

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 25th April 2021

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Serving officer dismissed following harassment conviction

A serving Cheshire officer who was convicted of harassing his former partner has now been found guilty of gross misconduct. Stuart Berry joined Cheshire Constabulary in 2003 and was working as a sergeant in Warrington Local Policing Unit. He separated from his partner in 2019 and despite her repeated pleas to stop contacting her following their split, Berry continued contact her through social media and email. As a result, Berry was reported to police for harassment. The allegations were investigated and a case file was presented to the CPS in January 2020 who determined that there was no case to answer. However, Berry was warned not to make any further contact. Despite the warning, Berry went onto contact her again between 2 April 2020 and 23 April 2020. He was subsequently arrested and charged with harassment. Berry was convicted of the offence at Preston Magistrates' Court on Friday 19 March 2021. The 41-year-old returned to the court to be sentenced on Monday 19 April. He was handed a Community Order for 18 months, ordered to serve a 12 week curfew from 8pm until 6am and told to pay £90 victims surcharge and £450 court costs. On Thursday 22 April Berry appeared at a misconduct hearing at Cheshire Constabulary's headquarters in Winsford, where he was found guilty of gross misconduct. Berry was dismissed without notice and has also been added to the College of Policing Barred List, meaning that he will be prevented from working in law enforcement should he apply to do so in the future. DS Chris Warren, head of the Professional Standards Department at Cheshire Constabulary, said: *"As a serving officer, Stuart Berry held a position of trust and swore an oath in which he promised to abide by the law and the clear guidelines about the standards expected from him. Despite the fact that he was well aware of these standards, sadly he chose to ignore them. I hope that the outcome of the hearing reassures the public by demonstrating that police officers are not above the law."* Deputy Chief Constable Julie Cooke added: *It is essential that the people of Cheshire have both confidence and trust in the service we deliver. We actively promote the highest standards of personal and professional behaviour and integrity to all officers and staff. Unfortunately, in this case Stuart Berry's behaviour fell well below the level expected of a serving officer and he grossly undermined the privileged position that his role as a member of Cheshire Constabulary demands and expects."* Anyone who wishes to make a complaint, or a compliment, about the service that they have received from Cheshire Constabulary can contact the Professional Standards Department by calling 101 or emailing professional.standards@cheshire.pnn.police.uk.

Residents urged to remain vigilant following spate of burglaries in Wilmslow

Residents are urged to remain vigilant following a spate of burglaries in Wilmslow. Offenders have been burning the locks on patio and back doors of homes in order to enter the property and steal car keys from within. The keys are then used to steal keys to vehicles parked outside. CI David Moores said: *"Following the recent spate of burglaries we are stepping up patrols and ensuring that there is a visible police presence on our streets. I would like to reassure residents that we are doing all we can to apprehend those responsible. There are a number of proactive investigative enquiries underway. While we are doing our utmost to stop*

these offences and apprehend the offenders, my ask to the local community and residents is to follow advice on how to best protect your home and vehicles.”

Here are some useful steps that residents can take to reduce the chances of vehicles being stolen:

- Make sure that your vehicle is locked whenever you are not in it and that you have not left any doors, windows or the sunroof open.
- Lock gates to deter offenders getting to the rear of your property.
- Where feasible install CCTV.
- If you have electronic car keys, keep them in a security pouch when you are not using them to prevent them from being scanned by thieves to open and steal your vehicle nearby
- If your keyless entry fob can be turned off, and your dealer can confirm this, then do so overnight
- Electronic devices can be used to jam the electronic signal from your key fob to lock your car – always manually check your vehicle has locked before walking away, and if you are unsure you should lock it manually and then scan the immediate area for anyone hanging around
- Fitting a Sold Secure steering wheel, gear lever or clutch pedal security device can give your vehicle added protection and deter thieves
- Many modern vehicles are fitted with engine management diagnostic ports, which can be accessed without a thief needing to open the vehicle doors, boot or bonnet, but which can unlock and start your car. If your vehicle has this type of port, consider fitting a lockable cover.

