

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 26th October 2025

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Man jailed after defrauding pensioner out of more than £10,000

A fraudster who conned an elderly man out of £10,500 for incomplete or non-existent work to his home has been jailed for more than two-and-a-half years.

Ryan Macdonald, of Cambridge Road, Ellesmere Port, was handed the 34-month sentence at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 21 October 2025. The 41-year-old had pleaded guilty to one count of fraud by false representation.

On 17 December 2024, Macdonald attended the victim's address in Ellesmere Port after going house-to-house in the area and asked if he needed any work completing. The victim, aged 81, initially declined the offer but was then talked into having the arch above his side gate fixed. Between late December 2024 and early January 2025, Macdonald returned to complete the work accompanied by several others but left the gate with no handle and only fixed it with two hinges, meaning it was not fit for purpose. The drain outside had also been disconnected by digging up part of the patio and was replaced with incorrect piping. Rubbish and rubble were dumped in the victim's garden and not collected, meaning it was not usable.



Overall, the victim paid a total of £10,500 to Macdonald for work which was not completed, or completed to an incredibly poor standard. The victim contacted his MP to report the issue, who in turn reported the matter to officers in Ellesmere Port.

Following enquiries, Macdonald was arrested and a search of his property uncovered paperwork linking him to numerous companies of a similar nature, all of which had been dissolved and re-branded. Macdonald Paving Driveways Patios Pathways was his latest venture. Just one month before he defrauded the victim in this case, he was convicted of a previous offence in which he agreed to clear an elderly lady's gutter of leaves and took £4,750 from her after initially agreeing to charge her £20. On this occasion he received an 18-month suspended sentence. Following his most recent arrest, Macdonald was charged with fraud.



DC Martyn Smith-Aldous said: *"Despite Macdonald previously being convicted of a similar offence against an elderly individual and being spared prison on that occasion, he did not reflect on his actions. Instead, just one month later, he decided to target another victim, this time charging an extortionate amount of money for very poor or non-existent work. Macdonald thought he could prey*

on people to make a gain for himself, not counting on his victim speaking out about how he had conned him out of thousands of pounds.

"I hope this case serves as a reminder to people to report any similar offences if they believe they have fallen victim to fraud. You can report information online or by calling 101."

Man charged following Sandbach pursuit

A man who was arrested following a pursuit in Sandbach has now been charged.

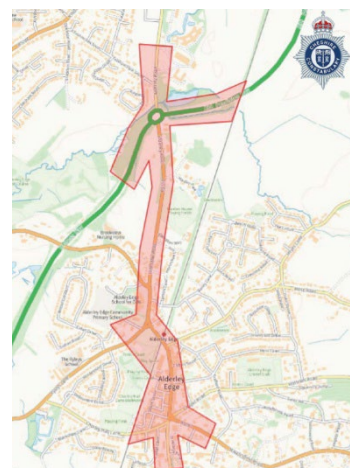
At around 4pm on Thursday 23 October, officers from the Roads and Crime unit attempted to stop a black Nissan Qashqai on Congleton Road, in Sandbach. The vehicle failed to stop, and officer pursued the vehicle as it travelled through Sandbach town centre towards Betchton, where it came to a stop and a 28-year-old man was arrested. Following questioning, Francis Morris has been charged with driving without insurance, failing to stop for officers, driving without a licence and dangerous driving. Morris, of no fixed abode, Alsager, has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Chester Magistrates Court on Saturday 25 October.

Dispersal order issued in Alderley Edge

A dispersal order has been issued after Cheshire Police received intelligence in relation to a potential car meet in the Alderley Edge area.

Cheshire Police has been made aware of an unauthorised car meet which is due to take place on Saturday 25 October in the Alderley Edge area. Car meets of this nature are not authorised and can attract hundreds of people, usually in high powered motor vehicles. Police often receive reports of dangerous driving, excessive noise and anti-social behaviour, all of which cause alarm and distress to residents.

As part of ongoing efforts to tackle the problems car meets cause, officers have issued a dispersal order which will be in place from 10am on Saturday 25 October to 10am on Monday 27 October. The dispersal order will allow officers to ban anyone from the area for up to 48 hours to prevent disorder. The area covered by the order is highlighted in the mapped area. The map is provided to anyone issued with a direction to leave.



