

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 10th May 2020

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Two men from Liverpool charged with attempted murder in connection with Orford shooting

Two men have been charged with attempted murder and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life in connection with an incident in Warrington.

Aaron Bretherton, aged 23, of Netherfield Road South in Liverpool and 25-year-old Lewis Fitzpatrick, of Eldersfield Road in Liverpool, have been remanded in custody. Bretherton has also been charged with possession of a prohibited firearm, ammunition and possession of controlled drugs with intent to supply. They are due to appear at Warrington Magistrates Court on Friday 8 May. The charges relate to an incident at 8.50pm on Friday 24 April when a number of shots were fired outside an address on Poplars Avenue in Orford. A 55-year-old man sustained serious injuries to his leg and he remains in hospital in a stable condition. Bretherton and Fitzpatrick were arrested at separate addresses in Liverpool on Wednesday 6 May and were subsequently charged on Thursday 7 May. On Tuesday 28 April 22-year-old Anthony Morris was charged with attempted murder and possession of a firearm. Morris has been remanded and is due to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Wednesday 27 May.

Police appeal for help in tracing man wanted in Crewe

Detectives are asking the public to help them trace a man wanted in connection with a firearms discharge in Crewe.

Kieran Fagan, also known as Kieran Mellor is believed to be in the Crewe area. Police are looking to speak to him in relation to an incident that took place at 10pm on Sunday 19 April when a shot was fired outside an address on The Birches in Davenport Avenue. Anyone who sees him or has information regarding his whereabouts, is asked not to approach him and to call Cheshire Constabulary immediately on 999, quoting IML 687743. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Officers are also urging Fagan to contact police directly.



Police appeal for information following suspicious incident in Runcorn

Police are appealing for witnesses following a suspicious incident in Runcorn.

Shortly before 1pm today (7 May) a 9-year-old boy was walking along an alleyway in the Glen when he was approached from behind and grabbed by a man. The boy ran home and told his mum who reported the incident to police.

DS Ian Smith said: *"The boy did the right thing by going straight home and telling an adult straightaway. We have been making numerous enquiries in the area including checking CCTV and have stepped up our patrols in the Glen to provide reassurance. I would appeal to anyone with information to contact police so that we can establish the circumstances."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/> quoting IML 699348. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Four people arrested following Ellesmere Port drugs warrants

Four people have been arrested for drugs offences following a series of dawn raids in Ellesmere Port.

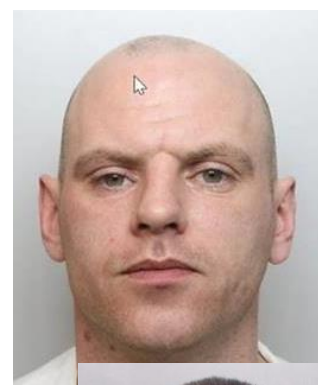
Earlier today, Thursday 7 May, officers executed warrants at three addresses on Westminster Road, Cavell Drive and Mallory Road. Three men, aged 18, 27 and 36, and a 37-year-old women were arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs. They are all in custody helping officers with their enquiries. Officers also seized a quantity of what is believed to be Class A and Class B drugs.

Sergeant Jon Wilson, of Ellesmere Port Beat Management Team, said: *"I welcome today's arrests and I hope that they provide reassurance to our communities that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle this type of criminality. Drugs have a hugely detrimental impact on communities, causing widespread misery. As such, cutting off supplies of illegal drugs and removing drug dealers from our communities is of paramount importance. We need the public to be our eyes and ears and to come forward with information regarding drug dealing in their communities. Your support is crucial in the ongoing fight against illegal drug dealing and all other forms of serious and organised crime. Together we can help to keep vulnerable people and our communities safe. Suspected drug dealing activity can be reported directly to the team here at Ellesmere Port by calling 101. Alternatively, if you do not feel comfortable speaking to a police officer then you can give information anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."*

Police appeal for help in tracing wanted Ellesmere Port man

Officers are appealing to the public for help in tracing a 34-year-old man from Ellesmere Port who is wanted in connection with criminal damage.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Thomas Donoghue following an incident on 18 April in the town. Anyone who sees Thomas Donoghue, or has information on his whereabouts, is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101, quoting IML 685294 or visit <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/> Alternatively, information can be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or through their website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/



Widnes burglar who assaulted a police officer jailed

A burglar from Widnes who assaulted an officer and spat inside a police car on numerous occasions when he was arrested has been jailed.

