

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 24th May 2020

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Two people charged in connection with Cheshire burglary series

Detectives investigating a series of burglaries across Cheshire have charged two people.

Charlie Swann and a 16-year-old boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, were both arrested on Tuesday 19 May in connection with a number of burglaries in Winsford, Northwich, Liverpool and Runcorn. Swann, 23, has since been charged with four counts of burglary, one attempted burglary and one theft of a vehicle. The teenager has been charged with eight counts of burglary, three counts of attempted burglary, one theft of a vehicle and possession of a Class B drug, Cannabis. Swann, of Deysbrook Lane, Liverpool, and the teenager, who is from the Huyton area, both appeared at Warrington Magistrates' Court later today, Thursday 21 May. Swann has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 18 June. The teenager has been released on conditional bail and is due to appear in Youth Court on Thursday 4 June.

Public reminded of the helpdesk services available at police stations across Cheshire

Cheshire Constabulary would like to remind the public about helpdesk services available at local police stations, now that lockdown measures have eased.

Residents who need to report an issue to the Constabulary via the helpdesks can do so by turning up at a station and using the telephone outside. The telephone connects to the main control room 24 hours a day. Anyone who rings up will be asked a series of screening questions in relation to coronavirus to assist us in safeguarding our staff and other members of the public. If there are no concerns in relation to health, the member of public will be able to enter and speak to the helpdesk staff. Some issues could be resolved during the conversation with the switchboard, which might enable some members of the public not having to enter a station. Information and issues can also be reported to Cheshire Constabulary online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/>. In an emergency, where a crime is taking place or there is a danger to life, always dial 999.

The following helpdesks are open to the public:

- Blacon
- Congleton
- Crewe
- Ellesmere Port
- Knutsford
- Macclesfield
- Nantwich
- Northwich

- Runcorn
- Stockton Heath
- Warrington
- Widnes
- Wilmslow

Criminal ordered to pay back more than £6 million of his ill-gotten gains

A criminal who was stopped on the M6 transporting £20 million of cocaine has been ordered to pay back his ill-gotten gains.

Jamie Simpson was found to have profited from his share of the drugs, which were seized on 2 August 2018, to the sum of £6 million. The 32-year-old is currently serving 11 years and six months in prison for conspiracy to supply cocaine. He was convicted as part of Operation Dreadnought, an investigation into two organised crime groups in Warrington who made, distributed and profited from the supply of drugs across the country. Simpson was described as being at the highest level of his organised crime group. He was jailed along with three of his associates for a total of 35 years in June 2019. They had all travelled back from Kent with 186kg of cocaine, worth a total of £20 million. Officers discovered the drugs concealed beneath a false floor in a specially adapted van.

Detective Chief Inspector Giles Pierce, from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: *“It is unheard of for a criminal to have such a large benefit figure but this is due to the fact that Simpson was involved in one of the largest in-land cocaine seizure in this country. More than £6 million of that cocaine belonged to Simpson and the remaining amount would have been purchased by other organised criminals. Simpson will always be in debt and owe the police the money until he has re-paid the full amount. In the future, once he is released from prison, the Proceeds of Crime Act gives us the power to take from him anything he buys that is of value. This means he will never live the lavish lifestyle he did when he was operating his criminal enterprise.”*

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, said: *“The Proceeds of Crime Act ensures that money seized from criminals is put to good use keeping our communities safe. Criminal activity ruins lives and communities so I am committed to ensuring money seized from offending is reinvested back into our communities to discourage people from making the same mistakes. My Safer Communities Fund takes the money seized underneath the Proceeds of Crime Act in Cheshire and reinvests it back into local community groups via small grants so they can make their area a safer place to live.”*

Simpson was ordered to pay back the benefit figure of £6,143,854 following a proceeds of crime hearing at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 15 May.

Man charged in connection with incident on The Birches in Crewe

A man has been charged with possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life and affray in connection with an incident in Crewe.

Kieran Fagan, of no fixed address, was arrested at an address on Brook Close in Crewe on Monday 18 May. The 23-year-old has been remanded in custody and is due to appear at Crewe Magistrates Court on Tuesday 19 May. The charge relates to an incident at 10pm on Sunday 19 April when a shot was fired outside an address on The Birches in Davenport Avenue. On Friday 1 May 24-year-old Kenneth Stevenson, of Flag Lane in Crewe, was charged with possession of an offensive weapon, possession of a firearm with intent to

cause fear of violence and affray. Nyle Smith, aged 24, of Artle Road in Crewe, was also charged with possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and affray. Stevenson and Smith are due to appear at Chester Crown Court on Friday 29 May. A 20-year-old man arrested on suspicion of possession of a firearm has been released on conditional bail.

Police in the North West join forces to warn motorists about dangers of speeding

Police in the North West are joining forces to urge motorists to stop speeding following the lifting of some travel restrictions by the government.

