

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 9th June 2019

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Warrington PCSO awarded BEM in Queen's birthday honours

A Warrington PCSO has been given an award in the Queen's birthday honours.

Tony Spruce, 48, from Widnes, has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) after his "exceptional commitment" to the Latchford community over the past 12 years. Tony has been the driving force behind a number of successful community initiatives including the Victoria Park Experience (VPX), the Westy Boxing Club, St Werburgh's community hub and Warrington's Got Talent. In 2017 the boxing club won an award at the Street Games National Conference, a charity which promotes sport in disadvantaged communities, for 'Outstanding work in the Community' and Tony has been awarded 'PCSO of the Year' in the Constabulary's annual awards.

He said: "When we [PCSOs] first started people were very sceptical about the role but now it is very rare that you get negative comments about it and this award is testament to that. It is mad to think how many good PCSOs there are and I've got this. I'm just very lucky that I have a job that I love to do and there is always something different. The first day we went into Westy I was told that they didn't like police. The only time people waved at us was with two fingers. But now we are chased down the street with people wanting to speak to us, or get a high five. It is really good. I love working in the area."

Tony, who spends his spare time volunteering at Widnes Vikings, said that none of the initiatives he helped set up would have been possible without the help of others. He added: "We try to make sure that everything we do is varied because not everyone likes sport. I will try everything once. I'm very lucky because my inspectors always back me. It is team work a lot of it. Nothing can be done without the support we get. VPX is run by Livewire, Warrington Wolves Foundation and Warrington Town FC and we had great support from the Fire Service when it started off. I'm very lucky with the partners we have because we all want the same thing. VPX Warrington has a lot of people who want to work on it and the people who were kids who came to it and now help us run it."

Tony will pick up his award at a Royal Investiture in the near future.

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, said: "PCSO Tony Spruce embodies the true ethos of the role of a police community support officer; he is truly dedicated to making the community he serves a safer and happier place to live. He knows the value of community and is passionate about reducing anti-social behaviour which saw him develop the Victoria Park Experience as a diversion activity 12 years ago. His hard work and dedication to develop this event has seen the event grow into one of the biggest annual events in Cheshire. He truly deserves this recognition which is testament to his devotion to his career over so many years."

Chief Constable Darren Martland said: “Tony’s hard work over the past 12 years has made a huge impact on the Latchford community and he has been an example to all our PCSOs and policing colleagues. He is truly passionate about the important work that PCSOs do in our communities and is great at knocking heads together to set up fantastic community events.”

Inspector Neil Drum, from Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: “Tony has shown exceptional commitment to improve the quality of life for young people, frequently going above and beyond. He exemplifies everything that we want in a PCSO, a problem solver, visible and known within the community and demonstrates excellent partnership working being able to negotiate, influence and secure support for a range of activities he works on - not least VPX which goes from strength to strength and has made a positive impact on the community.”

Retired police inspector awarded MBE Date published: 8th June 2019 10.08am

A retired Police Inspector has been given an MBE for his services to community policing.

Mark Watson, 56, from Sandbach, joined Cheshire Constabulary in 1982 and retired at the rank of Inspector as Head of Equality, Diversity and Human Rights in 2012. Since then he has continued to work voluntarily for the force supporting work relating to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller issues. He also works part time as the coordinator of Cheshire Crimebeat, a charity which awards grants to young people for crime prevention and citizenship projects. He said: “I couldn’t believe it when I opened the letter. The envelope looked like it was a tax letter from HMRC. Never for a minute did I believe anything like this could happen and I’m delighted.”

As well as working in Cheshire with the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) community Mark has been involved in national bodies to promote equality. He is a member of the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Working Group and also a trustee of the Traveller Movement charity. He said: “We do have much more of an understanding of the community than when I started working with them in the early 2000s but it is a group of people which remain very much at arm’s length for most people. When I first started there were a couple of jobs which showed how far we needed to go – one was the eviction of an encampment in Middlewich which went wrong and the other was the murder of Johnny Delaney [a 15-year-old Irish Traveller who was beaten to death in Ellesmere Port in 2003]. We didn’t know anything about the community Johnny came from and it was a real learning curve because we, as a police force, serve everyone. And to do that you need to understand all communities.”

In 2011 Mark was part of a group from the Traveller Movement who tried to enter a Wetherspoon’s pub in London but were refused entry. After almost four years, the charity won a landmark court case against the pub company which said that they had racially discriminated against Travellers. Mark added: “We had been at a conference and a few people had decided to go for a drink at the end of the day but none of us were allowed in. They decided that we were all Travellers so we couldn’t come in. This kind of thing happens to people all the time unfortunately. I was in uniform and there was a human rights lawyer and a Catholic priest with us. Not the most rowdy group! The charity took Wetherspoon’s to court and won.”