David Power, of no fixed address, broke into Appleton Village Pharmacy in Widnes overnight on Thursday 27 February. The 37-year-old caused around £2,500 worth of



damage to the pharmacy and stole two charity boxes containing an unknown quantity of cash. Power was identified as the offender via CCTV footage.

He was arrested for the burglary on the morning of Saturday 29 February by an officer who was driving in Widnes and spotted Power. The officer witnessed Power put something in a bin prior to him being arrested. A Stanley knife was later found at the top of the rubbish in the bin. While on route to custody Power became aggressive and abusive towards officers and continually spat inside the police car he was in. He then kicked out at a police officer when in custody.

Power was subsequently charged with burglary, assaulting an emergency service worker and causing criminal damage to a police vehicle. He admitted those offences but pleaded not guilty to possessing a bladed article in a public place in relation to the knife found in the bin. Power also pleaded not guilty to a second burglary charge, in relation to an incident at Halton Gas on Deacon Road in Widnes overnight on Friday 28 February. A window was smashed and the premises were ransacked during the incident but it is not known if anything was stolen. It was decided that the charges Power pleaded not guilty to could lay on file as he was sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on Wednesday 6 May. Appearing via a video link, he was jailed for two years and four months.

Detective Sergeant Roberts, of Widnes Local Policing Unit, said: *“All forms of burglary are serious offences, but what makes David Power’s actions overnight on Thursday 27 February particularly despicable is that he targeted a pharmacy and stole a quantity of cash that he knew had been collected for charity. He then assaulted an officer and spat in a police car on several occasions after being arrested for the offence. The nature of policing inevitably requires officers to deal with violent and challenging situations but, regardless of the situation, being assaulted by a member of the public we serve should never be seen as an acceptable ‘part of the job’. An assault of a police officer, or any other emergency service worker, is an attack on society itself. When officers are taken off the streets through being injured by members of the public it can have an impact on the level of service we can provide. The same goes for when police cars are not able to be used through the actions of members of the public. Due to Power continually spitting in the police car he was taken to custody in, the vehicle had to be cleaned at the force’s expense and was off the road for a period of time. I am delighted that Power is now behind bars facing the consequences of his actions and I hope that this case deters others from committing similar offences.”*

On top of his custodial sentence, Power was ordered to pay a £181 victim surcharge.

Two men charged following burglary incidents in Cheshire

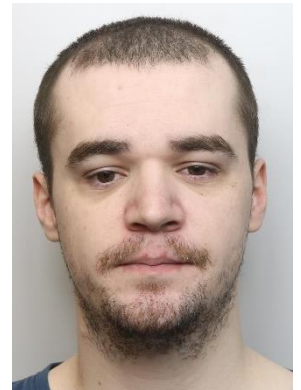
Two men from Liverpool have been charged by officers investigating burglary incidents in Cheshire.

Adam Blease, 34, and Neil Fathing, 33, were arrested after a BMW car was stopped by officers on the M65 near Preston at around 2.45pm on Monday 4 May. Blease, of Altway, Aintree, Liverpool, has subsequently been charged with dangerous driving and burglary. The burglary charge relates to an incident on Coppice Road, Willaston, near Nantwich, in the early hours of Monday 4 May. A BMW and other items were stolen during the incident. Fathing, of Pennard Avenue, Huyton, Liverpool, has been charged with attempted burglary, being carried in a stolen motor vehicle and possession of a class B drug (cannabis). The attempted burglary charge relates to an incident in Bicknell Close, Great Sankey, Warrington, in the early hours of Monday 4 May. Blease and Fathing appeared at Warrington Magistrates’ Court on Thursday 7 May, via video link. They have been remanded in custody and are set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 4 June.