Over the last few weeks there have been a number of incidents of unacceptable speed across the region as people took advantage of the quieter roads - with some clocking up speeds in excess of 140mph. Following on from the individual speeding enforcement campaigns the forces have already been carrying out, Cheshire Constabulary, Lancashire Police, Cumbria Constabulary, Greater Manchester Police and Merseyside Police are joining together to urge motorists to slow down. As part of a nationwide campaign, the five forces across the North West will be sharing a common goal as they continue to crackdown on speeding motorists. The two week-long campaign, which launches on Monday (18 May), is being coordinated by the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) – with a warning from the North West that if you speed in the region, police will take action. It is important that everyone realises that speed limits are in place for a reason.

Head of Cheshire Constabulary's Roads and Crime Unit, Superintendent Jo Marshall-Bell, said: *"Officers will be out over the next two weeks looking for people speeding in the county. They are not doing this for the sake of it, they are doing it to save people's lives. People are quick to say "police need to prioritise real issues", "shouldn't they focus on real crimes?" I want to stress that people are killed and seriously injured as a result of unnecessary speed, so this is, and quite rightly so, a priority for us. It is absolutely crucial we engage with and educate motorists on how to use the roads safely - and enforce the law when they are not. If you speed in Cheshire, we will take action."*

Chief Inspector of Cumbria Constabulary's Roads Policing unit, Ben Swinson, said: *"In recent weeks we have seen evidence of people using the quieter roads as an excuse to drive dangerously and at speed. Whilst the world might have changed, the speed limits and traffic laws have not. The county's roads are not a race track. We have seen some particularly egregious examples in recent weeks, including a vehicle being recorded travelling in excess on 130mph on the A69. We are expecting the roads to be progressively busier in the coming days and weeks and would urge everyone to drive with caution. Driving recklessly puts yourself and other road users at an enormous risk of serious injury or death – and all at a time when the emergency services, and particularly hospitals, are under great strain."*

Chief Inspector Sue Bushell, of Lancashire Police's Tac Ops Dept, said: *"Road safety is always a priority for us as speeding can have devastating consequences. Sadly, across the North West there has been an increase in some people driving at excessive speeds, potentially putting themselves and others at risk. In Lancashire we launched Operation Manta Ray earlier this month to tackle those motorists who think they can use the roads as their personal racetrack. We will continue to act on the concerns our communities have raised. No matter how quiet the roads may be currently, the speed limit still applies."*

Superintendent Julie Ellison from GMP's Specialist Operations Team said: *"At all times road safety in and around Greater Manchester is of paramount importance as speeding can have devastating consequences – not only does it increase the risk of collisions occurring, but it can affect the severity of those that do take*

place and in the worst case scenario can be fatal. In this current climate, keeping the pressure off our emergency services is so important whilst they keep the public safe and well. If someone is speeding and they have a collision, this will take up vital resources including NHS, fire and the police. We have been extremely proactive in our crackdown of speeding drivers and we have dealt with a significant number of motorists since lockdown started. We expect the roads will start to get busier over the coming weeks and I want to reassure our communities that my officers are working tirelessly to track down these offenders who are using the roads as their own personal racetrack. We are working closely with our partners and the community to actively discourage them and would like to encourage the public to ensure they are reporting issues/concerns in their local area so we can plan our traffic operations accordingly and make the best use of our available officers. Being part of this joint campaign with our other North West colleagues shows we are all working towards a common goal – to crackdown on speeding motorists, save lives and protect the NHS.”

Merseyside Police Roads Policing Inspector Carl McNulty said: *“While the roads have been clearer than usual, we’ve prosecuted more than 100 people for speeding offences since lockdown began. Our officers remain visible on the road networks and we’re stopping people and enforcing driving laws as always. Don’t be complacent: there is no excuse for breaking the laws of the road, at this or any time. Driving at high speeds endangers the lives of those driving and those of other road users and pedestrians, and can put extra demands on our NHS.”*

If prosecuted for speeding, the minimum penalty is a £100 fine and three penalty points. You could also be disqualified from driving if you build up 12 or more penalty points within a period of three years. Information on the penalties for speeding can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/speeding-penalties>

Chester man charged with three burglary offences

Officers investigating burglary offences in Chester have secured charges against a 34-year-old man from the city.

Krzysztof Karszewski, of Lightfoot Street, was arrested in Queens Drive, Chester, at around 3.20pm on Saturday 16 May. He has since been charged with three counts of burglary, as well as possession of a class B drug (amphetamine). The burglary charges relate to incidents in:

- Princes Avenue, Chester, on Saturday 16 May
- Egerton Street, Chester, on Friday 15 May
- Hoole Lane, Chester, on Thursday 30 April.

Karszewski appeared at Warrington Magistrates' Court, via a video link, on Monday 18 May. He was remanded in custody and is set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Monday 15 June.

Appeal to locate wanted Winsford man

Officers from Cheshire Police are appealing to the public to help locate a wanted man from Winsford.

