# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association Week ending 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 Cheshire News & Appeals

#### **Latest Cheshire News**



#### Officers granted closure orders for four troubled properties

Officers in Chester have boarded up addresses after being granted four closure orders.

Officers from Chester were granted the quartet of closure orders at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 19 June. This comes after officers attended the court with evidence relating to anti-social behaviour and drug dealing within the four properties. As a result, two addresses on Cemlyn Close, one address on Hatton Road, and one address on Harthill Road have now been boarded up by officers. The orders will run for three months and during that time nobody is allowed to enter the addresses, including the tenant. Anyone who enters the addresses during that time will be committing a criminal offence and could be arrested.



Police Constable Lauren Davies, of Chester Local Policing Unit, said: "I am grateful these closure orders have been granted and hope they will bring reassurance to residents in the areas, as well as the wider community, that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle this kind of behaviour. But in order for us to continue to put a stop to those engaging in anti-social behaviour, I would urge anyone experiencing any issues with this type of offence to get in touch via the Cheshire Police website or by calling 101."

Inspector Mat Beale, added: "Enforcing four closures at once was a real team effort across the LPU with officers supporting with forcing entry and then securing the sites. The number of simultaneous closures has resulted in the housing association have to draft in extra resources to effectively secure them. The team will now work with our partners to make sure that the closures are fully enforced and any offences dealt with robustly."

#### Cheshire Police celebrating Response Officers as part of national week of action

Next week, Cheshire Constabulary will be celebrating the work our Response Officers put in to keeping the county and its residents safe as part of a national week of action.

Response Policing Week will take place from Monday 24 June to Sunday 30 June and we will be coming together with fellow police forces up and down the country to celebrate the hard work, dedication and bravery of those who respond to calls from the public and confront criminals day and night.

Next week, the Constabulary has a number of activities planned as we show our appreciation to the officers who are often first on the scene to many incidents. Activities include well-being, seminar and training sessions, and members of the senior leadership team will be joining our response officers on a number of shifts.

In anticipation of the upcoming week of action, led by the National Police Chief's Council, we will be sharing the excellent work of Cheshire's Response Officers who were recently nominated for the national Response

Officer of the Year award. All the nominations have been approved by Superintendent Claire Jesson, Force Lead for the Response Officer week of action.

Today, we will be looking at Crewe's Police Constable Rod Bell, who has been a Response Officer with the Constabulary for the entirety of his 18 years of service. Working in Crewe for nearly two decades has meant that Rod has built a rapport with many of the town's residents which, in turn, has assisted in him gaining countless amounts of valuable intelligence of the area that has been beneficial to diffusing difficult situations. Described by colleagues as the 'go-to' officer for arrest attempts due to his unparalleled tenacity and skill, PC Rod Bell has made over 1,800 arrests (112 made in 2023 alone). His enthusiasm for response policing is often mirrored in his colleagues, with many believing PC Bell has inspired a generation of response officers who regularly strive to match up to his lofty reputation. His passion for arresting drink and drug drivers in particular is evident in his proactive approach to policing; his dedication to this over the years has prevented numerous collisions with potentially tragic outcomes. PC Bell's upcoming retirement will likely be a huge loss to Crewe LPU and many colleagues will attest to the fact that he will be missed greatly by both them and the residents of Crewe.

Sergeant Laura Williams, who nominated Police Constable Bell, said: "I have had the privilege of working alongside PC Bell for a number of years. He has undoubtedly influenced my policing style and I am grateful for the positive impact he has had on me. He is very modest about his work, but I strongly believe he needs to be recognised and commended for his commitment and dedication to his job."

As Response Officer's week launches next week, we will be profiling more of Cheshire's nominees for Response Officer of the Year. The winner of the national award will be announced on Friday 28 June.

#### Widnes man jailed for selling class A drugs in the town

A 29-year-old man from Widnes has been jailed after admitting being concerned in the supply of heroin and crack cocaine.

Jamie Makovecz from Levens Way, Widnes appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on 19 June to be sentenced after pleading guilty to two counts of being concerned in the supply of class A drugs at an earlier hearing. He was sentenced to 30 months in prison. Makovecz had been dealing drugs in Widnes between 4 January and 23 April this year. His illegal activity came to an end once police identified a mobile phone which was involved in county lines activity in the Widnes area. This was then linked to Makowecz.



