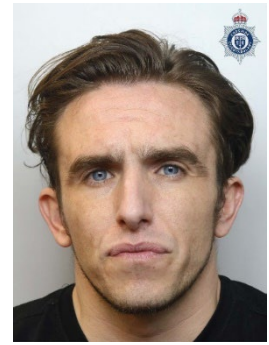
Claire Gamble, Community Engagement Manager at Warrington Wolves, said: *"With Warrington Wolves having such a large presence in the Town we are happy to back the Local Policing Unit with Operation Sceptre. The Club has a big voice and a large reach, especially with the younger generation in the Town, having one of our local homegrown players, Danny Walker face up the campaign we hope that this will help youngsters to choose the correct path and bring home the importance of the impact crime, and especially knife crime can have on them and those around them. We are proud to be a part of this and looking forward to forming a close working relationship with the Local Policing Unit going forward."*

To report any type of crime involving weapons, call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or 999 in an emergency. Anyone who knows someone that carries a knife can report it to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously> Information can also be passed to the force online via [Report | Cheshire Constabulary](#)

## Drink driver jailed following fatal collision in Crewe

A drink driver who killed an innocent motorcyclist during a collision in Crewe has been jailed.

Callum Carew appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 13 May where he was sentenced to nine years and four months in prison. The 34-year-old of Rochester Crescent, Crewe, had earlier pleaded guilty to causing death by dangerous driving while over the drink drive limit.



The court heard how at around 11.15pm on Friday 31 March, witnesses described seeing Carew driving his white BMW M2 at speed on the A534 from Crewe towards Wheelock. A passenger in his vehicle told officers that he reached speeds of up to 140mph on the single carriageway road, which has a speed limit of 60mph. Carew continued at speed, driving around the Wheelock Roundabout and then back onto the A534 travelling back towards Crewe. Moments later, he hit the back of a blue Direct Bikes Scooter which was being ridden by 29-year-old Razvan Brumar who lived in Crewe. The impact of the collision caused him to be ejected from his bike and sustain serious injuries.

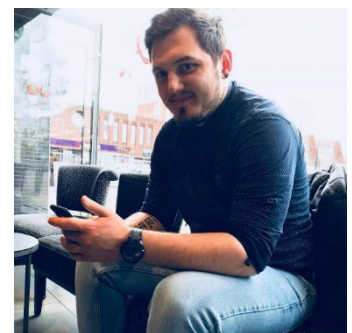
Officers attended the scene and Razvan was treated at the scene by paramedics before being taken to Leighton Hospital. Despite the best efforts of all those involved he was pronounced dead a short time later. Carew was spoken to by officers at the scene, and initially attempted to deflect the blame by claiming that Razvan's bike had no lights. He also told officers that he had only had one pint. However, after failing a breath test at the scene he was arrested and taken to police custody. When tested in custody Carew had a reading of 93 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath, more than two times the legal limit of 35 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath.

During the investigation officers extracted data from his vehicle which showed that the average speed on the journey that Carew took prior to the collision was 104.3mph. Forensic reports also concluded that the BMW was travelling at between 66mph and 81mph when it collided with Razvan's scooter. Carew subsequently refused to answer any questions in police custody, but despite his silence he was later charged in relation to the incident.

Following the sentencing Sergeant Andrew Dennison of the Serious and Complex Collision Investigator said: *"This was a tragic but entirely preventable collision caused by Carew's poor driving and his catastrophic decision to drive while under the influence. Driving a motor vehicle is a privilege, not a right, and it comes with great responsibility to act within the rules laid down when you pass your test. That night Carew chose to deliberately ignore those rules, not only did he get behind the wheel while drunk, but he then went out and drove at excessive speeds, for no other reason other than to show off to his passenger and showing absolutely no regard for the safety of other motorists. Sadly, as a result of the selfish actions taken by Carew, an innocent man lost his life."*

*"I would like to pass on my gratitude to the members of public who assisted at the scene and for the courts for handing down this sentence on Carew and I hope that in some small way, this gives his family some comfort knowing justice has been served."*

Razvan's family said: *"Razvan's death caused in such violent conditions have caused boundless pain in our hearts, we are all devastated. Razvan was a healthy young man, full of life and eager to build a beautiful future."*





*He had a warm nature, he was a very happy person, always smiling and making his friends laugh. He was always such a positive person and was so attached to his family."*

## **County lines gang jailed for drug dealing in Widnes**

Three men who were members of a county lines gang operating in the Widnes area have been jailed for more than 11 years.

