

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 16 November 2025

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Constabulary intensifying efforts regarding the sale of knives during week-long operation

Cheshire Police is running its week-long operation focusing on the sale of illegal blades as part of ongoing work to keep knives off our streets.

As part of the National Police Chief Council's Sceptre operation, a national campaign aiming to reduce the impact of knife crime in our communities, Cheshire Police will be deploying a number of initiatives across the county. For this rollout of Sceptre, which will be running from Monday 17 November to Sunday 23 November, officers will be focusing on educating members of the public relating to the dangers of knife crime and retailers on the correct laws and regulations that prevent blades falling into the wrong hands.

There will be a number of opportunities to safely dispose of any knives, bladed weapons and knuckle dusters into designated surrender points across the seven Local Policing Unit (LPU) areas. Other activities during the operation will include test purchase operations, community knife sweeps, engagement in the community, as well as an increased visible policing presence to provide reassurance.

Supt Cath Jones, Cheshire Constabulary Knife Crime Lead, said: *"There have been several high-profile knife crime-related incidents in the North West in recent memory and it, quite rightly, remains such a pertinent issue within society today. With that in mind, Sceptre, which is an operation the Constabulary has routinely supported twice annually for a number of years, is an excellent opportunity for us to highlight the outstanding level of work that goes in from officers and staff across the force in keeping Cheshire weapons free. It is their efforts that help keep the levels of both knife crime and aggravated street robbery and violent crimes, that often do involve weapons, comparatively low when compared to our fellow forces across England and Wales."*

"In May's Sceptre deployment, 205 blades were surrendered to the force through operational knife sweeps in our town centres and communities, proactive stop-search deployments and knife arches and, most importantly through the efforts of the general public depositing unwanted blades in amnesty bins located across Cheshire. Also, during this deployment of, officers focused their attention on engaging with the county's retailers who play a crucial role in ensuring these potentially dangerous and lethal weapons do not fall into the wrong hands. We will be further intensifying these efforts during this week of action through test purchasing activities at retailers of all sizes across Cheshire, ensuring those who are tasked with the responsibility of selling knives are fully aware of who they can and, more importantly, cannot be selling them to."

“When it comes to issues as serious as knife crime, it is so important that everyone feels that they can come forward to us with any issues, so we can take swift and immediate action. We will also be working with our partner organisations, including local authorities, charities, third-sector organisations, youth representatives and community groups as we continue to keep Cheshire a hostile environment for anyone who chooses to pick up a blade.”

Man handed CBO following shoplifting and vehicle interference

A prolific shoplifter from Crewe has been banned from several stores in the town after officers were successful in securing a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

Graeme McLardy, 43, was handed the two-year CBO, which came into force on Wednesday 12 November, following incidents of shoplifting and vehicle interference. McLardy must comply with the following requirements:

1. Must not enter any premises from which he has been notified he has been barred or excluded.
2. Not to enter the Dunelm store in Forge Street, Crewe.
3. Not to enter the Home Bargains store in Fore Street, Crewe.
4. Not to enter the Morrisons Daily store in Nantwich Road, Crewe.
5. Must not touch any motor vehicle without permission from the owner.

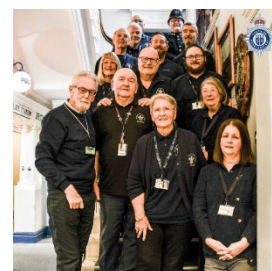


Insp Dan Welch, of Crewe LPU, said: *“CBOs are one of the tools at our disposal to ensure that those who are intent on causing misery to local businesses and communities can be dealt with swiftly should they breach their restrictions. Anyone who witnesses McLardy breaching any of his restrictions should contact police so we can report it. The order remains in place for the next two years.”*

Cheshire’s Museum of Policing receives King’s Award for Voluntary Service

The prestigious King’s Award for Voluntary Service has been presented to Cheshire’s Museum of Policing.

The award, which is issued annually on HRH King Charles’ birthday (November 14) is the equivalent of an MBE for volunteer groups, with the volunteers being recognised for their outstanding work and dedication for running the museum itself.



The Museum of Policing in Cheshire is a volunteer-run initiative committed to preserving the history and heritage of policing in our county and sharing it with the community and beyond. In 2006, a group of retired local police officers presented a proposition to the then Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary: to open a small museum in a cell block that stood empty and disused within Warrington’s Arpley Street Station. The officers were given the go-ahead to give the station, which to this day remains the only Victorian police station within Cheshire that is still in use by officers, its very own museum with the purpose of sharing the history of how policing in our county has progressed since the days of Robert Peel in the 1820s.