CI Zoe Bowden, head of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *"Car meets are an ongoing problem in the local area and I hope this dispersal order will reassure the community that we are doing all we can to tackle this issue. This order is not aimed at people meeting in their cars peacefully, simply those disrupting local communities and acting in an anti-social manner or driving dangerously.*

"We have a zero-tolerance approach to those who break the law, and I want to make it clear that action will be taken against anyone who breaches the dispersal order this weekend. This could include vehicle seizures, penalty notices, notifying insurance companies, or arrest and prosecution where necessary."

If you have any concerns or information on any criminal activity taking place, please contact us on 101 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.

Widnes man charged with online sex offences

A man from Widnes has been charged with engaging in sexual communications with a child.

At 8.15pm on Wednesday 22 October police were called to reports of an incident on Lonsdale Close, Widnes. Officers attended and found that a man had been detained by member of the public for allegedly engaging with a child online. Kieran Williams was arrested at the scene in relation to the incident.

The 35-year-old has since been charged with engaging in sexual communications with a child; Causing a child aged 13 to 15 to watch/look at an image of sexual activity; Offender 18 or over attempt to cause a child aged 13 to 15 to watch/look at an image of sexual activity; and Adult attempt to engage in sexual communication with a child. Williams, of Appleby Walk, Widnes, has been remanded in police custody and is set to appear at Chester Magistrates Court on Friday 24 October.

Safer Streets Summer initiative sees positive results across Cheshire

Over the summer months, the Safer Streets Summer initiative highlighted the vital work between Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Dan Price, Cheshire Constabulary, local authorities and partner agencies in keeping communities safe.

Cheshire Police and colleagues from the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner joined community partners, including local councillors, youth services, Environmental Protection Agency, Trading Standards, and Home Office teams for a launch event at Warrington Borough Council on June 30.



Working side by side, the PCC and local officers delivered a coordinated programme of patrols, community engagement and youth prevention activities, aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour and building public confidence. This joint effort demonstrates how strong local leadership, collaboration and visible policing can make a real difference to safety and wellbeing across Cheshire's towns and villages. Running from 30 June to 30 September, the Safer Streets Summer initiative was supported by Cheshire Constabulary and the PCC as part of the wider national Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.

The PCC launched his SWAP Summer Support Fund for youth activities to engage young people with 29 projects across the county benefitting from their share of a £50,000 funding pot. Alongside this a number of policing operations took place across Cheshire tackling criminality, as well as numerous engagement activities for residents taking place.

Kicking off on 30 June, Cheshire Police officers and colleagues from the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner joined community partners, including local councillors, youth services, Environmental Protection Agency, Trading Standards, and Home Office teams for a launch event at Warrington Borough Council. The day saw the seizure of over 750 illegal vape products that did not adhere to recently introduced legislation, and representatives from Warrington Youth Zone joined beat teams across the town, engaging with members of the public of all ages and familiarising them with the local services on offer to them.



Deputy PCC Gemma Southern (left) and ACC Alison Ross (right): Working side by side, the PCC and local officers delivered a coordinated programme of patrols, community engagement and youth prevention activities, aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour and building public confidence

- On the launch of the initiative, officer seized over 750 illegal vape products that did not adhere to recently introduced legislation
- Cheshire Police were also a part of the return of Warrington's Victoria Park Experience days that returned to the county for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic
- Operation Lawmaker, which targets off-road vehicles and E-bikes being driven dangerously on our roads, is a continual operation that was rolled-out multiple times county-wide over the summer



Over the three months:

- The Warrington Victoria Park Experience made a welcome return for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic, with more than 6000 children meeting their local police teams across the four events.
- Local summer events (various Pride events, Knutsford Summer Lake party, Nantwich Food Festival, Northwich Pina Colada festival) attended with residents and representatives met and engaged with.
- Pop up policing surgeries in Crewe talking with residents about how to recognise scams.
- Pop up policing surgeries in Ellesmere Port talking with residents about county lines, gang culture and violent crime.
- DNA Tagging Spray at football matches in Cheshire. This specialised spray, only viewable by UV lighting, is now being used by officers as a tool to deter those participating in any anti-social behaviour or disorder before, during and after games.



Nearly 210 independent, supermarket chain and licensed premise staff from Warrington, Chester, and Macclesfield were also surveyed, with all three areas overwhelmingly agreeing that their towns are a safe place to work. The eastern area of the county scored the highest, with 96% of those surveyed agreeing, with Warrington scoring 78% and Chester 73%. A further 80% of those surveyed in Chester felt confident that if they were to report a crime, Cheshire Police would take it seriously and act upon it promptly – 76% of Macclesfield and Warrington workers also agreed with this statement.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Dan Price said: "*Safer Streets shows what can happen when we all work together for the same goal. Safer, stronger communities. By combining visible policing with*

real community engagement, we've not only tackled crime but built trust and pride in our neighbourhoods. I'm determined to keep this momentum going right across our county."

