

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 4 May 2025

## Cheshire News & Appeals



### Latest Cheshire News

#### **Man found guilty of a number of sex offences**

A 61-year-old man has been found guilty of a number of sex offences following a trial.

Leo Deen of HMP Altcourse appeared at Chester Crown Court on 28 April for a trial and has been found guilty today (Friday 2 May). He was found guilty of attempting to engage in sexual communication with a child, attempting to cause or incite a girl 13 to 15 to engage in sexual activity – no penetration, and attempting to cause a child 13 to 15 to watch or look at an image of sexual activity. Deen will appear at Chester Crown Court on 7 May to be sentenced.

The court heard how on 29 October 2023 a woman set up a Facebook profile posing as a 15-year-old girl. She interacted with Deen's profile and they struck up a conversation. She made it clear she was 15. The defendant started asking about sex with her and tried to video call her a number of times between 29 October and 7 November 2023 but she didn't answer them. She reported the incident to police in the early hours of 7 November. A short time later she received more messages and another call in which Deen was lying on a bed and appeared to be performing a sexual act. Deen was arrested on 8 November.

DC Brett Oliver said: *"Deen was told the Facebook user was 15 and he turned the conversation to a sexual nature. He even video called her several times, and the one time she did answer he was committing a sexual act, with the knowledge she was 15. He even told her to be a good girl at school. He certainly should not be trying to engage in sexual behaviour with a child. There is no excuse and that is why he is now facing the consequences of this dangerous predatory behaviour."*

#### **Man jailed following a stop check by Chester officers**

A man has been jailed after admitting to a burglary and drug offences following a stop check by officers in Chester.

Matthew Green, 35, from Sealand Road, Chester appeared at Chester Crown Court on 29 April and pleaded guilty to with possession of Class B drugs (Cannabis), possession of a knife, and burglary. He was sentenced to two years five months and ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £228.



On the evening of 30 March 2025 officers in plain clothes were on patrol in the Garden Quarter area of the city following an increase in reports of burglaries there. The officers, from the Chester Beat Team, were alerted to a burglary and given a description of the suspect. They spotted a man on a bike fitting the description on Westbourne Road carrying a large bag for life cycling away from the Garden Quarter. They tried to stop Matthew Green and he threw the bag for life at them and tried to cycle off but officers were able to detain him. He was found with a number of items

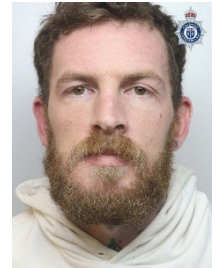
including a PlayStation 5 with controller in a box, a set of samurai swords, a Nitrosurge Guinness beer pump, a guitar pedal and a large quantity of cannabis. He admitted he'd burgled a house and was arrested and subsequently charged.

DC Paul Boneham said: *"Green was so brazen that he didn't even attempt to hide his guilt. When he gets out of prison he will be subjected to a Criminal Behaviour Order barring him from the Garden Quarter to try and curb his offending. If he breaches this he faces going straight back to prison."*

### **Armed robber jailed for four years**

A man who carried out an armed robbery at a convenience store in Frodsham has been jailed.

Peter Lea appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 2 May where he pleaded guilty to robbery and possession of a knife in a public place. The 34-year-old, of no fixed abode, was sentenced to four years in prison and ordered to pay £228 victim surcharge. The court heard how at around 4.50pm on Tuesday 18 March Lea entered the store on Main Street Frodsham armed with a knife. Once inside he threatened the store worker and demanded that they handed over all the money from the till. He then fled the store with approximately £500.



<https://youtu.be/gcrs1Qe06u4>

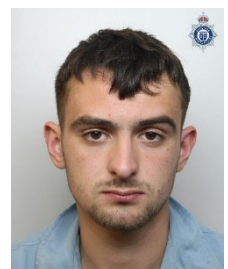
Officers were deployed to the scene and Lea was subsequently identified as a suspect by CCTV images from the scene. Following his arrest, Lea refused to answer any of the questions put to him by officers. Despite his silence, he was later charged in relation to the offence.

Following the sentencing, DS Stevie Jackson, said: *"This was a terrifying ordeal for all those involved, and I welcome the sentence that has been handed to Lea. He is a prolific offender and has showed absolutely no regard for the store worker, and no remorse for his actions. Thankfully, as a result of a thorough investigation, and the strength of evidence gathered against him, Lea was left with no option but to plead guilty. I hope that the outcome of this case demonstrates to local residents how seriously we treat robbery, and also acts as a warning to others who are intent on committing crime."*

### **Tractor driver jailed after ramming police car**

A man who deliberately rammed a police car with tractor in Malpas has been jailed.

Alfred Brereton appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 1 May where he was sentenced to 30 months in prison. The 19-year-old, of Bickley Town Lane, Bickley, near Malpas, had earlier pleaded guilty to criminal damage recklessly endangering life. As well as his custodial sentence, he is also banned from driving for three years and three months, which will start upon his release from prison.



<https://youtu.be/s2-HAEj3RX0>

The court heard how at 11.20pm on Saturday 25 July 2024 police were called to reports of a suspected drink driver in Malpas. The caller reported that the man was driving a tractor which had been parked outside a pub. Officers attended and shortly before midnight they spotted a red tractor, driven by Brereton, on a nearby road and activated the emergency equipment and ordered him to stop. However, Brereton ignored the request and went off-road into a field. As police followed the tractor, Brereton reversed the vehicle before deliberately ramming the police car, causing more than £10,000 worth of damage and leaving both officers shaken. Brereton then made off from the scene but was later arrested at his home, where he blew zero on a breath test.



In his victim personal statement, one of the officers told the court how 'he had never been scared or fearful for my life before this'. He added: "The actions of the driver were deliberate, we gave him no reason to use such a large and powerful agricultural vehicle against us, I believe he fully intended to hurt us."

DC Kelly Connolley, who led the investigation, said: *"I welcome the sentence handed to Brereton, which reflects the severity of his indefensible and extremely dangerous actions that day. He used an extremely powerful vehicle to deliberately ram the police car, which the aim of causing as much damage as possible. It is only by chance that the two officers involved did not sustain any serious injuries. Brereton also caused more than £10,000 to a response police car, leaving it off the road for several weeks while the car was repaired. He committed all of these actions knowing that had he just stopped for the officers as requested, he would have passed the drink drive test and been allowed to make his way home. Instead, he's now facing 30 months behind bars, which will allow him to reflect upon his actions."*

### **Local officers close down Congleton ASB house**

A property in Congleton that brought misery to the local community has been closed down by police.

Officers received numerous reports regarding anti-social behaviour involving drug activity and many disturbances at the address on Fern Crescent with people visiting the address day and night. After gathering enough evidence, and working in partnership with Regenda Homes, officers from

the Congleton Beat Team attended Warrington Magistrates' Court on Thursday 1 May where they were granted a three-month closure order. The occupants of the address have been ordered to leave the property and find alternative accommodation. All windows and doors are now boarded up and will remain boarded up for a period of three months. Anyone who enters the address during that time is committing an offence and can be arrested.