Runcorn man jailed for attempted burglary

A man from Runcorn who attempted to burgle four houses in the town has been jailed.

Lewis Johnson, of Churchill Mansions, Cooper Street, was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 6 May. He was jailed for 20 months. The 25-year-old had earlier pleaded guilty to four counts of attempted burglary. The court heard that Johnson had been released from prison on Tuesday 31 March. Upon his release he was told to self-isolate for seven days as a fellow inmate at the prison he was in had tested positive for Covid-19. Despite this, just two days later, in the early hours of Thursday 2 April, Johnson went out and attempted to gain entry to at least four homes in Fisher Court. The offences came to light due to one of the homes being fitted with a motion sensitive CCTV camera. The camera filmed Johnson approaching the properties and then checking door handles to see if any of them were unlocked. Thankfully, all of the homes he targeted were secure.



Following his sentencing, Detective Constable Ciara Murphy, of Runcorn CID, said: *“On this occasion Johnson was unsuccessful in his attempts to gain entry to the homes. However, that should not detract from the severity of his offending. I have no doubt that if the homes had not been secure he would have burgled them. What makes Johnson’s crimes worse is the fact that he had been told to self-isolate. Not only did he commit at least four attempted burglary offences, he also put people’s lives at risk. Thankfully, as a result of CCTV footage from one of the homes he targeted and the work of the team of detectives here at Runcorn Police Station, Johnson is now facing the consequences of his actions. I hope that this case and the sentence handed to him by Chester Crown Court deters others from committing similar offences.”*

In addition to his sentence for the four attempted burglaries, Johnson was also recalled to prison in relation to a number of other previous convictions.

Man jailed for terrorising Crewe family

A man who terrorised a Crewe family has been jailed for two years and three months and ordered to stay away from them.

Bobby Palin, 32, from Samuel Street in Crewe appeared at Chester Crown Court on 1 May to be sentenced after pleading guilty to stalking and harassment. He was also given a restraining order to further protect the victims. Between 9 November and 12 December Palin continually called and texted the victims causing them significant fear and distress. He made numerous threats towards them which had a considerable impact on their wellbeing.



DI Claire Jesson said: *“The behaviour displayed by Palin is disturbing and had a significant impact on the victims in this case - I commend the victims for being brave enough to stand up to him and come to us for help. Palin thought he was above the law, but this conviction shows that no matter how scared you are, with our help and support we can make the nightmare end. I would urge anyone who is in this position to please have the faith in us that this victim has, and contact us. We will do everything to support you and work tirelessly to bring prosecutions against those who cause fear in our community.”*

Two men arrested in Liverpool in connection with Orford shooting

Two men have been arrested in Liverpool in connection with a shooting in Warrington.

The 23-year-old and 25-year-old were arrested at around 7am on Wednesday 6 May on suspicion of conspiracy to commit murder. They are both in custody being questioned by detectives. Police are searching three addresses on Eldersfield Road, Netherfield Road South and Stonedale Crescent as part of ongoing enquiries. The arrests follow an incident at around 8.50pm on Friday 24 April when a number of shots were fired outside an address on Poplars Avenue in Orford. A 55-year-old man sustained serious injuries to his leg and he remains in hospital in a stable condition. The operation this morning was led by Cheshire Police's Serious and Organised Crime Unit and officers from Warrington Local Policing Unit with support from Merseyside Police.

Detective Inspector Ian Murray, from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: *"This morning's arrests are part of a fast-moving and complex investigation targeting organised crime. We are continuing to work with the public and our partners to dismantle the criminal networks and turn the tide of fear within the Warrington community."*

Superintendent Martin Cleworth, who is in charge of policing in Warrington, said: *"This latest development shows the ongoing commitment and dedication of officers in targeting and disrupting serious and organised crime in Warrington. I understand how concerned residents have been by recent incidents and I want to reassure everyone that we are maintaining a high-visibility presence across the town with patrols in key areas. This will include local officers and armed officers. If anyone has any issues or concerns please contact us directly or speak to a local officer. Remember you are our eyes and ears – and we need the support of the public in continuing to come forward with information to help tackle this issue."*

If you have any information about serious and organised crime you can contact Cheshire Police on 101 or pass it on via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/> If you do not want to speak to the police directly you can call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111 or www.crimestoppers-uk.org/ If you have any information about the shooting in Warrington place contact Cheshire Police on 101 or pass it on through <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/> quoting IML 690217.