CI Moores continued: *“If you see any suspicious activity report it to us so that we can investigate further. Any piece of information no matter how big or small could help us catch those responsible and bring them to justice. I would urge anyone with information in relation to the recent car and key burglaries to contact Cheshire Police on 101.”* Information can also be reported to Cheshire Police online via [the Cheshire Police website](#). Alternatively, information can be provided to Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 or via [the Crimestoppers website](#).

Man charged with robbing a shop in Warrington twice

A 37-year-old man from Warrington has been charged with two counts of robbery in connection with incidents at a discount food shop in the town centre. James Telfer, of Northway in Orford, was arrested in Brick Street in the town centre at around 4.40pm on Wednesday 21 April. The robbery offences he has subsequently been charged with relate to incidents at a discount retailer in School Brow. They occurred shortly after 7.30pm on Tuesday 13 April and at around 4.30pm on Wednesday 21 April. A quantity of food was stolen from the shop on both occasions. Telfer has also been charged with a public order offence, in relation to an incident that occurred in Warrington on Wednesday 21 April. He appeared at Warrington Magistrates’ Court on Friday 23 April. Telfer was remanded in custody and is set to appear at at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 21 May.

Closure order imposed on house that was a focal point for drug users in Runcorn

A house that has blighted a community in Runcorn has been closed for three months. Officers from the Runcorn Problem Solving Team applied for the closure order under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This followed a large number of reports of drug dealing and anti-social social behaviour involving the address in Brookvale.



There have been reports of a large number of people coming and going at all hours and violent incidents at the house, some of which have spilled out onto the streets. There have also been reports of members of the community being subjected to threatening and intimidating behaviour from people linked to the address. Granted by Warrington Magistrates' Court Wednesday 21 April, the closure order makes it a crime for anyone other than the landlord to be at the house over the next three months. PC Andy Maskall, of the Runcorn Problem Solving Team, said: *"The address had become a focal point for local drug users. The activities of people inside and outside the address was causing members of the community considerable alarm, harassment and distress, and had been doing so for a sustained period of time and showed no signs of abating. No-one should have to put up with that. We want every Runcorn resident to be able to live in their home without having to suffer from the effects of unacceptable issues stemming from neighbouring properties. We will use the full remit of the law to achieve that and to make Runcorn a better place to live, work and visit, as this case shows. It is another example of our commitment to targeting those who plague communities through their unacceptable behaviour. I have no doubt that the closure order will have a positive impact on the Brookvale area of Runcorn, and I hope that this case provides reassurance to residents and serves as a warning to others who incorrectly think that they can get away with making their neighbours' lives miserable through anti-social behaviour."* Officers will conduct regular checks of the house over the next three months to ensure that the order is not breached. If anyone is found to have breached it they are liable to be arrested and face up to six months in prison, an unlimited fine or both. PC Maskall added: *"I want to thank the members of the public who played a key role in the closure order being secured. The information they supplied enabled us to gather the level of evidence needed for such an order to be imposed via the courts. I hope that this case encourages others to report and give statements regarding such behaviour at properties they live near. As this case proves, we will do something about it."* To report criminal or anti-social behaviour in your community call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or provide the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Winsford man charged with drugs offences following vehicle stop check

Officers have charged a Winsford man with drugs offences following successful vehicle stop in near Runcorn. Christopher Pope was arrested at around 1.20pm on Wednesday 21 April after officers stopped grey Ford Focus on Redacre Close in Dutton. The 38-year-old, of Catalan Close, Winsford, has since been charged with two counts possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine). He has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on 22 April. A 25-year-old man from Dingle, Liverpool, was also arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs. He has since been released under investigation pending further enquiries.