PC Helen Weeks said: *"We are determined to make the community a safe environment for everyone, and closure orders allow us to do this. The occupants were given ample opportunity to seek assistance from external agencies however these offers of support were not taken up. Our next step was to obtain a closure order from the courts. The behaviour around the Fern Crescent property is totally unacceptable and I know that residents will be greatly relieved to hear the news today. "I hope our ongoing work to tackle these issues in our neighbourhoods will provide some reassurance to the communities we serve that we will use every power available to us to restore some normality to the area. As always, we can't do this without the support of the communities we serve, and I would urge anyone who has concerns about anti-social behaviour related issues to please report it to us and we will do the rest."*



Anyone with concerns about ASB in their area is asked to report it to Cheshire Police via the website or call 101.

Congleton residents are asked to complete a Residents' Voice survey about issues in their community, you can do so by visiting [here](#).

### **Man charged following incident in Runcorn**

Officers have charged a man following an incident in Runcorn.

Peter Poole was arrested on Wednesday 30 April. The 43-year-old, of Quadrant Close, Runcorn, has since been charged with indecent exposure, possession of a class B drug (cannabis), attempted section 18 assault and section 47 assault. He is set to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Friday 2 May. The charges relate to reports of an indecent exposure in the Wisbech Close area of Runcorn shortly after 4pm on Wednesday 30 April. The assault charges relate to the assault of two police officers who responded to the incident.

### **Rural crime team tackles waste crime and fly tipping**

Cheshire Constabulary's Rural Crime Team has joined forces with partner agencies to tackle large-scale waste crime and fly tipping within the west of the county.

On Tuesday 29 April, officers from the Rural Crime Team worked with other teams from across the force, including the Motorcycle Unit, Special Constabulary and BEAT teams, to tackle waste crime in Chester and surrounding areas. Officers also worked alongside partner agencies. These included the Environment Agency, Cheshire West and Chester Council waste enforcement officers and the National Construction and Agricultural Theft Team (NCATT) to ensure waste carriers were complying with regulations.



Across the course of the day, there were the following results:

- Dozens of commercial and waste carrier vehicles stopped and checked to ensure they were not in breach of any regulations.
- One vehicle seized for having no insurance
- One vehicle given a prohibition notice for being in a dangerous condition
- Numerous TORS (traffic offence reports) issues for an array of offences, including illegal tyres and insecure loads
- A number of vehicles weighed to ensure they were complying with weight regulations
- Enforcement action by both Chester West and Chester Council waste enforcement officers and the Environment Agency

Constable Peter Moss said: *“Some people may believe that fly tipping does not harm anyone, however this is far from the truth. Not only does it cause a blight on our landscape, but it also costs taxpayers thousands of pounds to clear up. We are working closely with the local authority and partner agencies to tackle this issue and make Cheshire West a hostile environment for those involved in the movement of illegal waste. As part of our ongoing efforts to both prevent people from committing waste crime and hold those who do to account we also need support from residents. If you need to dispose of any waste, ensure that you use a legitimate waste removal company and always ask to see their licence.*

*“Some people can claim to have a licence to get rid of waste but have no intention of doing things correctly, often charging bargain prices to get rid of your rubbish, only for it to end up dumped somewhere it should not be. If the waste is tracked down to you, what started off as a good deal could end up as a hefty fine, even if you weren’t the one who dumped the waste. We will continue these joint days of action in the future, as we remain committed on tackling this issue and ensuring our landscapes do not become ruined by waste crime.”*

### **Two men jailed for drug dealing in Ellesmere Port**

Two men have been jailed after they pleaded guilty to being involved in the supply of class A drugs in Ellesmere Port.

Gary Harmes and Callum Mazzano appeared at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 1 May. Harmes, was sentenced to three years in prison after earlier pleading guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs (crack cocaine) and being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (crack cocaine). The 43-year-old also admitted possession of a controlled class B drug (Cannabis). Mozzano, 24, of Woodfield Road, Ellesmere Port, was sentenced to three years and six months in jail after admitting being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (crack cocaine) at an earlier hearing on Friday 10 January.



Harmes and Mozzano were both arrested as part of Operation Ironworks, an investigation into the supply of crack cocaine in Ellesmere Port. The case began on Friday 9 June 2023 when Harmes was stopped by officers on patrol in the town. During a search, officers discovered six street deals of crack cocaine and a larger bag of crack cocaine weighing 3.25 grams. He was also in possession of two mobile phones and a set of scales.

Harmes was arrested and a search was conducted at his home on Kingsley Road where officers recovered bicarbonate of soda, which is often used in the production of crack cocaine. He was subsequently released under investigation pending the examination of mobile phones, telecoms and forensic examination of the drugs seized. During the analysis of the phones, officers discovered that Harmes had been working with Mozzano and the pair had been in charge of a mobile phone which was being used to sell illegal drugs in the town. The phone was being used on a regular basis to send flare messages offering to supply crack cocaine. After gathering a catalogue of evidence Harmes and Mozzano were both arrested on Friday 29 December and the pair were later charged with various drugs offences.

Following the guilty pleas, DS Roy Wellings, of Ellesmere Port Proactive CID said: *"I welcome the sentences handed to Harmes and Mozzano and I hope that they acts as a warning to others involved in the sale of illegal drugs. The team here at Ellesmere Port are dedicated to disrupting the drug supply network and this is another example of how we are continually pursuing those intent on making money out of other people's misery. We recognise that drugs and drug use have a detrimental effect on our communities, and we will stop at nothing to rid the streets of this illegal activity. You too can help us by reporting drug dealing in your area to police. Every bit of information helps us to gather intelligence and close in on those dealing in illegal drugs."*

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

### **Nantwich man jailed for domestic assault**

A man from Nantwich who attacked his former partner has been jailed.

Jacob Rose, of no fixed abode in Nantwich, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 16 April where he was sentenced to four years in prison. The 31-year-old had been found guilty of S47 assault, intentional strangulation, and threatening a person with an offensive weapon at a trial which took place on the day of sentencing. During the trial, the court heard how the victim was in a relationship with Rose for around seven months before separating in October 2024, during which time Rose was still living with the victim.



On the evening of 28 October 2024, the victim had been out with her friends and returned home to find Rose intoxicated. The victim went upstairs to go to sleep but was followed by Rose asking to get into bed with her. When the victim refused, Rose became angry almost immediately and started screaming at her and calling her cruel names. He then spat at the victim's face multiple times. Rose proceeded to push the victim out of bed and into a wall, before dragging her back onto the bed where he strangled her for a significant amount of time to the point where the victim was unable to breathe. He then left the room while the victim scrambled to call 999 but Rose returned before she was able to alert police. This time, Rose appeared holding a kitchen knife and stood over the victim, threatening to kill her. The victim managed to flee the address and seek help from a neighbour, all while Rose searched for her in the street. The incident was reported to police and Rose was swiftly arrested and charged.