Alan Grimes, Alan Pierce and Declan Cooney appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 10 May where they were sentenced to a total of 11 years and seven months in prison. Grimes, 56, of Brentfield, Widnes was jailed for four years; Cooney, 26, of Newlyn



Road, Liverpool, was sentenced to three years and seven months; and Pierce, of Bolton Avenue, Westvale, Kirkby, was jailed for two years and nine months. All three men had previously pleaded guilty to two counts of being concerned in the supply of class A drugs.

During the hearing the court was told that on Wednesday 5 October 2022, plain clothes officers spotted a car leaving an address in Widnes which was linked to county lines drug dealing. The officers followed the car as it drove to Grimes nearby address. After the vehicle came to a stop, police intervened and arrested the driver, Pierce, on suspicion of Drugs offences. Police also attempted to detain the front seat passenger, Cooney, but he managed to flee on foot and ran into Grimes's house.

Officers forced entry into the address and detained Grimes in the living room. Cooney was quickly located attempting to barricade himself in the bathroom. Police again forced entry, where they found him attempting to destroy a mobile phone which had been used as a burner phone to sell illegal drugs. Grimes was subsequently taken to hospital, where doctors discovered that he had concealed a bag containing 19 wraps of crack cocaine and 14 wraps of heroin within his anus. After examination of the phone, all three men were charged with drugs offences.

Following the sentencing, Police Constable Nicholls of Widnes Proactive Policing Team stated: *"I welcome the sentences handed to Cooney, Grimes and Pierce and I hope they act as a warning to others planning to deal drugs in Cheshire. This case is an excellent example of proactive Policing by Cheshire Officers who have acted swiftly to secure three suspects and key evidence which has led to their conviction.*

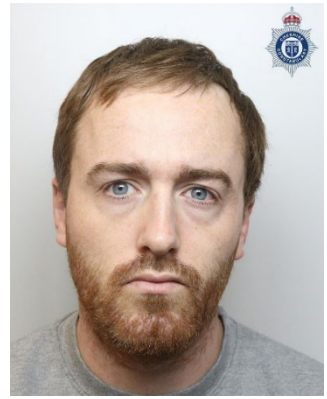
*"County Lines drug dealing will not be tolerated in Cheshire and this case reinforces our stance on those who enter into this type of criminality. Once you come to our attention you will not be able to shake us off your tail until you have been arrested and brought to justice.*

*"Whilst this investigation has concluded, the war on drugs continues, and I would like to encourage anyone with information on drug dealing to report this to us via 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers - you will be listened to, and we will act on information we receive."*

## Drug driver jailed following fatal collision in Runcorn

A drug driver who killed his friend during a collision in Runcorn has been jailed.

Haydn Patterson appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 14 May where he was sentenced to nine years in prison; to serve a minimum of six years of this sentence. On release he will remain on licence until the end of the nine year sentence. The 30-year-old, of Barons Close, Widnes, pleaded guilty to causing death by careless driving while over the drug drive limit (cocaine and cannabis). He also admitted possession of class A drugs (cocaine) and possession of class B drugs (cannabis).



During the hearing the court was told that on Monday 17 October 2022 Patterson had been out with his friend, 41 year old Kevin Viles, at a pub in Widnes. The pair spent around two hours in the pub, before leaving at around 5.40pm, in Patterson's Mini Cooper. They then drove towards Runcorn, travelling over the Mersey Gateway bridge and onto the Central Expressway.

At around 5.55pm, Patterson turned onto the Southern Expressway, where he lost control of the vehicle, initially driving towards the central reservation, before steering away, resulting in the Mini Cooper rotating across the carriageway and onto a grass verge where it rolled onto the roof and up the embankment. Following the crash, Patterson climbed out of the car and spoke to a witness at the scene, before running off on foot, leaving Kevin in the car with serious injuries.

Emergency services were called to the scene and Kevin was subsequently freed from the car before being taken to Aintree University Hospital. Patterson was subsequently located by officers at his home in Widnes, where he was seen throwing wraps of cocaine and cannabis out of the window, before again attempting to make off on foot, but was quickly located and arrested in relation to the incident.

Following his arrest, Patterson was taken to hospital as a precautionary measure where officers were able to conduct a breath test, which he had initially refused on arrest and take a blood sample. The results showed that he was under the influence of both cocaine and cannabis at the time of the collision – with both amounts exceeding the specified limits whilst driving.