Mark will receive his award at a Royal Investiture in the near future.

Gareth Wilson, Lead for the National Police Chief’s Council Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Committee, said: “Mark has worked tirelessly to support both the national committee and individual Force’s by providing advice and guidance relating to the Traveller community, his recognition in the Queen’s Birthday Honours is

well deserved. The committee would like to add their congratulations and appreciation for all that he continues to do.”

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, said: “This is a fantastic achievement and one that is well deserved for Mark who has dedicated so many years of his life to serving the people of Cheshire and making it a safer place to live. His passion for community safety and his commitment to diversity has seen him carry-out some incredible work to tackle discrimination on a national level. He has continued this work well into his retirement and is now ensuring the younger generation play a significant role in preventing crime through his work with Cheshire Crimebeat.”

Chief Constable Darren Martland said: “The Constabulary is committed to policing our diverse communities in a fair and appropriate way. Mark has done a brilliant job of improving the force’s relationships with a number of groups but particularly the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller population. His passion and commitment to equality and diversity has seen him volunteer his time for a number of years after his retirement. This award is well deserved.”

Wrexham man who stole from church goes in Chester jailed for 20 months

A Wrexham man who stole from people while they attended church in Chester has been sentenced to 20 months.

Macey Zielinski, aged 39, of Vernon Street in Wrexham pleaded guilty to three counts of burglary, two counts of theft and one count of fraud. He was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 6 June. Over a two week period Zielinski committed six offences including stealing a purse from Wesley Methodist Church and Chester Cathedral, around £100 from St John’s Church and two burglaries at Chester University.



On 7 March a woman was volunteering at Wesley Methodist Church when she noticed her purse was missing from her handbag after she placed it under a chair. After retracing her steps and unable to find it she visited her bank to discover Zielinski had attempted to withdraw several transactions from her card.

In another theft, Zielinski stole a purse belonging to an 87-year-old woman who had visited Chester Cathedral to attend a service. While inside the Cathedral’s café Zielinski is believed to have stolen her purse and made around eight transactions in various places. The court heard how Zielinski entered St John’s Church, went into a private room and opened up a cabinet where he stole £100 from a float inside. Zielinski had earlier visited the church where he received support for him and his family after he didn’t have a place to stay. On separate occasions Zielinski stole purses from two women while they worked at Chester University. He also made off from a hotel without paying the bill after him and his family stayed there for three nights. Zielinski was arrested on the 8 May and remanded into custody.

Police Constable Melissa Sawojka, Chester City Centre Beat Manager, said: “Zielinski not only deliberately targeted those who attend church but broke into a place of worship to steal money even after they had financially supported him and his family. His mind was on stealing from those who give so much to those

who need help in our local community. I'm pleased Zielinski has owned up to his crimes and will now be punished for committing them."

Inspector Emma Parry, of Chester Local Policing Unit, said: "The officers who worked on this case were determined to find Zielinski. They worked very hard to ensure his arrest and gather evidence which meant he had no choice but to admit to his crimes. Unfortunately thieves will always try their best to strike and we have to ensure we do all we can to prevent them. I want to take this opportunity to remind the public that they can help by always keeping their belongings safe, either close by and in sight or locked securely away."

Anyone who has been a victim of these types of crime are encouraged to report it to Cheshire Police on 101.

Temporary extension of stop and search powers granted to police in Crewe

Officers in Crewe have been given more powers to stop and search anyone they suspect of carrying a weapon.

It follows concerns raised by the community in the wake of a small number of knife-related incidents and serious assaults in the Nantwich Road area of the town. The powers have been granted temporarily under Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (1994). The powers will be in place from 7pm on Friday 7 June to 4am on Saturday 8 June and then subsequently from 7pm on Saturday 8 June to 4am on Sunday 9 June. They allow officers to stop and search any person or vehicle looking for weapons, whether or not they have any grounds of suspicion. Officers from Crewe Local Policing Unit, supported by specialist task force officers and the special Constabulary, will be in the Nantwich Road area using those powers to deter people from carrying weapons and to identify those carrying them. British Transport Police will also be supporting the operation as the powers granted extend to the railway station.