Tri-force operation targets anti-social motorcycle activity

On the closing day of the national '2Wheel' campaign, launched to improve safety for riders on two wheels, Cheshire Constabulary, Derbyshire Constabulary, and Staffordshire Police recently joined forces to tackle on and off-road motorcycle activity causing a nuisance to local and rural communities. As April is considered to be the beginning of the motorcycle season, with the better weather and easing of restrictions, there has been an increase in bikers taking to our roads and a raise in community nuisance concerns. The eight-hour operation began from the Cat and Fiddle Inn on the A537 and went on to target routes with the highest harm statistics where, sadly, riders have been either killed or seriously injured in collisions. This high visibility

operation is the latest in a number of patrols by officers, where the key aim is to educate and engage with riders on our counties most popular roads, to protect both riders and other road users. Over the course of this joint operation, top offences included numerous dangerous driving offences or driving without due care, poor vehicle roadworthiness, riding at excess speeds, lack of insurance, various number plate offences and recovery of a stolen bike that failed to stop for police. Sergeant Andy Griffiths, lead on the operation for Cheshire Constabulary, said: *“Road safety is really important to our communities and is often a source of complaint when speeding motorcyclists use the roads as a racetrack. Not only is this reckless riding dangerous to the rider themselves, as they are not in a position to deal with any last second hazards, it also puts innocent road users lives at risk. We’re proud of our county, our amazing roads and the beautiful green spaces that it provides, and we know how important it is to the residents of Cheshire, particularly in our rural communities, to protect these areas and combat anti-social road use. We will continue to do all we can to educate and encourage motorcyclists to ride safely throughout this seasonal operation, but I hope the activity at the weekend sends a strong message that we will not hesitate to act against those individuals set on flouting the rules of the road who think the law doesn’t apply to them. We want bikers to enjoy their ride, this cannot be at the expense of other road users’ safety and this operation provided our officers with the perfect opportunity to go out and engage with the public, which received some really positive feedback from members of the local community, cyclists, motorcyclists and families out for day trips. We’d like to take this opportunity to thank Derbyshire Constabulary and Staffordshire Police for their assistance in keeping our region safe.”*

Trio jailed for total of 55 years after being caught facilitating drugs and firearm activity on EncroChat

Three men caught facilitating criminal activity on an encrypted messaging service have been jailed. Paul Dillon, 32, and Alexander Keating, 30, used EncroChat to discuss the transfer of a viable firearm and communicated with Dylan Garforth, 25, to supply class A and B drugs. The trio were caught by detectives from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit (SOCU) after they were able to access the communications network that is used exclusively by criminals. Dillion was sentenced to 18 years, Keating 22 years and five months and Garforth was given a 15 year sentence.

The bespoke service was cracked by international law enforcement in May 2020. Keating pleaded guilty to conspiring to supply 30kg of high purity cocaine and large amounts of cannabis. Dillon pleaded guilty to conspiring

to supply 3kg of high purity cocaine, large amounts of ketamine and supplied over half a million pounds worth of cannabis. Garforth pleaded guilty to conspiring to supply 10kg of high purity cocaine.

Dillon and Keating also admitted to conspiracy to transfer a firearm and were sentenced alongside Garforth on Wednesday 21 of April. Dillion, of Norlands Park in Widnes, used the codename ‘Wasplawn’ to communicate with Keating, of Lunts Heath Road, Widnes, who used the handle ‘Dulltuna’ and ‘Wealthymace’. Garforth, of no fixed address, called himself ‘Dior-Ice’. Detectives monitored their criminal communication and gathered evidence over a three-month period. A warrant was executed at Dillion’s address on Tuesday 30 June 2020 and police seized almost £30,000 in cash. On Thursday 15th October 2020 Keating and Garforth were arrested at Liverpool John Lennon Airport as they were about to travel to Spain. DCI Mike Evans, from Cheshire Constabulary’s SOCU, said: *“These men were part of an organised crime group and involved in the supply and distribution of significant quantities of class A and class B drugs. They were well known to the local community for their sustained campaign of anti-social and criminal behaviour which began in their teenage years and progressed to the offences that they have now been convicted for. The amount of money found wrapped in bundles of up £10,000 at Dillon’s home provides an insight into how much profit was being earned and how the transfer of a viable firearm was also involved in this criminality. The encrypted device was previously perceived as being an untouchable way of communicating freely about*



criminality without being detected by police. Once it was cracked by law enforcement it meant those using it would find it almost impossible to deny their involvement in serious and organised crime.”