Serial armed robber jailed for a further eight years

A 35-year-old man has been handed an eight-year prison sentence after admitting armed robbery offences.

Daniel Monk pleaded guilty to two counts of robbery in relation to incidents that occurred in Cheshire. He also admitted attempted robbery and possession of a bladed article in a public place in connection with an incident that took place in Derbyshire. Monk was sentenced for the offences at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 28 April. The eight-year custodial sentence he received has been added to the five years Monk was already serving for an armed robbery he committed at a Post Office in East Knoyle, Wiltshire, on Saturday 3 August.



The latest offences he has been convicted of were actually committed before that robbery. On Thursday 11 July Monk entered a Bargain Booze store on Sandbach Road in Rode Heath, near Alsager. Armed with a

crowbar, he demanded cash and cigarettes from a shop assistant. She handed over a small quantity of cash and cigarettes, and around an hour-and-a-half later Monk committed another robbery, at a Post Office on Main Road in Goostrey, which is between Crewe and Macclesfield. On that occasion he was armed with a wheel wrench and stole a larger quantity of cash after threatening both a man and a woman who were working at the Post Office. Monk, who was living in Meltham Avenue, Manchester, before he was sent to prison, was subsequently identified via CCTV footage of the robberies.

Detective Constable Kevin Lloyd, who oversaw Cheshire Constabulary's investigation into the robberies at Crewe Local Policing Unit, said: *"Daniel Monk is a serial armed robber who subjected those who were working at the Bargain Booze in Rode Heath and the Post Office in Goostrey to terrifying ordeals. One of the victims is still severely traumatised to this day. Thankfully, we were able to identify Monk as the offender after liaising with colleagues from another force. Due to the strength of the evidence we gathered against him, including CCTV footage of the robberies, Monk had no option but to plead guilty to the offences. He also admitted an attempted robbery and possession of a bladed weapon in a public place in relation to an incident that was investigated by our colleagues at Derbyshire Constabulary. That incident occurred at a convenience store on Low Leighton Road in New Mills, High Peak, Derbyshire, on Sunday 14 July. I am delighted that Monk has received a further eight-year custodial sentence for the offences, to add to the five years he was already serving. Stores and Post Offices are safer places to work with Monk behind bars. I hope that the sentence handed out by Chester Crown Court brings some closure to the victims and I also hope that it deters others from travelling to Cheshire, or any other county, to commit similar offences."*

Cheshire Constabulary opens the door on domestic abuse in online web chat

Victims of domestic abuse are being reminded that they are not alone during the coronavirus crisis.

Anyone suffering in silence behind closed doors or family, friends, neighbours or work colleagues with concerns about someone they know are being urged to take part in a live web chat this week. On Wednesday 6 May at 4pm, Cheshire Constabulary – working together with agencies who provide domestic abuse support across the county – will be hosting an online question and answer session. This will be the first of a series of virtual chats and safeguarding experts will work together to answer any questions on the force's [Facebook page](#). Anyone wanting to take part has the option of submitting a question in advance by e-mailing digital.team@cheshire.pnn.police.uk, sending a private message to us during the session if they wish to remain anonymous, or simply posting a question to the Q&A post on the Cheshire Police Facebook page.