Chief Inspector of Crewe Local Policing Unit Simon Newell said: "Knife crime is a not just an issue local to Crewe but a national issue which is very topical at the moment. Please be reassured that the police are taking these incidents very seriously and these extended powers of search demonstrate that we are being proactive in our response to detect and deter people from carrying weapons. Only last month, a male received a nine year custodial sentence for stabbing incident on Nantwich Road, so the consequences of carrying and using a knife are very severe. I would encourage the public to contact the police via 101 or Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 with any information about anyone carrying a weapon so that we can take positive action to target that individual."

In addition PCSOs will also be engaging with residents and businesses to highlight what the Constabulary is doing to tackle knife crime in their area.

Residents urged to be vigilant following suspicious incident in Knutsford

Officers are urging residents to be vigilant after a teenage girl was asked to get into a car in Knutsford.

At approximately 6.15pm on Thursday 6 June the 14-year-old was walking along Bexton Lane towards Knutsford when a dark green car, with two men inside, pulled up in front of her and blocked her path. One of the men asked the girl for directions to a fast food restaurant. He then asked her to get into the car. The teenager ignored the men and fled on foot. The men then drove off towards Knutsford. They were both

white and are estimated to be aged between 55 and 60. The driver of the car had a slim build, stubble on his face and crooked yellow teeth and was wearing a cap. The passenger had a large build.

Inspector Catherine Mitchell, of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: "At this stage it appears to be an isolated incident. Enquiries are ongoing to establish the full circumstances of what happened. I would like to reassure the public that at no point was there any physical contact between the men, who remained in the car throughout, and the girl. Understandably, the incident is likely to cause concern in the local community and we have increased patrols in the area to provide reassurance. If anyone has any concerns they should speak to an officer. I also want to urge people to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity."

Anyone with any information which may assist the ongoing investigation is asked to contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 421387, give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Cheshire specials give 680 hours to help keep Cheshire safe

As part of National Specials Weekend, Cheshire Special Constabulary gave 680 hours of their spare time to help keep communities in Cheshire safe.

The national celebration weekend took place on Friday 31 May to Sunday 2 June and saw a number of Cheshire Constabulary's specials take to the streets to support officers and tackle local community issues. 85 specials took part in policing duties, assisted in 18 arrests, issued 18 Traffic Offence Reports and were involved in five operations.

The weekend also saw Deputy Chief Constable Julie Cooke support the Special Constabulary with their duties in Chester. DCC Cooke said: "As part of National Specials Weekend I went along to Chester LPU where a number of officers were targeting speeding vehicles as part of the ongoing campaign to tackling motorists committing one of the Fatal 5 offences - careless driving, speeding, drink/drug driving, using a mobile phone while driving and not wearing a seatbelt. It was great to see such an excellent turnout from the Special Constabulary, some of whom were young in service but very eager to learn. It was great to see them working alongside officers and PCSOs, being a visible presence in the community. The feedback they received was excellent.'

Cheshire has a number of Special Constables who dedicate their free time to keeping the communities of Cheshire safe. Special Constables are volunteer police officers with the same powers in law as every other police officer.

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, said: "The dedication shown by our special constables and volunteers is outstanding, and the fact that they give up their spare time, and balance their work and home lives to go out there and help us police our communities is something we should all be proud of. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work."

Citizens in Policing lead, Chief Inspector Louise Cherrington, said: "We have a fantastic Special Constabulary full of dedicated, determined and selfless individuals, and the weekend's activity shows just how much value they bring to local policing. I have no doubt in my mind the positive impact they brought to our local communities throughout the weekend, and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who gave up their spare time to get involved with the weekend."

To apply to become a Special Constable with Cheshire Police visit the jobs page on the force website.
<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/jobs/special-constables/>

Police volunteers in Cheshire celebrated at event

An event has been held to celebrate the volunteers who give up their free time to help keep Cheshire safe.

Police and crime commissioner David Keane and chief constable Darren Martland welcomed police volunteers to a special event held at Cheshire Constabulary headquarters in Winsford yesterday evening (Wednesday 5 June).

The event, which coincides with Volunteers' Week, is an opportunity for the commissioner and chief constable to say 'thank you' to the many volunteers who have supported

Cheshire Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) over the past year.



PCC David Keane said: "I am immensely proud of the work our volunteers carry out and it is important we recognise the amazing contribution they selflessly make every day. From assessing the effectiveness of key policing functions like custody suites, 999 calls and help desks to supporting frontline police officers as part of the special constabulary or police cadets, all volunteers play an important role in helping us keep Cheshire safe. It was fantastic to meet so many inspiring individuals at the event and hear their motivational stories about the volunteering work they have been involved in."