Over the course of the summer the Cops on the Square initiative was also rolled out across the county, providing visible policing in our towns and giving the public an opportunity to engage with officers.

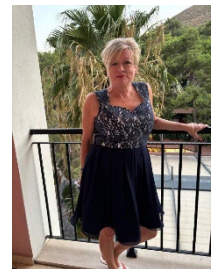
ACC for Neighbourhood Policing Alison Ross said: *"This is just a snapshot of some of the neighbourhood-based police work that our officers did throughout the summer to support the national initiative, protecting our residents and keeping Cheshire a hostile environment for criminals. By working together with our partners, we are able to go further in tackling the issues that matter most to our communities and ensure Cheshire remains a safe place for everyone who lives, works, and visits here.*

"We have a real focus on neighbourhood policing in Cheshire and this will now continue as we move into the Autumn and Winter months. 365 days a year, we are rolling out operational activities across the county to tackle retail crime, street robbery, modern day slavery, immigration crime and anti-social behaviour, issues we recognise sit at the heart of our town centres and local communities."

Tribute issued to woman killed in Warrington

The family of a woman who was killed in Warrington have paid tribute to her.

Michele Kennedy was seriously assaulted at an address on Manchester Road on Monday 13 October. The 55-year-old was taken to Aintree Hospital by paramedics. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, Michele passed away on Saturday 18 October.



Her family are being supported by specialist officers and have issued the following tribute: *"Michele was a much-loved daughter, mother, sister, auntie and nana. She was a larger-than-life character who would leave a lasting impression on all that met her, who would help anyone, was beautiful, strong, fearless and one of a kind. The loss of her life has left a massive hole in our family, and we know that her friends and colleagues who were involved in her life will feel the same. We would like to offer our extended thanks to all the emergency services that attended the scene and any kind person that tried to help. We will miss her very much."*

Michele's family have asked that their privacy be respected at this difficult time.

Man charged following fatal collision on the M62

Detectives investigating a fatal collision on the M62 have charged a lorry driver in relation to the incident.

At around 5.31am on Thursday 11 July 2024, police attended a collision between two lorries and a taxi on the westbound carriageway of the M62 between junction 8 and junction 7. Sadly, Matt Greenhalgh, 28, and Jamie Fernandes, 24, who were passengers in the taxi, died at the scene. Their

families are continuing to be supported by specialist officers. The taxi driver received serious injuries at the time.

Anthony Burns, 63, from Headington Road, Upton, Wirral, has now been summonsed, to appear at Warrington Magistrates on 25 November to face the charges of two counts of causing death by dangerous driving and one of causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

Warning to those planning on attending car meet in Alderley Edge

Drivers who may be planning on taking part in a car meet this weekend are being warned of the consequences of breaking the rules of the road.

Cheshire Police has been made aware of an unauthorised car meet which is due to take place on Saturday 25 October in the Alderley Edge area. Car meets of this nature are not authorised and police are reminding people that any criminal offences which are committed will be dealt with robustly, both during the event, and post event.



These meets can attract hundreds of people, usually in high powered motor vehicles. Police often receive reports of dangerous driving, excessive noise and anti-social behaviour, all of which cause alarm and distress to residents. In addition, many attendees may park their vehicles on grass verges, roundabouts and pavements, and also block highways, causing obstructions to enable drag strip style racing to take place. A number of operations have taken place over recent months to tackle the issue, and police have been working robustly alongside residents and the local authority.

CI Zoe Bowden, of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *"We would like to warn those planning on attending this event that we are aware it is taking place, and we are already actively working with our intelligence team. Patrols will also be on hand in the area to provide reassurance to nearby residents and to deal with any criminal offences if they occur."*

"Car meets are an ongoing problem that impact local residents trying to go about their daily business. This isn't about us trying to 'stop the fun', it is about protecting our communities. We have a zero-tolerance approach and will take action against those who break the law. This includes vehicle seizures, penalty notices, notifying insurance companies, dispersal notices, or even arrests and subsequent prosecution."

If you have any concerns or information on any criminal activity taking place, please contact us on 101 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.

