

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

## Week ending 16 March 2025

### Cheshire News & Appeals



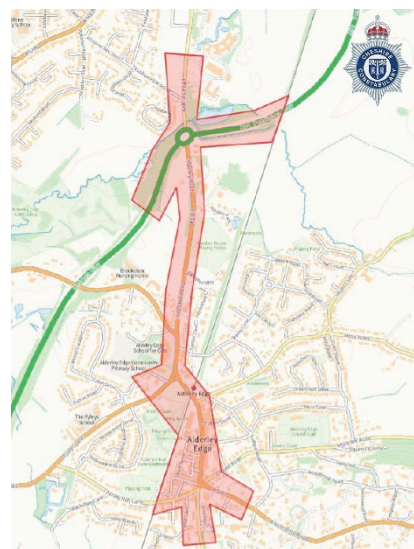
## Latest Cheshire News

### Dispersal order issued following reports of a planned car meet in Alderley Edge

Officers from Cheshire police have issued a dispersal order following intelligence in relation to a possible car meet in Alderley Edge.

Over recent weeks police have been made aware of a number of illegal car meets in the Wilmslow and Alderley Edge areas. The meets can attract hundreds of people, many in high powered motor vehicles driving dangerously causing excessive noise and anti-social behaviour, all of which have caused alarm and distress to local residents.

As part of ongoing efforts to tackle the issue officers have now issued a dispersal order which will be in place from 10am on Saturday 15 March until 10pm on Sunday 16 March. The order has been put in place following multiple reports of offences being committed on the A34 over the last few weeks, as well as several social media messages about a car meet planned in the area this weekend.



Many of the messages suggest that the meet has been authorised by Cheshire Police. These messages are false, and Cheshire Police has not given authorisation to any car meets in the area. Any criminal offences being committed will be dealt with robustly both during and post event

CI Zoe Bowden, head of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *"I understand the frustration and anger that illegal car meets cause, and I hope that this dispersal order will provide reassurance to local residents by demonstrating that we are taking action. This is an ongoing problem in the local area, and I want to reassure residents that we are committed doing all we can to tackle the issue."*

*"We have a zero-tolerance approach to those who break the law, and I want to make it clear that action will be taken against anyone who breaches the dispersal order this weekend. This could include vehicle seizures, penalty notices, notifying insurance companies, or arrest and prosecution where necessary. This order is not aimed at people meeting in their cars peacefully, simply those disrupting local communities and acting in an anti-social manner. Our message is clear – anti-social behaviour and anti-social use of vehicles will not be tolerated."*

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

### Three charged in relation to burglary series

Officers investigating a series of burglaries across Chester, Ellesmere Port and Wirral have charged three men in relation to the offences.

The following three men were arrested on Tuesday 11 March:

Kelvin Franklin, 23, of no fixed abode

Marlon Burrows, 23, of Maud Street, Liverpool

Alexander Emslie, 63, of Birchmuir, Chester

All three have been charged with conspiracy to commit burglary, conspiracy to steal motor vehicles, being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine) and possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine). They appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court on Thursday 13 March where they were remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 10 April. The charges relate to reports of nine burglaries between 17 and 25 February 2025 across Chester, Ellesmere Port and Wirral.

### Man jailed for Widnes Cannabis Farm

A man who admitted running a cannabis farm in Widnes has been jailed.

Pajtim Oruci appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 11 March, where he was sentenced to 18 months in prison. The 32-year-old of Hale Road, Widnes, had earlier pleaded guilty to production of Class B drugs (Cannabis).



The court heard how on Monday 23 December 2024, officers from Widnes Local Policing Unit executed a warrant at an address on Hale Road following reports of suspicious activity in the area. Upon entering the building officers found that the premises had been converted into a professional cannabis farm, with plants growing in the living room, two bedrooms and the loft. While searching the address officers also located Oruci, who was found watering some of the plants in one of the rooms. He was subsequently arrested in relation to the discovery.

In total officers recovered 103 plants from the address, with a potential street value of up to £104,740.



Following the hearing, CI Daniel Haddock said: *"I welcome the sentence handed to Oruci, and I hope that it provides reassurance to the local community. The negative impact that illegal drugs have on our communities are well known and we are committed to doing all that we can to ensure that those responsible are held accountable for their actions and our ongoing battle against those who are involved in the production and supply of illegal drugs continues. I urge anyone with any information about suspected drug*

*related activity in their community to get in touch. You will be listened to, and we will investigate the matter."*

There are a number signs that could indicate that a property 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 us 101, give the details via our website or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

### **Prolific shoplifter handed five-year Criminal Behaviour Order following shoplifting spree across Crewe**

A man from Crewe has been handed a five-year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) after several incidents of shoplifting from multiple retailers across the town.