Nearly 20 years later, the museum, which is run entirely by volunteers, has grown exponentially, welcomed thousands of visitors from far and wide and now, it has been handed one of the most

prestigious awards for voluntary service. This year, the museum is just one of 231 organisations that have been handed the prestigious award, with the museum's volunteers being extremely humbled to have been given the award and now looking forward to displaying the accompanying emblem wherever possible.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts, QPM. MSc, BA (Hons), said: *"This is a tremendous and well-earned honour for our incredible volunteers at the museum. As well as celebrating the Constabulary's rich history, the team do incredible work engaging our local communities and bringing the public and the force closer together. We are all honoured that the team has been recognised by the King in this way, and I hope it will highlight the museum to even more people and encourage them to visit."*

Chairman of the Trustees, Chris Upham MBE, BEM, added: *"The museum regularly receives accolades from visitors, but this award is specifically for our volunteers, without whom there would be no museum. They are appreciated more than they will ever know, and they are a very happy and committed group of people who I think of as friends. I am so pleased that we have received this extremely prestigious award from The King, and I think it is well deserved. We now look forward to the presentation and to displaying the logo on our promotional material."*

Described as Cheshire Constabulary's 'jewel in the crown', the museum is now a firm part of the force's Community Engagement programme with plans to increase that involvement in the near future. The museum welcomes thousands of visitors from all over the country through its door every year, with new force recruits, retired senior officers, schools and even ghost hunters taking a trip back in time to see how the county was policed in bygone years. A registered charity, the museum is also home to a number of policing artefacts, including vehicles, weapons, and investigative tools used to tackle crime in Cheshire.

Museum Manager, Peter Hampson, said: *"I marvel every day at the work our volunteers put in. They are a great bunch of people, and they make my job as manager very easy. I am so proud of them all and of receiving this award, which acknowledges all our efforts as volunteers."*

Long-time volunteer Olive Brererton, who was recently presented with a Constabulary Achieving Cheshire Excellence Award, added: *"It was a great thrill just to be nominated for this award, let alone get one. It means the world to a great group of people who have become friends over the years, and as well as working in the museum, we have developed an active social life together. So, we are very proud and honoured by this award from His Majesty the King."*

For more information about volunteering at the museum or to arrange a visit, go to their website <https://cheshirepolicemuseum.org.uk> or contact the Museum Manager, Peter Hampson, on 01606 365803.

Two men charged in connection with spate of burglaries

Detectives have charged two people following a spate of burglaries.

Samir Barbulesteanu, 23, and Ion Zaharia, 44, both of Rookery Road, Birmingham, were arrested on Sunday 9 November at Birmingham Airport following an investigation into five burglaries across Warrington, Merseyside, and North Yorkshire. Following questioning, the men were each charged with conspiracy to commit burglary.

The charges relate to reports of three burglaries at addresses on Mill Avenue and Liberty Close, Warrington, a burglary at an address on Warrington Road, Rainhill, and a burglary at an address on Linton Close, Cloughton, North Yorkshire. The incidents took place between Tuesday 28 October and Sunday 9 November. The pair have been remanded in custody and are set to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 9 December.

Operation Crossbow targets wanted criminals across the county

Over 20 criminals wanted for numerous offences have been arrested during a day of intensified police action across Cheshire.

<https://youtu.be/fjpawubY2P8>

On Wednesday, 12 November, officers from several departments across Cheshire Constabulary rolled out Operation Crossbow, a bespoke collaborative effort aiming to disrupt criminal activity across Cheshire and its borders. The operation, which included police colleagues from roads policing, motorcycles, dogs, drones, Special Constabulary, and local policing working alongside each other, was rolled out with the goal of targeting criminals who remained wanted and had yet to be brought into police custody.

Following an 8am briefing from Chief Constable Mark Roberts and DSupt Adam Waller, the over 100 officers assigned to the deployment made their way to key locations across the county from Cheshire Constabulary's headquarters in Winsford. Hotspot locations known for criminality were targeted across the county, helping to disrupt various types of offending and community issues, such as drug-related activity and anti-social behaviour.