Officers executed a warrant at his address in Levens Way on 23 April and recovered a mobile under a kickboard in the kitchen which was eventually linked to the dealing of drugs through county lines. The battery and sim card weren't in it but a further search found the battery. Police also recovered and second phone, digital scales and another mobile phone. Makovecz was subsequently arrested on suspicion of dealing drugs. White residue on the digital scales were forensically examined and confirmed as the class A drug cocaine and heroin.

DC Luke Burns said: "We are continuing to disrupt the supply of illegal drugs into Widnes and make life difficult for those who are selling heroin and crack cocaine within our communities. We will not stop and are determined to continue in finding those responsible for destroying the lives of those addicted to drugs and the wider community who are impacted so negatively by those who are hooked on these drugs."

#### Drug dealer sentenced following successful stop and search in Chester

A man who was spotted dealing drugs in an alleyway in Chester has been jailed.

Steven Folwes appeared at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 19 June where he was sentenced to three-years in Prison. The 27-year-old of Thackery Towers, Frances Street, Chester had previously pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A and B drugs (cocaine and cannabis), and possession of criminal property.

The court heard how at around 2.40pm on Tuesday 21 March 2023, plain clothed officers on patrol in spotted three men who were believed to be dealing drugs in an alleyway between Charles Street and Edgerton Street. Fowles was detained by officers a short distance away and during a search he was found in possession of a Nokia mobile phone, cash and a cannabis grinder.



Fowles was arrested, and a search was conducted at his home on Victoria Road, where officers discovered two bags of cocaine, four bags of cannabis and other drugs paraphernalia. They also recovered a high value Rolex Watch Drugs experts estimated that the drugs recovered at the property had a street value of between £1,010 and £1,850. Messages discovered on one of the phones showed that Fowles had been actively dealing drugs in the Chester area. During questioning Fowles refused to answer any of the questions that were put to him by officers. Despite his silence, he was subsequently charged with possession with intent to supply class A and B drugs (cocaine and cannabis), and possession of criminal property.

Following her sentencing, Detective Constable James Wright, of Chester Proactive Policing Team, said: "Thanks to the work of the two eagle-eyed officers another drug dealer is now behind bars. This is a fantastic result and I hope it acts as a warning to others planning to deal drugs in Cheshire – demonstrating that you never know who is watching. Illegal drugs can have a devastating impact, not only drug users, but also the community around them. Here in Chester, we are doing all we can to stop drug activity on our streets to make the town a safer place to live and visit, while also making it extremely difficult for these offenders to operate. We will always act on any information about drug activity provided to us and would urge anyone who believes this activity is happening near to them to get in touch."

#### **UPDATE** – Richard Burrows to be charged with additional sex offences

A man who was arrested after almost three decades on the run is set to been charged with a number of additional offences.

Richard Burrows was arrested on Thursday 28 March at Heathrow Airport having returned to the UK from Thailand. The 80-year-old had been wanted by Cheshire Police since December 1997 when he failed to attend Chester Crown Court where he was due to stand trial for two counts of buggery and 11 counts of indecent assault. Following his arrest Burrows appeared in Court on Tuesday 2 April where he was remanded in custody. Ahead of the hearing, the Crown Prosecution Service have now authorised the following additional charges against him:

- 20 counts of Indecent Assault
- One count of Buggery
- Three counts of Making Indecent Images of Children (these relate to 1 Cat A image, 2 CAT B images, 1 CAT C Image).
- Four counts of Possession of a False Identity Document with Intent

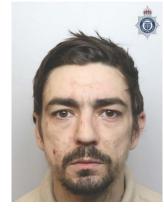
The additional charges relate to 11 victims and the offences occurred between 1966 and 1996 across Cheshire, the West Midlands, and West Mercia areas. All of the charges are set to be heard at Chester Crown Court on Friday 2 August.

# Prolific shoplifter ordered to adhere to two-year criminal behaviour order

A prolific shoplifter has been jailed for five months and ordered to adhere to a criminal behaviour order (CBO) that will last for two years upon his release.

Chad Feeney, of no fixed address but of Warrington, was handed the order at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Monday 17 June. The CBO comes after Feeney previously pleaded guilty to 18 counts of theft from a shop, to which he was also jailed for five months.