Following the sentencing, Area Investigation Officer Kayleigh Ryan said: *“Firstly, I would like to praise the victim for having the courage to speak out, as well as the bravery that she has shown throughout the investigation. Just to get through that day is an incredible act of bravery and defiance, but to re-live that experience by speaking to the police, and having to sit through a trial, is nothing short of heroic. I want to thank her for making it possible for us to bring Jacob Rose to justice, and for helping to protect other women he may have gone on to hurt. Rose, on the other hand, is nothing more than a coward, who will now face the consequences of his actions. Despite the life-altering trauma he inflicted, his sentence represents the complainant moving on, whilst he remains incarcerated with his record permanently marked.*

*“As this case demonstrates, for anyone suffering through domestic violence, there is always hope, and the police will always take your experience seriously and ensure you are heard.”*

If you, or someone you know, are a victim of domestic abuse please report it by calling 101 or [visit the website](#). In an emergency always call 999.

### **Two arrested in Middlewich drugs warrants**

Sandbach Beat Team arrested a man and a woman on suspicion of drugs offences after executing warrants at two addresses in Middlewich.

At 8.19am on 28 April police attended an address in Dale Court and in George VI Avenue and made a search of the properties seizing Class A and B drugs, knuckle duster, imitation firearm, ammunition, cash, designer shoes, an ebike, off-road motorbike and an XL Bully dog. A woman aged 22 and a man aged 23 were arrested. The man was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply Class A (Cocaine) and B (Cannabis) drugs, possession of an offensive weapon, and acquiring ammunition without a certificate. The woman was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs (cocaine). Both have been released on bail pending further enquiries.

Sgt Craig Hodson from Sandbach Beat Team said: *“These warrants are part of our commitment to disrupting the illegal drug supply and making it harder to profit from this type of crime. If you have information on illegal drugs or drug dealing in your community please contact us so that we can continue with our efforts to make Middlewich even safer.”*

### **Three people charged following Winsford disorder**

Three people have now been charged following reports of disorder in Winsford.

Nelson Barreto, 26, from Dee Way, Winsford, Dionisio Da Costa Belo, 30, from Bradbury Road, Winsford and Gerson Francisco Cabreirs, 30, from Bradbury Road, Winsford were charged with violent disorder and possession of an offensive weapon in a public place. The men will appear at Chester Magistrates today (Thursday 1 May). The charges relate to a fight on the Wharton Estate on Tuesday 29 April at 5.44pm. An investigation into identifying others involved is continuing.

## **Prolific sex offender jailed after almost three decades on the run**

A prolific sex offender who spent almost 30 years 'living in paradise' has finally been jailed.

Richard Burrows appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 30 April where he was sentenced to a total of 46 years in prison and ordered to sign the sex offenders register for life. The 81-year-old of HMP Altcourse, had earlier been found guilty of 54 offences following a trial at Chester Crown Court. These included indecent assault of boys, buggery, attempted buggery and indecency with a child. He also pleaded guilty to a further 43 offences, including indecent assault of boys, making indecent images of children, possession of indecent images of children and four counts of possession of false identity documents with intent, at an earlier hearing.



The court heard how between 1968 and 1995 Burrows systematically abused 24 young boys across the Cheshire, West Midlands and West Mercia areas. The offences in Cheshire occurred between 1969 and 1971 while he was working as a Housemaster, looking after vulnerable children at Danesford Children's Home in Congleton. His victims in the West Midlands and West Mercia areas were also all young boys who were abused between 1968 and 1995, the majority through local Scout groups where Burrows worked as a leader. In each case, he befriended the victims by using his position of trust over them and their personal interests, such as radio communications or boating. After gaining their trust, and in many cases the trust of their families, Burrows then went on to sexually abuse the boys. While some of his victims attempted to speak out at the time, many simply did not feel that they would be believed. It was not until the 1990s, following revelations in relation to offences at other children's homes and institutions, that many of the victims had the confidence to come forward.

Following the allegations in relation to the offences at Danesford Children's Home, a large-scale investigation was launched by detectives from Cheshire Police in 1994. Burrows was initially arrested in April 1997 and was subsequently charged in May 1997 with two counts of buggery and 11 counts of indecent assault in relation to the offences in Cheshire and some in the West Midlands. After his initial appearance in magistrates' courts, he was released on bail by the court and was due to attend a further hearing at Chester Crown Court on Monday 8 December 1997. However, Burrows failed to attend, and officers subsequently discovered that he had disappeared.

Over the past 27 years detectives from Cheshire Police have been carrying out multiple enquiries to locate him. This included several wanted appeals and four Crimewatch appeals on national television as well as following up numerous leads, none of which indicated Burrows had left the country. The investigation also included enquiries with various agencies and institutions within the UK as well as border and international checks, however there was no trace of him either within or outside of the UK. Burrows remained on the Cheshire Police wanted list throughout the 27-year period and his case was regularly reviewed.

Despite the officers' best efforts, there was no trace until April 2023 when detectives from the force's Serious and Organised Crime Unit used specialist software to search for any possible images of Burrows online. After searching through billions of images, the system came back with a match for a man using the name of Peter Smith who was living in Chalong in Phuket, Thailand. 'Peter' had an active interest in sailing and had previously been working at an advertising company in Phuket. He had even featured in the local news in 2019 when he retired from his job.



Following further enquiries, officers discovered that Burrows had stolen the name Peter Smith from an acquaintance who was terminally ill. This allowed him to fraudulently obtain a 'genuine' passport in 1997 and so leave the country without detection. After confirming that 'Peter' was in fact Burrows, officers contacted the National Crime Agency (NCA) and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and began the process to extradite him to the UK. Before that process was formally commenced, officers became aware of Burrows' intention to return to the UK travelling under the alias of Peter Smith. The NCA informed Thai authorities and monitored his travel back to the UK. He was arrested as soon as he landed at Heathrow. Following his arrest, Burrows was subsequently charged in relation to further offences in Cheshire, the West Midlands and West Mercia which had been reported since his disappearance.



A number of victims had come forward at different times to different police forces over the years as a result of media and Crimewatch appeals and because they felt the time was right for them to tell their story. Some victims also came forward on seeing that Burrows had been arrested.

### **Matching facial features between 'Peter Smith' and Richard Burrows**

Following the sentencing, DI Eleanor Atkinson, who had led the investigation, said: *"Firstly, I want to recognise the bravery and courage shown by all the victims in this case. Without their testimony, support and patience, we would not have been able to reach this point. Burrows is a coward, he knew he was guilty in 1997, but rather than face the consequences of his actions, he fled the country after fraudulently obtaining a passport using the identity of an unwell man."*

*"He spent the last 27 years, in his own words, 'living in paradise'. It is clear that he did not spare a thought for his victims, who were trying to live their lives under the shadow of the abuse they had suffered. It is my belief that Burrows hoped, on his return to the UK after so many years, that his offending might have been forgotten about. However, his victims could not forget what he did to them, Cheshire Police did not forget what he had done."*

*"The sentence handed to Burrows today will likely see Burrows spend the rest of his life in prison and I hope that this outcome finally provides the victims with some closure. "I also hope that this case acts as a warning to any other wanted suspects out there – we will find you and you will be held accountable for your actions."*

*"Following the sentencing of Burrows, I would encourage anyone who has been a victim of sexual offences to come forward, no matter how long ago the abuse took place. There is support available and you will be believed and listened to."*

Duncan Burrage, NCA International Liaison Officer, said: *"British paedophiles have gone to Thailand thinking it is a safe haven. It is not. This case is another example of our international officers working closely with Thai law enforcement to track down fugitives, making sure they return to the UK to face the consequences of the crimes. Richard Burrows spent decades on the run and went to great lengths change his identity and live in Thailand, but he has finally faced justice in the UK. I hope this has provided some closure to the individuals he targeted with such serious abuse."*

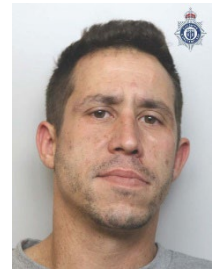
DI Atkinson added: *“Cheshire Constabulary takes any allegation of sexual offences extremely seriously, no matter how long ago they relate to, as this case shows. Any allegation will be thoroughly investigated, with the wishes and needs of the victim as our main priority. Victims should never feel ashamed 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 for life.”*

Sexual offences can be reported to Cheshire Constabulary via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report-or-by-calling-101>.