A number of proactive policing operations were also conducted, including a high-visibility community operation in Crewe Town centre and a passive drugs dog operation in Chester, with a community resolution being issued and one person being summoned to court. Their work resulted in a number of outstanding criminals being arrested on suspicion of a number of offences. Results included:

- x4 failing to appear in court
- x3 witness intimidation
- x2 section 18 assault
- x2 Section 39 assault
- x2 cultivation of cannabis
- x2 drugs supply
- x2 theft
- x1 fraud
- x1 possession of Class C drugs
- x1 section 47 assault
- x1 drug driving
- x1 stalking
- x1 controlling and coercive behaviour
- x1 harassment



Along with this, officers also issued seven Traffic Offence Reports (TORs) and seized three vehicles. Two warrants were also executed at addresses in Congleton and Runcorn and a Football Banning Order was also enforced.

DSupt Adam Waller, who oversaw the operation, said: *“This day of intensified police action, directly targeting those who have made active attempts to evade law enforcement, highlights Cheshire Constabulary's continued commitment to securing justice for victims and keeping the county a hostile environment for crime. Over the course of the day, more than 100 officers from various specialised departments within our Constabulary covered all of Cheshire and deployed a host of tactics to disrupt criminals working in Cheshire and their efforts have resulted in 24 individuals being brought into custody in relation to a number of different offences. These tactics form a part of our everyday policing within Cheshire, with operations such as Crossbow acting as a real show of strength that sends a clear message to those engaged in criminal activity in our communities that they have nowhere to hide.”*

Man jailed over Rolex watch fraud in Ellesmere Port

A man has been jailed after admitting fraudulently obtaining a Rolex from a seller on Facebook.

Ricky Casey, 28, from Goatswood Lane, Navestock, Essex appeared at Chester Crown Court on 11 November to be sentenced to 20 months in prison after pleading guilty to theft from a person, fraud by false representation and threat to damage or destroy property.



On 17 July the victim arranged for Casey to view the Rolex watch at his address in Ellesmere Port. Casey didn't turn up at the agreed time, so the victim went out.

His doorbell then notified him that there was someone at the door and that it was Casey. He returned home and allowed Casey in to view the watch, agreeing to the price of £4,500.

The victim gave his wife's bank details for Casey to pay the money into and then checked with her that the money had transferred into the account. No money had gone in. Casey showed his phone which appeared to say payment was authorised. The victim insisted he wasn't handing over the watch until payment was confirmed.

Casey became abusive demanding the victim owed him £4,500 and threatened to burn his house down. Casey then told him his wife and child wanted to see the watch and he was running out of time before running out to his car with the watch and locking the door. The victim tried to open the door and banged on the window. Casey then drove off leaving the victim without payment or the watch.

It was reported to police and using Facial Recognition on the doorbell footage of the suspect, they got a hit on Casey. He was circulated as wanted and arrested by the Metropolitan Police. Detectives from Ellesmere Port CID interviewed Casey who replied no comment to all questions and denied any knowledge of the watch. He had pleaded not guilty and was due to face a trial but changed his plea to guilty. The victim's watch was never located.

DC Sarah Lister from Ellesmere Port CID said: *“Casey knew he was never going to pay for this watch and was determined to take it no matter what, so when the victim rightly didn't believe him when*

he showed the fake payment authorisation and his fraudulent attempt was blown, he became abusive and stole the watch from him anyway. What he didn't anticipate was our determination to find him and bring him to justice."

Drug dealer jailed after more than £100,000 worth of drugs seized

A drug dealer has been jailed after more than £100,000 worth of drugs were seized from his address in Widnes.

Jack Sargent, 26, of Grizedale, Widnes, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Thursday 6 November 2025. He was sentenced to 30 months after pleading guilty to possession with intent to supply cocaine, possession with intent to supply cannabis, importation of cannabis, possession of a Class A drug and possession of a Class B drug.



On 29 March 2024, officers from Merseyside Police attended Sargent's address in relation to an unrelated matter and while there, they located a large amount of cocaine and cannabis. Sargent was later arrested and released under investigation while enquiries continued. Officers also received intelligence from a Customs Officer that a parcel had arrived at Stansted Airport from California which was addressed to Sargent and contained 1kg of cannabis.

Officers from Cheshire Police reattended Sargent's address on 30 July 2024 and re-arrested Sargent in relation to the importation of cannabis. More cannabis, cash and mobile phones were seized. The phones showed evidence of drug dealing. The total value of the drugs recovered was between £102,730 and £133,595.

