

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 1st November 2020

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Police warn businesses to be vigilant following fuel thefts

Cheshire Police is warning businesses which hold large amounts of fuel on site to be vigilant following two thefts in West and South Cheshire.

Two haulage yards had between 23,000 and 45,000 litres of fuel stolen overnight recently, the latest being reported to police on 29 October. Detectives are now urging businesses such as haulage, transport, construction, and farming to be vigilant and keep an eye on fuel tanks as much as possible, checking for any tampering of the tanks and also perimeter fencing. If you can, put CCTV and lighting in the yard as a deterrent.

DC James Elliott said: *“While we investigate these thefts, we want to prevent any further crimes from taking place. If you notice any suspicious activity, or suspicious visitors to your yard, please contact police. Neighbours can also look out for each other by reporting any suspicious vehicles.”*

Anyone with information can contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via www.cheshire.police.uk. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Man jailed for life after murdering his housemate in Ellesmere Port

A 22-year-old man has been jailed for murdering his housemate in Ellesmere Port.

Arkadiusz Kaczmarek denied stabbing 47-year-old Slawomir Kulesza to death in the home they shared in Blakemere Court. Kaczmarek claimed that he was so drunk on the night that dad-of-two Slawomir was killed that he has no memory of what took place. However, a jury found Kaczmarek guilty of murder on Thursday 29 October following a nine-day trial at Chester Crown Court. The jury of six men and six women reached their unanimous verdict in under an hour. Also convicted of possession of a knife in a public place, Kaczmarek returned to the court to be sentenced the following day. He was jailed for life and has to serve a minimum of 19 years in prison.



When sentencing Kaczmarek, His Honour Judge (HHJ) Steven Everett told him: *“This was a drink fuelled frenzied attack and a truly heinous offence. He (Slawomir) tried desperately to get away from you, putting his hands up. It must have been a terrible thing for him, with the many blows you inflicted on him – 10 stab wounds and a slash wound. We may never know why you did what you did, but nothing could justify any sort of attack, let alone this murderous attack. I’m quite sure you remember what you did and knew what you were doing at the time, which was aggravated by drink.”*

DI Kate Tomlinson, who led the investigation on behalf of Cheshire Constabulary’s Major Investigation Team, added: *“The strength of the evidence gathered by my team of officers as part of this case left the jury with no*

doubt that Arkadiusz Kaczmarek was guilty of murdering his housemate. He subjected Slawomir to a horrific degree of violence, stabbing him with a kitchen knife multiple times, including through the side of his head into his brain and through his heart. It was a vicious and sustained assault and Kaczmarek then left Slawomir dead or dying on their kitchen floor as he went out to dispose of the knife. He took Slawomir's phone with him, leaving the victim with no way of calling for help. CCTV footage captured Kaczmarek walking around with the knife in his hands. He disposed of it in an alleyway in the Worcester Walk area of Ellesmere Port before officers in a patrol car spotted Kaczmarek walking on Westminster Bridge with blood on his clothes. DNA analysis subsequently proved that blood on Kaczmarek's clothes and on the kitchen knife belonged to Slawomir. Traces of Kaczmarek's DNA were also found on the knife."

Both of Polish descent, Kaczmarek and Slawomir first met in February when the former moved into the two-storey mid terrace house in Blakemere Court. On the night of the killing, Friday 1 May, they had gone to a convenience store together and bought a bottle of vodka. A neighbour was woken up by loud noises at their address at about 1am. At around 1.05am a CCTV camera captured Kaczmarek walking along Westminster Road carrying the kitchen knife. After disposing of it at the bottom of a metal fence he climbed over, he went to sleep in the front garden of a house in Worcester Walk. A passer-by saw him and informed the homeowner. The pair confronted Kaczmarek, who fled the area on foot before being stopped by the two officers in the police car at around 3am. They tried to question Kaczmarek about blood on his clothing but discovered that he spoke very little English. Subsequently communicating with him via an online translation service, the officers established where he lived and took him home. When they arrived Kaczmarek told them that he lived there with a friend who was asleep in the house. The officers went inside to check that Kaczmarek and his friend were safe. They also wanted to see Kaczmarek's ID. After searching the house and finding Slawomir lying on his back in a pool of blood, they started giving him CPR and called for an ambulance. Paramedics later took over the CPR but, despite the best efforts of everyone involved, Slawomir was sadly pronounced dead at the scene shortly after 3.30am. Kaczmarek was arrested at the house and a homicide investigation was launched. A post-mortem examination revealed that Slawomir died of his stab wounds. The knife used to inflict the injuries was found by a member of the public on Sunday 3 May. Aware of a police presence in the area, she directed an officer to the knife. Kaczmarek refused to answer any questions in custody.