Under the order the 33-year-old will be banned from entering the Cooperative stores on Knutsford Road and Kingsway South, Warrington. Feeney has also been banned from entering any retail premise within Warrington alongside Paul Morris,



who he regularly shoplifted alongside, and must not conceal any shop items in bags or containers without paying for them. The criminal behaviour order will activate upon his release from prison and run until 2026. Upon his release, if Feeney fails to adhere to the order, he could face a fine or be recalled to prison.

Police Constable Andy Rowley, of Warrington Neighbourhood Team, said: "Chad Feeney is a prolific offender who, alongside his criminal partner Paul Morris, brought misery to the retailers of Warrington. I am proud to say that, thanks to the work of our Central Team, they have both been brought to justice. Criminal behaviour orders are just one of the ways we can use all policing tools available to us to better protect the community from those who causing alarm and distress. I hope that this order provides reassurance Warrington's retailers and residents and will also deter the behaviour of Feeney in the future. Feeney is under the order 2026 and if he fails to comply, he could face a hefty fine or a further five years imprisonment."

Chief Inspector Neil Drum added: "The work from the Central Team in securing this sentence is excellent, and the CBOs in place for both Chad Feeney and Paul Morris gives even further opportunity to take action. This result is testament to the great work in of our officers and their commitment to get these results and get justice for retailers."

#### One man crime wave jailed after shoplifting from over 30 Warrington retailers

A prolific shoplifter from Warrington has been jailed for six and half months following a crime spree across the town.

Paul Morris appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court on Monday 17 June where he was sentenced to six and a half months imprisonment after he pleaded guilty to 36 counts of theft from a shop. The 36-year-old, of Rossall Road, Great Sankey, was also issued with a five-year criminal behaviour order and a £1000 fine.

The court heard that Morris regularly targeted the Cooperative stores on Knutsford Road, Kingsway South and Holes Lane in a total of 28 incidents, but he also stole from six other retailers across the town. Between Thursday 25 January



and Friday 14 June, he stole a combined total of £3,739.75 worth of goods from the stores.

Morris was identified as the main suspect in these incidents after Warrington officers compiled a collection of CCTV footage that showed him entering the aforementioned stores, picking up a number of items and

leaving without attempting to pay for them. His crime spree came to an end on Friday 14 June, when he attempted to steal a trolley of meat products from the Lidl store on Old Liverpool Road, Warrington, and was stopped by staff. Officers swiftly attended the scene and promptly arrested Morris, who had become aggressive toward shop staff.

Following his arrest, Morris refused to leave his cell in order to be interviewed by officers and defend his actions, but despite this, he would later be charged with 36 counts of theft from a shop. Faced with the amount of evidence against him, Morris, who was also wanted on three separate instances of failing to attend court over the course of his offending, had no choice but to plead guilty and he was sentenced to six and a half months in prison when he appeared at Chester Magistrates Court on Monday 17 June. Along with his prison sentence, Morris was also issued with £1000 fine and a five-year criminal behaviour order that will activate immediately upon his release.

Following the sentencing Police Constable Andy Rowley, who oversaw the investigation, said: "Paul Morris is a habitual and prolific shoplifter who caused no end of misery to the retailers of Warrington during his nearly five-month crime spree. During that period between January and June, Morris accumulated over £3700 worth of stolen goods through the deliberate targeting of nine stores across Warrington and CCTV footage gathered by our officers clearly identified him as the main suspect in all 36 instances. Upon his release from prison, Morris will be the subject to a five-year criminal behaviour order, designed to deter any further offending. Should he fail to comply with the conditions of his order, he could face a considerable fine or even a recall to prison. I hope that this result provides reassurance to both Warrington residents and retailers alike that we are continually doing all we can to crack down on those who insist on committing crime and causing disruption within our communities."

Chief Inspector Neil Drum added: "The work of the Central Team in securing this sentence is excellent, and the CBO in place for gives further opportunity to take action. This result is testament to the great work in of our officers and their commitment to get these results and get justice for retailers."

Anyone who has any concerns regarding shoplifting in their area is urged to contact Cheshire Police via <a href="mailto:cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/">cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/</a> or call 101, to report it.

# Cheshire Police tackling domestic abuse to protect victims and deter offending during Euro 2024

Cheshire Constabulary had a robust action plan in place to tackle domestic abuse during the busy Euro 2024 competition period.