Class A drugs dealer jailed following a stop and search in Macclesfield

A class A drugs dealer has been jailed as a result of officers stopping and searching him in Macclesfield. Shortly before 4pm on Monday 15 March plain-clothed officers on patrol witnessed Christopher Bridger acting suspiciously in an area of the town that addicts are known to go to in order to buy drugs. After witnessing the 26-year-old conversing with known drug users and a coming together of hands, the officers stopped and searched Bridger. He had in his possession a small quantity of cannabis bush, £765 in cash and two mobile phones. Bridger was arrested, and subsequent enquiries revealed that he had a drugs debt and was dealing heroin and crack cocaine. He was subsequently charged with two counts of being concerned in the supply of the class A drugs.



He was also charged with possession of class B drug cannabis and possession of criminal property, in relation to the money he had on him when he was searched. Bridger, of Copster Hill Road in Oldham, Greater Manchester, pleaded guilty to the charges and was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Wednesday 14 April. was jailed for 2,045 days, which is a day over five-and-a-half years. DS Angie Coppock, of Macclesfield Local Policing Unit’s county lines team, said: *“Christopher Bridger was travelling into Cheshire from his home in Oldham in Greater Manchester to sell class A drugs. He has been brought to justice as a result of officers out on patrol seeing him act suspiciously in an area of Macclesfield that we know to be a hotspot for drug deals. They stopped and searched Bridger, and a subsequent investigation revealed the extent of his offending. Bridger has previous convictions for dealing class A drugs. The court took that into consideration when sentencing him. I hope that this case and the sentence that has been imposed by the courts deters others from coming to Cheshire to sell illegal drugs.”* On top of his custodial sentence, Bridger was ordered to pay a £190 victim surcharge. CI Dave Moores, of Macclesfield LPU, said: *“This case shows the importance of the police’s power to stop and search people they suspect to be breaking the law. As a result of our ability to stop and search Christopher Bridger, a repeat class A drugs dealer has been removed from our streets. These drugs cause untold damage to the lives of both those who use them and become dependent on them and the wider community who suffer from the resulting crime. Drug dealing in Macclesfield 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. Intelligence supplied by members of the public is crucial to this fight 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 Cheshire Constabulary 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.

Five men sentenced to total of 62 years for drugs conspiracy that involved police seizing £20million of cocaine

Two brothers were the mainstream suppliers of drugs to two well-known gangs in Warrington that saw 186kg of cocaine being seized by police in Cheshire. Alan, 51, and John Tobin, 40, were supplying huge amounts of cocaine to Anthony Cullen, 33, and 30-year-old Jamie Oldroyd’s organised crime gangs. They also