Chief constable Darren Martland added: "All our volunteers are highly valued and play a key role in helping to ensure we can provide the best possible service to the public of Cheshire. As part of Volunteers' Week, we wanted to hold a special appreciation evening for our volunteers to thank those individuals who give up their free time to help support local policing, and give them the recognition they deserve. Our volunteers really do make a vital difference to our communities, and I cannot express my gratitude enough for the dedication and commitment they give to Cheshire Constabulary."

Cheshire Police trials new policing tactic in Chester City Centre

Project Servator – a policing tactic used to disrupt a range of criminality, including terrorism – will be trialled in the city centre from 5 June.

The approach, which sees police, businesses, community partners and the public working together, is already in use in various parts of the UK, including across the whole of London after it was pioneered by the City of London Police in 2014.



Project Servator sees the deployment of both highly visible and plain clothed police officers, supported by other resources such as dogs, firearms officers, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and CCTV. The deployments can happen anywhere and at any time and include police officers specially-trained to spot the tell-tale signs of individuals who may have criminal intent.

The tactics have been developed and tested by security experts at the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) in partnership with the City of London Police. We will work in partnership with colleagues from Chester West and Chester CCTV and the Cathedral to carry out deployments across city.

Superintendent Debbie Hooper said: "I am really pleased to be trialling Project Servator in Chester City Centre. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to talk to residents, visitors to the city and staff about the importance of being vigilant at all times, and to work with them to keep everyone safe and add another layer of security to our existing policing methods. This isn't in response to a particular threat, but something we're trying out to see if it can really enhance our existing security measures."

Officers will also be talking to the public, including businesses, asking people to be our eyes and ears to keep people safe and encourage people to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious. You can help by reporting any suspicious activity by speaking face to face with officers, or by calling police on 101. In an emergency, always call 999.

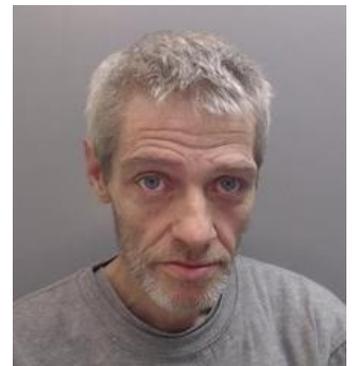
Chester Local Policing Unit Inspector Emma Parry said: "The security of everyone who works and visits the city centre is important to us, which is why we're working closely with the cathedral, local shops, businesses and Chester West and Chester Council to make Project Servator a success. Chester City Centre is an incredibly safe place and this will further strengthen the visible and less visible measures already in place to keep everyone safe and secure."

Find out more about Project Servator <https://cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/project-servator/>.

Chester drug dealer jailed for more than six years

A man who was caught dealing class A drugs in Chester city centre has been jailed for more than six years.

Christopher Ellis, of Boundary Lane, Saltney, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 28 May, where he was sentenced to 80 months in prison. The 48-year-old had earlier pleaded guilty to three counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine) and one count of possessing criminal property (cash).



Ellis' offending first came to light when he was seen acting suspiciously by officers conducting a drugs operation in the Water Tower Gardens area of Chester on Wednesday 15 August 2018. He was searched at the scene and found to be in possession of a quantity of cash and a bag containing individual wraps of brown powder. Ellis was subsequently arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class A drugs. After being questioned in custody, he was released under investigation whilst forensic tests were conducted on the drugs seized.

Ellis was arrested again later that year, on Wednesday 14 December, after officers spotted him dealing drugs in the Delamere Street area of the city. On that occasion he attempted to swallow the drugs he was selling but officers managed to stop him from doing so. Ellis also resisted arrest. After being arrested and then interviewed in custody, Ellis was warned about his behaviour and released on conditional bail. He was subsequently charged in connection with both incidents.

Following sentencing, PC Paul Harrison, who managed the investigation, said: "Throughout this investigation Ellis has shown blatant disregard for the law. He refused to answer any questions during interviews and continued to deal drugs despite his initial arrest for drug dealing. Thankfully, as a result of the vigilance of the officers who spotted Ellis conducting his illegal activities, he is now behind bars and can no longer blight our city with illegal drug deals. The detrimental impact of illegal drugs on our communities cannot be underestimated and removing such drugs and those who supply them from our communities is of paramount importance. I hope that this case sends a strong message to those involved in the supply of illegal drugs that they are not invincible and will be caught and brought to justice."

In total, officers seized 32 wraps of heroin and 15 wraps of crack cocaine from Ellis. The drugs seized had an estimated street value of £470. On top of his custodial sentence, Ellis was ordered to pay more than £500 in court costs and a £170 victim surcharge. He was also ordered to forfeit the money that officers seized from him, which totalled more than £250.