PC Harrison, of Widnes Proactive CID, said: *"I welcome the sentence handed to Sargent and hope he takes his time in prison to consider his life choices. Throughout the investigation Sargent vehemently denied his involvement in the supply of controlled drugs but due to the overwhelming catalogue of evidence the team were able to obtain he was left with no choice but to enter guilty pleas to all offences.*

"Our officers were also able to take an incredibly large amount of drugs off the streets. I would like to reiterate the message that anybody looking to deal drugs in Widnes will be identified and dealt with robustly. Anyone with information regarding drug dealing in Widnes is urged to contact 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously and all information provided will be taken seriously."

Prolific burglar jailed for Northwich crime spree

A prolific burglar from Manchester has been jailed for eight years following a nine-month crime spree across the wider Northwich area.

Gary Clifton appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 11 November where he was jailed for eight years. The sentencing comes after Clifton, of Water Street, Radcliffe, pleaded guilty to 11 counts of burglary, one count of attempted burglary and two counts of theft. The court heard that between Saturday 17 August 2024 and Monday 19



May 2025, the 61-year-old targeted 14 properties across the Cuddington, Davenham and Hartford areas.

Over the course of his nine-month burglary spree, Clifton would often strike late into the night and early mornings, forcing his way into a number of homes and outbuildings, as well as stealing items left in porches such as parcels. Items amongst Clifton's £15,500 haul included sporting equipment such clothing and shoes, e-bikes and e-scooters, alcohol, food and tools. A child's bicycle stolen by Clifton from the driveway of an address in Davenham had been found abandoned at a nearby address he had also struck at.

As part of their enquiries into the incidents, officers obtained various pieces of CCTV footage from the addresses he targeted and identified a Ford Connect van that had been in the vicinity of every premises that had been burgled. This van would be identified as belonging to Gary Clifton.

Clifton's undoing came on 20 May 2025, when this van had been captured on ANPR cameras travelling to the Manchester area. He was arrested by officers from Cheshire Police at his home, with a subsequent search of both the property and his van resulting in them finding a significant amount of the items reported stolen by his victims.

Also found within Clifton's home were a pair of Slazenger trainers. Constabulary Forensics officers would later examine the treads of these shoes and compare them to a prominent footwear imprint that had been found at one of the burglary crime scenes in Hartford, where Clifton was suspected to have struck. This imprint would come back as a match, confirming these shoes had been worn during the burglary at the Hartford address.

Clifton was subsequently taken into custody by officers and was formally interviewed, during which he denied any involvement in the burglaries and attempted break-ins. He would be charged and would go to trial at Chester Crown Court on Monday 10 November 2025. Clifton eventually pleaded guilty to 14 offences in total and was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 11 November.

<https://youtu.be/cxQauDCzYDM>

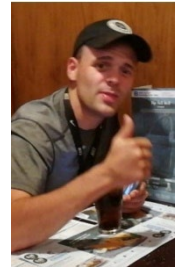
DC Christopher Forrest, who led the investigation into Clifton's offending, said: *"We are taught from a young age that we simply do not take what is not ours, but Gary Clifton, a prolific and opportunistic thief with a slew of previous offences, has clearly not learnt that lesson yet. I hope that following the issuing of his eight-year custodial sentence, he spends the foreseeable future familiarising himself with this core principle, in the hopes he does not reoffend upon his eventual release."*

"This case also highlights the importance of having CCTV in and around your home, as the footage captured from the addresses he struck at during his crime spree were vital in securing this sentencing and achieving justice for his victims."

Tribute issued following fatal collision in Runcorn as police continue to appeal for information

The family of a 30-year-old man who died following a collision in Runcorn have paid tribute to him.

Liam Lingham, from Runcorn, died on Monday 27 October following a collision on Halton Lodge Avenue. Following his tragic death, Liam's family said: *"Taken too soon, a son, uncle, and a dad. There is a hole in our hearts that will never heal. Liam rest in paradise and know we all love and miss you dearly."*



An investigation remains underway and as part of their enquiries, officers are appealing for information in relation to the collision. In particular, officers are keen to identify anyone who was travelling in the area of Halton Lodge Avenue at around 7.35pm on Monday 27 October, and who may have dashcam footage. Any witnesses to the collision who have not already spoken to police, or anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage is asked to contact Cheshire Police [via the website](#) or call 101, quoting IML 2203130.

Two men charged with Macclesfield burglary

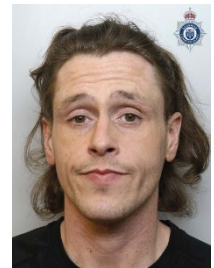
Officers investigating a burglary in Macclesfield have charged two men from Greater Manchester.