DI Tomlinson added: *"Kaczmarek's actions on the night of Friday 1 May were completely out of character. This was his first offence and it was committed after he had drunk an excessive amount of alcohol. Kaczmarek has always claimed that he was so drunk that he cannot remember what happened, so we may never know what led to him stabbing his housemate several times that night. I am pleased that Kaczmarek has now been convicted of, and jailed for, the murder. Our thoughts are with the victim's family and I hope this case and the life sentence that Kaczmarek has received deters others from using knives and committing similar offences."*

CI Catherine Pritchard, of Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit, said: *"The details of the brutal killing of Slawomir Kulesza may shock the local community. I would like to thank the members of the public who have helped to secure the murder conviction and bring Kaczmarek to justice. I would also like to thank the officers that have been involved in this case for all their hard work. Police Constables Mike Rogers and Ethan Linforth, the two officers who stopped Arkadiusz Kaczmarek on Westminster Bridge and subsequently discovered the body of his victim through first-class police work, are a credit to the force. The same is true of our Major Investigation Team, who have worked tirelessly in gathering vital evidence and piecing together the case. This included speaking to witnesses, collecting and viewing CCTV footage and carrying out forensic enquiries."*

HHJ Everett singled out PCs Rogers and PC Linforth for praise after body-worn camera footage of their police work on the night that Slawomir was murdered was shown at court. He said: *"Arkadiusz Kaczmarek did his*

best to persuade them not to look for him (Slawomir), but fortunately the officers did so and found the terrible scene. Their behaviour was magnificent – their patience, respect and caring approach. The footage shows PC Linforth faced with a man lying fatally injured, doing his best to effect CPR. PC Rogers showed professionalism and calmness, looking out for his colleague and the defendant. There was no hint of panic or distress, and both officers should be commended for that.”

David Keane, PCC for Cheshire, added: *“I would like to praise the two PCs and everyone involved in the subsequent investigation for their outstanding police work that has led to this murder conviction. As this case shows, the consequences of getting heavily drunk and using a knife as a weapon can be devastating for everyone involved. This horrendous crime was committed by a previously law abiding citizen. My condolences go to the victim’s family. I hope that this conviction, and the fact that his killer is now facing the consequences of his appalling actions, provides them with some comfort.”*

Former member of police staff jailed

A former member of Cheshire Police staff has been jailed after pleading guilty to a number of offences.

Bryn Majid, a former custody investigation officer, was sentenced to 20 months in prison at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 23 October. The 59-year-old, of Hale Road, Widnes, admitted attempting to engage in sexual activity with a child and three counts of downloading images. He was also ordered to sign the sex offenders register for 10 years.



Following his sentencing, DSupt Chris Warren, of Cheshire Constabulary’s Professional Standards Department, said: *“As a former police staff member working in the role of custody investigator he knew that what he was doing was against the law. He held a position of trust and he agreed to abide by the clear guidelines about the standards expected of him. Disappointingly, as this conviction shows, his behaviour was totally inappropriate and he clearly failed to meet these standards. While Majid pleaded guilty and resigned from the force, that does not in any way excuse his behaviour and I hope that the outcome of this case reassures the public by demonstrating that nobody is above the law, no matter what position they hold.”*

Macclesfield pub closed down for eight weeks

A closure order has been imposed on a pub in Macclesfield in response to persistent unacceptable behaviour both inside and outside the premises.