instructed Jamie Simpson, 33, to deliver £20million of cocaine on their behalf from Kent to Warrington. John Tobin's DNA was found deposited on the bubble wrap of one of the drug blocks he watched being placed into boxes during the packing process – this was crucial in connecting him to the conspiracy. The brothers were today (Tuesday 20 April) sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court alongside their associates Robbie Broughton, Brian McQuillan and Simon Leech. Alan Tobin was sentenced to 20 years and his brother John received a 19 years and eight month sentence. Broughton was jailed for eight years and six months, McQuillan six years and four months and Leech eight years. Detectives from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit (SOCU) seized the drugs on the M6 motorway on 2 August 2018 during an operation in which Simpson had been under surveillance. The brothers also sold cannabis, heroin, ketamine and cocaine to other gangs in Scotland, London, North Wales, Cornwall, West Yorkshire, Cumbria, Manchester and Humberside. While Alan and John were in command of the criminal enterprise, they required the assistance of Broughton, Leech and McQuillan to do the day-to-day running of their business. In order to distance themselves from having links to organised crime, they recruited 29-year-old Leech to act as a conduit, to minimise any direct contact made to them. Broughton's role, predominantly, was to collect cash from the organised crime leaders who had been supplied drugs by the Tobins. However, the 38-year-old also enforced debts and made threats on their behalf and informed the brothers of problems that were arising. Their large-scale commodity meant 51-year-old McQuillan was responsible for couriating large amounts of cash across the United Kingdom. The pair were ultimately running a smooth, and successfully profitable, criminal organisation until detectives from SOCU began three operations into their customers from 2016 to 2018. This involved targeting Lee Stoba, aged 47, Anthony Cullen and Jamie Oldroyd – codenamed Operation Bullfight, Operation Samurai and Operation Dreadnought respectively. During the course of the operation detectives witnessed John Tobin meeting with Cullen, Broughton and Robert Bibby at a countryside café, where they discussed the supply of drugs. Alan Tobin was also observed meeting with Jamie Oldroyd and Jamie Simpson at a café in Warrington to talk over the onward supply of class A drugs to organised crime gangs in Carlisle, Liverpool, Scunthorpe and Sussex. The operations led to large amounts of drugs and money being seized by police and resulted in debts owed to the Tobin brothers that were too big for the day-to-day employees to deal with. This led to the Tobins having to become more hands on and, on one occasion, Alan was seen meeting with Cullen at a pub car park in Warrington where a heated argument took place between them. Their criminality drew to a close on Wednesday 9 September 2020 after detectives executed a number of warrants in Widnes, Warrington and St Helens. All of the men were arrested and subsequently charged. Speaking after the five men pleaded guilty to all the offences: DCI Mike Evans, from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: *"Taking down the mainstream supplier of drugs to three big organised crime groups operating in Warrington was the final piece of the jigsaw. The brothers sat at the very top of the chain. They were provided with greater protection to prevent them from being identified as leaders of the organised crime group. At first they sat back and reaped the rewards of their criminality by displaying a lavish lifestyle while employing Broughton, Leech and McQuillan to run the business. For a while their criminal enterprise was seen to be getting bigger and bigger until we began running a number of operations on the gangs they were supplying drugs to. Once we started seizing large quantities of drugs and cash, problems arose, and the Tobin's soon began to surface, as huge debts were owed. The colossal seizure of 186kg of cocaine saw their reputation ruined. The investigation team has worked relentlessly to collate evidence that shows the brothers' involvement in these conspiracies*



over a period of up to nine years. Their hard work and determination has paid dividends and resulted in five guilty pleas and justice finally catching up with them all."

Chester couple jailed for 28 years for sexually abusing three young children

A couple from Chester who sexually abused three young girls have been jailed thanks to the bravery and courage of their victims. John Blake was sentenced to 26 years in prison after he was found guilty of 14 counts of sexually abusing three children. The 61-year-old, of Pine Grove, Chester, was also ordered to sign the sex offenders



register for the rest of his life. His partner, 31-year-old Emmalene Jones, was jailed for two years after she was found guilty of two count of causing a child to take part in a sexual act. Jones, of Crabwall Place, Chester, was ordered to sign the sex offenders register for ten years. The pair were both convicted following a ten day trial at Chester Crown Court which concluded on Tuesday 10 November 2020. All of the abuse occurred in the Chester and Saltney Ferry between 2008 and 2015, when their victims were between the ages of nine and 15. During the sentencing hearing on Friday 16 April, His Honour Judge Everett described Blake as a 'sexual monster' with 'deviant sexual desires, who preyed on three young children'. He stated that he was a 'high risk to children' and said that his 'dreadful behaviour towards children had serious consequences and had ruined the lives of the three witnesses.' When sentencing Jones, Judge Everett said that although she 'was under the influence of Blake, that she did her best to encourage the children to take part in the sexual acts'. Following the sentencing, DC Jessica Barlow, from Cheshire Constabulary Crime Operations Unit, said: *"This case relied upon the bravery of three young women, who had the courage to come forward to the police with the sole purpose of protecting other children. I want to personally thank them and commend them for speaking out despite fearing the consequences. What Blake and Jones did to them is truly horrifying, they systematically abused the girls over a number of years in order to fulfil their own sexual gratification. While Jones was not directly involved in all of the offences, she was well aware of what Blake was doing and was complicit in his actions. Not only that, but the pair made the victims endure a trial and recount what they had done to them, which was extremely distressing. But thanks to the bravery and courage of all three victims, the pair are now facing the consequences of their actions. Following the conclusion of this case I hope that the victims feel empowered by having their voices heard, and that they can now begin to heal and move forward with their lives."*