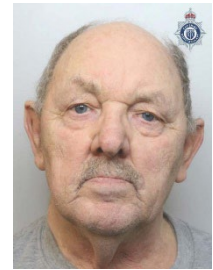
Man jailed for sexually assaulting a child in Warrington

A man who pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a child in Warrington has been jailed.

Terry Blackmore appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Monday 20 October, where he was sentenced to five years and four months in prison. The 78-year-old of no fixed abode in the Warrington area, had previously pleaded guilty to taking indecent photographs (category B and C),

possession of indecent photographs, four counts of assault of a girl under 13 by touching, and assault of a girl under 13 by touching under clothing.

The court heard how Blackmore repeatedly assaulted his victim over a 12-month period, starting when she was just 8 years old. His offending included inappropriately touching the girl and taking indecent images of her.



Following the sentencing DC Heidi Ryder said: *"I would like to commend the victim for the bravery and courage she has shown in coming forward and talking about what happened to her. Nobody should have to experience what the victim has been through, and I hope that the fact that Blackmore is now behind bars will provide her with some closure."*

In addition to his prison sentence Blackmore was also handed an indefinite Sexual Harm Prevention Order and ordered to sign the sex offenders register for life.

DC Ryder added: *"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](#).

Operation Toxic - Two charged with drug supply offences in joint investigation

Two people have been charged with drug supply offences following a joint investigation between Cheshire Police and the Operation Toxic team at Merseyside Police.

Yesterday, Wednesday 22 October, warrants were carried out in the Macclesfield area, leading to the arrest of a man and a woman, both of whom were taken to police stations for questioning. Seized from the location was cash and suspected Class A drugs.

- Michael Ault, 50, of Maple Avenue, Macclesfield, was charged with being concerned in the supply of crack cocaine and Concerned in supply of heroin.
- Victoria Scott, 37, of Knutsford Walk, Macclesfield, was charged with being concerned in the supply of crack cocaine and Concerned in supply of heroin.

Both have been remanded into custody to appear at Chester Magistrates Court today, Thursday 23 October. The charges came under Operation Toxic which is part of Project Medusa - a Merseyside-led initiative set up to tackle suspected County Lines drug dealing and child criminal exploitation across the country.

Anyone with information on suspected drug supply should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or at www.cheshire.police.uk. Alternatively, contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via their website here: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>. In an emergency always call 999.

Drug dealer jailed for six years for supplying cocaine in Chester

A drug dealer who had already been convicted of drugs supply offences has now been jailed for six years after running a drugs line operating in Chester.

Meltjan Isufi, of Wilkinson Street North, Ellesmere Port, was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Monday 20 October. The 34-year-old had pleaded guilty to possession of a false identification document, being concerned in the supply of cocaine, acquiring criminal property and knowingly entering the UK in breach of a deportation order.



On 23 December 2024, police arrested a man in Chester and following a search of his address, they recovered a large quantity of cocaine, cash and other items linking him to the supply of drugs. This man does not form part of this particular case, but Isufi's DNA was found on one of the packages of drugs. On 25 December 2024, police were alerted to suspicious activity on Milton Street, Chester, by local authority CCTV operators. Footage captured what is suspected to be a drug exchange and officers stop the vehicle close to the Grosvenor Bridge as it attempts to leave the city centre.

Three bags of cocaine were found in the car and a man in the vehicle admitted he had just purchased the drugs from someone in Chester. Enquiries led to the discovery of a text message advertising the drugs for sale. The mobile number was attributed to Isufi, who used the name 'Anton' to control the drugs line. Following a thorough investigation, on 19 September 2025, police executed a warrant at Isufi's home address and he was arrested.

Police located the mobile phone, which showed Isufi had a customer base of over 800 people. The drugs line was well-established and supplied cocaine on a daily basis in Chester and the surrounding areas. Police also seized cash to the value of £17,585 and a quantity of cocaine. A fake Greek identity card was also located in the address which had allowed Isufi to enter the country illegally.

Isufi, who is an Albanian national, was therefore in breach of a deportation order placed upon him on conviction for a previous drug supply offence in 2019. Following Isufi's arrest, he was charged with the latest offences.