Nigel Dunn appeared at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 5 March, where he was handed the five-year order following numerous shoplifting incidents across the town. As a result, the Dunn has been banned from entering the Grand Junction Retail Park, the Dorothy Flude Retail Park. He has also been banned from entering the Victoria Centre in the town centre. If he fails to comply with the CBO, Dunn will be committing a criminal offence which may result in recall to prison or fine.



Sgt Jay Burns, of Crewe LPU's Neighbourhood team, said: *"Dunn is a prolific and opportunistic shoplifter who has been targeting the town's local retailers and businesses for a very long time; I hope the issuing of this CBO will deter any further behaviour in the future. Safeguarding our local businesses from retail-related crime and anti-social behaviour is part of our daily business and I hope the granting of this CBO can provide some reassurance to both residents and local retailers that we are doing all we can to deter such incidents."*

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

## **Police clampdown on illegal car meets**

Officers at Macclesfield Local Policing Unit have launched a new operation as part of ongoing efforts crackdown on illegal car meets in the area.

Over recent weeks police have been made aware of illegal car meets in Wilmslow, Macclesfield and Alderley Edge. The meets can attract hundreds of people, many in high powered motor vehicles driving dangerously causing excessive noise and anti-social behaviour, all of which have caused alarm and distress to residents. In addition, many attendees park their vehicles on grass verges, roundabouts, pavements and block highways causing obstructions to enable drag strip style racing to take place. A number of operations have taken place over recent years to tackle the issue, and police have been working closely with the local authority. Following the recent reports, officers have now launched a new operation to crackdown on the issue.

CI Zoe Bowden, head of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *"I understand the frustration and anger that illegal car meets cause. This is an ongoing problem in the local area, and I want to reassure residents that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle the issue. We have a zero-tolerance approach and will take action against those who break the law. This could include vehicle seizures, penalty notices, notifying insurance companies, dispersal notices or arrest and prosecution where necessary. We'll also be actively working with our intelligence team to identify the organisers of such events, who could face the prospect of a criminal record. Our operation is not aimed at people meeting in their cars peacefully, simply those disrupting local communities and acting in an anti-social manner. Our message is clear – anti-social behaviour and anti-social use of vehicles will not be tolerated."*

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

## **Man jailed for drugs supply offences in Crewe**

A man who was found with cocaine and more than £22,000 in cash at his home address has been jailed for drugs supply offences in Crewe.

Christopher Livingstone, from Crewe, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 5 March where he was jailed for three years. The 35-year-old had previously pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs and possession of criminal property.



On 28 June 2024, police conducted a warrant at Livingstone's home address in relation to an investigation into the supply of class A drugs in the Crewe area. A search of the address revealed a drawstring bag containing cocaine, a large number of snap bags, scales and a mobile phone. A large amount of cash to the value of more than £22,500 was located inside the property hidden inside tubs or inside envelopes, including wedged behind a TV and under a brick at the side of the property. Luxury items were also present at the address, including watches and jewellery.

Livingstone was subsequently arrested. Despite the large amount of cash inside his property, Livingstone claimed he was unemployed and said the drugs seized were for personal use. However, analysis of the seized mobile phone attributed to Livingstone showed evidence of messages relating to the supply of cocaine in the area. Livingstone was later charged in relation to the offences.

Following the sentencing DI Robert Balfour said: "I welcome the sentence handed to Livingstone and I hope it reassures the local community that we are committed to tackling offences of this nature. Throughout our investigation it was clear Livingstone was playing a key role in supplying class A drugs in the area and despite him claiming to be unemployed, he was in possession of a large amount of cash and designer items.

"He was left with no choice but to plead guilty to the charges against him and is now facing the consequences of his actions."

### **Two men charged following police stop check in Winsford**

Two men have been charged with drugs offences following a police stop check in the Winsford.

Leonard Hunter and Archie Kettle were both arrested on Monday 10 March after being stopped by plain clothed officers in the Gladstone Street area. During the arrests, a quantity of illegal drugs was recovered along with a mobile phone and a large amount of cash. Hunter, aged 18, of Springfield Avenue, Malpas, and Kettle, aged 19, of Tilstock Lane, Tilstock, have both since been charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine), two counts of being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine), and possession of criminal property. The pair have both been remanded in custody and are due to appear at Chester Magistrates Court on Tuesday 11 March.

### **Men charged following incident in Macclesfield**

Officers have charged two men from Greater Manchester with drugs offences following an incident in Macclesfield.

Mason Cusker, 19, and Ryan Barlow, 21, were arrested on Friday 7 March. Cusker, of Fountain Place, Whitefield, has since been charged with being concerned in the supply of crack cocaine, being concerned in the supply of heroin, possession of a bladed article in a public place. He was also charged for failing to appear in court for an unrelated matter. Barlow, of Goldsmith Avenue, Salford, was charged with being concerned in the supply of crack cocaine, concerned in the supply of heroin and escape from lawful custody. The pair have been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Monday 7 April.