Cheshire Constabulary and Cheshire East Council’s licensing team have received numerous complaints regarding the Prince Albert public house in Newton Street since the country came out of lockdown and pubs were allowed to reopen at the beginning of July. There have been multiple reports of disorder and anti-social



behaviour at the Prince Albert. There have also been reports of lock-ins and drug dealing taking place at the premises, and of the pub not adhering to the current Covid-19 closing time regulations. The Macclesfield Beat Team and the council have been working together to address the concerns of local residents. With meetings with the pub’s landlord having failed to lead to a significant improvement in behaviour at the Prince Albert, a temporary closure order was imposed on the premises on Monday 19 October. Then on

Tuesday 27 October Crewe Magistrates' Court ruled that the pub should remain closed for up to eight weeks. The closure order was imposed under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

PC Matthew Bassirat, who applied for the closure order on behalf of Macclesfield Beat Team, said: *"The behaviour of people inside and outside the pub has caused those living in nearby properties significant alarm, harassment and distress. They should not have to put up with things like fighting and excessive noise late at night. As well as investigating reports regarding people's behaviour at the pub, we have tried to work with the landlord since August to address the wider issue of the premises being the source of widespread misery. Our efforts in collaboration with Cheshire East Council have not had the desired effect and I am pleased that a closure order has now been secured. It shows that we listen to the concerns of the local community and take action when necessary. I hope that other pubs and business take note of this. I have no doubt that the closure order is the right result for the community and that it will have a positive impact on the area. The order makes it illegal for anyone to be at the pub for up to eight weeks. If anyone enters the pub during that time they will be committing an offence and can be arrested. We will conduct regular checks of the premises whilst the order is in place to ensure that it is not breached and we'll also continue to work closely with local residents and the council."*

Cllr Mick Warren, cabinet member for communities at Cheshire East Council, added: *"I regret that this type of enforcement action was needed, but residents in Cheshire East can be assured that the council is working closely with the police to help prevent anti-social behaviour such as this, which impacts on local communities. It was without doubt the right course of action to close the premises and it gives the local community peace of mind to know that the council, together with the police, are protecting them. Naturally we are keen to work with licensed premises to avoid situations like this happening again in the future."*

If anyone is found to have breached a closure order they are liable to be arrested and face up to six months in prison, an unlimited fine or both.

David Keane, PCC for Cheshire, said: *"This closure order shows that local policing teams will continue to use the full remit of the law to combat persistent unacceptable behaviour, whether it stems from a residential or a business premises. I hope that this result provides reassurance to the local community and serves as a warning to those who have a significant detrimental impact on the quality of life of local residents through illegal and anti-social behaviour."*

Officers across three force areas joined together in a special operation to protect our rural borders from crime

On 20 October 30 Special Constables from Cheshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire, supported by full time colleagues, carried out Operation Outpost.

The operation was designed to put additional staff into our rural borders, stretching from Disley to Congleton. The objective of the operation was to proactively patrol the entry and exit routes to the Cheshire Force area, from Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Greater Manchester, targeting those who enter Cheshire intent on committing rural crime, wildlife crime, heritage crime and waste crime offences.

Special Sgt Simon Jones from Cheshire Constabulary said: *"It was great to see large numbers of volunteer officers from different forces working closely together to soften the force borders. We made an arrest for*

drink driving, driving otherwise in accordance with a licence and no insurance. We also had another car stopped for no insurance, and a man stopped night fishing on club waters without a permit and more. It was a very successful operation and we hope to have more opportunities to do this again to reassure our rural communities that we are out there making a difference.”



Cheshire Constabulary's Rural Crime Team are also hoping to recruit brand new special constables from the rural communities they operate in – they will be given full training, uniform and powers, and are required to perform a minimum commitment of 17 hours per month. You can [enquire about joining as a special on our website](#).