Joining forces to further step up efforts to tackle knife crime

Cheshire Constabulary has numerous plans in place in support of a national campaign to take knives off the streets and educate people about the dangers of carrying weapons. Held next week - from Monday 26 April to Sunday 2 May - Operation Sceptre aims to reduce the impact of knife crime in communities. Cheshire has one of the lowest rates of knife crime in England, and statistics show that the number of knife-related offences committed in the county decreased by 24 per cent from the end of March 2020 to the end of March 2021. The force is determined to further reduce the number of knives carried on Cheshire's streets. Cheshire Constabulary has a multi-faceted approach to tackling knife crime as it endeavours to achieve weapons-free streets throughout the county. The force's considerable ongoing efforts in this regard will be heightened by enforcement and engagement initiatives held in Cheshire during the national week of action.

These include:

- Community weapons sweeps
- Stop and search operations
- Warrants being executed in related to knife crime
- Intelligence-led action against habitual knife carriers
- Test purchase operations
- Engagement events working alongside partner agencies such as community groups, housing associations and Trading Standards to educate Cheshire residents about the laws surrounding buying and carrying knives
- Visiting education establishments to talk to young people about the potentially fatal consequences of carrying weapons
- Speaking to retailers that sell knives about security and the national Challenge 25 policy
- Facilitating more bleeding control kits being in place at community venues across Cheshire (the kits contain equipment and instructions that enable members of the public to prevent knife crime victims from bleeding to death).

The operation will also see constabularies work alongside Border Force to identify people who import knives into the country from overseas, as well as those who buy weapons online, and take the appropriate action. CI Sarah Heath, who is Cheshire Constabulary's knife crime lead, said: *"Nationally, knife crime is a growing problem, and the week-long Operation Sceptre campaign is an initiative that the force is always more than happy to support. We were severely restricted in terms of the work we could do during last year's two weeks of action for Operation Sceptre, with them having fallen when the country was in lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Now that we have come out of lockdown, there are more avenues open to us in terms of tackling knife crime across Cheshire over the seven days. However, knife crime is an issue that the force tackles throughout the year, with officers working day and night to protect communities. We take knife crime extremely seriously and are proud of the fact that Cheshire has a lower rate of knife crime than most other counties in England. When people carry knives, it is only a matter of time before someone suffers life-changing injuries or is killed, and if you carry a knife then you are much more likely to be involved in a knife crime. As all the statistics show, carrying a knife doesn't make you safer. At Cheshire Constabulary we have a structured prepare, protect, pursue and prevent approach to tackling knife crime that involves various partner agencies, including local authorities, education providers, health authorities, third sector organisations, youth representatives and community groups. We work together to achieve long-term change by educating young people about the dangers and futility of carrying weapons. We make sure they know that carrying a knife, even if they have no intention of using it, is a crime and can increase the likelihood of suffering an injury and having a criminal record. We also steer them away from criminality and offer them attractive alternative ways to spend their time. Our goal is to achieve weapons-free streets throughout the county and we endeavour – through education, awareness and action – to make Cheshire an area where no-one carries a knife, or feels that there is a reason to do so. However, the police cannot achieve this goal on our own. Knife crime is a societal problem that cannot be solved without the support of the whole society. If you have any information regarding knife crimes, or those who carry weapons, please let us know. If you know someone who carries a knife then reporting it to the police could be enough to save a life."* Retailers also have an important role to play, by helping to ensure that weapons are not falling into the wrong hands. They are urged to have robust controls on the sale of blades, such as kitchen knives. It is illegal to sell a knife to anyone under the age of 18, and anyone found carrying a knife in public, without a reasonable excuse, faces a prison sentence. 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 [Report](#)
Anyone who knows someone that carries a knife can report it to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via [Crimestoppers](#)