Keeping people safe in the night-time economy (NTE) and managing domestic abuse incidents are key focus areas for Cheshire Police daily, but residents saw these efforts amplified over the course of the tournament. Officers warned perpetrators that excuses would not be tolerated, reminding them that the only person to blame for domestic abuse is the abuser. On busy nights, uniformed and plain-clothes officers mingled in pubs and clubs watching for inappropriate behaviour and took swift action against those looking to cause harm or nuisance.

Our safety bus' was situated in areas where there are high levels of football around our licensed premises. They were visible with the Constabulary's Safer Streets branding and provided a safe space for vulnerable people. The vehicles had onboard safety equipment such as defibrillators, first aid kits, phone chargers and bottles of water and were staffed by police officers.

Residents out enjoying the summer of sport also saw double-crewed DA (Domestic Abuse) cars that were used solely for responding to DA-related incidents throughout the county to ensure a first class, supportive service was offered to victims at the first point of contact.

The Perpetrator Custody Programme meant that a support worker from the charity My CWA (formerly Cheshire Without Abuse) was on duty at each of the custody suites ready to engage with DA perpetrators around offender behaviour programmes. The community-based support programme does not replace the criminal process and outcomes, but it does provide those who have offended with the opportunity to change and avoid future harmful actions, resulting in a break in the cycle of abuse.

Superintendent Claire Jesson, overseeing Cheshire Police's policing operation for Euro 2024, said: "We know that football doesn't directly cause abuse, but what we do know is that there is offending associated with alcohol consumption, violence and other destructive behaviours exhibited by a small number of fans. This paired with the intense emotions of the tournament can act as a catalyst for pre-existing abuse to arise.

"Our approach to tackling domestic abuse is multi-faceted and our police officers are fully trained to ensure they understand how they can help domestic abuse victims, along with our partner agencies across the county. I want the public to have the fullest confidence to know that the police will support them and that the correct processes are in place to provide that support.

"We are committed to prioritising domestic abuse and robustly targeting offenders whilst safeguarding victims and protecting children. We want the message to be clear, we will always take action against domestic abuse offenders. Those who commit domestic abuse in Cheshire will be pursued and prosecution sought. Cheshire is a hostile environment for all criminals; domestic abuse remains one of the highest priorities for us."

The force will also be working closely with local authority domestic abuse services across the county and each authority will be communicating specific pathways for victims and perpetrators during the championships.

The Open the Door website (<a href="www.openthedoorcheshire.org.uk">www.openthedoorcheshire.org.uk</a>) is there to provide support to residents across Cheshire 24/7. The Open the Door campaign encourages people experiencing abuse, people with abusive behaviours, friends and family to access information about how to spot the signs of domestic abuse and how to get early help where they live. Information is also available for local employers to help them recognise if a colleague is in an abusive situation at home.

The Ask for ANI (Assistance Needed Immediately) scheme allows those who are at risk or suffering from domestic abuse to discreetly signal that they need help by asking for ANI at local pharmacies. A trained pharmacy worker will offer a private space where they can find out whether the victims need to speak to the police or access support services, such as local domestic abuse helplines. If the victim is in danger, the staff member will offer the use of a phone to dial 999 or call on the victim's behalf.

Clare's Law was also introduced across all forces in the UK in 2014, giving people the right to ask about someone who may be at risk of domestic abuse. If information is held about a suspected perpetrator that could help to protect someone, this information will be disclosed. This year, Clare's Law celebrates its tenth anniversary and, here in Cheshire, there has been an increase in the number of applications (1800 last year) submitted, with a response time of around 14 days in getting back to the public. You can make a referral for yourself or on behalf of someone else at Clare's Law: Make a Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) application.

You can also make a direct report to Cheshire Police using our own online referral service.

Superintendent Jesson added: "Cheshire Police is working with our partners within local authorities across the county to ensure that anyone affected by domestic abuse feels supported and knows that there are multiple organisations on offer that they can contact to seek support and advice. We know that for some victims this might not feel the right moment to talk to the police, but we want you to reach out and seek help. Advice and help for victims are available from a number of agencies are available who can ensure anyone who suffers domestic abuse gets the support they need, without the need to report to the police. We urge anyone suffering from domestic abuse or concerned for someone who might be a victim to contact us using 101, the online reporting tool or 999 in an emergency."

