

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 17th May 2020

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Cheshire's proactive approach in crackdown on crime during coronavirus

Cheshire Constabulary is continuing to protect residents throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Changes to the public health regulations have allowed for greater freedom in public spaces but, in line with the government's message, we are encouraging people to continue to stay at home as much as possible to control the virus and save lives. Although restrictions have eased in England, the force is continuing to tackle crime, support victims and be there for the people of Cheshire. Domestic abuse, burglary and roads policing have been areas of focus for the force in recent weeks with proactive activity across the county to identify, target offenders and take action.

Assistant Chief Constable Jenny Sims said: *"Our officers, staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to protect the people of Cheshire over the course of the pandemic and this hard work will continue. Overall crime has dropped by 34.5% since 1 April compared to the same period last year. However, criminals are still committing crime even under the current circumstances and our proactive policing approach has had a significant impact in Cheshire. This has ranged from operations targeting business premises and schools to prevent burglaries with the support of the Special Constabulary to increasing our use of stop and search across the county on those suspected of being involved in crime to stop checks on our roads catching travelling criminals and visits to known offenders and victims of domestic abuse. The results speak for themselves with many ongoing investigations, positive outcomes at court and vital support provided to victims."*

Last month, one man was sentenced to almost three years in prison after he was stop checked by officers driving above the speed limit. On searching his vehicle, officers discovered 44 wraps of cocaine worth between £1,320 and £4,400 along with £900 in cash. This result followed great work by officers who managed to arrest and charge another man from Runcorn. He was jailed for 20 months after pleading guilty to four counts of attempted burglary in the early hours of Thursday 2 April.

The issue of domestic abuse has remained a priority for the force and across the county a lot of work is going on behind the scenes to tackle it. Officers are being proactive, visiting victims to assess safeguarding as well as speaking to 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 Orders and bail conditions are being adhered to. Across the county, officers have made 450 domestic abuse arrests since 1 April.

There has also been a significant increase in the number charges connected to domestic abuse cases since March 2020 with 285 people charged during the period of 1 April to 14 May. Working alongside partners as part of the Cheshire-wide ['Open the Door' campaign](#), which aims to raise awareness of the issue and show people how to recognise the signs, know what to do and have the confidence to take action, the force has been hosting a series of virtual web chats – and these are set to continue. Checks on key routes across the

county are still taking place in order to catch criminals who are using other means to commit offences during the pandemic, supported by [the ongoing Fatal 5 campaign](#).

ACC Sims added: *“Each day our officers will remain highly visible within our local communities working to deny criminals the use of Cheshire’s roads – and identify anyone committing one of the fatal 5 offences, with a particular focus on speeding, we will prevent those intent on flouting the law from doing so. I would like to take this time to thank the residents of Cheshire for their support and reassure them that we will do everything in our power to continue to pursue those who feel that they are above the law. We are out there doing our job and we need the residents of Cheshire to do their job by staying alert, and where possible stay at home.”*

Two men sentenced for drug dealing offences following raid in Widnes

Two men have been sentenced for drug dealing offences after heroin, cocaine and cannabis with a total street value of more than £2,000 were seized in Widnes.

Benjamin Humphries, 19, and Alan Grimes, 52, were both inside a flat in Brentfield when officers executed a warrant there at around 8am on Wednesday 27 November. Humphries threw most of the heroin and cocaine that was seized out of an upstairs window when he realised that the property was being raided. Moments earlier, officers had seen him trying to climb out of the window whilst carrying a bag that was later found to contain class A drugs heroin and cocaine. Grimes, who lived at the flat, and Humphries, of Daneswell Road, Speke, Liverpool, were subsequently arrested and charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply a class A drug. Humphries was also charged with possession of class B drug cannabis. The total amount of drugs that were seized during the raid was 92 wraps of heroin, 107 wraps of cocaine and 22.1 grams of cannabis. The street value of that amount of drugs is estimated to be £2,260.

Humphries admitted the offences he was charged with but Grimes denied possessing class A drugs with intent to supply them. Two counts of the lesser charge of permitting your property to be used to supply a class A drug were accepted for Grimes.

The pair were sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on Thursday 14 May. Humphries was jailed for two years and four months and Grimes was handed an eight-month custodial sentence. They were also ordered to pay victim surcharges of £181 and £149 respectively. A Criminal Behaviour Order was imposed on Grimes by the court, which he has to adhere to for the next three years.