DC Richard Connolley said: *"Isufi had already been convicted of drugs offences and deported from the UK. However, he chose to re-enter the UK illegally using a false identity document to facilitate the supply of illegal drugs in Chester. His operation was sophisticated, and he supplied drugs on a daily basis, but Isufi underestimated the tenacity and dedication of our officers. Thanks to their investigation, a significant drugs line was brought to a stop, and Isufi is now behind bars for a considerable amount of time. The message is clear – if you come to Cheshire to commit crime, you will be caught, and you will be held accountable for your actions."*

Woman named following serious assault in Warrington

A woman who died following a serious assault in Warrington has now been named.

Shortly after 4pm on Monday 13 October, police received multiple reports of an incident at a residential address on Manchester Road in Woolston. Officers attended the scene, and a 55-year-old woman was found with serious injuries and taken to Aintree Hospital by air ambulance. Sadly,

despite the best efforts of all those involved, Michele Kennedy passed away on Saturday 18 October; her family are currently being supported by specially trained officers.

Preliminary results from a Home Office post-mortem examination have indicated that Michele died as a result of stab wounds. A murder investigation into her death has been launched and a 61-year-old man remains in custody. Gavin Shaw was previously been charged attempted murder in relation to the incident; he appeared at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 15 October where he was remanded in custody. Shaw is next set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 12 November.

Man jailed following escape from HMP Thorn Cross

A man who absconded from a HMP Thorn Cross, and went on the run for four days, has been jailed.

Liam Stevenson appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 17 October, where he pleaded guilty to escaping lawful custody. As a result of his guilty plea, Stevenson, of HMP Thorn Cross, was jailed for nine months. The court heard that in 2021, the 30-year-old was handed a six year and nine-month custodial sentence. Following this initial sentence, Stevenson was also handed a further six-month sentence in 2022 and a 24-week sentence in 2024 in relation to separate incidents



This meant that Stevenson, who had been at HMP Thorn Cross prison since February 2025, was set to be released in 2027. However, five months later, on 26 July 2025, Stevenson left the facility, being captured on CCTV shuffling past a security barrier and jogging away from the building. A short time later, Cheshire Police were notified that Stevenson had left the premises and not returned, with a search for him being conducted by colleagues from Lancashire Police.

On 30 July, just four days later, Stevenson was located and arrested just under 40 miles away in Balckburn, before being brought back to Cheshire for interview. Following his arrest he asked the attending officers, now that he had been caught, they managed to track him down. No response was given. However, he had become increasingly violent during his visit to custody, making violent threats to custody officers and spitting at his cell door hatch where officers could look in on him. The decision was made that he posed a high risk to officer safety and was subsequently not interviewed but rather charged and remanded in custody and being further remanded by the courts.

DC Heidi Ryder of Warrington CID said: *"The irony is that Stevenson's attempt to get away from Thorn Cross has actually resulted in him spending even longer in the prison he currently calls home. This extension of his sentence also means that he will not be set for release until early 2028 and, we can assure the public that his behaviour will be continually monitored when the time correct time for him to leave the facility comes around."*

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the department and officers involved in this case, including our colleagues from Lancashire Constabulary, who's combined efforts resulted in the location of this offender who, wrongly, thought he could quite easily escape from prison undetected and without any serious consequences".

Widnes drug dealer jailed

A drug dealer from Widnes has been jailed for more than three years following an investigation by local officers.

James Roberts, also known as 'Bobit', appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 17 October where he was sentenced to 34 months in prison. The 29-year-old had earlier pleaded guilty to two counts of concerned in the supply of Class A and B drugs (cocaine and cannabis) as well as possession of criminal property and criminal damage.



On Thursday 18 September 2025 Roberts was arrested on Warrington Road, Widnes on suspicion of criminal damage to a vehicle nearby. Following his arrest Officers located a 'burner' style mobile phone that had been discarded by Roberts just prior to his arrest. The device contained messages relating to an ongoing drugs investigation whereby Roberts had been using it to supply cocaine and cannabis in the Widnes area. During a search of his home address officers discovered a quantity cocaine, along with cash, a machete and mobile phones which were linked to the supply of illegal drugs. Roberts was subsequently charged and remanded to prison for sentencing.

Following his sentence PC Nicholls of the Widnes Proactive CID said: *"Roberts believed that he was operating under the radar, but little did he know that he was subject to an ongoing investigation and had been identified as a controller and street dealer for a successful drugs line. I welcome the sentence imposed on Roberts by the court and hope this acts as a stark reminder that our officers are committed to tackling drug dealing head on and removing dealers from the streets of Cheshire."*

Man banned from retail park in Crewe

A shoplifter has been banned from entering a retail park in Crewe after officers secured a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

Philip Harding, of Congleton, was served with the five-year order at Crewe Magistrates Court on Wednesday 15 October, following numerous incidents of shoplifting. As a result of the order, the 39-year-old must not:

- Enter the Grand Junction Retail Park in Crewe
- Enter any M&S store in Cheshire
- Be in possession of any open container or vessel of alcohol in a public place



If Harding fails to comply with the CBO, he will be committing a criminal offence.