### **Man sentenced for sexually assaulting woman at Creamfields**

A man has been sentenced after he sexually assaulted a woman at Creamfields music festival in Daresbury.

Gergel Ludanyi, of Adelaide Road, Southampton, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 25 April, where he was sentenced to eight years in prison. The 35-year-old was earlier found guilty of sexual assault by penetration, and two counts of sexual assault by touching.



During the trial, the court heard how the victim had attended the Creamfields music festival with a group of friends in August 2022. Whilst there, and in the early hours of the morning, the victim was approached by Ludanyi, who had been working on the fairground at the festival. Ludanyi tried to kiss the victim, but she pushed him away. She then started to feel unwell and lay down on the floor before losing consciousness. When the victim regained consciousness, the sun had risen and Ludanyi was on top of her. She tried to push him off of her before again losing consciousness.

During this time, a witness reported seeing Ludanyi move the victim's clothing as he sexually assaulted her - all while the victim laid there unconscious. It's unknown how much time had passed when the victim woke up to Ludanyi lying on top of her. She pushed him off her for the third time before the witness approached and helped her to her feet. The women then reported the incident to security and Cheshire Police. Subsequently, Ludanyi was arrested and later charged in relation to the incident.

Following the sentencing, DC Sophia Haywood said: *“Firstly, I would like to recognise the bravery the victim has shown throughout this investigation and subsequent court proceedings. Secondly, I want to recognise the strength and compassion of the witness, who didn't know the victim, and didn't just ignore what she saw. Nobody should have to experience what the victim has been through, and I hope that the sentence handed to Ludanyi will provide the victim with some closure and help her recover from what she has been through.”*

*“Ludanyi chose to take advantage of a woman while she could not consent, and then he put her through an extremely traumatic trial, where she had to relive the impact of this crime. However, thanks to the officers involved in this complex case, along with the victim's courage and tenacity, Ludanyi will now have to face the consequences of his actions behind bars.”*

To report any sexual offence, call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or [visit the website](#). In an emergency always call 999. Information can also be given anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

### **Over 400 taxis checked under licencing operation across Chester**

Chester Local Policing Unit are continuing their ongoing efforts to ensure taxis are operating lawfully in the area.

Operation Recordings, carried out by Chester Beat Management Team and the Special Constabulary, was established in a bid to ensure taxis were safe, correctly licenced, and compliant with their regulations. With support from the Local Authority Licensing Team, over 400 taxis have been stopped and checked since the operation was launched in an attempt to engage with drivers and increase visibility alongside partners in tackling unregistered and unsafe taxis operating in the area. Over the past weekend (Friday 25 April – Sunday 27 April), officers conducted inspections on a number of locally licenced taxis as well as taxis licenced in other council areas. Whilst this is not illegal for taxis in licenced in other areas to operate in Chester, it makes it much harder for drivers and vehicles to be safety checked by local authorities to ensure that they are suitable to transport the public.

Officers were deployed to a number of hotspots for taxis registered both in and outside of Chester. Drivers were engaged with while officers conducted a number of safety checks, including making sure all vehicle lights were fully operational, drivers were in possession of their IDs and, where appropriate, CCTV cameras were in operation. As a result of the policing activity over the weekend, four taxis were issued with warning notices for faulty brake lights and incorrectly displayed number plates.

Inspector James Wilson said: *"Operation Recordings was launched by the of the Chester Beat Management Team along with local partners including taxi licencing officers for Cheshire West and Chester, Wolverhampton, Wrexham, Sefton and Flintshire, in order to combat unlicensed passenger vehicles. The aim of the operation is to provide reassurance to those using taxis in Chester, that they are safe to use and road worthy with enforcement action being taken where appropriate. It was really reassuring to see that so many of the taxis that operate in our area were compliant with the appropriate legislation. Our officers will continue to support the legitimate taxi drivers in Chester and ensure those enjoying a day out here can return home safely."*

### **Man charged following proactive stop in Northwich**

Officers have charged a man with multiple offences following a proactive stop in Northwich.

Simon Jones was arrested on Monday 28 April after officers stopped a man who was riding an off-road bike in the Danefield Road area. The 35-year-old has since been charged with possession with intent to supply Class A drugs, being concerned in the supply of class A drugs and driving without insurance. Jones of Danefield Road, Northwich, has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 29 April.

## **Cannabis farm discovered in commercial unit in Chester**

Officers in Chester have seized hundreds of plants, believed to be cannabis, from a commercial unit.

On Saturday 26 April, officers from Chester Beat Management Team attended a commercial unit in Hartford Way, Chester, following reports of suspicious activity. They discovered a suspected cannabis farm and a total of 299 plants were seized, along with a large amount of associated equipment. No arrests have been made and enquiries are currently ongoing.



Insp James Wilson said: *"We removed almost 300 plants from this location, believed to be cannabis, as well as growing equipment. This has disrupted a significant operation and prevented suspected drugs from being supplied on our streets. We hope this reassures the public that we do listen, and we do act on information reported to us."*

There are a number of signs that could indicate that a property or building is being used as a cannabis farm, including:

- A strong and sickly-sweet smell.
- Equipment to grow cannabis being taken into a property, such as lighting and ventilation equipment.
- Constantly covered or blocked-off windows – cannabis farms often have constantly closed curtains, black-out blinds or foil coverings.
- People coming and going at all hours or neighbours you never see.
- Strong and constant lighting day and night.
- High levels of heat and condensation – cannabis farms often give off heat and the windows stay misted up.
- A constant buzz of ventilation – listen out for a whirring sound as the growers try to create an ideal climate for cannabis plants to grow.
- Lots of power cables – offenders often dig underground to lay cables that hook up to things like lamp posts so they do not have to pay for the enormous amounts of electricity they use.

To report a suspected cannabis farm or any other type of drug-related offence, call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, give the details online via the website or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. If you have any information in relation to this suspected cannabis farm, contact Cheshire Police quoting 25000341761.

## **Man found guilty of sexually assaulting a child in Ellesmere Port**

A 45-year-old man has been found guilty of sexually assaulting a child.

Giedrius Arcisauskas from Downing Close in Ellesmere Port appeared at Chester Crown Court on 22 April for a four-day trial. He was found guilty on 25 April of sexual assault of a girl under 13, sexual assault of a girl under 13 by penetration, and three counts of making an indecent image/pseudo image of a child. He was remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on 12 June.