Benjamin Humphries

Alan Grimes

Activated upon his release from prison, it bans him from associating with Humphries, possessing more than one mobile phone and having three or more people at his home at any time. The CBO also prohibits him from congregating in a group of three or more people within 50 metres of his home and causing alarm, harassment or distress to others. In addition, he has to provide his local police station with details of his telephone number and the international mobile equipment identity (IMEI) of any mobile phone he uses.

Sergeant Steve Owen, of Cheshire Constabulary’s Halton Problem Solving Team, said: *“Illegal drugs cause untold misery and damage to the lives of both people who get addicted to them and the wider community who suffer from the resulting crime. As part of the force’s continued fight against illegal drugs and those who supply them, intelligence that had been received was acted upon and a warrant was executed at a flat in Brentfield,*

Widnes, in November. The raid, which was conducted by officers from Widnes Local Policing Unit and the Halton Problem Solving Team, led to a large quantity of illegal drugs that were undoubtedly destined for our streets being seized. An investigation led by Widnes CID has also now led to two men being convicted of, and sentenced for, drug dealing offences. One of them, Benjamin Humphries, admitted possessing heroin and cocaine with intent to supply them. The other, Alan Grimes, admitted allowing his flat in Brentfield to be used for drug dealing. The criminal and anti-social activities in and around the address at all hours of the day and night made his neighbours' lives a misery. In a bid to prevent further offending upon his release from prison and protect those he will live near, the Halton Problem Solving Team applied for a Criminal Behaviour Order for Grimes. The sanctions imposed for breaching these orders can be severe, potentially up to five years in prison."

Anyone who encounters Grimes breaching the terms of his three-year CBO when he is released from prison is asked to contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101 to report it.

Chief Inspector Catherine Pritchard, of Widnes Local Policing Unit, said: "Drug dealing in the town or elsewhere in Cheshire will not be tolerated. While this investigation has now concluded our fight against illegal drugs and those who supply them continues and 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. You can report suspected drug dealing to us directly by calling 101 or giving the details online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>. Alternatively, information can also be given anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111."

Police appeal for witnesses after Hale Village shop robbery

Police are appealing for witnesses following a robbery at a Hale News, High Street, Hale Village, Widnes.

At 6.45pm on Thursday 14 May two men entered the store and threatened a shop assistant with a firearm. They demanded money and fled with cash and cigarettes on a motorbike (pictured) along Hale Road toward Speke. The first man is described as white and of stocky build. He possibly had blue eyes. He was wearing a black motorbike helmet, a black scarf that covered the lower part of his face and a black motorbike jacket with a belt. He was also wearing gloves and had a Liverpool accent. The second man also had a Liverpool accent.



DS Henderson Pierre said: "The shop assistant was unharmed but she was shaken by her ordeal. Understandably this is concerning but we have stepped up patrols in the area and are making a number of enquiries including checking CCTV and making house to house enquiries. If you were driving through the village between 6.15pm and 7pm and you have dashcam footage which may help us with our enquiries we'd urge you to contact us so that we can find those responsible."

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/#sub-menu-2> quoting IML 704878. Alternatively information can be passed anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers anonymously by on 0800 555 111.

Man charged in connection with an incident in Ellesmere Port

A man has been charged with section 18 wounding in connection with an incident in Ellesmere Port.

Anthony Gee, of Raby Court in Ellesmere Port, has been remanded in custody. The 45-year-old has also been charged with possession of a knife and is due to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on today (Friday 15 May). The charge relates to an incident at 11.56am on Wednesday 13 May when a 34-year-old man was seriously injured at the junction of Cambridge Road and Whitby Road. He remains in hospital in a serious but stable condition. A 44-year-old man who was arrested alongside Gee on Whitby Road on Wednesday 13 May has been released under investigation.

Man charged following charity box theft in Widnes

A 44-year-old man from Widnes has been charged by officers investigating a cancer charity box theft in the town.

Reginald Aitchinson, of Victoria Road, was arrested in Widnes shortly after 8.30pm on Wednesday 13 May. He has since been charged with theft. The charge relates to an incident at a pharmacy on Hale Road in Widnes. The incident occurred shortly before 1.30pm on Monday 11 May. Aitchinson has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Thursday 14 May.