### **Closure order secured for disruptive address in Macclesfield**

Police in Macclesfield have secured a closure order following reports of drug abuse, disorder and crime at a property in the town.

The property on Hobson Street in Macclesfield has been shut down by officers following the securing of a closure order under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 from Crewe Magistrates' Court on Friday 7 March. The order, which came into effect from the 7 March 2025 will run for 3 months and is a direct result of officers responding to the concerns of residents regarding the behaviour at the property including drug use, antisocial behaviour, public order offences, and criminal activity.

Residents in the local area have provided sufficient evidence of the issues coming from the address and are desperate for the easement that a closure order will bring to the local community. It was an example of great communication between officers and the local community that lead to securing the 3-month order.

The occupant has since been ordered to leave the property and find alternative accommodation, with all windows and doors being secured for a period of 3 months. Anyone who enters the address during that time will be committing a criminal offence and could be arrested.

Sgt Matthew Bassirat said: *"We are dedicated to keeping this neighbourhood and its residents safe, so securing this closure with their help is fantastic news and I hope it encourages others to work with us to make their communities safer for everyone. I want to urge anyone with concerns about ASB or other criminality in their community to please contact local officers and we will do everything we can to address these issues and achieve justice."*

Anyone with concerns about anti-social or suspicious behaviour in their area is asked to report it to Cheshire Police via the Cheshire Police website or call 101.

### **Illegal firearms handed over to police following month-long amnesty campaign**

Cheshire Constabulary joined fellow English and Welsh forces and the National Crime Agency in supporting a month-long amnesty operation to prevent blank-firing firearms that can be easily converted to lethal weapons from falling into the hands of criminals.

The four-week amnesty campaign to remove Top-Venting Blank-Firing (TVBF) firearms from Cheshire's streets, and prevent their use in criminal circles, ran from Monday 3 February to Friday 28 February. In their original and legal state, TVBFs have a fully blocked barrel designed to discharge only blank cartridges. However, recent testing from the National Crime Agency has found that TVBF brands Retay, Ekol, Ceonic and Blow can easily be converted with household tools into lethal weapons and have been responsible for at least four homicides across the UK in recent years. Even in cases where the weapons have not been converted, they have been used in relation to crime, with many of the weapons that have fallen into the hands of criminals having had their typically bright-coloured exteriors painted black to imitate real firearms. Following the conclusion of the amnesty, the aforementioned weapons are now illegal to possess in England and Wales. Anyone found to have any of the TVBFs could face a sentence of up to 10 years in prison.

In Cheshire gun-related crime remains low, however, throughout the amnesty, several of these now-illegal firearms were handed into police, including:

x4 Retay handguns handed in at Crewe police station  
x1 Retay handgun handed in at Wilmslow police station  
x1 Retay handgun handed over to officers at Blaenau police station



Since being handed over, these weapons have been made safe by specialist officers within the Constabulary and will be destroyed, permanently preventing them from falling into the wrong hands.

Supt Gareth Wrigley, who led Cheshire's amnesty operation said: *"Our officers work around the clock, 365 days a year to disarm and destroy the criminal groups active across our region who feel the need to carry a weapon. We are very lucky that, as a county as a whole, Cheshire has some of the lowest rates of gun-related crime in the country, and now that these weapons have been handed over to officers, we have taken further steps to make our streets even safer. On a local level, your neighbourhood officers will be continually working with our partner agencies and organisations across the county in providing education surrounding the dangers, rules and regulations of firearms to ensure that gun crime remains low and does not become a prevalent problem for the people of Cheshire in the future."*

## Latest Cheshire Appeals

### **Appeal for information after cyclist found collapsed in Pott Shrigley**

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following after a cyclist was found collapsed in Pott Shrigley.

At around 12.20pm on Thursday 6 March police were called to reports of an incident on Bakestonedale Road, Pott Shrigley. Officers attended the scene and on arrival a cyclist was found collapsed in the street with serious facial injuries. The cyclist, a 59-year-old man from Bollington, was taken to hospital and has since been discharged. At the time of the collision, he was wearing a white cycle helmet, with a red top and riding a blue & green road bike.

PC Steve Johnston, of the Roads and Crime Unit, said: *"Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and we're committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place. As part of our investigation, we're keen to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and believed they may have witnessed what took place. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage or anyone who thinks they may have seen the cyclist in the moments prior to the collision."*

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2041463.

### **Police in Chester release CCTV image following business burglary**

Police have released CCTV images of a man they like to speak to in connection with a burglary in Chester.

At around 3.55am on 2 March a man forced his way into Mortons Dairies in Saughall Road, Chester and stole food including bacon, butter, cheese and other items.