During questioning, Patterson admitted that he was the driver of the car, but he attempted to claim that the collision had been caused by another vehicle which had driven into his lane – which was disproven by both people who witnessed the incident and the forensic collision investigator. Despite his denial, he was later charged in relation to the incident. While in hospital, doctors found that Kevin had sustained non-survivable brain and chest injuries due to the collision, and he passed away with his family present on Friday 18 November 2022.

Following the sentencing Police Constable Liz Thompson, of the Cheshire Police Serious and Complex Collision Investigation Unit, said: *"Firstly, I would like to express my deepest condolences to Kevin's family and friends. This has been a long and complex investigation and I hope that the conclusion reached today will provide them with some closure. Patterson described Kevin as being like a 'father figure', he said that they were close friends and had been socialising together on the day of the incident. Yet following the collision, he showed no thought for Kevin, instead all he was bothered about was protecting himself, by fleeing the scene and running home, leaving Kevin*

*seriously injured inside the car. After returning home, he continued to show no remorse, instead he was too busy hiding evidence and throwing his drugs out of the window. It was only after his arrest that he finally started to show some regret for his actions.*

*"During our investigation, we spoke to several people who witnessed the collision and attempted to help Kevin and I would like to thank them for their assistance. As part of the investigation, our specialist Forensic Collision Investigator conducted a reconstruction of the collision and found had Patterson applied firm or emergency braking, either instead of or in conjunction with steering, it is likely the severity of injury could have been reduced or the collision prevented.*

*Sadly, likely due to the drugs in his system, Patterson did not react in time, and as a result an innocent man lost his life. While nothing can be done to bring Kevin back, I hope that his death was not in vain, and that this case will act as a reminder to others about the dangers of driving under the influence of illegal drugs."*

Kevin's wife Emma said: "Kev was not only my husband, but my best friend, my soul mate and a shoulder to cry on when I needed it. He fought so very hard to heal and recover from his injuries, to be back with me and our four children, Nathan, Jessica, Amber and Kaylee and not forgetting his precious grandson Kairo. Sadly, Kev lost the battle on the 18<sup>th</sup> November, with myself and our daughter holding his hand all the way.



*"I will forever be grateful for the 33 days we got to spend with you in the hospital praying and hoping every day for a miracle. Life is never going to be the same for any of us without him, he was our big friendly giant, who would do absolutely anything for anyone.*

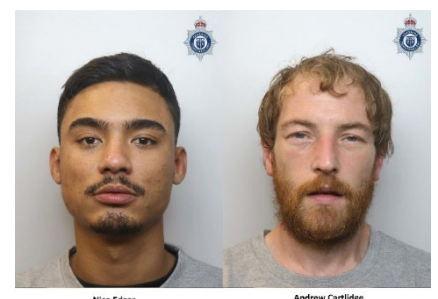
*"Kev always put people before himself he was selfless and caring. Our kids meant the world to Kev and he would always go above and beyond to ensure they were his number one priority. Although you sleep in heaven now, you're not that far away, my heart is full of memories and you're with me every day. You lived your life with meaning and with a smile upon your silly face. A world that was full of happiness is now an empty place. Our life together had only just begun now our babies had all grown up, but now I'm here doing it all on my own wishing things were so different.*

*"I'll never understand why you Kev my husband my one and only true love, had to be taken away so soon from me. I miss your warmth, I miss your amazing smile, I wish I could see your face again even for a little while. I love you forever and a day Kev. In my heart I know that we will be together again in time."*

### **Three men sentenced for drug dealing in Macclesfield**

Three men have been sentenced after they admitted selling illegal drugs in Macclesfield and its surrounding areas.

Nico Edgar, Andrew Cartlidge and Gavin Radcliffe all appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 10 May where they were sentenced to a total of 11 years and six months in prison.





The trio had earlier pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs and possession of criminal property. Edgar, 25, of Tipton Drive, Manchester, was sentenced to nine years in prison; Cartledge, 40, of no fixed abode, was jailed for two years and six months; and Radcliffe, 43, of Devon Close, Macclesfield was sentenced to 18 months in prison, suspended for 2 years. The case relates to the selling of Cocaine and Heroin and possession of criminal property between 13 May 2023 and 27 July 2023.