Insp Dan Welch, of Crewe Local Policing Unit, said: *"Harding is a prolific offender and hopefully this five-year CBO will deter such actions in the future, while also allowing us to swiftly deal with him if he breaches any of his requirements. 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 the area."*

Anyone who encounters Harding breaching the restrictions of his order is urged to contact Cheshire Police via cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/ or call 101, to report it.

Family of a woman who died in a collision in Delamere pay tribute

The family of a woman who died in a collision in Delamere have paid tribute to her.

Lauren Surridge, 52, had been driving her black Smart Fortwo Grandstyle along the A556 from Chester towards Northwich on the evening of 25 September when she was in collision with a blue Toyota Yaris travelling in the opposite direction. Lauren was taken to hospital but sadly died.



Her family said of her: *“Lauren was 52 going on 25 with a memorable capacity for laughter. She could cause an outbreak of hilarity in an empty room. “Her natural interest in and concern for others led her to make numerous friends wherever she went. The fact that 200 people attended her funeral on October 11 was testimony to that. Mourners came from all over Britain, from Ireland and from Canada.*

“To her partner Joe she was “my best friend,” to her parents, Jackie and Peter, she was “an unfailing support, especially when we needed it for medical reasons,” to her sisters she was “loving and fun,” and to her nieces she was the “very cool auntie.”

“Lauren was artistic – a window-dresser, a model, loved dancing and was a semi-professional jazz singer for a while. She was also full of energy – a strong swimmer, wild swimming in the River Dee and Cheshire meres, and walked her six dogs for many miles. “Lauren was brought up in Wirral but had lived for many years in Chester with her partner Joe and her son Nathan, aged nearly 14.”

Anyone with information on the collision should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the website quoting IML 2183074.

Men jailed following incident in Chester

Two men have been jailed after attacking a man in a car park in Chester.

Billy Perks and Craig Rodham appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 17 October. Perks, 35, of HMP Altcourse, was sentenced to 40 months after pleading guilty to theft, possession of a knife, dangerous driving and aiding/abetting affray. Meanwhile, Rodham, 36, of no fixed abode, was sentenced to two years after pleading guilty to possession of a knife and aiding/abetting affray.



L-R: Billy Perks and Craig Rodham

At around 4.55pm on 5 May 2025, Perks drove a Honda into a car park off Station Road, Chester, with Rodham as a passenger in the car. After arriving at the car park, Rodham exited the vehicle while Perks remained inside the vehicle. Shortly after 6pm, the victim in this case returned to his vehicle, a BMW, which was also parked in the same car park. The man was initially sat in his car with the driver’s door open. When he went to shut the door, Perks and Rodham stopped him.

The pair were in possession of knives and threatened him, telling him to hand over his car keys. An altercation occurred, during which the victim’s mobile phone was stolen. Perks and Rodham continued to make threats towards the victim, who asked someone to call the police. The victim

managed to get away, at which point, the men returned to their vehicle. Perks drove towards the victim at speed and the victim stepped out of the way, using a traffic cone to protect himself, which caused the windscreen to smash.

Perks decamped from the vehicle and fled the scene. Rodham also attempted to flee but was quickly detained by officers responding to the emergency call. Two knives were located nearby, while the victim's mobile phone was located in the Honda vehicle. Perks was later arrested in Dutton.

DC Kris Aston said: *"I welcome the sentences handed to both Perks and Rodham, who had no choice but to admit their guilt and are now facing time in custody for their actions. This was an unprovoked attack, not only threatening someone while in possession of a knife but also attempting to use a vehicle as a weapon. Thankfully officers detained and arrested Perks and Rodham incredibly quickly and put their offending to a stop. This must have been a terrifying experience for the victim, and I hope the conclusion of this case will bring them some closure."*

Man charged with sexual offences following incident in Warrington

Officers in Warrington have charged a man with sexual offences following an incident in the town in February.