The court heard how on 27 February a mother and daughter attended his address for a party. At one point Arcisauskas was upstairs in a bedroom with three children when two left the room

leaving him alone with the victim, who was four at the time. The mother heard a scream and went to the aid of her daughter who told her what had happened. She found Arcisaukas in the bedroom and slapped him before leaving. It was reported to police and Arcisaukas was arrested. His mobile phone was seized and officers subsequently found six indecent images of children. He was arrested again regarding the images found on his phone.

DS Paul Harrison said: *"Firstly I'd like to thank the family for their bravery in coming forward and their support of the investigation in order to prevent this man harming any more children. The family thought they were in a safe environment but Arcisaukas effected the ultimate betrayal by sexually assaulting their daughter. The devious nature of his offending and the impact on the family when they discovered this perverted act has left them angry and fearful of this happening again to their little girl. Their trust in people has sadly gone and it has been extremely difficult for them to navigate the aftermath of the assault. Now that he has been found guilty, I hope this will help them as they try to overcome their ordeal."*

### **Man jailed for Northwich burglary series**

A man has been jailed for more than four years after he pleaded guilty to a series of burglaries across Northwich.

Jonathan Maddock appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 29 April where he was sentenced to 54-months in prison. The 43-year-old of Dean Street, Northwich, had earlier pleaded guilty to *three* counts of burglary and one count of possession of a weapon in a private place.



The court heard how between Wednesday 1 January and Friday 3 January 2025, Maddock went on a rampage across Northwich, breaking into three separate addresses. These included homes on Spencer Street, Brook Lane, and Dean Street. At the time of his offending, two of the addresses were occupied, with the residents asleep in bed. His downfall came on Friday 3 January when a resident on Brook Lane returned home following a nightshift and noticed that their lights were on and there was a pushbike in the front garden. Realising that something wasn't right, she called her son who attended the address. Upon approaching the rear of the address, the victim's son banged on the window and noticed a man inside with his face covered. The pair went inside the address and confronted Maddock, who attempted to flee the scene. Thankfully, the pair were able to detain him until he was arrested a short time later when police arrived at the scene.

Following his arrest a large, curved sword was recovered from his home on Dean Street. During questioning, Maddock denied any involvement in the initial burglaries and claimed that he had been invited to attend the address on Brook Lane. Despite his initial denial, he later pleaded guilty thanks to the overwhelming evidence against him and the bravery of his victims in providing statements.

Following the sentencing, PC Ed Whalley of Northwich Proactive CID said: *"Maddock is a prolific offender, and I welcome the fact that he is now back behind bars. While he entered a guilty plea, it is clear that he had no regard for his victims, and he has shown no remorse for his actions. During his sentencing he refused to listen to the victim impact statements, instead placing his fingers in his ears, and then left the dock before he had been handed his sentence. Thankfully, as a result of the information provided by the victims and the evidence we gathered, he is now facing the consequences of his actions. I would like to extend my thanks to the victims in this case and recognise the bravery of one of them in detaining Maddock until police could arrive. I hope his sentencing gives some closure to his victims and the local community."*



### **Weekend policing operation in Macclesfield focussed on taxi safety**

Macclesfield Local Policing Unit joined forces with Cheshire East Council in an operation designed keep people safe.

The operation, which was conducted on Friday 25 April and Saturday 26 April revolved around officers conducting inspections of both locally licenced taxis and those licenced in other council areas that operated in Macclesfield and Poynton. Over the two nights, officers were deployed to Poynton and Macclesfield Train Stations and taxis ranks, a main hub for taxis registered both in and outside of the two areas.

While at the ranks, officers from both the LPU and Cheshire East Council engaged with the drivers and conducted a number of safety checks, including making sure all vehicle lights were fully operational, drivers were in possession of their IDs and, where appropriate, CCTV cameras were in operation. They also checked they had road tax and insurance, the driving licence of the driver, whether the taxi is registered correctly, and whether they have the valid permits to operate.

Officers from Macclesfield Beat Management worked alongside officers from the Roads and Crime Unit in Macclesfield Town Centre on Friday and Saturday night conducting inspections of both locally licenced taxis and those licenced in other council areas that operate in Cheshire East.

Over the course of both nights, more than 60 taxis were stopped in Macclesfield and Poynton. Twenty-five of them were issued with Traffic Offence Reports for a variety of offences including having tyres below the legal tread depth, driving without due care and attention, using the Pedestrianised Zone as a cut through, misuse of hazard lights, failing to maintain obligatory lights, a driver not wearing a seatbelt and rear registration mark light not lit during darkness. Four taxis have been reported to the Local Authority for licensing offences including failing to display taxi plates correctly.

Insp Nick Rogers said: *"It's important for the safety of those using private hire vehicles that the cars or minibuses are roadworthy, adhering to licensing regulations and driving safely. The aim of this operation is to provide reassurance to those using taxis in the Macclesfield and surrounding areas, that they are safe to use and roadworthy with enforcement action being taken where appropriate. It was really reassuring to see that so many of the taxis that operate in our towns were compliant with the appropriate legislation, with the few found to be in breach being swiftly dealt with. Our officers will continue to support the legitimate taxi drivers in and around Macclesfield with this operation. In fact, we expect we will use this tactic in other Cheshire East areas now that we have seen its benefits in keeping people safe."*

### **Man charged with drug offences in Crewe**

A man has been charged following an investigation into the supply of illegal drugs in Crewe.

Christopher Snape, of Alexandra Place, Crewe, was arrested on Wednesday 23 April by officers from the Crewe Proactive Team. The 38-year-old has since been charged with possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin), and two counts of possession of an offensive weapon. Snape has been bailed to appear at Chester Crown Court on Friday 23 May.

## Man jailed for dealing drugs while dressed as a delivery driver in Warrington

A man who disguised himself as a delivery driver while he dealt drugs in Warrington has been jailed.



Jordan Highcock appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 25 April where he was sentenced to a total of two years and four months. The 26-year-old of Bracknell Avenue, Kirkby, had previously pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs. The case against Highcock began following reports to police that an unknown man had been spotted suspected of dealing drugs whilst riding an electronic bike and dressed as a delivery driver for a popular online food delivery service.

On Thursday 13 February, officers on patrol stopped Highcock who was matching this description on Winwick Road. He had been travelling on his e-bike and was wearing an orange 'Just Eat' jacket and bag. Upon arrest, Highcock told officers he had drugs on his person and a knife in his bag. Following a search, a quantity of heroin and crack cocaine were found wrapped in a bag in his pocket. Highcock was subsequently charged with the offences.

A Cheshire Police spokesperson said: *"Highcock is facing a considerable custodial sentence for his role in bringing illegal drugs to the streets of Warrington. He tried to divert attention by disguising himself as a delivery driver, but he was no match for our eagle-eyed officers. The dangers of drugs are well-known and our fight against these illegal substances is never over. We will continue to crack down on those who bring drugs into our communities and hold those responsible to account."*

## Officers continue tackling anti-social and dangerous riding across Cheshire's northern area

Officers from Warrington Local Policing Unit visited various hotspots for anti-social off-road bike riding as part of a high-visibility day of action, engaging with members of local communities.