The charges relate to a burglary at an address on Lark Hall Crescent in Macclesfield on Friday 7 November in which bags and jewellery were taken. Stewart Edge, 39, from Hyde Road, Manchester appeared at Warrington Magistrates on 10 November charged with burglary with intent to steal. He was remanded in custody and will next appear at Chester Crown Court on 8 December. A second man, Craig Marsden, 54, from Martin Street, Salford was charged with burglary and will appear at Chester Magistrates on 12 November.

Drug dealer jailed for more than five years

A drug dealer from Widnes has been jailed for more than five years following a drugs investigation.

Joseph Cox, who is also known as 'Kenty', appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Wednesday 29 October where he was sentenced to 67 months in prison. The 30-year-old, of Peel House Lane, Widnes, had earlier pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs (cocaine).



On Tuesday 30 September 2025, officers from Widnes Beat Team and Proactive CID executed a warrant at Cox's address after identifying a mobile number attributed to him which was involved in the supply of drugs. During a search of the property, officers discovered drugs packaging, paraphernalia and mobile phones which were linked to the supply of illegal drugs. Analysis of the devices revealed messages from Cox advertising cocaine for sale in the Widnes area. Evidence showed these messages were being sent throughout July, August and September 2025.

Northwich man jailed for assaulting ex-partner

A man from Northwich has been jailed after he was convicted of assaulting his former partner.

Christopher Greenwood appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 10 November where he jailed for three years and nine months. The 32-year-old, formerly of Barnton, was previously found guilty of one count of section 47 assault following a trial at Chester.



The court heard how at 6.30am on Thursday 14 August 2025, police were called to reports of an incident at a residential address in Barnton. On arrival at the scene officers discovered that Greenwood had forced his way into his former partners home and assaulted her. During the attack he kicked the woman in the face several times and stomped on her head, leaving the woman with a fractured eye socket.

Following the sentencing, DC Connor McGregor, of Northwich CID said: *"No one should feel threatened in their own home, and no one should be met with violence in any relationship. In this case, the victim in this case was left absolutely terrified by Greenwoods actions, and I hope that the sentence handed to him will provide her with some closure. I also want to reassure people that those who use violence will face the consequences while victims will be supported and given any help and advice they should need."*

Man jailed following Northwich ram raid

A man who ram raided a convenience store in Northwich and store more than £3,000 has been jailed.

Robin Vaughan appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 11 November, where he was sentenced to three years in prison. The 35-year-old, of Lyon Close, St Helens, had previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to burgle. The court heard how at around 12.40am on Monday 16 June 2025, police were called to reports of an incident at the Tesco Express store on Northwich Road, Weaverham.



<https://youtu.be/VBv6BbrgCrw>

On arrival officers found that unknown offenders had used a silver Nissan Navara to ram raid the store and stolen more than £3,000 cash and a bag of parcels. Shortly after the incident, the vehicle used during the incident was located in a field in Dutton. The stolen parcels were also found in a nearby pond. Following the discovery, officers established that the vehicle was stolen and had been taken from an address in Lancashire in May 2025.

After examining CCTV and ANPR footage, officers discovered that the car had been driven from Merseyside to Weaverham the night before the robbery and had parked on a street near to the Tesco Store. The footage showed that the 4x4 had been driven in convoy with a blue Ford Focus, which had later returned to Merseyside. The same car returned to Weaverham on the night of the incident. Records showed that the Ford Focus was registered to a woman in Southdene, Kirkby.

<https://youtu.be/xNmCuSrKF-Y>

After identifying the owner of the Ford Focus, officers conducted a warrant at an address on Moss lawn Road on Wednesday 8 October leading to the arrest of Vaughan and a 39-year-old woman. During questioning Vaughan answered no comment to the questions put to him by officers. Despite his silence, he was later charged with one count of conspiracy to burgle.

Following the sentencing, PC Dan Lee, of Northwich Proactive CID, said: *"I welcome the prison sentence handed to Vaughan and I hope it acts as warning to others who are thinking of coming to Cheshire to commit crime. This was a carefully orchestrated incident, and Vaughan went to great lengths to plan and co-ordinate the burglary."*

"During the incident, not only did he steal more than £3,000 cash, but he also caused more than £35,000 worth of damage to the store, which led to the store being closed for two days, resulting in the loss of £24,000 trade. Thankfully, as a result of the work of the officers here at Northwich, and the information we received from the public, Vaughan has now been held accountable for his actions."