Find out more about the rural crime team and the work they do - follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Man jailed for life for the murder of vulnerable wheelchair-bound Warrington father

A man who repeatedly kicked a helpless wheelchair-bound father-of-two to death in Warrington has been sentenced to life in prison.

Daniel Sharples was convicted of the murder of 53-year-old Michael Mairs following an eight day trial at Liverpool Crown Court which concluded on Wednesday 14 September. Today, Tuesday 27 October, the 38-year-old of Griesdale Avenue, Orford, Warrington, was sentenced to life in prison with a minimum of 21 years.

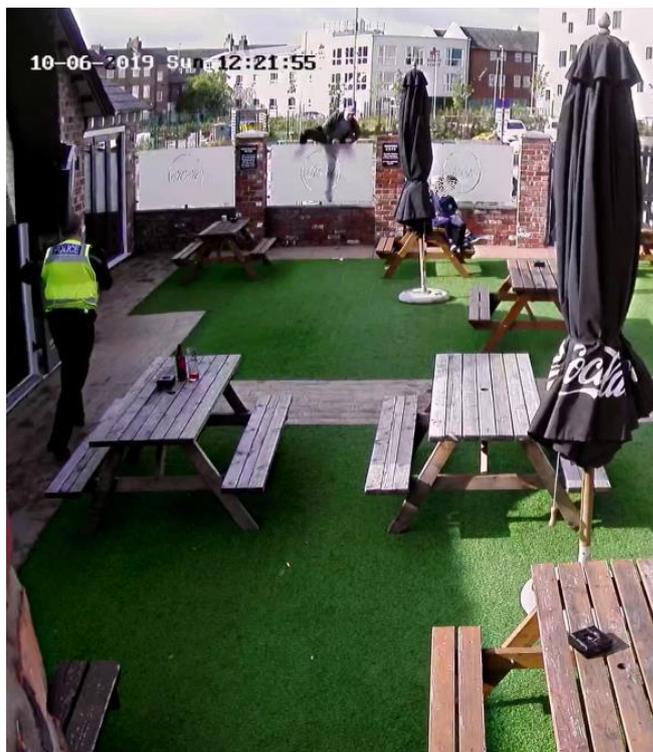


The attack took place on Sunday 6 October 2019. Sharples began his day at 9.40am when he went for breakfast with a pint at the Looking Glass in Warrington town centre. He then went on to the Hop Pole where he had more alcohol to drink along with several shots of Sambuca. Sharples then left the pub at around midday and made his way up Winwick Street. As he went under the railway bridges he came across Michael who was drinking with friends. Sharples began to verbally abuse the group, before attacking Michael's two friends – who both fled the scene after being repeatedly punched in the face. He then turned his attention to Michael who was unable to escape – he initially punching him in the face, before tipping his wheelchair over and repeatedly kicking him in the head as he lay helpless on the floor. As the attack continued, a member of the public intervened and attempted to pull Sharples off Michael, who was barely conscious on the floor. However, the attack was not over, and before fleeing the scene he grabbed Michael's wheelchair from underneath him and tossed it aside. He then ran off on foot, but was arrested a short time later after attempting to evade officers.

Upon his arrest Sharples admitted the attack – claiming that he carried it out as Michael had sold heroin to his son. Michael was initially treated at the scene by paramedics before being transported to Warrington District General Hospital with injuries reported to be life threatening by the Paramedics. Due to the severity of his injuries, he was placed into an induced coma and transferred to intensive care. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, Michael never regained consciousness and died on Monday 28 October. A post mortem found that whilst Michael had suffered multiple organ failure, the central cause of death was the significant facial injuries sustained during the violent attack. Sharples was initially charged with Section 47 assault to which he pleaded guilty. However, following Michael’s death, Sharples was interviewed again by Cheshire officers and then subsequently charged with Murder.