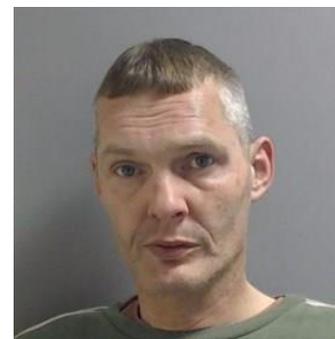
Inspector Emma Parry, of Chester Local Poling Unit, said: "I would like to thank all of the officers involved in this case for their hard work in securing this conviction. As a result of their diligence a persistent drug dealer is now serving a custodial sentence and a quantity of class A drugs have been removed from our streets. While this investigation has now concluded, our fight against criminals who plague our city with illegal drugs continues. I urge anyone with any information about suspected drug related activity in Chester to contact us at Cheshire Constabulary. Your concerns will be listened to and we will investigate the matter. Together we can stop those who cause so much damage to our communities through the supply of illegal drugs."

You can report suspected drug dealing to Cheshire Constabulary directly by calling 101. Alternatively, information can also be given anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Ellesmere Port man jailed for three burglary offences

A man from Ellesmere Port has been jailed for carrying out burglaries at three homes in the town.

Wayne Boardman, of Alwick Drive, pleaded guilty to three counts of burglary and was sentenced for the offences at Chester Crown Court today, Tuesday 4 June. The 50-year-old was handed a prison sentence of four-and-a-half years and ordered to pay a £170 victim surcharge. The burglary offences were committed in Sycamore Drive on Saturday 1 December and in Joan Bartlett Close and Tryfan Way on Friday 23 November. Boardman stole a purse from the address in Sycamore Drive after sneaking in via the front door. He was seen leaving the property by the homeowner and told her that he had 'come into the wrong house'. Boardman also sneaked into the properties in Joan Bartlett Close and Tryfan Way, via a kitchen window and the front door respectively. He did not steal anything from either address.



Boardman was disturbed by the occupiers in Tryfan Way and did not steal anything from the property in Joan Bartlett Close having conducted an untidy search whilst the homeowner was out. Detectives investigating the three burglaries collected a catalogue of evidence against Boardman, including CCTV footage of him wearing the same clothes when committing the offences as he had on when he set off to the address from the bail hostel he was staying at. The evidence collected linked him to all three burglaries.

Detective Constable Stuart Wood, of Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit, said: "I welcome the custodial sentence that has been handed to Boardman and I hope that it acts as a deterrent to others thinking of committing similar offences. Boardman originally denied being the man responsible for the three burglary offences, but when he was presented with all the evidence he did a U-turn and pleaded guilty to them. Burglary is a serious offence in which people are targeted in their own homes, which is the place they should be able to feel most safe, and Boardman is a persistent offender, with numerous convictions for burglary offences over a long criminal career. I am pleased that he is now behind bars, where he can no longer pose a threat to homes in Ellesmere Port, and I hope this case reassures residents that we will take stern action against those who cause misery to our local communities. I would like to thank all the officers and staff involved in the investigation for all their hard work in securing this conviction. I would also like to thank all of the victims in this case for the information they provided. Without their support this conviction would not have been possible."

To report a burglary call Cheshire Constabulary on 101. Alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Three men charged with Nantwich burglary series

Officers investigating a series of burglaries at shops in Nantwich have charged three men in relation to the incidents.

Aaron Hobin, 25; David Benn, 27 and Benjamin Benn, 31, were all arrested on Thursday 30 May. The men questioned in relation to three burglaries and one attempted burglary in Nantwich, along with two further burglaries in Leicester. Hobin, of Poplar Avenue, Wolverhampton; Benn, of Hammond Avenue, Wolverhampton; and Benn, also of Hammond Avenue, Wolverhampton, were all subsequently charged with conspiracy to commit burglary other than a dwelling. Hobin was also charged with driving without insurance and two counts of driving while displaying false number plates. The trio have all been remanded in police custody and are due to appear at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Monday 3 June.

Chester rapist jailed for 20 years

A man who groomed and raped a teenage girl over a three-year period has been jailed for 20 years.

Allen Cain, of Jonson Road, Neston, was sentenced to a total of 20 years in prison plus five years on extended licence at Chester Crown Court on Monday 3 June. He had previously been found guilty of nine counts of raping a child. Cain also pleaded guilty to a charge of sexual activity with a 14-year-old. The offences took place between 2013 and 2016.