Antonio Wint, is described as a black male, around 6' 2" tall, of proportionate build with short cropped black hair. The 33-year-old is wanted on recall to prison. He was last known to reside on Cavendish Close in Winsford and is known to have links to the Old Trafford, Whalley Range and Moss Side areas of Greater Manchester. Anyone who sees Wint or anyone with any information regarding his whereabouts, is advised not to approach him but to instead contact Cheshire Constabulary immediately on 101, quoting IML 654413. Alternatively information regarding his whereabouts can be reported anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal for information following serious collision in Warrington

Officers investigating a serious collision in Warrington are appealing for information and dashcam footage from members of the public.

Shortly after 6.30am on Thursday 21 May police were called to reports of a collision on the A49 Winwick Road, between Cromwell Avenue and Junction 9 of the M62. Officers attended the scene and discovered that the collision on the northbound carriageway, near to the Motormill car showroom, involved a BMW 1 Series and a cyclist. The cyclist, a 43-year-old local man, had sustained serious injuries as a result of the collision and was taken to Aintree University Hospital in an ambulance. His current condition in hospital is described as stable. The driver of the car, a 41-year-old local man, was arrested at the scene on suspicion of drug driving, possession of a class A drug and causing serious injuries by dangerous driving. He has since been released under investigation pending further enquiries.

As part of their ongoing enquiries officers want to speak to anyone who witnessed the collision. They also want to hear from anyone who has any dashcam footage which may aid their investigation. Anyone with information or footage regarding the collision is asked to contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 709844, or visit <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>.

Cheshire Constabulary has referred the incident to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) due to a previous occurrence that morning involving the BMW car.

Appeal following serious assault in Crewe

Detectives investigating a serious assault in Crewe are appealing for information and footage from members of the public.

The victim, a 50-year-old man from the town, sustained a serious injury as a result of the incident in Flag Lane. A group of five teenage boys wearing dark clothing and face coverings rode up to the victim on bicycles and asked him for a cigarette at around 10pm on Sunday 17 May. After failing to get a cigarette from the man, two of the boys assaulted him. The victim was hit with a bike seat. He was also punched and kicked before the group rode off on their bicycles. The victim flagged down a car for help and was subsequently taken to hospital in an ambulance. He remains in hospital recovering from his serious injury.

Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who was in the area and witnessed the incident, or saw anything else that may help their investigation, to get in touch. They also want to speak to anyone who believes they may know the identities of the boys on the bicycles or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.

Detective Constable Scott Marshall-Bowater, of Crewe CID, said: *“This was a frightening and traumatic incident that has left the victim in hospital with a serious injury and extremely shaken up. I would like to reassure the community that this appears to be an isolated incident and we are determined to establish the identities of the boys responsible for the unprovoked assault and bring them to justice. As part of our enquiries we want to speak to anyone who was in the Flag Lane area of Crewe at around 10pm on Sunday 17 May and saw anything that may aid our investigation. We also want to hear from anyone who believes they may know the identities of the boys on the bikes or have footage of them.”*

Anyone with information or CCTV or dashcam footage that may be relevant to the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 708659, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following serious assault of a man walking a dog in Crewe

Detectives are appealing for information from members of the public following a serious assault in Crewe.

The incident occurred on Bradfield Road, near the Coppenhall Working Men’s Club, shortly before 7pm on Friday 15 May. The victim, a 28-year-old man from Crewe, was assaulted as he was walking a white dog without a lead. He was punched in the face by a man who arrived at the scene from North Street in a grey Vauxhall Astra. The offender fled in the car following the assault, travelling back along North Street towards what is known locally as the Cross Keys roundabout. The incident left the victim with serious facial injuries. He was taken to hospital in an ambulance and has since been discharged after receiving treatment.

Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who was in the area and witnessed the incident, or saw anything else that may help their investigation, to get in touch. They also want to speak to anyone who believes they may know the identity of the offender or have information or footage concerning the car he was in.

Detective Constable Liz Rankin, of Crewe Local Policing Unit, said: *“A dog walker suffered serious facial injuries as a result of this incident and we are determined to establish who inflicted the injuries. I would like to reassure the community that this appears to be an isolated incident and enquiries are ongoing in a bid to identify the offender. As part of our enquiries we want to speak to anyone who was in the area at around*

7pm on Friday 15 May and saw anything that may aid our investigation. We also want to hear from anyone who believes they may know who the offender is or have information or CCTV or dashcam footage regarding the grey Vauxhall Astra he was travelling in."

Anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 705701, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal for witnesses following fatal collision on the M56 in Cheshire.

Officers are appealing for information from the public after a pedestrian died following a collision on the M56 near Hapsford.

At around 5.30am on Monday 18 May police were called to reports of a collision between junctions 12 and 14 of the M56. On arrival it was found that a HGV tanker, travelling in the direction of Runcorn, had been involved in a collision with a pedestrian. The pedestrian, a 50-year-old man from Ellesmere Port, was pronounced dead at the scene. His next of kin have been informed and they are being supported by specialist officers. The driver of the HGV was uninjured and liaised with officers at the scene.

Enquiries are ongoing and officers are keen to hear from anyone who witnessed the collision or anyone with any dashcam footage which may aid their investigation. Anyone who witnessed the collision, or anyone with any information that may assist the investigation, is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, quoting IML 707448 or visit <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/> .

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/>