Daniel Sharples following his arrest



Daniel Sharples running away from officers

Following the verdict DI Helen Clegg said: *“This was a totally unprovoked attack on a vulnerable man who had no way of defending himself. On the day of the incident Michael was simply socialising with his friends and minding his own business. Sharples is a strong and powerful man and used his kick boxing experience to launch a vicious and sustained attack on Michael as he sat helpless in his wheelchair. He was totally focused on inflicting serious harm. Throughout the investigation Sharples has never shown any remorse. Instead, attempted to place the blame on Michael, claiming that he had sold drugs to his son, claims that were totally unsubstantiated. He went on to claim that he had taken Valium prior to the attack and was unable to control himself and had no recollection of what happened. Thankfully, the jury have seen through his lies and he is now facing the consequences of his actions.”*

David Keane, PCC for Cheshire, said: *“This crime shocked the local community and deeply saddened all those who knew Michael. I would like to thank all of the officers involved in the investigation who have helped to get justice for Michael’s family and friends. My thoughts are with them at this difficult time I hope this conviction gives them some form of comfort.”*

DI Clegg added: *"I would like to thank all of the member of the public who helped Michael on the day, along with those who have come forward with information. Their evidence was compelling and a driving force behind the conviction of this man for Michael's murder. I'd also like to acknowledge the courage that Michael's children have shown throughout this case. I hope the conviction of Sharples, and the sentence handed to him, will help them, and all those who knew him, to continue to come to terms with what happened and move forward with their lives."*

Residents urged to help reduce spread of coronavirus as Warrington placed in tier three alert level

Residents in Warrington are being urged to pull together to help reduce the spread of coronavirus after the town was placed in the 'very-high' risk COVID alert level.

From Tuesday 27 October, Warrington will be put into the 'tier three' alert level in a bid to reduce the number of coronavirus cases in the area and help protect the NHS. This means that in Cheshire both Warrington and Halton are now deemed as 'very-high' risk areas. In these areas there is a ban on residents socialising with anyone from outside their household or bubble and a number of premises will be closed including betting shops, adult gaming centres and casinos. The new legislation is in addition to other measures currently in place, including the use of face masks and the 'rule of six'.

ACC Jenny Sims said: *"There is a lot of information out there at the minute and I understand it is a very confusing time for everyone but now more than ever we must stick to the rules in order to keep the ones we love safe. We are continuing to work with our partners at Warrington Borough Council and officers will continue to engage, explain and encourage the public to follow the rules but when there are blatant and repeat breaches, we will have no choice but to enforce. We must all work together to keep each other safe and play our part in protecting family, friends and the communities we live in."*

Cheshire East and Cheshire West & Chester will continue to be classed as 'high' risk areas meaning that residents cannot socialise with anyone from outside their household in any indoor setting.

PCC for Cheshire, David Keane said: *"We all have a big role to play and by working together to reduce the spread of the virus and to protect our family and friends and also the NHS."*

Anyone looking to report a breach of the coronavirus legislation is urged to do so online via the [Cheshire Police website](#). Full details of the current regulations relating to Covid-19 can be found on the [government website](#).

Enjoy Hallowe'en and Bonfire safely encourage Cheshire Police

As the number of Covid-19 infection rates rise across the county, members of the public are being encouraged to find other ways to celebrate the spooky festivities safely this Hallowe'en.

The Hallowe'en and Bonfire period is a hugely popular time of year with children and families, and Cheshire Police is encouraging the public to stick to the rules while enjoying their celebrations, so that we can help reduce the spread of the virus. Traditional activities like trick or treating are not recommended this year, while Hallowe'en parties with friends can't happen either because it puts people at risk of further spreading the virus, meaning we have to find new and different ways to celebrate safely.

