

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 22nd September 2019

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Runcorn drug dealer jailed after being stopped and searched by officers

An 18-year-old man from Runcorn has been jailed for class A and class B drug dealing offences.

Lewis Bates, of Grangemoor, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply a class A drug (MDMA) and two counts of possession with intent to supply a class B drug (cannabis and cannabis resin). He was sentenced for the offences at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 17 September. Bates was ordered to serve three years in a young offenders' institution. The charges relate to an incident in Grangemoor. At around 10.15am on Monday 19 August officers saw Bates acting suspiciously and walked towards him. Bates stopped next to a car and put a metal tin he was carrying on top of it. Officers could smell cannabis when talking to Bates. They subsequently searched him and the tin he was carrying and found around 15 bags of cannabis bush, a quantity of cannabis resin and three MDMA tablets. He was also in possession of a quantity of cash. Bates was arrested and a search warrant was executed at his home, where a mobile phone belonging to him was found to contain evidence of drug dealing activity. The drugs that he had on him when he was stopped and searched by officers had a street value of around £200.



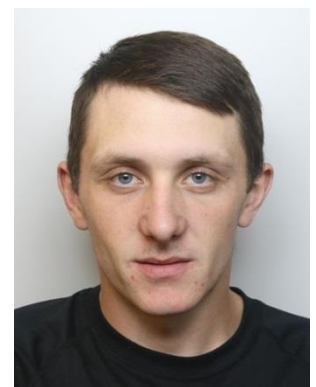
Police Constable Chris Roberts, who led the investigation into Bates' drug offences on behalf of Runcorn Local Policing Unit, said: "Illegal drugs have a hugely detrimental impact on our communities. They cause widespread misery and removing those involved in drug dealing from our town is of paramount importance. I hope that the sentence handed to Bates reaffirms the message that drug dealing in Runcorn and the wider Cheshire area will not be tolerated. I also hope that it deters others from getting involved in the supply of illegal drugs. This is not Bates' first conviction for possession of illegal drugs with intent to supply them. He is still very young and I hope that whilst servicing his custodial sentence he reflects on the life he has been leading and changes his ways."

Residents are urged to report drug dealing by calling Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Information can also be provided by emailing <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries>.

Man jailed after brandishing meat cleaver outside Widnes pub

A man from Widnes who brandished a meat cleaver during a disturbance outside a pub in the town has been jailed.

Lewis Fox, of Dean Street, was charged with threatening someone with a bladed article in a public place. The 22-year-old pleaded guilty to the offence and was



sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 13 September. He was jailed for 18 months and ordered to pay a £149 victim surcharge. Fox committed the offence whilst out on licence following a previous prison sentence. The incident occurred outside The New Inn on Hale Road shortly after 8pm on Monday 12 August. It involved a group of men who had been ejected from the pub by its landlord. During the disturbance, Fox pulled a meat cleaver out from his trousers whilst outside the pub. He then walked away from the scene. A resident witnessed the weapon being discarded underneath a van on Canterbury Road in Widnes. Officers seized the weapon and identified Fox as the offender after reviewing CCTV footage. He was subsequently arrested and although Fox initially refused to answer any questions whilst in custody CCTV footage shows him pulling out the meat cleaver and he admitted the offence.

Sergeant Michael Higgins, of Widnes Local Policing Unit (LPU), said: "I am delighted that Fox is now behind bars facing the consequences of his actions. Carrying around any weapon – let alone a meat cleaver – is completely unacceptable, never mind threatening people with them. I hope that the custodial sentence Fox has received deters others from committing similar offences and that this case helps to reassure members of the community that we are committed to doing all that we can to tackle knife crime in Widnes."

Chief Inspector Simon Parsonage, also of Widnes LPU, added: "This incident and the tragic death of landlord Christian Thorntton outside a different Widnes pub the day before is understandably a real concern for residents and those who work in the licensing community. As the person responsible for policing in Widnes I want to reassure everyone who lives and works in the town that we are doing everything we can to tackle knife crime, working closely with other agencies and the local community to make Widnes a town where no-one feels that it is acceptable to carry a knife or any other weapon. My officers will ensure that anyone found to be carrying a weapon or committing a knife related offence in the town is brought to justice and faces the full consequences of their actions. But the police cannot beat knife crime without the help of the local community and we urge anyone with information about people who may be carrying knives to come forward and speak to us, or to pass this information onto Crimestoppers anonymously."

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 <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> . Anyone who knows someone that carries a weapon can report it to Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

ACE Awards 2019 winners revealed



The outstanding work of officers, staff and volunteers was celebrated at the Constabulary's annual ACE (Achieving Cheshire Excellence) Awards event on Friday, 13 September 2019.

The awards are the Constabulary's highest accolades that can be awarded to an individual or team who has gone that extra mile or demonstrated exceptional commitment to policing in Cheshire. This year's ceremony was the fifth annual event and took place at Mercure Chester Abbots Well Hotel. It was presented by ITV weather presenter Emma Jesson.