Detective Chief Superintendent Denise Worth said: *"Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for Cheshire Constabulary and I want to reassure everyone that we are still here responding to incidents and doing everything we can alongside other agencies to protect those most in need. I understand and appreciate the extremely difficult situation that many people may find themselves in given the strict social distancing measures that are in place. Victims who are at home during the lockdown – potentially with their abusers – may feel trapped and alone with nowhere to go and unsure of who to turn to for help. In this current situation it is vital that victims of domestic abuse know how and where to access support. We are doing everything we can to make sure that there are a number of channels of communication available to those who need it. Our message is simple – you are not alone – and this online session is one of many ways that you can seek help and advice during this difficult time."*

Police and partners in Cheshire are working together to provide multi-agency support to victims of domestic abuse as part of the 'Open the Door' campaign. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the issue whilst

showing people how to recognise the signs of domestic abuse, know what to do and have the confidence to take action. Relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues also have an important part to play and anyone concerned that someone they know may be suffering is encouraged to come forward and report it.

Det Chief Supt Worth added: *“Across the county a lot of work is going on behind the scenes to tackle the issue of domestic abuse. Our officers are being proactive, visiting known offenders and those potentially at risk, carrying out checks, targeting those who are wanted for domestic abuse offences and ensuring that Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders are being adhered to. However, despite a concerted effort by police and partners to tackle the issue and provide vital support to victims, there is a concern that those at risk may be suffering behind closed doors and we are concerned that people may be suffering in silence. I understand that not everyone who is a victim will feel comfortable coming forward and reporting what is happening to them and I am encouraging other people – family members, friends, neighbours or work colleagues – to come forward and speak out on their behalf – by doing so you could make a real difference. Don’t ignore your intuition – if you think something isn’t right, do something about it.”*

There are many ways to report concerns and seek help – even during the current lockdown. Earlier this month the ‘Alone at Last’ poster campaign was launched across Cheshire, with posters in supermarkets and pharmacies highlighting the support available for domestic abuse victims and where to find it – providing an opportunity to say something or call someone, in a safe place at a safe time. A number of helpdesks at police stations are also open across the county for one hour a day for residents who have no other means of reporting crime during the lockdown. This service is for urgent issues where there is no other way of contacting police – again providing people with an opportunity to speak out in a safe place.

Police and Crime Commissioner David Keane added: *“The Chief Constable and I highlighted the potential increased risk of domestic abuse during the lockdown and that our resources need to be focused on not just tackling the perpetrators, but supporting the victims too. I am very pleased that the Chief Constable has prioritised resources to help tackle this problem and that my office has worked hard to ensure that victim’s services have been supported to adapt to the lockdown, and are continuing to offer an excellent service to anyone in need of support. The ‘Alone at Last’ campaign has strongly resonated with our communities, but all agencies and communities need to ensure that we continue to work together and push the message that domestic abuse will not be tolerated and we will go out of our way to help and support those in most need.”*

If you are in immediate danger and dial 999 for help – you can press ‘55’ during the call to let the operator know you are in danger if it is not safe to speak – this is known as ‘The Silent Solution’. The ‘My Support Space’ app is also available for those in need – it is a domestic violence platform, which has been launched to give victims of crime affected by the coronavirus outbreak additional ways in which to access support, including from their own home, via a computer, tablet or phone. You can open the door to support by calling the **24-hour National Domestic Violence Helpline on 0808 2000 247**. Or contact your local domestic abuse support service below:

Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Hub – 0300 123 5101

Cheshire West and Chester – 0300 123 7047, option 2

Halton Domestic Abuse Forum – 0300 111 1247

Warrington Refuge – 01925 243359

There are many ways you can get in touch with **Cheshire Constabulary** to report any concerns and to seek help – in an emergency dial 999 (if a crime is taking place or there is an immediate threat to life), 101 if it is not urgent or visit our website <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Man charged with murder in Ellesmere Port

A young man has been charged with murder and possession of a bladed article following the death of a man in Ellesmere Port.

Arkadiusz Kaczmarek, aged 22, of Blakemere Court, has been remanded into custody and is due to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court via video link on Tuesday 5 May. At around 3.15am on Saturday 2 May officers attended an address at Blakemere Court after concerns were raised for the welfare of a person at the property. Once inside, they discovered the victim – believed to be Slawomir Kulesza, aged 47, from Ellesmere Port – with serious injuries. The officers administered first aid and paramedics were called to the address to assist but, despite the best efforts of everyone involved, he sadly died at the scene. Kaczmarek was arrested on Saturday 2 May and subsequently charged on the evening of Monday 4 May.