## Man charged with drug offences in Warrington

A man has been charged with drug offences following a stop and search in Warrington.

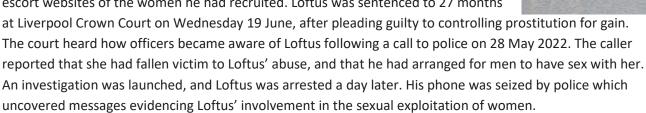
At around 3.20pm on Tuesday 18 June, Lewis Shackleton was arrested after he was stopped and searched by officers on patrol in Victoria Park, Warrington. The 24-year-old of Oswald Road, Chorlton Cum Hardy, Greater Manchester, has since been charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (crack cocaine, heroin) and one count of possession of criminal property. He has been remanded in custody to appear Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 17 July.

# Widnes brothel owner jailed

A brothel owner has been sentenced after he controlled the prostitution of women in Widnes.

Lewis Loftus used mobile phone messaging applications to recruit women and then advertised their sexual services to men. The 30-year-old would then arrange for the women to travel to his property on Margaret Court, Widnes. Under the guise of a woman, Loftus would virtually arrange for men to attend the brothel and engage in sexual activity with the women. The men would then transfer the money to Loftus' bank account.

Between 24 February 2022 and 29 October 2023, Loftus shared 240 adverts on escort websites of the women he had recruited. Loftus was sentenced to 27 months



Detective Constable Gary Pindar said: "Loftus took advantage of vulnerable women for his own financial gain. He wasn't at all concerned with whether the women were unsafe, or whether he had put them in harm's way. His priority was earning a profit. This result reinforces our commitment to tackling prostitution and protecting those who are cruelly exploited by this crime. Our work will continue but we can't do it alone. We strongly need the community to come forward with any information or suspicions they have and report them to us. Together we can help protect the vulnerable and punish the perpetrators."

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police <u>via the website</u>, by calling 101, or you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111.

#### Extra stop and search powers granted in Crewe

Extra stop and search powers granted in Crewe in response to a number of concerning incidents.

Officers in Crewe have been given more powers to stop and search anyone they suspect of carrying a weapon. It follows a number of incidents over the past week of targeted assaults with weapons on certain individuals. The powers have been granted temporarily under Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (1994). The order means that officers can stop and search any person or vehicle they believe may be carrying weapons or



causing serious violence in a particular area, whether or not they have any grounds of suspicion. The powers will be in place from 2.30pm today (19 June) and remain in place until 2.30pm tomorrow afternoon (20 June). It applies to the area as displayed on the map below.

Superintendent Claire Jesson said: "We've seen a number of increasingly concerning incidents involving a group of young people in the town, intimidating residents and intending to cause them harm. We are taking a zero tolerance approach to this behaviour by imposing this order and we're working hard to identify and locate those responsible. Along with the order, there will be an additional police presence across the town and anyone believed to be causing disruption in the community will be targeted robustly. Anyone who has any concerns about this – or, indeed, any information that can help us – please speak to an officer."

If you have information about someone who is carrying a weapon, please call Cheshire Police on 101 or provide information online: <a href="www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us">www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us</a> You can also provide information anonymously through Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555111. If a crime is taking place, dial 999 immediately.

# Man jailed for firearms offences in Middlewich

A 43-year-old man from Middlewich has been jailed for six years after admitting to possessing a firearm.

Andrew Dawson, of Pinfold Lane, Middlewich, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 3 June where he was sentenced to six years in prison after he previously admitted to possessing a firearm. The court heard that on Monday 15 January, officers in Middlewich conducted a warrant at Dawson's address on Pinfold Lane, Middlewich. Dawson was inside the address during the search of the property, in which officers located and seized a firearm in his bedroom. Also scattered



throughout the living room was a quantity of different bullets for handguns and rifles as well as shotgun casings. Dawson was arrested on suspicion of being in possession of a firearm without a certificate and being in possession of a firearm by a person previously convicted of a crime.

Throughout his interview, Dawson answered no comment to all questions directed to him relating to how he came to possess the firearm and whether he owned any more. His only response was that the handgun had belonged to a deceased relative and not him. Andrew Dawson was subsequently charged and remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Monday 3 June, where he was sentenced to six years imprisonment. Dawson was informed by judges that he must serve the entire sentence in prison and will not be eligible for early release on licence.