On Wednesday 26 February 2025, officers in Warrington were notified of an exposure incident in the Old Alder Lane area of the town. Following a number of enquiries, Mark Hymers, of Cloverdale Drive, Ashton-in-Marketfield, Wigan, was arrested and has since been charged with exposure. The 56-year-old appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 14 October, where he was released on conditional bail. Hymers is next set to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 23 December.

Man arrested for misusing police and ambulance 999 systems

A man who made verbally abusive phone calls to Cheshire Police and North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) call handlers over a three-hour period has been arrested.

On Sunday 19 October, call handlers in the Cheshire Police Force Control Centre received a phone call from a 35-year-old man, making numerous complaints. After it was ascertained that there was no emergency response needed, the call was disconnected. However, the man proceeded to make a further 11 calls to police, each time being verbally abusive and swearing at the call handlers. Following this, the man's number was blocked by police call handlers to prevent any further nuisance calls. However, the man then began dialling 999, asking for ambulance teams to connect him to the police.

Officers subsequently attended the man's address and found that he was shouting down the phone to NWAS colleagues. He was subsequently arrested on suspicion of persistently making use of public communication networks to cause annoyance. His calls to police and ambulance covered a period of approximately three hours, from around 6pm to 9pm. The man, who is from Widnes, remains in custody at this time and is assisting officers with their enquiries.

PC Jensen Beesley, of the Northern Area Investigation Team, said: *“Our call handlers are here to play a vital role in the receipt of emergency calls from the public needing our help; by making repeat calls to 999 it takes our call handlers' attention away from genuine emergencies and people in need. We will always take action against anyone who chooses to make hoax and nuisance calls to our colleagues in the Force Control Centre. Be under no illusion, it is a criminal offence and if you are found guilty, you could face a six-month prison sentence or a hefty fine.”*

Woman dies following serious assault in Warrington

A woman who was seriously assaulted at an address in Warrington has sadly died.

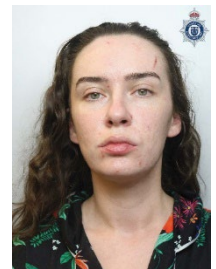
Shortly after 4pm on Monday 13 October, police received multiple reports of an incident at a residential address on Manchester Road in Woolston. Officers attended the scene and found a 55-year-old woman had been stabbed; she was taken to Aintree Hospital by air ambulance. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, the woman passed away on Saturday 18 October. Her next of kin have been informed and are being supported by specialist officers.

Following the death, the incident is now being treated as a murder and a Home Office post-mortem is set to take place later this week. A 61-year-old local man has already been charged with attempted murder in relation to the incident and he remains in custody at this time.

Woman jailed for glassing friend in Adlington

A 33-year-old woman has been jailed for assaulting a pregnant woman with a wine glass in Adlington.

Rosealeen Sullivan from Castleton Avenue in Stretford appeared at Chester Crown Court on 16 October after being found guilty of assault and pleading guilty to possession of a Class A drug (cocaine) at an earlier hearing. She was sentenced to 18 months in prison.



Sullivan had been at the home of a friend on 3 October 2024 drinking wine. The victim wasn't drinking due to being pregnant. The victim said she wanted to sleep as she was tired, and Sullivan rolled her eyes. The victim asked why she did that and Sullivan turned on her calling her names. She then smashed a wine glass into the woman's forehead causing it to bleed quite badly. The victim then stood on broken glass causing a cut to her foot.

An ambulance was called, and they informed police. Sullivan was arrested on suspicion of assault, and she was taken into custody. While there, officers found wraps of cocaine in her handbag and arrested her on suspicion of possession of a class A drug (cocaine). She was later charged with the offences.

PC Molly Eaton said: *“This was an unprovoked attack on a pregnant woman in her own home. The injuries to her face and foot needed hospital treatment and it is incomprehensible how Sullivan could justify such violence against her friend. I hope this time in prison will act as a wakeup call for her in her behaviour toward her friend.”*

Four people sentenced following aggravated burglary in Northwich

Four people who admitted breaking into a house in Northwich and threatening the occupant with a machete have been sentenced.

Mark Jones, Luke Faulkner-Ellis, Harvey Smallwood and Caitlin Thomas all appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 17 October where they were sentenced to more than 14 years in prison.