Puppy passes police school

Logan the Dutch Herder, who got much media interest when he first joined the Cheshire and North Wales Alliance, has successfully qualified as a General Purpose police dog.

Instructor and handler PC Richie Land first took Logan in at 8 weeks old and the pup has been living and training with him ever since.



Logan then...



...Logan now

On 7 May an independent assessor passed Logan on all the criteria needed to get out there and protect the public and chase down suspects.

PC Richie Lane said: *"When I got him back in summer last year he was just eight weeks old and getting to grips with his new surroundings. He has settled right in both at home and in work and now he has qualified to be licensed as a general purpose police dog. He did really well and I'm looking forward to working with him full time. It's a real privilege."*

People of Cheshire urged to keep playing their part in tackling coronavirus crisis

The people of Cheshire are being urged to keep playing their part in tackling the coronavirus crisis.

As the easing of restrictions start today (Wednesday 13 May) those living and working in the county are being urged to be aware of the new guidelines and continue to stay at home where they can.

Chief Constable Darren Martland said: *“The community spirit shown by residents across Cheshire during the lockdown has been remarkable and I want to thank every single person who has played their part in helping to keep the nation safe. It has been really encouraging to see that the vast majority of residents have been sticking to the guidelines and, from today, we really need to ensure that this continues. Many are now able to spend more time outdoors and it is really important that people take personal responsibility, know what the remaining regulations are and think very carefully about where they are going and how they will be able to keep their distance from others in order to keep everyone safe.”*

Neighbourhood policing has remained the backbone of policing in Cheshire during the past few months and officers, PCSOs and members of the Special Constabulary have been providing a visible presence in the local community. This will continue along with patrols in and around key locations including schools and business premises – both open and closed – to provide vital reassurance.

Chief Constable Martland added: *“In England, the police role has changed as public health regulations have changed. We police by consent and our overall aim is to continue to encourage and support our local communities to comply fully with the remaining restrictions that are in place. Our officers will continue to engage with the public, talking from a safe distance, explain the remaining measures and what they mean and encourage people to do the right thing and abide by them of their own accord. We will use common sense and discretion to determine what is reasonable. Officers do not want to have to use enforcement powers but it is right that they are still able to take action against those who disregard the rules and, in doing so, are potentially putting people at risk. It is important to remember that officers across Cheshire are working hard to keep everyone safe in what remain challenging circumstances and we all need to work together to get through this. I want to reassure all residents that we are here to serve and protect and maintain the best service to the public and we will continue to work as hard as we can, alongside our partners, to keep you safe, protect our officers and staff, and support the nationwide response.”*

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, said: *“It is still very much necessary to keep to many of the lockdown measures in place in order to stop the spread of the virus, protect our NHS and save lives. I’ve been extremely impressed with how, so far, the vast majority of Cheshire residents have followed the guidance and I would like to thank them for their care. This has enabled minimal levels of enforcement action with Cheshire Constabulary adopting the approach of engaging, explaining and encouraging the public to abide by the measures before considering the use of the new enforcement powers. In my role as Police and Crime Commissioner, I will continue to monitor the policing of the new measures via weekly meetings with the Chief Constable. If local residents have any questions, I’d be grateful to receive these for my weekly reassurance meetings with the Chief Constable where questions will be considered and individual answers provided to residents.”*

Residents are reminded that there are different regulations in place in Scotland and Wales to those in England and people living in Cheshire, which borders North Wales, need to familiarise themselves with what is allowed in each part of the country. With an increase in traffic expected on the county’s roads as some restrictions are

lifted, drivers are also being reminded of the need to stay safe on the road – ensure your vehicle is roadworthy, drive carefully and be mindful of the rules and regulations in place. If you need information and advice on the remaining regulations in place regarding coronavirus please [visit the Government's website](#).

The virtual Q&A sessions with the PCC will take place every Tuesday and Cheshire residents and businesses are invited to send their questions to pcc@cheshire.pnn.police.uk with the subject title 'Reassurance Q&A' by midnight on Sunday to be answered the following week. Alternatively, questions can also be taken by phone during regular office hours by calling 01606 364000.