Detective Constable Lauren Constable, of Crewe CID said: "Dawson was dismissive of the police investigation from the early stages and later tried to claim the gun had been left inside the address by a deceased relative; information obtained suggested otherwise. The Crown Court clearly did not believe his lie and he has received a significant sentence. I also hope this result provides some reassurance to the community that criminals such

as Dawson have no place in our county and anyone with any concerns relating to firearms should contact Cheshire Police immediately."

Detective Sergeant Ryan Ogden added: "I'm pleased to say that gun crime in Cheshire is rare, however it's concerning that Dawson was still able to acquire a live firearm; his motives for doing so were never discovered. We will always treat information about illegal firearm possession with the strictest confidence and will always take swift positive action. I would always encourage members of the public to report anything which causes them concern."

#### Appeal for information following fatal collision in Northwich

Officers from Cheshire Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a fatal collision in Northwich.

At 3.25am on Monday 17 June, police were called to reports of a collision on Croxton Lane, Byley, Northwich. Officers attended the scene and found the collision involved a black Lexmoto motorcycle and a telegraph pole. The driver, a 54-year-old man from Northwich, was taken to Leighton Hospital for emergency treatment. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, he has since passed away. His next of kin are aware and they are being supported by specialist officers. Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and police are appealing to trace anyone who may have witnessed the collision or may have dashcam footage of the incident.

Sergeant Jon Dixon, of the Force's Roads and Crime Unit, said: "As part of our ongoing investigation, it is vital we speak to any witnesses who may have seen the lead up to the collision or the collision itself. We also ask anyone who lives in the area or was using Croxton Lane at the time to check their CCTV or vehicle Dashcam for footage that may assist us. I urge anyone with any information – no matter how small – to get in touch."

Anyone with any information is asked to call 101 quoting IML-1849173 or report it <u>via the website</u>. Alternatively anyone with information can report to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

#### Officers work hard to keep road users safe

Officers took part in a road safety operation in a bid to keep those who travel by motorbike or pedal cycle safe, as part of a national week-of-action.

The activity took place from Monday 10 – Saturday 15 June and coincided with the National Police Chief's Council's (NPCC) two-wheel operation. The operation gave officers - with support from colleagues at Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service - the opportunity to educate road users on the importance of staying safe, encourage them to look out for one another, and where appropriate enforce the law.

The week began with officers attending Mossley CE Primary School in Congleton to escort more than 50 schoolchildren safely on their Cycle to School event. They also ran workshops with the children, teaching them the importance of staying safe while riding their bikes - giving them advice on remaining visible,









Throughout the rest of the week officers ran engagement events across the county promoting bike safe workshops, bike maintenance and conducted motorbike checks. The Think Bike was presented throughout the week to demonstrate the devastating consequences careless riding can have. Bev Abbey, mother of the 19-year-old boy (Harry Abbey) who lost his life while riding the bike was also in attendance at an event in Birchwood to speak directly to the public and encourage them to arrive home safely.

A close pass operation took place in Congleton, which saw covert officers cycling along an identified hot spot area while wearing body worn cameras. Uniformed officers then stopped any drivers identified as having driven too close to the covert officers. The drivers were then educated on how to pass riders safely and why this is so important.

The week concluded with officers targeting motorcyclists on the cat and fiddle in Macclesfield, encouraging them to keep safe while riding and where necessary enforcing the law.





Chief Inspector for the Force's Roads and Crime Unit, John Forshaw, said: "Unfortunately, motorcyclists and cyclists are over-represented within our road collision statistics, and we want to ensure we are doing all we can with both education and enforcement to keep them safe. This operation was about educating drivers to the vulnerability of those who travel on two wheels, and explaining the reasons why it is so important to look out for them, particularly at junctions, and to make sure they leave enough space when overtaking. It was also about educating riders on the importance of being visible to other road users and the significance of courteous riding. Everyone has the right to use the roads safely and we want all road users to be more considerate of each other, regardless of their chosen mode of transport."

#### Appeal for information following serious collision near Nantwich

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a serious collision near Nantwich.