Teenager sentenced for stabbing another boy in Northwich

A teenager has been sentenced after admitting to wounding another teenaged boy with intent.

Benjamin Porter, of Meadow Grove, Northwich, had earlier pleaded guilty to attempt wounding with intent, possession of a knife and child abduction. The 19-year-old appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 27 October where he was sentenced to three years and 10 months in prison.



The court heard how police were called at around 5.30pm on Saturday 7 December 2024 following reports that a 15-year-old boy had been stabbed in the stomach following an altercation on Woodpecker Drive, Northwich. Following enquiries, officers identified Porter as the suspect, and he was arrested later that day. Whilst on bail for the stabbing, Porter was also arrested for breaching a Child Abduction Warning Notice in connection with an unrelated matter.

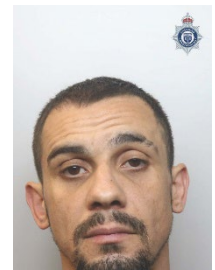
Following the sentencing, DC Connor McGregor said: *"Porter's actions were totally unacceptable, and the sentence handed to him is reflective of his actions that day. Teenagers inflicting serious injuries with dangerous weapons is not something we're used to hearing about in Northwich and this level of violence has shocked the community. Thankfully, while the injury was serious, it was not life threatening and the victim has made a good recovery. I hope the conclusion of this case will reassure the local community, as well as anyone who may have witnessed this traumatic event unfold."*

Prolific thief jailed and banned from parts of Cheshire after going on crime spree

A prolific thief from London has been jailed and banned from entering parts of Cheshire.

Fabio Coelho, 40, from Goodchild Road in Hackney appeared at Crewe Magistrates Court on 4 November to be sentenced after he pleaded guilty to six counts of theft from a motor vehicle, six counts of vehicle interference and one count of fraud. He was jailed for 25 weeks and handed a five-year Criminal Behaviour Order which includes a condition preventing him from entering Wilmslow, Alderley Edge and Handforth.

Coelho's offending took place between Tuesday 19 August 2025 and Monday 1 September 2025. He targeted numerous vehicles across Wilmslow, Alderley Edge and Handforth. Coelho's thefts were indiscriminate with everything from bank cards, sunglasses and power tools to crown green bowling bags and balls, scout badges, Wii Sports games and cash taken from the vehicles. He used one card at a number of shops and service stations in and around the Wythenshawe area until the card was finally refused.



An investigation was initiated by officers from Wilmslow Neighbourhood Policing Team, who collected CCTV of Coelho trying car doors across the towns over the period in question. The CCTV they had sourced through their enquiries was run through Facial Recognition and Coelho was identified as the suspect. Coelho was subsequently arrested and later charged. The evidence amassed against him resulted in Coelho pleading guilty to all offences.

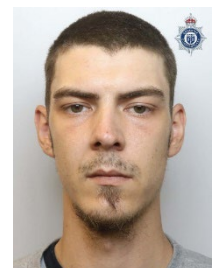
PC Madi Forrest from the Wilmslow Neighbourhood Policing Team said: *"He took anything and everything he could during his crime spree, CCTV recording his crimes as he went. This investigation shows just how vital having CCTV and doorbell cameras are in our determined fight against crime, and that by working alongside residents and businesses, we are a formidable force."*

"Coelho underestimated our determination to identify and bring offenders to justice no matter what the crime. Any crime that impacts on the communities we police is a crime we take seriously, and we will do everything we can to investigate it and put the culprits before the courts. I hope this sends a strong message to other would-be thieves that targeting Cheshire is just not worth the risk."

Winsford man jailed for sexual activity with a child.

A Winsford man who incited a young child to engage in sexual activity has been jailed.

Antony Hill appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 7 November where he was sentenced to nine years in prison. The 27-year-old had earlier been found guilty of two counts of causing a child to engage in sexual activity. Hill, of Bollin Avenue, Winsford, has also been ordered to sign the sex offenders register for life and handed a restraining order to preventing him from contacting the victim.



In July 2024 the victim, a young child, disclosed to their parents that they had been sexually assaulted by Hill. The child described how over a number of months Hill had made them engage in sexual activity and touch him inappropriately, telling the victim that it was their little secret. Following the reports an investigation was launched by detectives from Northwich Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP). Hill was arrested in relation to the incident and when questioned he declined to answer any questions put to him by officers. Despite his silence, he was charged in relation to the allegations and found guilty of all the charges following a three-day trial at Chester Crown Court.