Substantial amounts of class A drugs and cash seized in Widnes

Substantial amounts of cash and class A and B drugs have been seized in Widnes as a result of properties, people and vehicles being searched during a week of action.

Three warrants were executed in the town and eight people were arrested from Monday 27 April to Friday 1 May. Two of them have since been charged with class A drugs offences. The week of action was conducted by officers from Widnes Local Policing Unit (LPU) in a bid to bring offenders to justice and prevent further criminal activity.

Detective Inspector Ian Whiley, of Widnes LPU, said: "Our officers executed warrants, stepped up proactive patrols, conducted open land searches and stopped numerous people and vehicles during the week. Their sterling work has resulted in significant amounts of cash and class A and B drugs being seized and several arrests being made. Numerous investigations are ongoing on the back of the work carried out during the week of action and, as always, we will do everything we can to bring offenders to justice and thwart criminal enterprises. The country may be in lockdown as a result of the coronavirus pandemic but our efforts to make Widnes an even better place to live and work remain as strong as ever."

The highlights of the week were:

Tuesday 28 April

- Around 50 cannabis plants and a small quantity of class A drugs were seized after a warrant was executed at an address in Cherry Sutton, Widnes. A 37-year-old man from the town was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the production of class B drug cannabis and has been released under investigation pending further enquiries.
- A large amount of money was found after a BMW was stopped and searched in Keble Street, Widnes. The car was subsequently seized and a 32-year-old man from the town was arrested on suspicion of money laundering. He has also been released under investigation.

Wednesday 29 April

- A 36-year-old man from Liverpool was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply a class A drug after the car he was driving was stopped in Moor Lane, Widnes. He has since been released under investigation.

Thursday 30 April

- Following a stop and search in Page Lane, Widnes, a 25-year-old man from the town has been charged with possession of class A drug cocaine and class B drug cannabis. Jack Feeney, of Green Oaks Path, has also been charged with possession of a bladed article in a public place. He has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Friday 29 May.
- A large quantity of class A drugs and cash were seized after a warrant was executed at an address in Foster Street, Widnes. A 17-year-old boy from the town, who cannot be named for legal reasons, has since been charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine). He has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Friday 29 May. Two 16-year-old boys – one from Widnes and one from Halewood in Knowlsey, Merseyside – and a 19-year-old woman from Kirkby in Knowlsey were also arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply a class A drug. The trio have all been released under investigation.
- A further warrant was executed in Vineyard Way, Widnes. A small amount of cannabis was found and enquiries are ongoing.

DI Whiley added: *"Illegal drugs cause untold damage to the lives of both people who get addicted to them and the wider community who suffer from the resulting crime. Removing those involved in drug dealing from our communities is of paramount importance to us at Cheshire Constabulary, and the general public has a crucial role to play in our fight against illegal drugs. We always act on intelligence supplied to us regarding drug dealing. 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."*

Suspected drug dealing can be reported by calling 101 or visiting <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal to help trace man wanted in connection with Rainow robbery

Detectives from Macclesfield CID are appealing to the public to help trace a man who may be able to assist with their enquiries in relation an alleged robbery in Rainow.

Detectives from Macclesfield CID are appealing to the public to help trace a man who may be able to assist with their enquiries in relation an alleged robbery in Rainow. Collins Mukonowatsauka, who is also known as Mukanu and Mukono, is 22 years old and from the Greater Manchester area. He is described as black, of medium build and has brown eyes, short black hair and a goatee beard.

Detective Sergeant Simon Mills, of Macclesfield CID, said: *"It is essential that we speak to Collins as soon as possible and I urge anyone with any information regarding his whereabouts to get in touch. Collins was last known to be residing in the Openshaw area of Manchester, but he has links across the city. I urge anyone*

who believes that they may know where he is not to approach him. Instead, contact Cheshire Constabulary immediately on 999, quoting IML 698717.”

