

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Cheshire News & Appeals



### Latest Cheshire News

#### **Police warn of the dangers of muddy roads after farmer fined following serious collision**

Police are reminding farmers and the construction industry to make sure they clear mud from roads following a serious collision which resulted in a farmer being fined.

The two-vehicle collision involving a van and a car left one driver with life changing injuries, and the other with serious injuries. It was around 8.30pm on Saturday 18 October 2020 when the collision occurred on the A51 in Clutton. A Vauxhall Corsa had crossed into the opposing carriageway and collided with a Mercedes Sprinter head-on. On police attendance it was apparent that the road was in a very poor state due to agricultural workings on an adjacent field. The farmer who was responsible for the mud on the road was given a fine at Chester Magistrates Court in January this year (2022).

PC Iain Condliffe who investigated the collision said: *"We want to highlight the consequences of failing to clear the road of mud that your machinery deposits on the roadway, and the responsibility you have for making sure the roads are clear and safe for other road users. This isn't just isolated to farmers working in their fields - construction machinery can also leave mud on the roads leaving them a hazard for other road users. It is an offence to deposit something on a road that causes danger to other road users. If you are likely to do this due to your type of work it is your responsibility to make sure it is properly cleaned up and adequate warning is provided for other users."*

#### **Two men charged with drug dealing in Ellesmere Port**

Detectives from Ellesmere Port have charged two men in connection with drugs offences.

Stephen Sailes, aged 45, was arrested on Tuesday 8 February after plain clothed officers conducted a stop check at Festival Park, Ellesmere Port. Dale Johnson was arrested later the same day after police searched Sailes home address on Sutton Way and recovered a quantity of illegal drugs. The pair have both since been charged with being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine). Johnson, aged 30, of Brougham Avenue, Tranmere, has also been charged with possession of class B drugs (cannabis) and possession of criminal property. Both men have been remanded in police custody and are set to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court later today, Thursday 10 February.

#### **Police in Runcorn continue crackdown on anti-social behaviour**

Runcorn police are continuing to tackle anti-social behaviour in Runcorn.

The Operation is continuing with dedicated officers on both Trident and the Busways each night all week through to Monday. A dispersal will be in place all weekend again covering the same areas. This has been

imposed under Section 34 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, for the Trident Retail Park and the busway. Dispersal orders make it an offence for anyone to return to a specific area for up to 48 hours. The powers are in place from 6pm on Friday 11 February and will run until 6pm on Sunday 13 February.

CI Andy Blizzard said: *“Over the weekend there were no arrests, but there were two Dispersals Orders Issued. There were incidents on Friday Night with buses damaged, but nothing on Saturday or Sunday so we are seeing a decrease, but there was a report of youths on the busway last night so we will continue to crack down on this behaviour. I would urge anyone who witnesses or feels that they have been subjected to anti-social behaviour to report this to us by calling 101 or reporting it via our website so that we can investigate further.”*

Anyone with information on ASB in their area can report it to Cheshire Police via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk>.

## **Crewe man jailed for series of sex offences**

A 74-year-old man from Crewe has been jailed for 12 years after being found guilty of a string of sex offences.

David Palin, was sentenced at Chester Crown Court on 2nd February 2022, following a week-long trial. He was found guilty of 17 counts of child sex offences. The offences began in the early 1970's when he was in his 20s through to 2004. There were three victims who were under 13 and younger at the time of the abuse. One of the victims came forward in 2002 but the investigation was closed, however when two further victims came forward in 2017 the case was reopened and a complex and lengthy investigation began. He was then charged in 2020 with 15 charges of child sex offences - a further two were added at a later date.



DC Lindsay Wooffitt said: *“Palin’s actions have traumatised the women who were young girls at the time. He took advantage of their families trust in him – the consequences of which have been devastating for them as they tried to negotiate life after their abuse and live with the psychological wounds that such abuse inflicts on a person. What he did to these women is abhorrent and I’m pleased that after this complex investigation we were able to put forward a compelling case that resulted in his conviction. I’d like to commend these three women for their bravery in coming forward to give evidence and relive what was a harrowing time in their young lives. They were supported throughout and I hope that the conviction will help them in some way, and encourage others to come forward if they have been a victim of abuse, no matter how long ago it happened.”*

## **Northwich man charged with burglary, theft and fraud**

Detectives from Northwich Beat Team have charged a man in connection with a number of offences across the town.

Shaun Kelly was arrested on Monday 7 February by detectives investigating incidents in Acton Bridge and Hartford. The 35-year-old of Beech Grove, Weaverham, has since been charged with two counts of burglary, theft from a motor vehicle and five counts of fraud by false representation. Kelly has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at South Cheshire Magistrates’ Court on Tuesday 8 February.

## Man jailed following fatal collision in Middlewich

A motorist who left his passenger to die following a collision on Warmingham Lane, Middlewich, has been jailed.

Liam Foster, of Smallbrook Walk, Crewe, was sentenced to 42 months in prison at Chester Crown Court on Friday 4 February. The 45-year-old earlier pleaded guilty to causing death by driving without due care and attention, causing a death whilst disqualified, causing a death whilst uninsured and failing to stop following a collision. Foster was also banned from driving for 45 months and will be required to sit an extended retest.