Following the sentencing, DC Emily Mackay, of the Northwich PVP Unit, said: *"Firstly, I would like to commend the victim in this case for the bravery and courage that they have shown throughout this investigation. Nobody should have to experience what they have been through, and I hope that the sentence handed to Hill will provide them and their family with some closure and allow them to move forward with their lives. I also hope it encourages anyone who has been a victim of sexual*

offences to please contact us. We will investigate all reports thoroughly with the needs and wishes of the victim as our main priority.”

Cheshire Constabulary's Serious Organised Crime Unit charge seven men with drug and firearms offences

Cheshire Constabulary's Serious Organised Crime Unit (SOCU) have charged seven men with drug and firearms offences following an operation to target organised crime in Widnes.

The following defendants have been charged:

- Colin Jones, 38, of Parklands, Widnes, has been charged with two counts of conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (cocaine), two counts of conspiracy to supply Class B drugs (cannabis), one count of conspiracy to supply Class B drugs (amphetamine), two counts of possession of criminal property, one count of conspiracy to possess ammunition without a firearms certificate, and two counts of assisting the commission of an offence.
- Kevin Martindale, 40, of Grove Street, Widnes, has been charged with one count of conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (cocaine), one count of conspiracy to supply Class B drugs (cannabis), and two counts of possession of criminal property.
- Leon Phillips, 43, of Liebig Court, Widnes, has been charged with one count of conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (cocaine), one count of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (MDMA), and one count of possession of criminal property.
- Jack Jones, 28, of Melville Close, Widnes, has been charged with one count of conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (cocaine), and one count of conspiracy to supply Class B drugs (cannabis).
- Colin Dolman, 52, of Stewards Avenue, Widnes, has been charged with one count of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine), and one count of being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (cocaine).
- Brandon McCann, 23, of Milton Avenue, Widnes, has been charged with one count of conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (cocaine), and one count of possession of criminal property.
- Kevin Smith, 37, of Hardy Street, Garston, has been charged with one count of conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (cocaine).

The defendants have since been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court today, Monday 10 November. A 35-year-old woman and a 51-year-old man arrested during the warrants have been released under investigation. The charges relate to arrests made on Friday 7 November as part of a number of early morning warrants in Widnes and St Helens in-connection with an investigation into a drugs conspiracy.

Crewe man charged with drugs offences

A man in Crewe has been charged with a number of drugs offences.

Lee James was arrested on Thursday 6 November in the Woodnoth Drive area of Shavington, Crewe. The 39-year-old has since been charged with possession of criminal property, being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (cocaine), being concerned in the supply of class B drugs (cannabis) and possession of a controlled class A drug (cocaine). James, from Crewe, appeared at

Chester Magistrates' Court on Friday 7 November, where he was remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Friday 5 December.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal to trace wanted man from Runcorn

Police are appealing for information from the public to help trace a wanted man from Runcorn.

Krzysztof Olszowski is wanted on warrant after failing to appear at Warrington Magistrates Court for driving offences. The 51-year-old is described as white, around 6' 1" tall, and of proportionate build. He is balding, has with short brown hair and beard and blue eyes. Olszowski was last known to reside in Runcorn, but it is believed that he may have travelled to the Bristol area.



Anyone with any information regarding the whereabouts of Olszowski is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website or by calling 101, quoting reference number 22000858764.

Image released following distraction theft in Crewe

Between 8pm and 8.30pm on Wednesday 15 October, an unknown man entered the William Hill store on Nantwich Road, Crewe.

Whilst in the store, the man asked a member of staff for some water. Whilst the staff member was distracted, the man then stole a quantity of cash from a nearby till and then promptly left the scene. It was reported to police that this same man was believed to have targeted another store in Wrexham earlier that day and had taken approximately £200 in a similar incident. As part of their enquiries into fully establishing the circumstances surrounding the incident, officers have now released an image of a man they believe holds vital information that can aid their investigation.



Inspector Dan Welch said: *"This kind of incident that is often seen in retail settings involves an opportunistic thief deliberately causing a distraction to shop workers or members of the public nearby that results in them making off with items or money that have been left insecure without being seen. This is something we will not stand for, so I would like to ask anyone who has any information in relation to this incident to please contact Cheshire Police via our website or on 101. The same goes to anyone who thinks they recognise the individual pictured, as we believe he has useful information that can aid our enquiries. I would also like to personally ask the man pictured to please get in touch with our officers too."*

Information can be passed to Cheshire Police via the website or on 101, quoting incident reference number 25000900696.