Alternatively, if you do not want to speak to the police, information can be reported anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Can you help?

We're appealing to the public to help trace a man we want to speak to help assist with our enquiries into an alleged robbery in Rainow. If you know where he is call us on 999 and quote IML 698717

Please Call 101 or 999 in an emergency

 **Cheshire Constabulary**



Collins Mukonowatsauka, who is also known as Mukanu and Mukono, is 22 years old and from the Greater Manchester area.

Appeal following incident at a park in Crewe

Officers are appealing for information from members of the public following an incident in Crewe.

At around 2pm on Sunday 3 May a 13-year-old girl from the town was approached by a group of three men at Queens Park. After speaking to the girl, one of them grabbed her arm. At that point she shouted for help. An older group of three men came over and the girl then rode off on her bicycle. The strangers who approached her at the park are believed to be around 18 to 19 years old and had black scarves around their mouths. The man who grabbed the girl was white and approximately 5' 8" to 5' 10" tall with a slim build. He had brown eyes and was wearing a black tracksuit top and bottoms, black trainers and had a hood up over his head. The other two men were black. One of them was around 5' 5" to 5' 8" tall with a proportionate build. He had medium length hair and was wearing black jeans and a black T-shirt and carrying a beige rucksack. The other was approximately 5' 8" tall with a proportionate build. He had a blue jumper, grey shorts and black trainers on. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are urging anyone with any information that may help their investigation to come forward.

Police Constable Jordan Grimshaw, of Crewe Local Policing Unit, said: *"The 13-year-old girl has understandably been left shaken up by what happened. I would like to reassure members of the community that this is believed to be an isolated incident and we are determined to establish the identities of the men who approached the girl in the park and then progress our investigation accordingly. If anyone recognises their descriptions and thinks they may know who they are, please let us know. The same goes for anyone who believes they may have CCTV or dashcam footage of the men. We also want to speak to anyone who was in the area that day and saw anything that may be relevant to our investigation. Following this incident at*

Queens Park, I would like to remind residents of the restrictions that are currently in place and of the need to maintain social distancing from anyone you don't live with at all times. The government's guidelines need to be adhered to in order to protect the NHS and save lives."

Anyone with information or footage that may aid the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 696379, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal after boy has his bicycle stolen in Widnes robbery

Detectives investigating a robbery in Widnes are appealing for information and footage from members of the public.

The victim, a 13-year-old boy from Widnes, was riding his bicycle alone along the Trans Pennine Trail between the Silver Jubilee Bridge and Pickerings Pasture when the incident occurred at around 8.30pm on Saturday 2 May. As he rode towards three males sat on a bench, one of them made him stop. The offender threatened the victim and demanded his bike. He then rode off on his own bike whilst holding the victim's bicycle. The offender fled in the direction of



Pickerings Pasture and was joined by the other two males from the bench, who were also riding bikes. The male who stole the victim's bike is described as being white and around 16 years old. He had a slim build, was wearing a hooded jacket with the hood up and spoke with a Liverpudlian accent. The bicycle he stole was a sky blue Orange Five mountain bike. Detectives have released a photograph of the bike and are appealing for anyone with information regarding its whereabouts to get in touch. They are also urging anyone who was in the area around the time of the robbery and witnessed anything that may be relevant to their investigation to come forward. Detectives also want to speak to anyone who believes they may know the identities of the males from the bench.

Detective Constable Chris Sheffield, of Widnes CID, said: *"This was a frightening incident which has understandably left the young victim extremely shaken up. I would like to reassure members of the community that we are determined to establish the identities of the three males involved in the robbery, make them face the consequences of their actions and have the stolen mountain bike returned to its rightful owner. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and I urge anyone who was in the area for one of the reasons that we are able to go out during the coronavirus pandemic and saw anything that may help our investigation to contact us at Widnes Police Station. The same goes for anyone who thinks they may know who the males involved in the robbery are, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them. We also want to speak to anyone who believes they may have seen the stolen mountain bike since the robbery took place, or have information regarding its whereabouts."*

Anyone with information or footage that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 695959, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal for information after cannabis farm discovered in Crewe

Officers are appealing for information after a cannabis farm was discovered at an address in Crewe.