Detectives had been investigating county lines teams who were operating across border supplying Cocaine and Heroin in Macclesfield and identified the AJ line. Their enquiries established that Edgar was the controller of the AJ line and was regularly advertising the sale of Class A drugs. They traced Edgar to an address in Nether Peover and observed transactions taking place outside the house. A warrant was carried out on Thursday 27 July at the home of Edgar and his partner. Edgar tried to escape by jumping out of a first-floor bedroom window naked and running off down the street. Officers found him moments later hiding in the driveway of a neighbouring property behind a parked car and he was arrested. A search of the address recovered a quantity of Class A drugs, cash and two graft phones.

The investigation led officers to conclude Edgar was in a leading role in the AJ county lines team, while Cartledge had a significant role dealing drugs on behalf of Edgar, and Radcliffe was believed to be the courier. Subsequent enquiries led to second warrant at the home of Radcliffe in Devon Close, Macclesfield. A number of items were seized including mobile phones, which were linked to Cartledge. All three were subsequently charged with the offences.

DC Daniella Jervis, of the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: *"It was clear during our investigation that the AJ gang were key players in the supply of illegal drugs in the Macclesfield area and I welcome the sentences that have been handed to them. This case is just one of many investigations we continue to carry out to cauterize the county lines network and starve the supply of drugs to Macclesfield and across the county. "We are relentless in our pursuit to rid Cheshire of illegal drug activity and will continue to investigate, and bring to justice, those intent on causing misery in our communities through peddling harmful illegal drugs."*

Detective Inspector Rob Balfour, of the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, added: *"The length of Edgar's sends a strong message that County Lines drug dealing will not be tolerated in Cheshire. The harm this type of dealing causes to individuals and communities is well documented and Cheshire Police have dedicated resources to tackle anyone that is prepared to deal drugs in our communities. I would urge anyone with information around this type of offending to come forward, via 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, to help us continue to prosecute anyone involved in County Lines dealing and thank the team for their hard work to ensure a successful conclusion to this investigation."*

## **Rural Crime Team equipped with mobile defibrillators under collaboration with North West Ambulance Service**

Cheshire Constabulary's Rural Crime Team have been supplied with five brand new mobile defibrillators from the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) in an effort to help those in need of medical attention in Cheshire's green spaces.

Members of NWAS with Deputy Constable Chris Armitt and Rural Crime Sergeant Rob Simpson. Police officers are often the first on the scene to emergency incidents and, in instances where the preservation of life is crucial, every second counts in ensuring injured parties get the medical attention they need before they can be properly treated by paramedics. This job becomes increasingly harder when, like Cheshire, the region has large amounts countryside with the supply of first aid kits and defibrillators being limited.



In an effort to combat this, Cheshire's Rural Crime Team (RCT) have partnered with NWAS, who have donated five next-generation mobile defibrillators, that can be stored in the Rural Crime Team's vehicles and easily carried. During a presentation held at Police Headquarters on Tuesday 7 May, NWAS paramedic Rebecca Clark formally presented Deputy Chief Constable Chris Armitt and the Rural Crime Team with the kits and provided them with an in-depth lesson on how they work.

The defib kits in question, which are worth around £10K in total and have the power to administer up to 150 shocks on a single charge, deliver audible instructions to its users that walk them through everything from administering the shock itself to delivering chest compressions to the correct rhythm. During the handover of the kits, Sergeant Rob Simpson and Police Constable's John Teasdale, Jim Clark, Sarah Marson and Dan Williams got hands-on experience with the devices, learning the steps needed to deliver the life-saving shocks and first aid.

Following the demonstration, PC Teasdale will be working alongside representatives from the North West Ambulance Service in acquiring similar devices and rolling them out across the force and the wider county.

Police Constable John Teasdale, of the Rural Crime Team, said: *"Police officers are often the first on the scene to most incidents and are, more often than not, not equipped to the extent of our ambulance counterparts with life-saving medical equipment. Not only this, but Cheshire is home to vast areas of rural spaces where emergency services may struggle to reach or medical equipment is few-and-far-between, so we are extremely grateful to our colleagues at the North West Ambulance service for kindly providing us these five state-of-the-art portable defibrillators that will allow us to deliver potentially life-saving emergency first aid to those who need it."*

Sergeant Rob Simpson, added: *"This is the start of a wider collaborative effort with our ambulance colleagues and, moving forward, we will continue working alongside the North West Ambulance Service to install similar kits outside our Local Policing Units. Not only this, but we will also be working with the team in overhauling our existing collection of kits, replacing any that have reached the end of use with brand new ones that anyone can use."*

## **Appeal for information following serious collision in Warrington**

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a serious collision in Warrington.