If you need the help of Cheshire Constabulary there are a number of ways that you can contact the force. In an emergency, where there is a threat to life or a crime is taking place, please call 999. If it isn't an emergency it is possible to [report incidents via our website](#), which people are encouraged to use when possible, or call 101.

Four women charged with fraud offences

Four women arrested by Cheshire police officers after a series of warrants were executed in Greater Manchester have been charged fraud offences.

Emmiline Burdon, 29, Lyndsey Burdon, 36, Sarah Burdon, 40, and Sonia Malhi, 37, were all arrested on Wednesday 13 May as part of an investigation co-ordinated by detectives from Macclesfield and Northwich Beat teams and well as officers from Merseyside's fraud unit. The detectives were supported by Cheshire Constabulary's Economic Crime Unit. Emmiline Burdon, of Riverdale Road, Manchester; Lyndsey Burdon, of Brynorne Road, Manchester; Sarah Burdon, of Evesham Road, Manchester; and Malhi, of Hobson Crescent, Audenshaw, Greater Manchester; have all subsequently been charged with conspiracy to commit fraud along with a number of other offences. All four women have been remanded in custody and are set to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Thursday 14 May. The charges relate to allegations of the fraudulent usage of stolen bank details that were allegedly used to purchase items at stores in Cheshire, Merseyside, Lancashire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester and Derbyshire.

Man charged following coffee and charity shop burglaries in Widnes

A 29-year-old man from Widnes has been charged following coffee and charity shop burglaries in the town.

Josh Dutton, of Albert Road, Widnes, was arrested at his home shortly after 2.30am on Monday 11 May. He has since been charged with two counts of burglary. The charges relate to incidents at coffee and charity shops on Albert Road. The incidents occurred at around 2am on Monday 11 May. Dutton has been released on conditional bail and is set to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 9 June.

New Chief Inspector takes the reins at Ellesmere Port Police Station

A new Chief Inspector has taken the reins at Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit this week.

Gary Smith succeeds Alex McMillan, who is moving to the Force Control Centre, where he will continue as a Chief Inspector. Gary originally joined Cheshire Constabulary in 2001. During his career he has worked in a variety of operational roles across the county. When he was an Inspector, Gary worked as a Critical Incident manager, Criminal Justice manager, a Detective Inspector at Macclesfield Local Policing Unit and, more recently, a Detective Inspector in the force's Professional Standards Department. He has also worked on the national Violence and Public Protection Portfolio and the National Child Sexual Abuse Review Panel. Gary is

joining a well-established team of officers at Ellesmere Port, including Inspector Ian Stead, Inspector Paul Fegan and Detective Inspector Nigel Parr.

Gary said: *"I've been with Cheshire Constabulary for more than 18 years and I am proud to be taking up the role of Chief Inspector at Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit. The team here already do a fantastic job protecting the local community and I look forward to working with them to help make Ellesmere Port and Neston even safer places to live, work and visit. As Chief Inspector my focus will be to ensure that my team continue to deliver an effective service both now and in the future. We will continue to work closely alongside local people and our key partners within the community to help reduce crime in the area and I encourage residents to get in touch if they have any issues or concerns that they want to raise with us."*

Outside of work Gary has two adult sons and lives with his wife Nichola, who is also a serving officer. In his spare time, Gary enjoys walking, keeping fit, gardening, and spending time with his family and friends.



Latest Cheshire Appeals

CCTV image released after man is assaulted in Warrington

Police have released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to in connection with an assault in Warrington.

The assault took place at around 10.50am on Thursday 9 April on Grammar School Road in Latchford. A 54-year-old man was spat at and punched to the face by an unknown man. He received treatment for minor injuries at Warrington Hospital. Enquiries have been ongoing and officers are keen to speak to the man in the CCTV image who may be able to assist with their investigation.

PC Alex Carr, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *"This was an unprovoked attack on a man who was simply carrying out his job during these challenging times. I am keen to speak to the man in the image and I am encouraging him to come forward as he may have information to assist with our investigation. If you recognise him or have any information please get in touch by calling police on 101 quoting IML 678232."*

Information can also be provided through the Cheshire Police website <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/> or by contacting Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following arson attack in Widnes

Detectives are appealing for information and footage from members of the public following an arson attack in Widnes.

Shortly after 4.30am on Thursday 14 May emergency services were notified of a car being on fire on a driveway in Plumley Gardens. The fire destroyed the car and caused minor damage to a nearby house window

before being extinguished by firefighters. An investigation has established that the fire was started deliberately. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may help their investigation to get in touch.