PC Clare Rimmer said: *"I'd urge anyone who recognises the man to contact us so that we can progress with our enquiries.*

*I'd also urge anyone who was in the area at the time and may have dashcam footage that may help to contact us."*



Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML2039163. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### **Appeal for information following serious collision near Middlewich**

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a serious collision on the A54 near Middlewich.

At around 2.40pm Wednesday 12 March, police were called to reports of a collision on Holmes Chapel Road in Sproston. Officers attended the scene and found there had been a collision between a HGV and a Ford Transit van. The driver of the van, a 39-year-old man from Ashton in Makerfield, sustained serious injuries and was taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital. His injuries are not believed to be life changing. The driver of the HGV, a 49-year-old man from Great Yarmouth, was uninjured. No arrests have been made at this time and enquiries remain ongoing into the circumstances surrounding the collision.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, or anyone with any video footage which may aid the investigation is asked to contact Cheshire police on 101, or at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2045993.

### **Police appeal for witnesses and information following park robbery in Ellesmere Port**

At around 5.20pm on Wednesday 5 March, a 16-year-old boy was riding bike with a friend at the Valley Pump bike track in Ellesmere Port.

The boy was then approached by an unknown man in a balaclava who asked him if his bike was for sale and offered him £500 in cash. The boy declined, and the man entered his phone number into

his phone in case he changed his mind and wanted to sell it. Later, the boy was reproached by the same man, who had been seen with three other men dressed similarly in balaclavas, and asked if he could test ride the bike. Again, the boy declined, to which the man pushed him and grabbed his coat, threatening him to get off the bike. Not wishing to escalate the incident further, the boy did so and the man rode away on the bike followed by the three others who were also on bikes.

However, the boy had attached an AirTag device to the bike, which subsequently allowed officers to track it to an address in the King Street area of the town. Upon attending the address officers found three men, two of whom were 18 and one 22, along with the stolen bike. Further to this, upon looking at the phone of one of the men, officers confirmed that his phone number was the same as the one that had been given to the victim earlier that day.

All three were subsequently arrested on suspicion of robbery and have since been released on conditional bail. Officers are now looking to identify the fourth man who was seen at the bike track at the time of the incident so they can fully establish the circumstances surrounding the incident and are appealing to anyone who may have any information, CCTV footage or witnessed the incident to come forward.

DS Timothy Cope, of CID Reactive West, said: *"I understand the concern this is likely to cause, especially amongst parents, and I would like to reassure residents that we are doing all we can to find the outstanding individual who was involved in this incident. We would like to ask the public, especially those who frequent the Valley Pump bike track and may have seen the incident occur, to please get in touch with any information they might have."*

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 IML-2041046. Information can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or at <http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/>.

### **Appeal for information following serious collision on the M56.**

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a serious collision on the M56 in Cheshire.

At around 3pm on Wednesday 12 March, police were called to reports of a collision on the M56 eastbound carriageway between junctions 16 and 15, near Dunkirk. Officers attended and found there had been a collision involving a motorbike that had collided with a ladder which is believed to have fallen off the back of a white Citroen Dispatch van. The rider of the bike, an 80-year-old man from Ecclestone, sustained serious injuries and was taken to Aintree Hospital where he is receiving treatment. The driver of the van, a 28-year-old man from Warrington, stopped at the scene and was spoken to by officers. No arrests have been made at this time; however, enquiries remain ongoing into the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, or anyone with any video footage which may aid the investigation is asked to contact Cheshire police on 101, or at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2046010.

### **Appeal for information following collision in Broxton**

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

At around 3.45am today, Tuesday 11 March, police were called to reports of a collision at Broxton roundabout. Officers attended the scene and found that a grey Volkswagen T-Cross, which was travelling towards Whitchurch, had collided with a tree. The driver of the car, a man, was trapped in the vehicle before being released by firefighters. He was passed to the care of paramedics and taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital; his injuries are not believed to be life threatening. The road was closed while officers dealt with the collision, it reported at approximately 8am.

Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and as part of the investigation officers are keen to hear from anyone who witnessed the incident. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage which may aid the investigation. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2044937.

### **Appeal for information following a collision involving a cyclist in Ellesmere Port**

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a collision between a car and a pedal cyclist in Ellesmere Port.

At around 8.30am on Monday 10 March, police were called to reports of a collision on Overpool Road, near to Moston Way, in Ellesmere Port. Officers attended the scene and found that the incident involved a silver car and a pedal bike. The rider of the bike, a 12-year-old boy, was taken to the Countess of Chester Hospital as a precautionary measure, thankfully he did not sustain any injuries.

Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and as part of the investigation officers are keen to hear from anyone who witnessed the incident. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam footage which may aid the investigation. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101 or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2044204.

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

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Scan to visit [website](https://www.cheshirenw.org)

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