Detective Constable Mel Beamish, who managed the case, said: "There are no winners in this case and the impact of Cain's actions cannot be underestimated. He groomed and manipulated both the victim and her family over a sustained period, gaining their trust in order to abuse the teenage girl. Cain has shown no remorse throughout the investigation and subsequent trial. Instead he attempted to blame everyone but himself. Thankfully, the jury was able to see through his lies and he is now facing a significant prison sentence. I would like to thank the victim for the immense bravery she has shown in coming forward and for her co-operation throughout the investigation. I would also like to acknowledge the courage she showed by going to court and giving evidence against Cain, something he forced her to do by refusing to accept

responsibility. By pleading not guilty to the rape offences he continued to show a blatant disregard for his victim. Whilst she will never be able to forget all that Cain has subjected her to, I hope that the custodial sentence he has been handed by the courts provides her with some closure and enables her to begin to move forward with her life. I also hope that this case and the sentence that Cain has received encourages other victims of sexual offences to come forward and report the offences to us.”

On top of his custodial sentence, Cain was handed a restraining order and given a Sexual harm prevention order.

Detective Constable Mel Beamish added: “I hope that this case and the sentence that Cain has received encourages other victims of sexual offences to come forward and report the offences to us. Cheshire Constabulary takes any allegation of sexual offences extremely seriously. 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 has happened to them. They will receive the help and support they need from our specialist officers, as well as from other support agencies we work alongside, and all victims of sexual offences have the right to anonymity.”

To report any sexual offences call Cheshire Constabulary on 101. Information can also be passed anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Update on the investigation into the death of a fox in Wrenbury

In December 2018, an investigation was launched by Cheshire Constabulary concerning an allegation of ‘Hunting a wild mammal with dogs’, contrary to the Hunting Act 2004.

The allegation was made following the death of a fox in Wrenbury, near Nantwich, which occurred during the 2018/19 hunt season. Detectives gathered video evidence and interviewed a number of people present or with relevant information. Early investigative advice was also sought from the Crown Prosecution Service due the complexity of the case. As a result, the investigation team have concluded there is insufficient evidence that the incident amounted to deliberate and intentional hunting, as required by the Hunting Act 2004, and it has been decided that, on this occasion, no further action will be taken. All parties involved have been informed of the outcome. The Constabulary is still actively investigating a number of other incidents, alleged to have occurred during the hunting season. We reiterate our commitment that where allegations of unlawful activity are made, they will be fully investigated.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal following overnight burglary at convenience store in Warrington

Detectives are appealing for information and footage from members of the public after a cash machine was broken into during a burglary at a convenience store in Warrington.

The incident occurred at The Co-operative Food store in Common Lane, Culcheth, between around 11.30pm yesterday, Sunday 9 June, and 12.30am today, Monday 10 June. The offenders broke in via the roof and stole a quantity of cash from the ATM and a quantity of cigarettes from the store. Enquiries in relation to the

incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who was in the area and witnessed anything suspicious to come forward. They also want to hear from anyone who believes they may know who the offenders are or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.

Detective Sergeant Tom Hall, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: "We are determined to establish who carried out the burglary and bring them to justice. Enquiries are ongoing and as part of our investigation we are appealing for members of the public to get in touch if they think they have information or CCTV or dashcam footage that may be relevant. Perhaps you were in the area and witnessed something suspicious, or maybe you have CCTV or dashcam footage of people or a vehicle that may have been involved in the burglary. We also want to speak to anyone who believes they may know who the offenders are."

Anyone with information or CCTV footage that may aid the ongoing investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 424291, give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage .

Police appeal for witnesses and dashcam footage following serious collision on the A55

Police are appealing for witnesses following a serious collision on the A55 North Wales bound carriageway.

At 11.34pm on Sunday 9 June there was a four vehicle collision between the A55's junction with the A41 and the Post House A483. The vehicles, a Vauxhall Corsa, Toyota Avensis and a Ford Focus Zetec were in collision, coming to a rest in the central reservation. A Subaru Legacy collided with debris, coming to a stop further down the carriageway. The driver of the Vauxhall Corsa, an 81-year-old man from Wrexham was treated at the scene but sadly died. The drivers of the Toyota and Ford Focus are believed to have minor injuries. Police are keen to speak to anyone who witnessed the collision but has not yet come forward, along with anyone with dashcam footage that may help with the investigation. Anyone with information or who witnessed the collision should contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 424208. If you have dashcam footage please go to <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage/> to submit your footage.

Appeal after two teenagers are assaulted at a park in Neston

Detectives investigating assaults at a park in Neston are appealing for information and footage from members of the public.