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal following a collision in Sandbach

Officers are appealing for witnesses to come forward following a collision involving a car and a cyclist in Sandbach. The collision occurred on Middlewich Road at the junction with Grange Way at around 11.30am on Monday 19 April. The cyclist, a 65-year-old local man, sustained serious injuries to his wrist and leg as a result of the collision. He remains at Leighton Hospital. The driver of the car is not believed to have been injured and was spoken to at the scene. Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing. Officers want to speak to anyone who was in the area at the time and witnessed the collision or may have information that could help their investigation. They also want to hear from any motorists who believe they may have captured relevant footage on their dashcam. If you can assist please contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 967485.

Appeal to locate good samaritans following incident in Warrington

Police are appealing to the public to help identify two good samaritans who helped a man following an incident in Warrington. At around 11.30am on Monday 19 April a 58-year-old man was riding along Huntley Street when he fell off his mobility scooter. A dark coloured Mercedes Sprinter van was passing at the time of the incident and the two occupants got out of the vehicle and assisted the man until paramedics arrived at the scene. The man was subsequently taken to Walton Hospital, but sadly, has since passed away. Following his death officers are now appealing for the occupants of the van to come forward. They have not done anything wrong, but officers just need to speak to them as part of the investigation. Anyone with any information about the identity of the good samaritans, or anyone with any information in relation to the incident, is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101, quoting IML 968639. Information can also be reported online at www.cheshire.police.uk/tua.

Officers continue to appeal for information following fatal collision in Church Lawton

Officers are continuing to appeal for information following a fatal collision in Church Lawton. At around 10pm on Thursday 15 April officers were called to the junction of Congleton Road South and Liverpool Road West following reports of a collision involving a red Yamaha motorbike. The motorcyclist, a man in his 20s, passed away at the scene. His next of kin have been informed and are being supported by specialist officers. Officers want to hear from anyone who may have witnessed the collision to come forward. Sergeant Andrew Dennison said: *“As part of the investigation, we are keen to speak to the driver of a car that was travelling along Liverpool Road West towards Kidsgrove. “It is believed that the driver came across the collision but left before the arrival of officers. We know that the driver was male and was driving in front of a Fiat 500 and we want to speak with him to assist with our enquiries. We would also appeal to anyone who has any dashcam footage from around the time of the incident to come forward if they have not already done so.”* Anyone with any information that could help officers are urged to contact Cheshire Police by calling 101 quoting IML

964763 or report it via [the Cheshire Police website](#). Alternatively information can be passed on to Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 or report it via [the Crimestoppers website](#).

Appeal for information following business burglary in Warrington

Officers investigating a business burglary in Warrington are appealing for information from members of the public. Three males wearing face coverings and hooded tops with the hoods up broke into a building in Greys Court, Woolston, between 7.30pm and 8pm on Tuesday 20 April. They stole a quantity of laptops from the business premises. 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. PC Langley, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *“Burglary is a serious offence and we are determined to establish who broke into the business premises and stole the laptops. “Enquiries are ongoing and I urge anyone who believes they may know the identities of the three males who carried out the burglary to come forward. “The same goes for anyone who thinks they may have seen or have footage of the offenders, either before they broke into the building or as they were fleeing the scene.”* Anyone with information or CCTV or dashcam footage that may aid the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 968807, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following spate of burglary incidents in Warrington