At around 9.25am on Saturday 11 May, police were called to reports of a collision on St Peter's Way, near to the junction of Orford Lane. Officers attended the scene and found that there had

been a collision between a black Mercedes and a pedestrian. The pedestrian, a 77-year-old local, sustained potentially life-threatening injuries as a result of the collision and was taken to hospital, where she remains at this time. The driver of the Mercedes was uninjured. The 52-year-old man from Orford, was arrested at the scene on suspicion of causing serious injury by careless driving, driving without insurance and drug driving. He has since been released under investigation.

Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and officers are keen to hear from anyone with information which may aid their investigation.

Sergeant Andrew Dennison, of the Serious and Complex Collision Investigation Unit, said: *"This was a serious collision which has left an elderly woman with potentially life-threatening injuries, and we're committed to doing all we can to establish what took place. We are aware that there were several people in the area at the time of the collision, and I would urge anyone who thinks they may have witnessed the collision, or who may have dashcam footage of it, to come forward."*

Anyone with information is urged to contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 1820704 or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us).

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## **Cheshire Constabulary to support national operation to cut out county-wide knife crime**

This week Cheshire Constabulary will be supporting a national campaign aimed at keeping knives off the streets by directly targeting knife carriers as well as educating young people about the dangers and impact of choosing to carry a blade.

Starting today, Monday 13 May, and running to Sunday 19 May, Cheshire Constabulary will be supporting fellow forces across the country in partaking in Operation Sceptre - a national effort aiming to reduce the impact of knife crime in our communities.

Out of the 42 national police forces in England and Wales, Cheshire is the ninth lowest force in terms of knife crime. However, Cheshire Police have seen a 5.9% increase in knife-related offences in the 12 months to March 2024 compared to the previous year. This figure is partially the result of our officers continued proactive stop and search approach – meaning there has been an increase in the number of people arrested for possessing bladed weapons, which in turn has helped to remove illegal weapons from Cheshire's streets.

The force remains determined to reduce the number of knives carried across the county, with efforts in tackling knife crime being intensified through enforcement and engagement initiatives that will be held across the county's seven main regions during the week of action.

Activities during the week-long operation will include community knife sweeps, the execution of warrants in relation to knife crime, engagement in the community, knife surrender bins being deployed across the region, and the stepping up of patrols in hotspot areas. The county's retailers also have a crucial role to play and during Operation Sceptre week, our officers will be conducting test purchase operations to ensure that potentially lethal weapons are not falling into the wrong hands. We will also be educating those who need it on the laws, security measures and verification schemes required when it comes to the purchasing of blades.

Superintendent Andrew Blizzard, the Constabulary's lead for Knife Crime, said: *"In the past 12 months we have seen that crime involving knives has become a growing issue on the national stage, so participating in Operation Sceptre is an excellent opportunity for us to highlight the outstanding work our officers put in daily to keep Cheshire weapons-free."*

*"We are particularly proud that, when compared to our fellow home forces, knife crime in Cheshire remains low; but we are seeing a considerable number of people across the county in possession of knives and bladed weapons. This is something that we as a force will not tolerate. "By carrying a knife, you are much more likely to be involved in knife crime and it is only a matter of time before you, or someone else, sustains a life-changing, or even fatal, injury."*

*"Over the course of this week, we will also be working with our partner organisations, including local authorities, charities, third-sector organisations, youth representatives and community groups as we continue to keep Cheshire a hostile environment for anyone who chooses to pick up a blade."*

To celebrate the launch of Operation Sceptre week, the Constabulary is also proud to announce that we will be launching a partnership with Warrington Wolves Rugby Club. Over the next week, Warrington residents can expect to see members of the team's squad out across the town with

officers, engaging with members of the local community, visiting youth organisations, and engaging with young people at schools and colleges.

Knife surrender bins will also be placed across the town, including one which will be placed outside of the Wolves' home at the Halliwell Jones Stadium, for members of the community to voluntarily relinquish any unwanted knives or bladed articles.