The court heard how on the morning of Friday 8 October 2021 Foster was driving a red Ford Focus on Warmingham Lane, near Middlewich, with four passengers in the vehicle - two women, age 30 and 57, a 25-year-old man and a 10-year-old child. As he was driving around a bend in the road, he lost control of the vehicle and collided with a tree at around 11.50am. Following the crash Foster collected the child from the rear of the car. He then approached another motorist who had stopped at the scene and convinced them to take them to an address in Crewe – on the understanding that he would be returning to the scene as soon as he had dropped off the child. The motorist then drove him to Crewe and waited more than 45 minutes but despite his promise, Foster failed to return. Meanwhile, at the scene, the remaining passengers and other passing motorists contacted the emergency services who swiftly attended the scene. Sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, 57-year-old Jacqueline Nolan, who was a rear seat passenger in the vehicle, was pronounced dead at the scene. Two other passengers in the vehicle also sustained minor injuries.

An investigation was launched by officers from Cheshire Constabulary who quickly identified Foster as the driver and a manhunt was launched to locate him. Extensive enquiries were undertaken to find him before he was finally arrested three days later when he contacted police on Monday 11 October. Foster was subsequently charged in connection with the incident.

Following the sentencing PC Nick Anderton, of the Serious and Complex Collision Investigation Unit, said: *“This was a tragic but entirely preventable collision. Foster should never have been behind the wheel that day, he had no licence as he has never held a licence and has 37 previous convictions for disqualified driving. The road where the collision occurred was clearly marked, had a suitable speed limit and all of the appropriate signage was in place, yet despite this, due to his driving Foster lost control of the vehicle and collided with the tree. Following the crash, he showed no regard for the three passengers in the car and instead, rather than call for help, he was only interested in protecting himself and evading justice. Thankfully, following our investigation, Foster eventually realised that there was no escape and handed himself in before pleading guilty to all of the charges against him. Our thoughts remain with the family of Jacqueline Nolan, who have been left absolutely devastated by this tragic incident.”*

## Police charge man after car doors tried in Wilmslow

A 32-year-old man has been charged with six counts of vehicle interference following reports of a man trying car doors in Wilmslow.

The man was arrested by Macclesfield patrols in the early hours of Thursday 3 February and was later charged. Dale Simpson from Clarke Avenue, Latchford appeared at West Cheshire Magistrates on Friday 4 February.

## Latest Cheshire Appeals

### Police appeal for information following Congleton assault

Police are appealing for witnesses following an altercation in Congleton Town Centre.

At around 7.30pm on Saturday 12 February an argument broke out between a number of young people and a 51-year-old man. The man was then assaulted near the bus station. He was taken to hospital to be assessed. As part of the enquiries into the assault, a 14-year-old girl and a 12-year-old boy have been arrested. An investigation is ongoing.

DC Lee Ferris said: *“At this time of evening, the town centre would have been pretty busy. I’d urge anyone who witnessed the incident, or has dash cam footage that may help to contact us. We have increased patrols in the area to provide reassurance and would urge anyone with information to contact us to help us progress our investigation.”*

Anyone with information or dash cam footage should contact police via the [website](#) quoting IML 1200097. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### Police appeal for information following indecent exposure near Rivacre woods

Police are appealing for information after a man exposed himself to a woman walking her dog near Rivacre woods in Ellesmere Port.

At approximately 10.08pm on Wednesday 9 February a woman was walking along Hillside Drive near the entrance to the woods when a man ran out of the woods toward her and exposed himself. The man was holding a small folding knife at the time. He didn’t say anything to her and ran back into the woods when her dog barked at him. The man is described as white, approximately 6ft in height, of a very slim build and in his early 30’s. He is described as having very distinctive large round eyes. He was wearing a plain, dark, baseball cap and had long shoulder length curly hair which was sticking out the sides of the cap. He was also wearing a full length dark trench coat which is possibly leather as it appeared to be shiny and he was completely naked under the coat.

PC Mark Bell said: *“This is very concerning behaviour which we’re looking into as a priority. We have increased patrols in the area and are making a number of enquiries including CCTV and doorbell cameras. If you have any of these devices and live near the woods, please check them. If anyone has seen or heard anything, or seen a man fitting this description please contact us. The same goes for anyone who may have encountered this man but has not yet reported this to police.”*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police via this [website](#) quoting IML1197938. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Appeal to trace missing Widnes teenager

Police are appealing to the public for help to trace a teenager from Widnes who has been missing for almost five days.

Hannah Kirkby-Young was reported missing on Wednesday 2 February when she failed to return home from college. The 17-year-old, who predominantly has links to Widnes, Runcorn and Merseyside areas is described as white, around 5' 5" tall, of slim build, with shoulder length black hair. She was last seen wearing skinny jeans, a black top, red Nike trainers and a black coat with a fur trim.



Insp Simon Mills said: *"Officers have been searching for Hannah since she was reported as missing, so far to no avail, and we are becoming increasingly concerned for her welfare. I urge anyone who thinks that they may have seen her since she went missing to come forward. The same goes for anyone CCTV or dashcam footage of her since she disappeared. Hannah lives in Widnes, but also has links to the Runcorn and Merseyside areas. If you have any information or footage that may help us find her, please get in touch. I would also appeal directly to Hannah to contact us to let us know you are safe and well."*

Anyone within any information in relation to the whereabouts of Hannah is asked to contact Cheshire Police at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) or call 101, quoting IML1191770. Alternatively information can be reported anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Julia Griffiths (Chair), Graham Bushill (Secretary), Heather Thompson (Comms), Dave Brown, Clare Harrison, Bob Marshall (Social Media), Helen Kynnersley (Social Media)

### Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

c/o Corporate Comms | Cheshire Constabulary HQ | Clemonds Hey | Oakmere Road | Winsford | Cheshire | CW7 2UA

Email: [cheshirenw@outlook.com](mailto:cheshirenw@outlook.com)

Website: <https://www.cheshirenw.org>

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw](https://facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw)

Twitter: [@watch\\_cheshire](https://twitter.com/watch_cheshire)



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