At around 7.45am on Monday 17 June police were called to reports of a collision on the A530, Shrewbridge Road, Baddington. Officers attended the scene and found that there had been a collision between a lorry and a Nissan Note. The driver of the Nissan, as 35-year-old woman from Whitchurch, was trapped in their vehicle. She was released by firefighters and taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital; Her injuries are not believed to be life threatening at this time. The driver of the lorry, a 57-year-old man from Kidsgrove, was uninjured. The man was arrested at the scene on suspicion of causing serious injury by dangerous driving; he has since been released under investigation. The A530 was closed while emergency services dealt with the incident, they left at around 1pm and the scene has since been passed to highways officers.

Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and anyone with any information or dashcam footage is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, quoting IML 1849226.

#### Tribute issued following fatal collision near Neston.

The family of a man who died following a fatal collision near Neston have paid tribute to him.

Steven Spark passed away on Friday 14 June following a collision on The Village in Burton at around 3.20pm.

Following his death his family said: "The local community mourns the tragic death of a recognisable local legend Steven Spark. He was well known for riding different motorbikes and sidecars with his dog Duke in the sidecar. He would always nod and wave to



locals when passing. He was a larger than life character who rode his bikes most days, going on the same journey passing through the same villages becoming familiar to all the local residents. He was well known amongst the biking community as well as the dog walking community. The amount of tributes to him have been overwhelming and he will be sadly missed by family, friends, neighbours and the countless others that knew him. The family would like to thank everyone who helped at the scene of the accident and to our amazing emergency services. They would also like to thank everyone for their kind words and tributes."

Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and anyone with any information is urged to get in touch. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or at <a href="www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us">www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us</a> quoting IML 1847222.

#### Man charged following incident in Widnes

An 18-year-old man from Widnes has been charged with weapons offences following an incident in Widnes.

At around 7.32pm on Saturday 25 May, police responded to an incident in Widnes. Officers attended the scene on Crown Avenue, Halton, and arrested an 18-year-old man. Thomas Gray, of Crown Avenue, Halton, has since been charged with affray, possession of an offensive weapon in a public place and threatening a person with a blade in a public place. Gray has been remanded in custody to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Thursday 11 July.

# **Latest Cheshire Appeals**

# Appeal for information following robbery of bicycle in Runcorn

Officers investigating reports of a robbery in Runcorn are appealing for anyone with information to get in touch with them.

On Tuesday 11 June, police were made aware of reports of a robbery in Phoenix Park, Runcorn. The incident happened at around 8pm that evening when a 14-year-old boy was in the park with his Scott Genius 750 bike. He reported he was approached by two suspects who made threats before taking the bike. One of the suspects was described as male, around 5'10" tall, wearing Montirex or Monterrain clothing, and a balaclava with a 'Joker'-style clown face on it. The second suspect was described as male, 5'4" tall, wearing dark clothing, and a t-shirt wrapped around his face.



Detective Constable Nathaniel Walkowiak said: "We are appealing for anyone who witnessed this incident to get in touch with us. The same goes for those who may have footage which could aid our investigation, or has any other information which could help. You can contact Cheshire Police through cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, or you can call 101, quoting IML-1845182."

# Appeal for witnesses following assault in Ellesmere Port

Officers investigating a serious assault in Ellesmere Port are appealing for any witnesses to come forward.

Shortly after 2am on Friday 21 June, police were called to reports of an assault in Marina Drive. Officers attended the scene and found a 39-year-old man had suffered a serious facial injury. The incident is believed to have occurred at around 1.40am by two unknown suspects. The victim was taken to hospital where he remains at this time. Officers investigating the incident are now appealing for anyone who witnessed what happened or has any further information to get in touch.

Detective Sergeant Timothy Cope said: "Firstly, we would like to reassure the community that this is an isolated incident, and we are working hard to identify those responsible. As part of our enquiries, we would urge any witnesses to come forward. We would also like to appeal to anyone who may have witnessed an altercation between a group of people in the homeless community on Rivington Road at around 2pm on Thursday 20 June. In particular, we would like to speak to two people who we believe may hold vital information in relation to the assault. One is described as a female, white, aged in her 20s, with long, straight, ginger hair, around 5' 9" tall, of a slim build, who was wearing jeans. The second is described as male, white, aged in his 20s, with blonde hair, around 5' 11" tall, and of a slim build. If anyone believes they recognise the description of these individuals, please get in touch with us."

You can report information to Cheshire Police online via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, or call 101, quoting IML-1852216.