Their sentences included:

- Mark Jones, 23, of Riverside Park, Northwich – sentenced to 70 months in prison for aggravated burglary and possession of cannabis
- Luke Faulkner-Ellis, 20, of no fixed abode, sentenced to five years in prison for aggravated burglary
- Harvey Smallwood, 19, of Gowy Crescent, Tarvin, sentenced to 40 months in prison for aggravated burglary
- Caitlin Thomas, 18 of Dean Street, Northwich, sentenced to 150 hours unpaid work for burglary



The court heard how at around 3am on Saturday 15 April 2023 the victim was in his living room when he heard shouting and banging outside his Naylor Court address. The victim, a man in his late 50s, fled to his bedroom and as he ran through the hall, he witnessed the defendants smashing his front door to break into his address. Once inside, the gang, who were armed with a machete, shouted abuse at the victim as he hid in his bedroom. They also smashed a number of walls and damaged some of the victim's property before fleeing the scene.

Police were later called to the address, and officers conducted a search of the local area. During the search both Smallwood and Thomas were stopped by officers after they were found near to the River Weaver. The pair were not initially arrested, however after reviewing CCTV footage, mobile phone data and forensics, the four defendants were all identified as suspects and arrested. They were later charged in relation to the incident.

Following the sentencing DC Chris Forrest, of Northwich Proactive CID said: *"Everyone has a right to feel safe in their own home and I welcome the sentences handed to the defendants in this case. I hope that the conclusion of this case will provide some closure for the victim, and also reassurance to local residents."*

In addition to their prison sentences, all four defendants have also been handed indefinite restraining orders to prevent them from contacting the victims.

Northwich man jailed for harassment and assault

A Northwich man who harassed his former partner and assaulted her new partner has been jailed.

Timothy Hourigan appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 15 October where he was sentenced to 20 months in prison. The 50-year-old of Braemar



Avenue, Northwich, had previously pleaded guilty to harassment, intimidating a witness and assault by beating.

The court heard how in August 2025, police were called to reports that Hourigan had been harassing his ex-partner after he discovered she was in a relationship with another man. The victim reported that the offences began in April 2025 when he began to bombard her with unwanted calls and text messages. Over the following months he continued to send unnecessary calls and messages, along with unwanted visits to her address. On one occasion he called the victim 49 times in one day, threatening to wait for her at her address. He also discovered the address of the victim's new partner and drove past his address, despite having no reason to be there.

Hourigan was arrested on Tuesday 5 August 2025 and questioned in relation to the incident. He was later released on bail with a number of strict conditions. On Wednesday 20 August, Hourigan breached his conditions when he visited the victim's home and assaulted her new partner, repeatedly punching him in the face. He also threatened him not to contact the police. Hourigan was later arrested and charged with harassment, S39 assault and witness intimidation, in relation to threats made towards the victim's new partner. He was remanded in custody but whilst in prison he made repeated applications for bail, which the officer in charge rebutted due to the risk he posed.

Following the sentencing, PC Molly Plumb, of the Western Area Investigation Team, said: *"Hourigan is clearly a jealous and manipulative individual who was unable to accept that his relationship was over. He believed that by intimidating the victim and her new partner, he would be able stop her from moving forward with her life. Thankfully, as a result of statements provided by the victims, and the strength of the evidence gathered by the Western Area Investigation Team, Hourigan was left with no option but to admit his guilt. I hope the sentence handed to Hourigan will provide the victims with some reassurance, and also allow her and her new partner to move forward with their lives."*

In addition to his prison sentence Hourigan has also been handed a ten year-restraining order preventing him from contacting the victim.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Police appeal for witnesses following fire in Warrington

Officers are appealing for witnesses to come forward following a fire in a building in Warrington.

At 6.40pm on Sunday 19 October, police were called to the former University of Chester Padgate Campus in Crab Lane, Warrington. It was established there was a fire in one of the buildings, which was extinguished by colleagues from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service. The investigation into the cause of the fire is currently ongoing, but it is believed that it may have been started deliberately.

Insp Chris Webster said: *"Our investigation into the cause of the fire is in its early stages but we believe it may have been a deliberate ignition. Therefore, we are asking anyone who witnessed*

anything suspicious around the time of the incident to get in touch with us. The same goes for anyone who has any further information which could aid us.

“This site has been subject to anti-social behaviour over the past few months, and we would like to remind members of the public that such activity is incredibly dangerous. The Padgate site is private property and trespassing poses safety risks. Incidents such as this not only take away time and resources from the emergency services, but they also risk causing harm and injury to people. Thankfully, this recent fire was quickly brought under control, but the story could have been much different. We will be increasing patrols in the area as reassurance to nearby residents.

“If anyone has any information to report, please contact us via our website or by calling 101, quoting IML-2198079.”

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