Appeal for witnesses following fatal collision in Sandbach

Officers are appealing for witnesses to come forward following a fatal collision in Sandbach.

At 10.05am on Thursday 13 November, police were called to reports of a collision on Crewe Road, Sandbach. The collision involved two vehicles, a black Lamborghini and a Red Vauxhall Viva. The driver of the Vauxhall, a man in his 80s, suffered serious injuries. He was sadly pronounced deceased by paramedics at the scene. His next of kin have been informed and are being supported by specialist officers at this time. Investigation work is currently underway to establish the exact circumstances. No arrests have been made.

Sgt Russell Sime said: *"We are currently conducting an investigation into the full circumstances of this sad incident and as part of our enquiries, we would like to hear from any witnesses who have not already spoken to police. The same goes for anyone with any relevant dashcam or CCTV footage of what happened. You can report information to Cheshire Police by calling 101 or visiting www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML-2213883. Our thoughts remain with the family and friends of the man who has sadly died."*

Appeal to trace wanted man in Warrington

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

Viorel Zaharia is wanted in connection with a burglary. The 34-year-old is a Romanian national and has links to Burton upon Trent and Bristol. Anyone with any information in relation to his whereabouts should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 quoting IML 2204430 or report it [via the website](#). Alternatively, information regarding his whereabouts can be reported anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

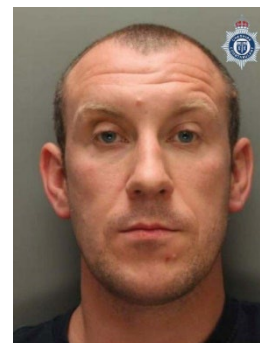


Appeal to trace wanted man in Warrington

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

Nicholas Fowler is wanted in connection with an assault. The 38-year-old is described as white, around 5' 9" tall and of medium build. He has blue eyes and has short brown hair. Fowler has links to Warrington and Liverpool.

Anyone with any information in relation to his whereabouts should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 quoting IML 2182537 or report it [via the website](#). Alternatively, information regarding his whereabouts can be reported anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Appeal for information following series of thefts in Winnington

Detectives are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a series of thefts from motor vehicles in the Northwich.

Sometime between 1am and 3.30am today, Tuesday 11 November, two unknown offenders forced entry into at least seven vehicles in Winnington urban village. These included vehicles parked outside homes on Gibson Close, Bellevue Street, Bishops Way Jubilee Crescent, Dahlia Crescent, and Violet Grove. Several items were stolen, including golf clubs, power tools and cash.

DS John Lyons, of Northwich Proactive CID, said: *"This investigation is in the early stages, and we're committed to doing all that we can to trace the people responsible. From our initial enquiries we believe that thefts were all conducted by two men who were wearing dark clothing, who are likely to have travelled to the area in an unknown vehicle. Therefore, I would ask residents in the area to check their CCTV and doorbell footage to see if they have any video footage which may aid our investigation. We're also keen to hear from anyone who was in the area on last night and believes they may have witnessed anything suspicious."*

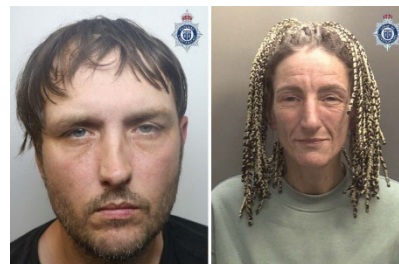
Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML 2212500. Information can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal to locate wanted couple from Chester

Police are appealing to the public to help locate a wanted couple from Chester.

Scott and Kerry Hargreaves are both wanted warrant after failing to attend court. The pair previously resided in the Chester area, but officers believe they could be anywhere in the northwest.

Kerry is described as white, around 5' 7" tall, of slim build, with brown collar length straight hair and blue eyes. Scott is also described as white, around 6' 1" tall, of proportionate build with short brown hair and green eyes.



**Scott
Hargreaves**

**Kerry
Hargreaves**

Anyone with anyone in relation to the whereabouts of the pair is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting occurrence number 25000668643.

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Facebook page: facebook.com/cheshirenwa



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Scan to visit website



To find out further information about the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association, to log into your account or for Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Literature please visit our website: www.cheshirenw.org