At around 9.50am on Saturday 2 May officers discovered more than 100 cannabis plants at an address of Bedford Street. Following a search of the property officers seized 112 plants and a quantity of growing equipment. Officers are now appealing for more information to find those responsible.

Constable Tom Towe from Crewe South Beat Management said: *"The plants and growing equipment have been seized and thankfully these drugs never made it onto the streets of Crewe. The Crewe South Beat Management Team is dedicated to tackling drug supply in the community and we will not tolerate drug dealing and won't allow properties to be used for the production of cannabis. We are following several lines of enquiry to trace those responsible and I would urge anyone who has seen any suspicious activity around Bedford Street in Crewe over the last few months to please get in touch so that we can bring the offenders to justice."*

Anyone with any information is asked to call Cheshire Police via 101, quoting IML 695472 or report it online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/> Alternatively, information can be passed on to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>

CCTV images released following attempted burglary in Runcorn

Detectives have released CCTV images of two males they want to speak to in connection with an attempted burglary in Runcorn.

The incident occurred in Heath Road South at around 4.40pm on Wednesday 11 March. After breaking into a house, the offenders fled empty handed after being disturbed by an occupier. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing. As part of their investigation detectives want to speak to the two males in the CCTV images. They are appealing for anyone who recognises the males to get in touch. It is believed that they may have links to the Rochdale area of Greater Manchester.



Detective Constable Ciara Murphy, of Runcorn Local Policing Unit, said: *"We are determined to establish the identities of all those responsible for the attempted burglary and make them face the consequences of their actions. We believe that tracing and speaking to the two males in the CCTV images will help us as we endeavour to achieve those goals. If you think you recognise the males in the images or know who they are please contact us at Runcorn Police Station on 101, quoting IML 658280, give us the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. I would also like to appeal directly to the males in the CCTV images to get in touch."*

A 20-year-old man from Runcorn has been charged in connection with the incident. John Amos Price, of Picton Avenue, was arrested in Runcorn at around 5.30am on Friday 1 May. He has subsequently been

charged with attempted burglary. Price appeared at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Saturday 2 May. He has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Leeds Crown Court on Thursday 7 May.

Appeal after windscreen of marked police vehicle is smashed in Crewe

Officers are appealing for information after a windscreen of a marked police vehicle was smashed in Crewe.

At around 11.50pm on Thursday 30 April officers were dealing with a separate incident on West Street when a loud bang was heard from the direction of the vehicle. Officers then discovered that the windscreen had been smashed. It is believed that paving slabs were used to smash the windscreen. Two males wearing face coverings were seen fleeing the scene in the direction of Preece Court. Officers are now appealing for information to find those responsible.



Sergeant Paul Heatley of Crewe Local Policing Unit said: *"Luckily, at the time of the incident no officers were inside the vehicle. At any time mindless acts of vandalism are inconceivable but given the current situation, any attack on the emergency services is hard to comprehend. This vehicle will now have to be taken off the road which means there is one less police vehicle patrolling the streets, keeping residents of Cheshire safe. Enquiries are ongoing and anyone with information which could lead us to find those responsible is urged to get in touch with us by calling 101."*

Anyone with information or CCTV footage is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 694595 or report it via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/> Alternatively, information can be passed on to independent crime charity Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 or report it via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>

CCTV released in-connection with an arson in Warrington

Officers are appealing for information following an arson in Warrington.

At approximately 10pm on Friday 20 March a large plastic bin was deliberately set on fire outside a community centre on Grasmere Avenue. Police have released CCTV footage of a man they would like to speak to in-connection with the arson. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are urging anyone who believes they may know the identity of the offender in the CCTV footage to get in touch. Anyone with information that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 665258 or report it through the website <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/> Alternatively, information can be reported to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or by visiting their website www.crimestoppers-uk.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: <http://cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk/>