On Sunday 27 April 2025, Warrington Local Policing Unit (LPU), in conjunction with Cheshire Police's Motorcycle Unit, continued their work in relation to Operation Hardhit in conducting high visibility patrols in the Burtonwood, Winwick, Croft, Latchford, Birchwood and Lymm areas of Warrington in response to recent reports of off-road vehicles in an anti-social manner by a minority of individuals.



Reports received by Cheshire Police in recent weeks have highlighted that numerous groups have used off-road vehicles in a dangerous and anti-social manner primarily in the outer areas of Warrington. Reports received have noted damage to public spaces, damage to private property and riders putting pedestrians and other road users at risk of harm through dangerous driving. Officers patrolled key locations such as Houghton Green Pool in Winwick and Lymm Dam. They were joined by Councillor Stuart Mann of the Burtonwood and Winwick Parish, who was pleased to see a considerable number of members of the public engaging with officers, who suitably reassured them that they were committed to tackling the issue head-on.

PC Matthew Salmon, of the Northern Problem-Solving Team, said: *"This day of community engagement is a direct response to concerns raised by residents regarding speeding and other anti-social driving offences across the wider Warrington area, demonstrating that we will always listen*

*to members of the community regarding any concerns that they have, particularly when it regards a subject as important as road safety."*

*"Cheshire Police appreciates that the vast majority of motorbike riders are law-abiding, safe and courteous towards other road users, however, a small sub-section of riders primarily using uninsured off-road motorbikes believe their enjoyment is more important than the safety and rights of others. This will not be tolerated and we will continue our efforts to proactively target these individuals. As the weather improves and the days begin to grow longer, officers will continue to carry out high-visibility patrols in hotspot areas at key times across the northern area and will continue to target those causing a nuisance in their communities."*

Over the past month, officers working under Operations HardHit and Scrambler have been working hard in tackling the issue of anti-social and dangerous riding across the northern area, with a number of positive results, including:



- A mixture of four electric and off-road bikes were seized during a warrant related to drug supply, with three people arrested in connection with the investigation.
- A 16-year-old boy received a 12-month driving ban in relation to the dangerous driving of an electric motorbike in March on Poplars Avenue.
- An e-bike seized on Poplars Avenue
- An operation in Widnes on 11 April 2025 saw officers issuing several Traffic Reports to anti-social drivers and riders as well as seized nine vehicles, including a number of motorbikes, illegally adapted pedal bikes (one of which was recorded driving at a top speed of approx. 45mph) and e-scooters.
- A 37-year-old man was also arrested for driving whilst disqualified and being in possession of a bladed article during the same operation.



Recently, on Friday 25 April, Warrington LPU Response officers in Stockton Heath, with the assistance of an intervening member of the public, arrested an 18-year-old man from Warrington who was seen driving an electric motorbike wearing a balaclava. He was arrested on suspicion of driving whilst disqualified and driving without insurance. An 18-year-old man was spotted riding an e-bike and was arrested on suspicion of driving whilst disqualified and driving without insurance

Anyone with information regarding the anti-social riding of e-bikes, motorbikes or quad bikes should contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or [give the details via the website](#). Alternatively, information can be reported to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 [or via the Crimestoppers website](#).

### **Two charged with supplying class A drugs in Crewe**

Detectives investigating the supply of illegal drugs in Crewe have charged two people.

On Wednesday 23 April, detectives from the Crewe Proactive Team conducted a warrant at an address in Stoke. A number of items were recovered from the property and three men were arrested on suspicion of drugs offences. Following questioning, two of the men have been charged while the other has been released on conditional bail.

Omet Fazily, 25, of Barrett Drive, Stoke, has been charged with being concerned in the supply of crack cocaine, being concerned in the supply of heroin, three counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (crack cocaine, heroin, cocaine), and possession of criminal property. Hanif Walizada, 19, of Barrett Drive, Stoke, has been charged with being concerned in the supply of crack cocaine, being concerned in the supply of heroin, and three counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine, crack cocaine, and heroin). Omet Fazily was remanded in custody and Hanif Walizada was bailed with conditions. The pair are next due to appear at Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court on Friday 23 May.

### **Drug dealer jailed for supply offences in Northwich**

A drug dealer has been jailed for more than two years for the supply of class A, B and C drugs in Northwich.

Kirsty Watson, of Old Chapel Street, Stockport, was sentenced to 28 months after appearing at Chester Crown Court on Friday 25 April. The 22-year-old had previously pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply cocaine, cannabis and nitrous oxide.



Just after 11.20pm on 27 November 2023, officers stopped a blue Ford Fiesta on Manchester Road, Northwich. The officer smelt cannabis coming from the vehicle and the driver – Watson – handed over a small amount of cannabis. When she was asked to leave the vehicle, she resisted, telling officers they couldn't search her vehicle. The officers asked her why she was resisting, to which she replied, 'because I sell weed'. A large sandwich bag of cannabis was located, as well as 12 cannisters of nitrous oxide and a snapbag of cocaine. The cannabis was worth between £830 and £970, the cocaine was valued at between £400 and £700 and the nitrous oxide at £50. Watson's mobile phone was also seized which showed evidence of drugs supply in the Northwich area.

PC Ed Whalley said: *"Illegal drugs have a hugely detrimental impact, not just on users but also the wider public. Watson targeted Northwich, putting these substances onto the streets and causing harm to our communities. Now Watson has been given a custodial sentence for her involvement in supplying drugs, but our fight against illegal drugs is never over. Anyone with any information about drug-related activity in their community is asked to contact Cheshire Police via our website or 101."*

### **Chief constable speaks out after ten officers assaulted in 48 hours**

The Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary Mark Roberts has spoken out after ten police officers and PCSOs were assaulted in just 48 hours.

Between Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 April, ten police officers and PCSOs were assaulted in various locations while responding to incidents across the County. These included incidents where officers were punched, pushed, kicked in the face and even bitten. Thankfully, none of the officers involved sustained any serious injuries. However, the outcome could have been far worse, and the force will be pursuing charges against all those involved.

Cheshire Constabulary Chief Constable Mark Roberts, said: *"While the nature of policing inevitably requires officers to deal with violent and challenging situations, that does not mean that our officers*

*can be used as punchbags. Nobody should have to come to work and expect that they will be verbally or physically assaulted. Sadly, over the last weekend alone we've seen ten police officers and PCSOs assaulted while simply trying to do their job, and unfortunately this figure is not unusual.*

*"Assaults can often lead to officers having to take time off work, which not only has a detrimental effect on the resourcing of incidents, but it can also increase pressures on other officers too, due to the additional responsibilities they have to take on to ensure that we meet the needs of the public. I want to send a clear message that we're committed to doing all we can to keep Cheshire safe, however, assaults on our officers are not acceptable and will not be tolerated."*

Assaulting a police officer is a criminal offence that is punishable by up to two years in prison.

### **Two men jailed for car and key burglaries in north Cheshire and Formby**

Two men have been jailed after admitting to the burglaries in Warrington, Formby and Runcorn.