Detective Sergeant Henderson Pierre, of Widnes Local Policing Unit, said: *“The car was set alight in the hours of the morning when people are asleep. Thankfully no-one was injured as a result of this incident and the fire was put out by firefighters before it had chance to spread beyond the window of the house and put lives as well as properties at risk. The consequences of the arson attack could have been far worse than a destroyed car and minor damage to a house window. I would like to reassure members of the community that this is believed to have been an isolated incident and we are determined to establish who started the fire and make them face the consequences of their actions. As part of our ongoing enquiries we want to speak to anyone who was in the area and believes they may have seen something that could aid our investigation. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who started the fire, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.”*

Anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to the investigation is asked to call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 704371, [give the details via our website](#) or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Sandbach police urge residents to be vigilant following thefts

Police are advising residents in Sandbach to be vigilant following a number of thefts in Ettiley Heath and Elworth.

Residents in the area have woken up this morning (14 May) to discover they had been targeted by thieves overnight. A silver Lexus was stolen from an address in Ettiley Avenue and a garage at another address had been broken into. Nothing had been stolen but two bikes from the shed were found in a neighbouring bush. In Elton Road a car had been entered, but it wasn't clear if anything had been taken, while a house had been entered in Blakemere Way and a handbag and watches were stolen.

DC Scott Bowater said: *“While we are investigating the thefts, I'd urge people to make sure their homes and cars are fully locked and secure. Keep valuables out of reach and look out for suspicious activity. Contact police if you see anything that doesn't seem right.”*

Anyone with information on the thefts or has dashcam footage or CCTV footage that may help should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/> quoting IML 704430. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 55 111.

Appeal for witnesses after man is stabbed in Ellesmere Port

Detectives are appealing for witnesses to come forward after a man was stabbed in Ellesmere Port.

The incident was reported to police at 11.56am on Wednesday 13 May. The 34-year-old man was seriously injured at the junction of Cambridge Road and Whitby Road. He was taken to Aintree Hospital by air ambulance where he remains in a serious condition. A scene is currently in place at the junction of Cambridge Road and at an address on Whitby Road. Two men, aged 44 and 45, were arrested on Whitby Road on suspicion of section 18 assault and are currently in custody. An investigation is underway and enquiries are

ongoing. Officers remain in the area as part of the investigation and to provide reassurance to the local community.

Chief Inspector Gary Smith, of Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit, said: *“I understand the police activity today will have caused concern within the local community. I want to reassure residents that we believe this to be a targeted incident and we have made two arrests as part of our ongoing enquiries. There will be officers on the streets to reassure residents and if you have any concerns please speak to them. I know a number of people were in the area at the time and may have witnessed the incident. I am appealing for them to come forward to assist with our investigation. If anyone has any information or dash cam footage please get in touch by calling 101 and quoting IML 703803.”*

Anyone who has dashcam footage of the incident is asked to [submit it through the Cheshire Police website](#) quoting IML 703803. Information can also be reported anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or through [the Crimestoppers website](#).

Appeal following arson incident in Ellesmere Port

Officers investigating an arson incident in Ellesmere Port are appealing for information from members of the public.

Sometime before 4.45am on Wednesday 13 May a mechanical digger was set alight in a field off Seacombe Drive in Great Sutton. The fire caused extensive damage to the plant machinery before it was extinguished by firefighters. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are urging anyone with any information or footage that may help their investigation to get in touch.



Police Constable Lena Martin, of Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit, said: *“Arson is a serious offence and we are determined to establish who started the fire and make them face the consequences of their actions. The fire caused significant damage to the mechanical digger. It is believed to be an isolated incident and enquiries are ongoing. As part of our enquiries we want to speak to anyone who was in the area in the early hours of the morning and witnessed anything that may aid our investigation. Perhaps you saw who started the fire, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them. We also want to hear from anyone who believes they may know who started the fire.”*



Anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 703663, give the details [via our website](#), or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following arson incident in Runcorn

Detectives investigating an arson incident in Runcorn are appealing for information and footage from members of the public.