Supt Jo Marshall-Bell said: *“It has been a tough year for many, and we recognise that seasonal festivities are really important for mental health and wellbeing. We really want you to have fun this Hallowe’en and Bonfire Night but to do so safely, within the law and bear in mind the current situation with the pandemic. Anti-social behaviour and criminal damage can have a significant impact on the local community and can have a long lasting effect on victims. Now more than ever we need to pull together to help slow the spread of the virus - while celebrating Hallowe’en a little differently. I’m confident the majority of residents will stick to the rules and do all they can to celebrate Hallowe’en safely, but there will be an increased officer presence across the county to provide reassurance and for anyone who may have any concerns over the Hallowe’en and Bonfire period. Our approach will continue to be engage, explain and encourage - and only as a last resort, enforce.”*

PCC, David Keane, said: *“It’s been pleasing to see that the vast majority of residents have adhered to the new legislation, and I hope that this continues throughout the Hallowe’en and Bonfire period. It’s great to see our communities across Cheshire having great fun, but we all have a very important part to play over the coming weeks and months to help slow the spread of the virus. COVID-19 is very much still out there, we must not let our guard down and the personal choices that we all make are crucial to protect others.”*

To remind you of the local restrictions, Warrington, Cheshire East and Cheshire West & Chester are classed as ‘high-risk’ areas, meaning that residents cannot socialise with anyone from outside their household in any indoor settings. Warrington is due to be classed as a ‘very-high risk’ area from 00:01am on Tuesday, 27th October. Halton is currently classed as a ‘very-high risk’ area, meaning that as well as the ban on socialising with anyone from outside their household, a number of premises are now closed too. You can check the guidance in your area through [the UK government's postcode checker](#). The new legislation is in addition to other existing measures in place, including the use of face coverings and the ‘rule of six’. Anyone who breaches the new legislation could face a £200 fine. Police will be working with partners, including Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service and the local authorities in the run up to Hallowe’en and Bonfire Night, to help keep the number of incidents as low as possible.

Schoolgirl’s anti-knife crime poster displayed on billboard in Crewe town centre

Crewe’s Problem Solving Team has stepped up their efforts to tackle knife crime in the town – with the help of a 13-year-old girl.

Kinga Pietrusiak won the knife crime prevention poster competition that the team held recently via social media. Now the Crewe resident’s winning design pleading for ‘less knives, more lives’ is displayed on a large billboard in the town centre. The eye-catching design was unveiled on Friday 23 October.



From left, PC Tom Towe, Crewe resident Rachel Dyer, who runs a local charity and helped to organise the initiative, and PC Tim Clark in front of the new billboard in Crewe town centre

It is estimated that more than 120,000 motorists a day will see Kinga's poster, which will be on display in Mill Street for the next four weeks.

PC Tom Towe, who ran the competition on behalf of the Crewe Problem Solving Team, said: *"The competition was organised as part of our considerable ongoing efforts to tackle knife crime in the town. As well as taking direct action with things like knife sweeps, imposing dispersal orders and stopping people suspected of possessing weapons and searching them, it is extremely important to educate people about the dangers of carrying knives. That is particularly true for young people. Statistics show that young people are more likely to carry a knife and be injured by one. There are very real challenges and pressures that children may face, so it is essential to engage with them about knife crime and encourage them to be bold, reject knife and gang culture and keep themselves safe now and in the future. The competition gave young people in Crewe aged between 11 and 18 the chance to be part of Operation Gravitare, which aims to reduce knife crime in Crewe and the number of families affected by it. They were invited, via social media, to create colourful and eye-catching posters that highlight the dangers of carrying knives. The standard of the artwork we subsequently received was outstanding. The children who took part had come up with some fantastic ideas, but Kinga's poster particularly stood out. She is a worthy winner and should be very proud of herself. I would like to thank the Safer Cheshire East Partnership for helping to fund the billboard and to make this initiative possible. I hope that lots of motorists take note of her poster that is now displayed on a billboard in Crewe town centre and that it gets more people talking about the fact that those who carry knives put their lives at risk by doing so. Thankfully, only a very small minority of people carry weapons in Crewe. We will continue to work closely with our partner agencies to tackle knife crime and keep our communities safe."*

Supt Peter Crowcroft, Cheshire Constabulary's representative in the Safer Cheshire East Partnership, added: *"This work to engage with young people about knife crime and highlight the issue to the wider community was worthy of Safer Cheshire East Partnership funding and I would like to congratulate Kinga on winning the competition and to commend her on the quality of her poster."*