#### Police are appealing for witnesses following fatal collision in Lostock Gralam

Police in Warrington are appealing for information following a serious collision.

At 5.44pm on Sunday 16 June police were called to a collision involving a car and a motorbike in Greenwood Crescent, Warrington. The rider of a motorbike, a 17-year-old male, was taken to hospital with serious injuries. The pillion passenger, a 15-year-old boy, is also in hospital with serious injuries. A 37-year-old man has been arrested and has since been released under investigation pending further enquiries.

Anyone who witnessed the collision and could help the investigation should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via <a href="https://www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us">www.cheshire.police.uk//tell-us</a> quoting IML 1848907.

# Appeal for information following fatal collision near Northwich

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a fatal collision on the A556 near Northwich.

Shortly after 4.30pm on Monday 17 June police were called to reports of a collision on the A556, Chester Road, near to the Vale Royal Abbey Arms public house. Officers attended the scene and there had been a collision between a grey BMW 118I and a black Volkswagen Transporter van. Sadly, the driver of the BMW, a 61-year-old man from Northwich, was pronounced dead at the scene. His next of kin have been informed and are being supported by specialist officers.

A passenger from the BMW, a 48-year-old man from Chester, and the driver of the van, a 70-year-old man from Chester, also sustained serious injuries. Both men were treated at the scene by paramedics before being taken to the Royal Liverpool Hospital. Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and officers are keen to hear from anyone with any information which may aid the investigation.

Chief Inspector John Forshaw, of the Serious and Complex Collision Investigation Unit at Cheshire Police, said: "Our investigation is in the early stages, and we are committed to doing all we can to establish what took place. As part of our enquiries we're keen to hear from anyone who believes they may have witnessed the collision. We would also like to hear from anyone who believes that they may have seen either the BMW or the van in the moments prior to the to the incident. We believe that the BMW had been travelling from Chester towards Northwich, while the van was travelling in the opposite direction towards Chester. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage which may aid the investigation."

Anyone with any information or dashcam footage is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or visit <a href="https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us">www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us</a>, quoting IML 1849570.

#### Appeal for information following serious collision in Wilmslow.

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

At 11.38pm on Monday 17 June, police were called to reports of a pedestrian walking on the northbound carriageway of the A34 Wilmslow Bypass, between Dean Row and Bollin Valley Roundabout. Officers were deployed to the scene, however at 11.41pm police received a second call reporting that the man had been involved in a collision with a red Volkswagen T-ROC life. The pedestrian was treated at the scene by paramedics before being taken to Manchester Royal Infirmary, his condition is currently described as critical. The driver of the car was uninjured. The 33-year-old from the Portwood area of Stockport was arrested on suspicion of drug driving, he remains in custody at this time. Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and officers are keen to hear from anyone with any information which may aid the investigation.

Inspector Anton Sullivan, of the Cheshire Police Roads and Crime Unit, said: "Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and we're committed to doing all we can to establish what took place. As part of our enquiries we're keen to hear from anyone who was in the area and believes they may have witnessed the incident. We would also like to hear from anyone who believes that they may have seen the pedestrian in the

moments before the collision. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage which may aid the investigation."

Anyone with any information or dashcam footage is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us , quoting IML 1849871.

#### Appeal for information following fatal collision near Neston.

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a fatal collision in Burton, near Neston.

Shortly after 3.20pm on Friday 14 June, police were called to reports of a collision on The Village in Burton. Officers attended the scene and found an orange BMW motorcycle and sidecar had collided with a stationary vehicle, a silver Honda Jazz. Police and paramedics treated the 63-year-old rider at the scene, but sadly, despite their best efforts, he passed away a short time later. His next of kin have been informed and they are being supported by specialist officers. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and anyone with any information is urged to get in touch.

Sergeant Russell Sime, of the Cheshire Police Serious and Complex Collision Investigation Unit said: "Enquires in relation to this collision are ongoing and we are committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place. As part of our investigation we're keen to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and believes they may have witnessed the incident. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage or CCTV footage which may aid the investigation."

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or at <a href="www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML 1847222">www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML 1847222</a>.

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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

Email: <a href="mailto:cheshirenw@outlook.com">cheshirenw@outlook.com</a>
Website: <a href="https://www.cheshirenw.org">https://www.cheshirenw.org</a>
Facebook: <a href="facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw">facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw</a>







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