

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 5 January 2025

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Man jailed after £1.5 million worth of class A drugs found in his car

A 55-year-old man has been jailed for five-years after officers discovered a large quantity of cocaine in his car during a stop check.

Peter Wiggins appeared at Stafford Crown Court on Thursday 2 January, where he was sentenced to five years and five months imprisonment. His sentence comes after he pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine) and possession of an offensive weapon. The court heard that on Tuesday 26 November 2024 Wiggins' Vauxhall Astra was pulled over by Cheshire Police officers near Stafford Services on the M6.



<https://youtu.be/7zir9akl6w8>

Wiggins exited his vehicle and was detained by officers, who informed him that his vehicle was to be searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act. When asked if officers might find anything of interest in his vehicle, Wiggins told them there was a box in his boot. Upon opening the boot, a large box containing 15 individually wrapped kilogram blocks of cocaine was found. As a result of the discovery, Wiggins was arrested at the scene on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class A drugs and was taken into custody.

After being taken into custody, officers conducted a warrant at Wiggins' address on Wordsworth Crescent, Blacon. Here, they seized over £500 in cash, two bags and a tub filled with white powder and a knuckle duster, for which Wiggins was later further arrested under suspicion of possession of an offensive weapon. Following forensic examination of the substances found at the property and his car, it was estimated that Wiggins had been in possession of a sizable quantity of cocaine with a potential street value of up to £1,500,000 (£1.5m). During his interview, Wiggins provided no comment to all questions posed to him, failing to account for how the 15 individually wrapped packages containing class A drugs came to be in the boot of his car. Wiggins was later charged with possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine) and possession of an offensive weapon and, due to the overwhelming amount of evidence against him, he was left with no choice but to plead guilty to the charges that faced him.

DS Roy Wellings, of CID Proactive West, said: *"Disrupting the supply of illegal drugs in and out of Cheshire remains a top priority for the Constabulary, day in, day out and anyone who is brazen enough to think that they can get in or out of our county undetected, is sadly mistaken and underestimates our abilities. Peter Wiggins travelled to an address in the West Midlands, where he remained for upwards of two hours, before returning to Cheshire with a boot full of cocaine*

wrapped up in kilogram blocks. Despite quite clearly being caught out, he still refused to admit any accountability until the very last minute, when he had no other choice. We take this kind of criminality very seriously here in Cheshire, so let this result be a warning to anyone who thinks they can get away with drug dealing in our county without any repercussions."

Man charged with drug offences following Widnes pursuit

Police in Widnes have charged a man from St Helens with drug offences following a pursuit from Widnes and into Merseyside.

David Sherwood, of Brookside View, St Helens, was arrested at around 12.26pm on Saturday 28 December near Hammersley Avenue, Merseyside, on suspicion of dangerous driving. The 38-year-old was later further arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class B drugs (cannabis). Sherwood has since been charged with both offences and was remanded in custody. He is set to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court today, Monday 30 December.

Appeals

Residents advised to remain vigilant following reports of suspicious activity and shed burglaries in Warrington

Officers in Warrington are advising residents to remain vigilant and ensure their outbuildings are properly secured following several incidents across the town.

During the early hours of this morning, Tuesday 31 December, officers in Latchford responded to four reports of suspicious incidents involving thefts from sheds and outbuildings. Police were first called at around 5am to an address on Griffiths Street - the caller reported that they had witnessed an unknown man entering their garden shed. The man quickly made off when he was approached by the owner.

Shortly after, at around 5.50am, officers received a second report that an unknown man had entered a garden on Kingsway South and was acting suspiciously. The man was again approached by the occupants and made off from the address. At 6.30am, officers were called to an address on Reynolds Street, following reports that a man was acting suspiciously and looking into people's gardens. The unknown man was reportedly dressed in dark coloured clothing and had his face covered. Officers swiftly attended the address and arrested a 26-year-old man from the Salford area on suspicion of theft. He remains in police custody at this time and is assisting officers with their enquiries.

Officers were also called at 8.10am, following a report that tools had been stolen overnight from a garage at an address on Henshall Avenue. Enquiries into the incidents are currently ongoing, and officers are urging anyone with information about these incidents to come forward. Officers are also urging residents to take action to reduce their chances of becoming victims.

Sgt Neil Mooney said: *"Enquiries in relation to these incidents are ongoing and I urge anyone with any information, CCTV, or Ring doorbell footage which may assist our investigation to get in touch. Residents can also help us and themselves by making it as difficult as possible for criminals to enter their outbuildings. We'd recommend keeping any valuables you may have in your home or in a secure garage, shed or outbuilding with good security measures such as lighting, ground anchors, and have CCTV covering any blind spots."*

Cheshire Constabulary's tips for deterring thieves and burglars from targeting your outbuildings include:

- Never leave a garage, shed or other outbuilding unlocked and easy prey for opportunist thieves.
- Fit strong padlocks to outbuilding doors and make sure that the doors are solid enough not to be kicked in.
- Good external security lighting can put off or draw attention to a thief/burglar – the most appropriate form is high efficiency low energy lighting controlled by a dusk-to-dawn switch so that it only comes on when it is dark.
- Strong fencing or gates will make it difficult for intruders to get onto your land.
- Solid fences or walls, particularly those with a flat or rounded top, are relatively easy for a thief/burglar to climb over – fixing trellising to the top can make it more difficult.
- Check for weak spots where a thief/burglar could get onto your land, such as a low or sagging fence or a back gate with a weak lock.
- A thorny hedge along the boundary of your property can put thieves and burglars off, as can gravel areas due to the noise of walking on them.

If you have information relating to the recent suspicious activity in Latchford or any other information you think may be relevant, please contact Cheshire Police on 101 or [via the website](#) quoting IML 1995737. You can also give information anonymously via Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555 111.

CCTV images released following reports of burglary in Chester

Officers investigating reports of a burglary in Chester have released CCTV images of a man they would like to speak to in relation to the incident.

On Tuesday 17 December, police received reports of a burglary which had occurred the previous evening at an office block off Queens Road, near to Chester Train Station. The incident occurred at around 7.35pm on Monday 16 December. During the incident, an unknown suspect had forced entry to the office building and stolen a quantity of cash and an Xbox before leaving the scene. Officers have now released CCTV images of a man they would like to speak to in relation to the incident as they believe he may hold vital information.



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PC James Wright of Chester Proactive Team said:
"We would like to appeal to anyone who recognises the man pictured in the CCTV image to get in touch with us. The same goes for anyone with any information in relation to the incident. We would also urge the man pictured to contact us."

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

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