James Farrell, 27, from Lynsted Road, Liverpool pleaded guilty to three counts of burglary and theft and Michael Miller, 33, from St Ambrose Road, Widnes pleaded guilty to two counts of burglary and theft, and two counts of burglary other than a dwelling. The charges relate to five car and key burglaries - three in Warrington, one in Runcorn and one in Formby over a 12-day period in June 2024. The men appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on 24 April to be sentenced. Farrell was sentenced to 12 months and Miller was sentenced to three years and two months.



James Farrell



Michael Miller

Between 6 and 10 June 2024 they got into a house in Picton Avenue, Runcorn stealing a handbag and keys to a Mercedes A220D. Between 9 June and 11 June 2024 they entered a house in Graburn Road, Formby stealing keys to a Ford C-Max. Between 13 June and 16 June 2024 they entered a house in Elm Drive, Penketh stealing a key to a utility area, and between 13 June and 16 June 2024 they stole keys and an Audi S5 and a Mini Countryman from a house in Coronation Drive, Penketh. Then between 19 June and 22 June 2024 they stole a handbag, purse, a body bag and purse, keys, and an Audi A3 S-Line.

DS Alex Reeves said: *"We understand the impact burglary has on people and that's why we make every effort to find those responsible. It's not just about the value of the things that have been stolen - some no longer feel safe in their own homes often fearing it will happen again. We do offer advice and reassurance to victims as well as doing our utmost to find the people responsible for stealing from them. We hope this latest conviction reassures not only the victims in this case, but other residents of our dedication to getting justice for them."*



## Chester man jailed for abusing his partner

A man from Chester has been jailed for ten months after harassing and physically abusing his former partner.



Shaun Yardley, 36, of NFA but of Chester, appeared at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Thursday 17 April where he was jailed for ten months (44 weeks) after he plead guilty to two counts of common assault, assault by beating, the breach of a Restraining Order and obstructing an officer in execution of their duty.

It was heard in court that Yardley had initially been issued with a Restraining Order against his ex-partner by magistrates in October 2024, and this remains in place until October 2027. However, after being released from prison following a breach of this order on Monday 7 April 2025, Yardley immediately began contacting the victim via Snapchat and sending her links to music videos he knew she had an emotional connection to in the hopes of striking up a conversation. Yardley then obtained the victim's phone number and began calling her and sending multiple text messages. Three days later, Wednesday 10 April, Yardley and the victim would go to Blackpool together for a short break. On the second day of the trip, Yardley began shouting at her out of the blue and attempted to take her phone from her. He went on to threaten to hit her with a vodka bottle and her own shoe, before spitting a chewed ice lolly in her face. Upon returning to Cheshire, Yardley attempted to get into the victim's address with her, but she did not want this to happen and chose to go to a family member's house instead.

Between 10 April and 16 April, Yardley made 228 calls and sent 137 text messages to the victim, one of which involved him angrily calling her to tell her that he could see that she was out with a friend and to go home immediately. Despite her telling him to leave her alone and that his constant contact was causing her upset, the barrage of calls and texts continued. Having finally had enough of Yardley's actions, the victim contacted Cheshire Police and provided investigating officers with various message screenshots, voice notes and recordings of him turning up at her address uninvited. This evidence, paired with the victim's bravery in disclosing what had happened to her, helped officers build a case against Yardley.

After the incident was reported, the search began to locate him Yardley. Upon being approached by officers, he fled on foot and actively evaded police - with additional resources being deployed to locate him. Upon being located, Yardley would actively resist officers' attempts to arrest him, putting up a fight for well over two minutes before being detained. Despite denying the offences, officers were successful in charging Yardley, who would eventually plead guilty to all the offences facing him in court.

A Cheshire Police spokesperson from the Western Area Investigation Team, said: *"I welcome this sentenced handed down to Shaun Yardley by the court and I do hope that, now, the victim can begin to get her life back on course without his malign influence over her, weighing her down. With that in mind, I would like to thank the victim in this case for her bravery throughout the entire investigation and subsequent court hearing - her testimonies disclosed to our investigating officers and willingness to come forward were vital in helping us establish a case against Yardley and bringing his reign of terror to a conclusion."*

*"I would also like to thank the officers from the multiple departments within the Constabulary, including the Response, Area Investigation, Beat, Armed Response, Dogs and Drone teams, for their*

*sterling work in working together to locate and arrest Yardley when he attempted to chose to flea and not face the reality of his crimes.”*

## **Latest Cheshire Appeals**

### **Appeal for information following fatal collision in Winsford**

Police in Winsford are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a fatal collision.

At around 3.55pm on Thursday 1 May, officers responded to reports of a road traffic collision on Swanlow Lane, Winsford. The collision involved a grey Citroen Berlingo van and a black Harley Davidson motorcycle. Colleagues from the North West Ambulance Service (NWS) also attended, but despite the best efforts of all involved, the rider of the motorcycle, a 52-year-old man from Hartford, sadly died at the scene. The driver of the van, a 41-year-old man from Sandbach, sustained no injuries. As officers work to establish the full circumstances surrounding the incident, they would now like to appeal to anyone who has any information, dashcam or video footage to come forward.

Sgt Andrew Dennison, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit, said: *“Our officers are doing all they can to fully establish the circumstances surrounding this very sad incident and our thoughts remain with the family of the motorcyclist at what will be a very difficult time for them. The collision will have occurred at a busy time of day on a road that many use to travel to and from Winsford; so, we are certain that there will be a number of witnesses who saw it occur or captured it on dashcam. Anyone with any information in relation to the incident is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website or on 101, quoting IML-2080820.”*

### **Appeal for witnesses and footage following disturbance in Runcorn**

Police are appealing for witnesses and footage following a disturbance in Runcorn.

Shortly before 4.50pm on Thursday 1 May, police were called to reports of a disturbance at a transit site in Warrington Road, Runcorn. During the incident, three white vans drove onto the site and a disturbance broke out before the suspects re-entered the vans and made off from the scene. One man suffered minor injuries. Lancashire Police later located one of the vans used during the incident in Blackpool. Four people – two men and two women - have since been arrested on suspicion of violent disorder by Lancashire Police.

DS Ceri Davies said: *“We are now appealing for anyone who may have witnessed the incident or saw anything suspicious around the time of the incident to get in touch with us. The same goes for anyone who has any footage, including dashcam footage of anything suspicious, which may be relevant to the investigation. You can contact Cheshire Police on 101 or by visiting [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) and quoting IML-2080868. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.”*

### **CCTV image released following incident in Lymm**

Police investigating an incident in which a staff member was racially abused at a takeaway in Lymm have released an image of a man they would like to speak to.



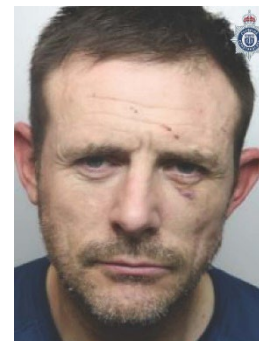
At around 7.45pm on Monday 21 April, Warrington officers received reports of an incident at the KFC restaurant at Lymm Services. The caller reported that an unknown man entered the premises, purchased food and then sat down to eat it. A short time later, the same man returned to the restaurant and a staff member asked him if he was okay or needed any assistance. At this point the man became angry, claiming the food he had received was not what he had ordered. When the staff member showed the man that his food matched his order, he became angrier still and hurled racial abuse at the staff worker, before throwing the bag of food at him and leaving. As part of their enquiries into the incident, investigating officers have released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to.