At around 5am on Tuesday 12 May an offender rode to Bodmin Close in Brookvale on a bicycle. They then got off their bike, walked up to a car in a communal car park and set the vehicle alight. The offender, who had a slim to medium build and was wearing all dark clothing, then fled the scene on their bike. The fire caused extensive damage to the front of the car before being extinguished by firefighters. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are urging anyone with any information or footage that may aid their investigation to get in touch.

Detective Inspector David Hutcheon, of Runcorn Local Policing Unit, said: *“Thankfully no-one was injured as a result of this incident and the fire was put out by firefighters before it had chance to spread beyond the car. It caused extensive damage to the front of the vehicle but the consequences of this incident could have been much worse. I would like to reassure the community that this is believed to have been an isolated incident and we are determined to establish who started the fire and make them face the consequences of their actions. Enquiries are ongoing and as part of our investigation we want to speak to anyone who was in the area and believes they may have seen the offender. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who the offender is, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.”*

Anyone with information or footage that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 703015, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Officers re-issue appeal for witnesses following a fatal collision in Orford

Officers investigating a fatal collision in Orford are further appealing for witnesses to come forward.

The one-vehicle-collision on Statham Avenue involved a Kawasaki motorcycle with a rider and pillion passenger. It was reported to police at around 6.11pm on Sunday 19 April. Two men were taken to Aintree Hospital. One of the men, Leon Cameron, aged 28, sadly died a short time later. The other 28-year-old man remains in hospital. Following a number of enquiries, officers have established two witnesses were at the scene who have not yet come forward to speak to police. They are directly appealing for the man and woman, who were walking along Statham Avenue with a child at the time, to get in touch. The man was dressed in dark clothing with a black puffer jacket and the woman was wearing a yellow coat.

Sergeant Helen Cooper, from the Serious and Complex Investigation Unit, said: *“Sadly a young man died in the collision and our thoughts are with his family who are being supported during this difficult time. Our enquiries have been ongoing and I have established a number of witnesses were in the area when the collision took place. I am particularly keen to speak to a man and woman who were walking together on Statham Road when the collision occurred. I want to make it clear that we want to speak to them purely as witnesses as they may be able to help with our investigation. I also want to encourage anyone else who has not yet spoken to police and may have information or dashcam footage to get in touch.”*

Information can be reported by calling Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 686130 or by visiting <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/>

CCTV images released in connection with robbery at convenience store in Warrington

Detectives investigating an armed robbery in Warrington have released CCTV images of two men they want to speak to in connection with the incident.

It occurred at a convenience store on Gorse Covert Road at around 8.21pm on Sunday 10 May. Two men, believed to be armed with knives, entered the One Stop shop and stole a quantity of cash while staff were inside. There were no reports of any staff members receiving any injuries. The men then left the store on foot in an unknown direction. Enquiries in relation to the robbery are ongoing and officers are appealing for anyone who knows the men or may have information to get in touch.

Detective Constable Joe Davies, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *“This was understandably a terrifying ordeal for the members of staff who were in the store at the time and have been left shaken. We are following a number of lines of enquiry and as part of our investigation we want to hear from anyone who may have witnessed the robbery or were in the area at the time. Although you can’t see the face of the man in the CCTV image people may recognise him from his clothing. If you do or you have any further information please contact us.”*

If you have any information please contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 702176. Alternatively you can give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/> or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following arson attack at Alderley Edge restaurant

Detectives investigating an arson attack at a Chinese restaurant in Alderley Edge are appealing for information from members of the public.

The YU restaurant on Wilmslow Road was broken into at around 3.30am on Saturday 9 May. Petrol was then poured onto the floor in the bar area and set alight. Fortunately the fire only caused relatively minor damage to the restaurant, damaging an area surrounding the bar and some bar stools. The restaurant also sustained smoke damage as a result of the fire. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may aid their investigation to get in touch.

Detective Sergeant Simon Mills, of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit, said: *“No-one was inside the restaurant when it was broken into and thankfully the fire went out by itself and caused only relatively minor damage to the premises. The consequences of this incident could have been far worse. If the fire had spread it could have endangered lives as well as neighbouring properties. We are determined to establish who started the fire and make them face the consequences of their actions. Enquiries are ongoing and as part of our investigation we want to speak to anyone who was in the area in the early hours of Saturday 9 May and witnessed anything suspicious. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who started the fire, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.”*

Anyone with information or footage that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 700902, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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/>