Detectives investigating a spate of burglary incidents in Warrington are appealing for information and footage from members of the public. Offenders attempted to gain entry to a shop and four houses in the Grappenhall and Stockton Heath areas between 10pm on Saturday 17 April and 6am on Sunday 18 April. Car keys were stolen from one of the houses. The incidents are believed to be linked. Two young men were seen acting suspiciously in the areas when the incidents took place. They were white and were wearing hooded tops. One of them had his hood over his head and the other was wearing a baseball cap. Enquiries in relation to the incidents are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may help their investigation to get in touch. DC Ian Morris, of Warrington Local Policing Unit (LPU), said: *“Thankfully, the only thing that was stolen were the car keys. However, being targeted by burglars is a very distressing experience, whether the incident occurs in your home or at your business premises. We are determined to establish who committed the offences in the Church Lane, Chester Road and Thelwall New Road areas of Grappenhall and the Victoria Road and Ellesmere Road areas of Stockton Heath and make them face the consequences of their actions. We believe that the incidents are linked and that the offenders were walking around the areas looking for insecure properties to steal from. If you were in the areas between 10pm on Saturday 17 April and 6am on Sunday 18 April and witnessed anything suspicious, please let us know. Perhaps you think you saw the offenders, or have dashcam footage of them. I also ask anyone with CCTV cameras in those areas to check their footage to see if it shows anything that may be relevant to our investigation. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who the burglars are.”* Anyone with information or footage that may aid the investigation is asked to call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 966664, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

The force’s tips for protecting properties and deterring burglars include:

Homes

- Ensure that all windows are closed and doors are locked at your property, even when you are at home or in the garden
- Never leave your house keys, car keys, purse or wallet on display near a door or window
- Use the security measures on modern windows which allow them to let some air in but still be locked
- Keep all valuables out of sight of prying eyes
- If you are replacing or fitting new doors and windows, get ones that are certified to British Standard BS7950 (windows) or PAS 24-1 (doors)
- Fit mortise locks (Kitemarked BS3621) to all front and back doors, as well as locks to all windows which are easy to reach
- Have a burglar alarm fitted at your home, but make sure that it is installed properly and works
- Good external security lighting can put off or draw attention to a burglar – the most appropriate form is high efficiency low energy lighting controlled by a dusk-to-dawn switch so that it only comes on when it is dark
- If you have external security lighting that comes on when sensing movement, make sure that the lights are directed downwards to prevent them from being annoying to neighbours and dangerous to passing traffic
- Strong fencing or gates will make it difficult for burglars to get onto your land
- Solid fences or walls, particularly those with a flat or rounded top, are relatively easy for a burglar to climb over – fixing trellising to the top can make it more difficult
- Check for weak spots where a burglar could get onto your land, such as a low or sagging fence or a back gate with a weak lock
- A thorny hedge along the boundary of your property can put burglars off, as can gravel areas due to the noise of walking on them.

Businesses

- Be aware of people loitering near your premises
- Be suspicious of people in vehicles watching the business, particularly if this happens more than once
- Be alert for the unusual, such as people looking nervous and anyone showing unreasonable interest in security or staff numbers
- Encourage staff to think critically about weaknesses in security and discuss them with management
- Seek advice from specialist insurers and brokers
- Keep as little cash as possible in the premises
- Do not count cash within the view of anyone else
- Locate any tills away from entrance/exit doors
- Transfer excess cash to somewhere safe – you do not need a large number of notes in tills
- If large amounts of cash need to be banked or collected on a regular basis, the safest method is to employ a recognised cash carrying company
- Consider extra security equipment such as plastic till guards, smoke and dye money packs, a pneumatic cash transfer system, external access and time delay safes, counter caches, anti-bandit or bullet resistant glass and fast-rising screens.

Appeal following an assault in Warrington

Police are appealing for information in relation to an assault in Warrington. A 49-year-old man was hit to the back of the head as he walked across the road towards Padgate Lane. The assault took place at 4.10pm on Tuesday 13 April. The offender has then walked away from the scene with another man. He is described as tall, with a thin build and was wearing a black tracksuit with the hood up. The victim was taken to Warrington Hospital and treated for injuries to his head. PC Sophie Ellis, from Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *"We have been following a number of lines of enquiry but are keen to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have witnessed the assault take place. I would also ask those with CCTV in this area or dash cam footage if they were driving past at the time to contact us."* If you have any information please contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 962857 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/>