At around 8.40pm on Saturday 8 June police were called to a report of a disturbance involving a group of youths at Stanney Fields play area off Hinderton Road. Officers attended the scene and discovered that two teenagers – an 18-year-old man and a 17-year-old girl – had suffered minor head injuries. The man was taken to hospital and has since been discharged. The girl did not require medical attention. Two 16-year-old boys from Wirral have been arrested in relation to the incident. They have both been released on conditional bail pending further enquiries. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who witnessed what happened, or has any other information that may aid their investigation, to come forward. They also want to hear from anyone who believes they may have CCTV or dashcam footage that may be relevant to the investigation.

Detective Sergeant Damian Tierney said: "Thankfully the 18-year-old man and the 17-year-old girl only suffered minor injuries. The consequences of the incident could have been far worse and I would like to reassure the public that we are determined to establish the full circumstances of what took place. I would also like to reassure them that we have stepped up patrols in the area to prevent any further disorder. Enquiries into the incident, which occurred at around 8.30pm on Saturday 8 June, are ongoing and I urge anyone who was in the area and witnessed what happened, or anything else that may help our investigation, to get in touch. The same goes for anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage that may be relevant."

Anyone with information or CCTV footage that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 423288, give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage.

One of Europe's 'Most Wanted' arrested in Malta

Christopher Guest More Jr, who was wanted in connection with the murder of a father at a farm in Cheshire almost 16 years ago, has been arrested on Thursday 6 June on a European Arrest Warrant in Malta.

This follows on from an extensive international appeal to locate the 41-year-old. He appeared in court in Malta on Saturday 8 June and extradition proceedings are now underway.

Assistant Chief Constable Matt Burton, from Cheshire Constabulary, said: "Our determination to find Christopher Guest More Jr has not faltered and, over the years, we have remained committed to locating him. This latest development highlights the close working relationship between Cheshire Constabulary and the National Crime Agency along with law enforcement agencies abroad and I would like to thank colleagues for all of their assistance. I would also like to thank members of the public for all of their support and information provided on the back of our appeals."

CCTV images released following betting shop robbery in Macclesfield

Detectives have released CCTV images of a man they want to speak to in connection with a betting shop robbery in Macclesfield.

Shortly before 3pm on Saturday 1 June a man entered the Coral bookmakers in Broken Cross. He approached the counter brandishing a knife and demanded cash from the staff behind it. The man stole a quantity of cash after jumping over the counter. He fled the betting shop on foot, running along Princes Way. The man then got on a black TM mountain bike on Parkett Hayes Road before riding off along Earlsway.



Enquiries in relation to the robbery are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who recognises the man in the CCTV images, or has information regarding his identity or whereabouts, to come forward. They also want to speak to anyone who believes they have any other information, or CCTV or dashcam footage, that may aid their investigation.

Detective Sergeant Angela Coppock, of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: "This was a terrifying incident for all those who were in the betting shop at the time of the robbery and we are determined to catch the offender and bring him to justice. As part of our enquiries we want to identify and speak to the man in the CCTV images. "If you think you recognise him or know who he is please call the team here at Macclesfield Police Station on 101, quoting IML 416925, give us the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. The same goes for anyone who has any other information, or CCTV or dashcam footage, that may help our investigation. I would also like to appeal directly to the man in the CCTV images to get in touch."

Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage.

Appeal for information following a serious assault in Crewe

Detectives are appealing for information from the public after a man was stabbed in Crewe.

At around 1am on Saturday 1 June a 40-year-old man was walking along Nantwich Road, near to Royal Hotel, when he noticed a man and a woman who were sat on the pavement with their feet in the road. The victim approached the couple to warn them to be careful of the vehicles driving past, which resulted in him becoming involved in a verbal altercation with the pair. He was subsequently stabbed in the back by the man. Following the incident the victim left the scene in the direction of Mill Street. The victim, who resides in the Crewe area, was later taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital for treatment and was since been discharged later that day.

Detective Constable Kevin Lloyd: "Thankfully on this occasion the victim escaped with only minor injuries and he has since been discharged from hospital. However, the outcome could have been much worse and I would like to reassure residents that this is believed to be an isolated incident and we are determined to catch the offenders and bring them to justice. Enquiries are ongoing and as part of our investigation we are appealing for anyone who believes they may have relevant information or footage to get in touch. Perhaps you were in the Nantwich Road area and witnessed the incident or think you may have seen the offenders. We also want to speak to anyone who believes they may have CCTV or dashcam footage of the offenders or information regarding their identities. If you think that you can help our investigation in any way please come forward."