Superintendent Adam Ross, Northern Area Commander for Warrington, said: *"This week of action, which is the start of a long-running collaboration between Cheshire Police and Warrington Wolves that will incorporate other aspects of community engagement and policing, is an opportunity to bring our partners together in the delivering of the message that no one needs to carry a knife to feel safe or protected on our streets."*

*"Working with the Wolves will allow us to increase engagement and strengthen our relationship with the local community throughout Warrington, including with the younger generation. Over the next week, members of the Wolves team will be joining my officers on visits to schools, colleges and youth organisations to increase their engagement and build relationships with the police. When it comes to issues as serious as knife crime, it is so important that everyone feels that they can come forward to us with any issues, so we can take immediate action."*

Continuing the legacy of the Knife Angel project that visited the town last year, Crewe Local Policing Unit have been working with Crewe Town Council, the Safer Cheshire East Partnership and other partner organisations in securing the hosting of the Anti-Violence Bee Monument. The six-metre-long statue, which was originally commissioned by Greater Manchester Police, currently stands in Memorial Square and is made up of thousands of weapons that have been voluntarily handed over to police and will serve as a poignant memorial to those who have lost their lives to both knife and violently aggravated crime. The Anti-Violence Bee will provide an opportunity to educate children, young people and adults about the harmful effects of violent and aggressive behaviour and officers from the LPU will be working alongside their local partners in producing a programme of activities across May. Some of these events include community and youth engagement, with officers delivering safety talks, self-defence classes and gang culture workshops at schools across the town.

Inspector Cliff Goodwin, of Crewe Neighbourhood Policing Team, added: *"Having the Anti-violence Bee here in Crewe is a real honour. Its presence not only represents our continued zero-tolerance towards violence and threatening behaviour of any kind in Crewe, but it also highlights the outstanding efforts from our neighbourhood teams in deterring violent incidents across our town and keeping residents safe. During the Bee's stay, residents can expect to see the deployment of knife arches funded by our Safer Streets partnership, knife sweeps across different areas of Crewe, the regular deployment of detection dogs, engagement in the community, surrender bins and regular patrols around hotspot areas."*

To report any type of crime involving weapons, call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or 999 in an emergency. Anyone who knows someone that carries a knife can report it to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously> Information can also be passed to the force online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>.

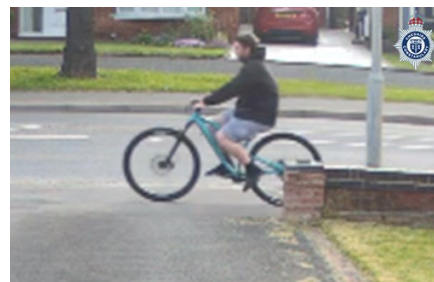


## Latest Cheshire Appeals

### CCTV image released following an indecent exposure in Crewe

Officers investigating reports of an indecent exposure in Crewe have released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to in relation to the incident.

On Sunday 12 May, at approximately 7.20am, it was reported that a man had exposed himself to a woman on Sydney Road, Crewe. The suspect was described as a white man, aged in his 20s, with a local accent, and dark brown, curly hair. He was riding a bright blue/green bicycle. Officers have now released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to.



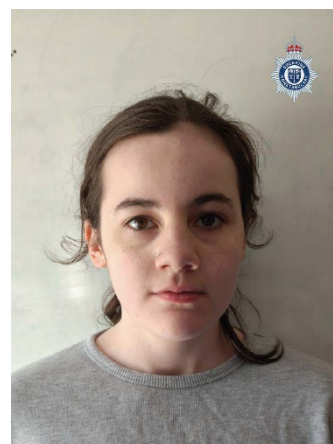
DC Lauren Constable said: *"Firstly, we would like to reassure members of the public that we take reports of indecent exposure extremely seriously and we are exploring all lines of enquiry to identify the person responsible. We have now released a CCTV image of a man we would like to talk to in relation to this incident as we believe he may hold vital information. If anyone recognises this man or has any information on his whereabouts, please get in touch with us. We would also like to appeal directly to the man pictured to contact us. People should never be made to feel afraid while simply going about their daily life and if anyone has any concerns, please get in touch."*

To report information, please visit [cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](https://cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) or call 101 and report IML-1821564.

### Appeal to trace missing teenager from Runcorn

Officers are appealing for information from the public to help locate a missing teenage girl from Runcorn.

Jorja Pumford was last seen at around 7.40am on Friday 17 May when she got onto the number 2A bus in Runcorn to travel to her school in Helsby. The 13-year-old is described as white, 5'4" tall, of slim build with brown hair. She was wearing black trousers, a black t-shirt and a black school blazer with green edging.