Cllr Mick Warren, Cheshire East Council cabinet member for communities, said: *"The council is working very closely with the police and other agencies to raise awareness of the risks associated with knife crime. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership is supporting those positive messages to keep Cheshire East residents safe."*

CI Sarah Heath, who is Cheshire Constabulary's knife crime lead, added: *"Cheshire has a lower rate of knife crime than most other counties in England. We have a multi-faceted approach to tackling knife crime at Cheshire Constabulary. Our structured prepare, protect, pursue and prevent approach to combating knife crime involves various partner agencies, including local authorities, education providers, health authorities, third sector organisations, youth representatives and community groups. We will continue to endeavour – through education, awareness and action – to make Cheshire a county in which no-one carries a knife or feels that there is a reason to do so."*

David Keane, PCC for Cheshire, said: *"This is an excellent example of our local officers engaging with young people in the communities they serve to tackle the big issues like knife crime. Well done to Kinga and to everyone else who took part in the competition and I hope this display will send a powerful message. Carrying a knife doesn't make you safer, and the consequences can be devastating for all those involved. I'm pleased to see Cheshire Constabulary working to reduce the number of dangerous weapons on our streets, and to educate people about the dangers of knife crime, and I urge anyone with information about those who carry such weapons to come forward in confidence and report it."*

To report any type of crime involving weapons call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, or 999 in an emergency. Information can also be passed to the force [online via our website](#). Anyone who knows someone that carries a knife can report it to Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Witnesses urged to come forward following a sexual assault in Alderley Edge

Detectives investigating a serious sexual assault in Alderley Edge are appealing for witnesses to come forward.

At 10pm on Saturday 31 October an 18-year-old woman left a nightclub on London Road with a group of friends. They crossed the road and met a group of men near to McColls. One of the men began speaking to the teenager and they walked towards an alleyway on Stevens Street at around 11pm. She was then subjected to a serious sexual assault. Following the incident the man left the scene in the direction of Waitrose and possibly got into a taxi. He is described as aged in his mid-twenties, of mixed race, of a slim build and was dressed in dark clothing with white trainers. The teenager left the scene and alerted her friend who informed police. Enquiries are ongoing in the local area and detectives are urging anyone, in particular taxi drivers who were in the area around that time, to come forward.

DI Duncan Gouck said: *“Since the incident was reported we have been carrying out a number of enquiries in the local area to establish the full circumstances. This includes reviewing CCTV, speaking to witnesses and assessing forensic enquiries in a bid to piece together exactly what has happened. I am now appealing for help from the public who may have in the area and have information which could assist with our investigation. I am also appealing directly to taxi drivers who were in the area and may have picked a man up at around 11:40pm on London Road and would urge them to get in touch.”*

The victim is continuing to be supported by specially trained officers.

Anyone with any information about the incident is urged to contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 841468. Alternatively, information can be provided anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal after man is injured during theft in Warrington

Detectives are appealing for information after a man was injured during a theft in Warrington.

At around 1am on Wednesday 28 October a silver transit van containing a number of people entered the grounds on Skyline Drive. Once in the grounds the group got out and stole two mopeds from Plastic Omnium, before attempting to flee the scene. As the group drove off a 23-year-old security guard was deliberately hit by the vehicle as he attempted to stop the vehicle going through the gates. He was taken to Warrington Hospital with serious injuries to his hand and leg and has since been released. The van was located and recovered in the Belle Vale area a few hours later. A 25-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder and theft of a vehicle. He is currently in custody waiting to be questioned by officers.

DS Mark Naylor, from Warrington CID, said: "The security guard was seriously injured as he tried to stop the van leaving the grounds and we are doing all we can to identify those involved in the incident. We have been conducting a number of enquiries and as part of our investigation I am keen to hear from anyone who may have seen a transit van acting suspiciously in the area or saw an altercation at the gates. The two mopeds have not yet been recovered and I would appeal to anyone who saw them being unloaded after they had been stolen to contact us. I also want to urge anyone who has dash cam footage or any information which could assist the investigation to get in touch."

If you have information please contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 837972 or 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/>