Anyone with information or CCTV footage that may aid the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML416573, give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage.

Appeal for information and footage following burglaries at pubs in Widnes

Detectives investigating two overnight burglaries at pubs in Widnes are appealing for information and footage from the public.

The incidents at the Horse and Jockey on Birchfield Road and at Widnes Conservative Club on Victoria Road occurred on consecutive nights. Two unknown males, one of whom was wearing a grey hoodie, broke into the Horse and Jockey pub between 12.30am and 12.45am yesterday, Monday 3 June. Widnes Conservative

Club was broken into at around 1.50am today, Tuesday 4 June. A quantity of cash was stolen from both pubs. Enquiries in relation to the incidents are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may be relevant to their investigations to come forward.

Detective Sergeant Roberts, of Widnes Local Policing Unit, said: "The burglaries were carried out on consecutive nights. There is no evidence at this stage to suggest that the burglaries are linked but we are keeping an open mind. Enquiries are ongoing and we are determined to catch those responsible and bring them to justice. As part of our enquiries we are appealing for anyone who was in the area of the Horse and Jockey pub on Sunday night or Widnes Conservative Club on Monday night and witnessed anything suspicious to get in touch. The same goes for anyone who believes they may have seen, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of, any of the offenders or have information regarding their identities."

Anyone with information or CCTV footage that may help the investigations should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 418355 (Horse and Jockey) or IML 419087 (Widnes Conservative Club), give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage.

Appeal following an assault and robbery in Warrington

Detectives are appealing for information and footage from members of the public following an assault and robbery in Warrington.

At around 2am on Sunday 26 May a 46-year-old man from the town was hit on the back of the head with a metal pole/bar as he walked along Lovely Lane from the direction of Delamere Street. Following the attack from behind, which occurred at the junction with Windsor Street, two males stole the victim's wallet and mobile phone and ran off along Lovely Lane. The victim went to hospital with a head injury. He has since been discharged after receiving treatment. The offenders are described as being white with average heights and builds. They were wearing dark tracksuits and had hoods up over their heads. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who was in the area and witnessed the robbery to come forward. They also want to speak to anyone who believes they may know who the offenders are, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.

Detective Constable Rob Thorpe, of Warrington Local Policing Unit (LPU), said: "This was a terrifying incident that has understandably left the victim extremely shaken up. Thankfully he has been discharged from hospital having received treatment for the head injury he sustained as a result of the incident. The injury could have been much worse and I would like to reassure residents that this is believed to be an isolated incident and we are determined to catch the offenders and bring them to justice. Enquiries are ongoing and as part of our investigation we are appealing for anyone who believes they may have relevant information or footage to get in touch. Perhaps you were in the area and witnessed the incident or think you may have seen the offenders. We also want to speak to anyone who believes they may have CCTV or dashcam footage of the offenders, or information regarding their identities. If you think that you can help our investigation in any way please come forward."

Anyone with information or CCTV footage that may aid the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 411443, give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or

contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage.

Appeal for information following Culcheth burglary

Detectives from Warrington are urging witnesses to come forward after thieves targeted a house in Culcheth.

Sometime between 12pm on Sunday 26 May and 1.30pm on Wednesday 29 May unknown offenders forced entry into a house on Boston Avenue by smashing the rear patio doors. Once inside they stole a number of items before fleeing the scene.

Detective Constable Maggie Cassidy said: "The investigation in relation to this incident is in its early stages and we are keen to hear from anyone with any with any information which may assist our enquires. I'd also like to hear from anyone who witnessed anything suspicious in the area or anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage that may be relevant to our investigation. I'd also like to take this as an oppourtunity to remained residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity. Residents can also help us and themselves by making it as difficult as possible for criminals to break into their homes, sheds and outbuildings."

The force's tips for deterring would-be burglars include:

- Ensure that all windows are closed and doors are locked at your property, even when you are at home or in the garden
- Never leave your car keys, house keys, purse or wallet on display near a door or window
- Use the security measures on modern windows, which allow them to let some air in but still be locked
- Keep all valuables out of sight of prying eyes
- Always avoid keeping large amounts of cash in your home
- If you are replacing or fitting new doors and windows, get ones that are certified to British Standard BS7950 (windows) or PAS 24-1 (doors)
- Fit mortise locks (Kitemarked BS3621) to all front and back doors, as well as locks to all windows which are easy to reach
- Have a burglar alarm fitted, but make sure that it is installed properly and works.

Anyone with information that may help the ongoing investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 414208, give the details via <https://cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage.

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: <http://cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk/>