Inspector Lee Hillyard, said: *"Jorja was last seen on the number 2A bus which travels between Runcorn and Chester. She was due to get off the bus at Helsby High, but failed to do so, and appears to have continued travelling towards Chester. As part of our enquiries we've keen to hear from anyone who was on the bus and thinks they may have seen Jorja or knows where she got off. The same goes for anyone with CCTV or dashcam footage of her since she disappeared. I would also like to appeal directly to Jorja, to ask her to get in touch, you've done nothing wrong, your family are just worried about you and want you home."*

Anyone with information should visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), or 101, quoting IML1825446. Information can also be reported anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

## Appeal for dashcam footage and witnesses following collision in Wheelock

Officers investigating a collision in Wheelock are appealing for any witnesses or those with dashcam footage to get in touch.

On Wednesday 15 May, police were called following reports of a collision on the A534 Wheelock Bypass near to the Wheelock roundabout. The collision occurred at around 4.20pm and involved a silver Ford Fiesta and a pedestrian, who suffered minor injuries. The driver stopped at the scene. Officers would now like anyone who may have witnessed what happened to contact them.

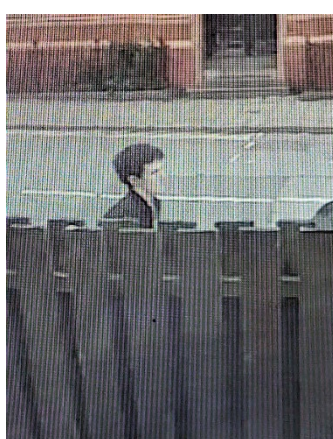
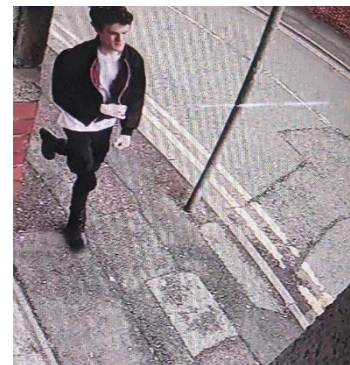
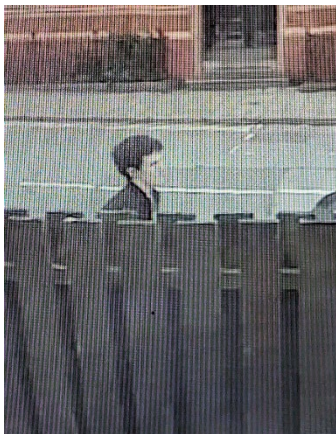
PC Daniels said: *"This collision occurred at a busy time of day, so we are urging anyone who witnessed the incident to get in touch with us. We are also appealing to those who may have dashcam footage of what happened."*

You can contact Cheshire Police via [cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](https://cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), or call 101, quoting IML-1824252.

## Police release CCTV images following Warrington criminal damage

Police have released CCTV images of a man they'd like to speak to following criminal damage at a mosque in Warrington.

At 9am on Monday 13 May a window was smashed at the mosque on Arpley Street before a man was seen making off from the scene.



Sgt Graham Robinson said: *"We are urging anyone who recognises the man in the CCTV images, or the man himself, to come forward so that we can progress with our investigation. The same goes for anyone with information, or dashcam footage that may help."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 1822302. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Appeal for information following robbery of bicycles in Widnes

Officers are appealing for information following the robbery of two bicycles in Widnes.



At some time between 2.30pm and 2.45pm on Monday 13 May, two teenagers were cycling on pedal bikes along Lytham Road, near to a grassed area by Watkinson Way. They reported they were approached by two unknown suspects who demanded they hand over their bikes and made threats towards them, showing them a knife. One of the teenagers was also assaulted during the incident.

The two suspects rode away on the victims' bikes in the direction of the bridge over Watkinson Way. They were described as white men, were wearing balaclavas and black clothing, and spoke with local accents. One of the stolen bikes is a Canyon Spectral 27 FW, with Renthal handlebars and Crankbrothers Stamp Pedals. The other is a Trek Marlin 8 Hardtail ML28 Alpine.

DC Nathaniel Walkowiak said: *"While the robbery took place in a secluded area, we are appealing for anyone who saw anything suspicious around the time of the incident to get in touch. The same goes for anyone who has seen bikes matching the description of the ones which were stolen or has any further information which may aid our enquiries."*

You can contact Cheshire Police via [cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), or call 101, quoting IML-1822531.

## Detectives appeal for information following serious sexual assault in Knutsford

Detectives are currently investigating a serious sexual assault in Knutsford.

At 9.08pm on Sunday 12 May police were informed that a 17-year-old girl had been raped during a night out in Knutsford, sometime between 11pm on the evening of Saturday 11 May and 5am on Sunday 12 May. The girl was in and around Knutsford town centre and the Mobberley Road area when the incident occurred. The victim is being supported by officers and enquiries are continuing to establish the circumstances.