Tom Johnson, of Warrington's Northern Area Investigation Team, said: *"No one should go to work and expect to have abuse hurled at them when they are simply trying to do their job. As part of our enquiries into this incident, we are looking to speak to the individual pictured as we believe he may hold vital information that may help our investigation, so I would urge anyone who recognises him to get in touch. I would also urge the man pictured to please contact us."*

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website or on 101, quoting IML-2032488.

### **Police appeal for help in locating man wanted for theft in Congleton**

Police are appealing for help in locating a man wanted for theft at a Co-Op on Manchester Road in Congleton.



Paul McCue, 43, is described as being six foot tall, medium build, with brown hair and blue eyes. McCue has links Stoke-on-Trent and Congleton.

PC James Rowley said: *"I'd urge anyone who sees McCue or knows of his whereabouts to contact us. I'd also appeal directly to McCue to hand himself in. We are making numerous enquiries to locate McCue and will continue doing so as part of our ongoing commitment to investigating retail crime and keeping shop staff and customers safe."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting 25000290777.

### **Appeal for witnesses and footage following fatal collision in Middlewich**

UPDATE 30/4/25: Officers are continuing to appeal for witnesses and footage following a fatal collision in Middlewich.

Shortly before 2.15pm on Monday 28 April, police were called to reports of a collision in Booth Lane, Moston, Middlewich, near to the junction with Tetton Lane. The collision involved a black Fiesta ST and a pedal cyclist. The cyclist, an 11-year-old boy from Middlewich, suffered serious injuries. He was sadly pronounced dead at the scene. Two 19-year-old men from Stoke-on-Trent

were arrested in relation to the incident. The driver of the Fiesta was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving. The passenger was arrested on suspicion of aiding/abetting dangerous driving. They have since been released on bail.

As officers work to establish the full circumstances, they would now like to appeal for any witnesses who may have seen a Black Seat Leon and a Black Ford Fiesta travelling in close proximity on the A533 from Sandbach in the direction of Middlewich between 2pm and 2.15pm on Monday 28 April. As part of enquiries, officers would urge anyone who may also have any CCTV or dashcam footage of these vehicles to get in touch with them. Anyone with any information can contact Cheshire Police via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), or call 101, quoting IML-2078504.

### **Police appeal for information following disorder in Winsford**

Police have arrested two men following a fight in Bradbury Road, Winsford.

Officers were called to the Wharton estate at 5.44pm on Tuesday 29 April following reports of a number of people fighting in the street. Officers attended and arrested two men, both aged 30, on suspicion of section 18 assault. Three people were injured, one seriously.

Insp Paul Heatley said: *"Obviously the disorder caused alarm among residents who witnessed this. Enquiries have established that this was an isolated incident and that those involved were known to each other. We have stepped up patrols in the area to provide reassurance and would ask anyone with concerns that you speak with an officer. I'd also urge anyone who witnessed the disorder but has not yet spoken to police to get in touch to help us with our enquiries. And if anyone has any dash cam or ring door bell footage please also get in touch."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](http://www.cheshire.police.uk) quoting IML 2079385. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### **Appeal for information and CCTV footage following Northwich car theft**

Officers are urging residents to check their CCTV and video doorbell footage after a car was stolen in Hartford.

At around 4.30am on Saturday 26 April a black Audi Q7 was stolen from outside an address on Woods Road on the Waters Reach estate. Enquiries in relation to incident are ongoing and officers are urging anyone with any information to come forward.

PC Dan Lee, of Northwich Proactive CID said: *"Our investigation is in the early stages and we're doing all we can to identify the people responsible. As part of our ongoing enquiries we're urging residents in the local area to review their CCTV and video doorbell footage between 2am and 4.30am to see if they have any footage which may aid our investigation. We'd also like to hear from anyone who was travelling through the estate at that time and believes they may have witnessed anything suspicious."*

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), quoting IML2077021.

### **Appeal to locate missing woman from Runcorn**

Police are appealing for information from the public to help find a missing woman from Runcorn.

Halina Riess was last seen at 3pm on Tuesday 29 April 3.00pm today, cycling in Runcorn Town Park. The 60-year-old resides in Halton Brook area and lives with dementia, meaning that she can often become confused. Halina is described as white, of average build with blond hair in a ponytail. She was last seen wearing a pink t-shirt, with black leggings and black trainers. She was last seen riding her retro style turquoise bike. Officers are urging anyone who sees her or has any information regarding her whereabouts to come forward.



Sgt Croft said: *"There are several officers out searching for Halina and we are increasingly concerned for her welfare. Halina has only recently moved to Runcorn, so she doesn't know the area well, so I would ask anyone out in the town to keep an eye out for her. Anyone who thinks that they may have seen her or has any information in relation to her whereabouts is urged to get in touch. I would also ask residents living in the area to check any sheds or outbuildings in case Halina has taken shelter."*

Anyone with information or footage that may help officers find Halina is asked to call Cheshire Constabulary immediately on 101, quoting IML-2079338. Information can also be passed on online at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us).

### **Appeal for information following suspicious incident in Nantwich**

Police are appealing for information and video footage following reports of a suspicious incident in Nantwich.

At around 10.20pm on Monday 28 April a woman was driving along Beam Street in Nantwich. As she was waiting at the traffic lights at the junction of Beam Street and Barony Road, four to five unknown men wearing dark clothing and balaclavas approached her vehicle on e-scooters. No threats were made, but one of the men unsuccessfully attempted to open the victim's car door. The victim drove off from the scene and reported the matter to police. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are urging anyone with any information to come forward.

Sgt Matt Stonier said: *"Clearly this is a concerning incident, and we're committed to doing all we can to establish what took place. Patrols have been stepped up in the area and 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 anything suspicious. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam or CCTV footage which may aid our investigation. I urge anyone with any information, no matter how small, to call us on 101, or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2078822."*

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

Detectives investigating a serious collision in Warrington are appealing for witnesses and video footage.



At 11.40am on Saturday 26 April, police were called to reports of a collision on Knutsford Road, near to Riverside View car sales. Officers attended the scene and found there had been a collision between a 34-year-old man and a red Honda Jazz. Initial reports suggested that the man had been riding a bike at the time of the collision, however it has since been confirmed that he was a pedestrian. The man sustained serious injuries as a result of the collision and was taken to Aintree Hospital where his condition is described as critical. The driver of the car was uninjured and no arrests have been made. Officers are now appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the incident or may have any dashcam or CCTV footage at the location, around this time; to get in touch so they can better understand the circumstances of the moments that led up to the collision occurring.

DS Russ Sime, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit, said: *"Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and I would urge anyone who witnessed what happened or has any other information in relation to the incident to come forward. The same goes for anyone who may have any relevant CCTV, dashcam, or video doorbell footage that may aid our investigation. You can report information to Cheshire Police via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) or call 101, quoting IML - 2077115."*

## **Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)**

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

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