DI Rob Lees said: *"As part of our investigation we have arrested a 37-year-old man. He remains in custody while enquiries continue. I'd urge anyone who was in the areas of the town centre and*



*Mobberley Road between the hours of 11pm on Saturday 11 May and 5am on Sunday 12 May to contact us with any information that may help us with our investigation. We understand this may cause some concern in the community and have increased in patrols in the area to provide reassurance.”*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 1822074. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## **Police appeal to help find missing teenager from Warrington**

Police are appealing for help from the public in tracing a missing teenager from Warrington.

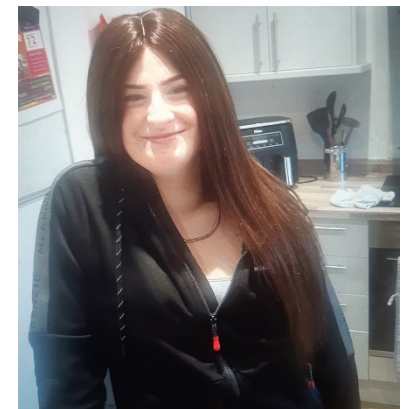
Evelyn may also be in possession of a long dark-haired wig.

Evelyn Anderson was last seen at around 4.06pm on Saturday 11 May in the Warrington Road area of Warrington. The 16-year-old is described as white, around 5' 4" tall, and has short hair with red tints and is also believed to be in possession of a long dark-haired wig which she may wear. She was last seen wearing grey jogging bottoms, a black hoody and white trainers.



Evelyn currently resides in Warrington, but since her disappearance officers believe she has visited the Ashton-Under-Lyne area of Greater Manchester. She is also believed to have links to Merseyside and North Wales.

Detective Chief Inspector Kersten Southcott, of the force's Protecting Vulnerable People Unit, said: *“Officers have been looking for Evelyn for a number of days now, so we are growing considerably concerned for her welfare and safety. Evelyn has links to Warrington but is also known to frequent areas outside of Cheshire, namely North Wales, Merseyside and Greater Manchester, so I would urge anyone who thinks they may have seen her, or has any information on where she may be, to get in touch. The same goes for anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage of her since she disappeared as this may help us find her. I would also appeal directly to Evelyn to contact us to let us know that you are safe and well.”*



Anyone with any information in relation to Evelyn's whereabouts is asked to contact Cheshire Police at <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/police-forces/cheshire-constabulary/areas/cheshire/about-us/about-us/provide-more-information-about-an-appeal/> or call 101, quoting IML-1821002. Anyone with information is urged to contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 1820704 or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us).

## Police appeal for information following indecent exposure in Warrington park

Police are appealing for witnesses following an indecent exposure in Sankey Valley Park, Warrington.

At around 7.30am on Sunday 21 April it was reported that a man had exposed himself to a female runner while sitting on a park bench in the vicinity of the Maltings Public House. The suspect is described as white, in his 30s, of slim build and 6ft tall. He was wearing a black hooded jacket and a multi-coloured balaclava.

DC Dave Passam said: "This behaviour is not being taken lightly and we have been making a number of enquiries in the area to identify the suspect. Everyone should be able to go about their business without being made to feel unsafe or intimidated. I'd would urge anyone who has any information or has seen this man, or witnessed similar behaviour in the area, to contact police. The same goes for anyone with doorbell or dashcam footage that may help us track this man down."

Anyone with information is urged to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via [www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us), quoting incident number IML 1806030. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

## Police in Widnes appeal for information following indecent exposure

Police are appealing for information following an indecent exposure in Widnes.

Sometime between 7pm and 7.30pm on Wednesday 8 May two teenage boys were followed by a man as they walked onto the pedestrian bridge over Watkinson Way heading towards Page Lane. The man called out to them before exposing himself. The boys alerted a man on a bike who chased after the suspect. The suspect is described as white, 5ft 8ins tall and of slim to medium build. He had blond hair, a blue long-sleeved top, black trousers and black shoes.

DC Phil Jackson said: *"The same man had been on the 110 bus from Warrington to Widnes. I'd urge anyone who recognises the description or has any information that may help us with our investigation to contact us."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via [www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us) quoting IML 1818996. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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

Email: [cheshirenw@outlook.com](mailto:cheshirenw@outlook.com)

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

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw](https://facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw)



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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](http://www.cheshirenw.org)