Chief Constable Darren Martland said: "I'm extremely proud of the fantastic work our officers, staff and volunteers do each and every day to help keep Cheshire safe. It is important that we dedicate an opportunity like the Ace Awards to celebrate some of this work and hear the inspirational stories which have led to this year's nominations. We have some truly outstanding people at Cheshire Constabulary and I would like to personally congratulate all those who were nominated by their colleagues. They all deserve this recognition for their dedicated service to both the constabulary and the communities of Cheshire."

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, added: "The ACE Awards provide us with an opportunity to celebrate the incredible achievements of Cheshire Constabulary's talented officers, staff and volunteers and I am incredibly proud of the work that each and every member of the force carries out round the clock to protect local residents. A huge congratulations to all of those who have been recognised at this year's awards. Once again, we have heard some inspirational stories of bravery, commitment and going the extra mile to keep Cheshire residents safe."

A full list of this year's winners can be found below.

- Community Engagement - PCSOs Paul Barker and Moira McCue
- Services to the Public - PCSO Emma Darroch
- Working in Partnership - PCSO Ross Norman
- Creativity and Innovation - Sergeant Rob Simpson
- Inspirational Leadership - Detective Chief Inspector Myra Ball
- Volunteer of the Year - Alison Weston
- Special Constable of the Year - Special Sergeant Michael Harrison
- PCSO of the Year - PCSO Lizzie Jolley
- Police Staff of the Year - Julie Cradock
- Police Officer of the Year - PC Nick Anderton
- Team of the Year - Runcorn Beat Initiative Team

To view more photos from the event visit our [Flickr page](#)

Runcorn team recognised for their work

A team of officers have won a special award for their work investigating a range of serious and complex cases.

During the past 12 months the Runcorn Beat Initiative Team (BIT) have overseen local issues, county-wide cases and national crimes, including a nationwide investigation into a rogue trader which resulted in a minimum four-year prison sentence. The team has been praised for their proactive policing and relationship building skills, which have combated a multitude of local and cross-border crimes. Their successful prosecutions include a rogue trader who stole more than £30,000 targeting vulnerable and elderly people

and the arrest and conviction of a county lines drug team operating in Runcorn. The officers were named as Cheshire Police's Team of the Year at the constabulary's Achieving Cheshire Excellence (ACE) Awards, which took place at Mercure Chester Abbots Well Hotel on Friday 13 September. The ACE Awards are the constabulary's highest accolades that can be awarded to an individual or team that has gone the extra mile or demonstrated exceptional commitment to policing in Cheshire. The team consists of Detective Constables Chris Gill, Ciara Murphy and Calvin Fletcher and Police Constables Dawn Taylor and Stuart Beswick.

Receiving the award on behalf of the team, Detective Sergeant Rob McCloughin said: "It's fantastic to win this award and it epitomises the hard work that has been put in by the team all year. There's some other great teams across the Constabulary so we're really honoured to have won this award. It's been a really busy 12-months with some fantastic investigations including rogue traders and county lines so there's multiple highlights and lots of great work from the whole team."

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Julie named police staff member of the year

A staff member who has helped to improve the way missing person cases are dealt with by police has been presented with a special award.

Julie Cradock, who is a senior management analyst based at Cheshire Constabulary's headquarters in Winsford, has used her expertise to assist officers on a number of projects to help find better and more efficient ways of working. One of these involved the end-to-end review of the missing person process in Cheshire, in which Julie has provided insight into understanding themes and the impact upon the frontline. She has also been involved in the delivery of a forensics business plan for the next five years and is described as a pleasure to work with by all her colleagues. Julie was presented with the Police Staff of the Year prize at the constabulary's Achieving Cheshire Excellence (ACE) Awards, which took place at Mercure Chester Abbots Well Hotel on Friday 13 September. The ACE Awards are the constabulary's highest accolades that can be awarded to an individual or team that has gone the extra mile or demonstrated exceptional commitment to policing in Cheshire.

Julie said: "It is a privilege to work for Cheshire Constabulary and have an insight into what officers face day in day out and the commitment they show. I am honoured to receive this award. If anything I do helps to support the officers on the front line in some small way then I can go home happy."

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Special award for a special officer

A special sergeant has been recognised by colleagues for his work on a series of successful operations.

Michael Harrison, who gives up his own time to support the work of Cheshire Constabulary, was one of the founders of the Pro-active Licensing Unit. His leadership has been instrumental in carrying out operations with partner agencies, resulting in some fantastic results. These include numerous arrests, fines issued in the region of £200,000 and premises being closed due to fire safety problems, as well as illegal cigarettes, other tobacco products and thousands of pounds in cash being seized. Michael was presented with the Special Constable of the Year gong at the constabulary’s Achieving Cheshire Excellence (ACE) Awards, which took place at Mercure Chester Abbots Well Hotel on Friday 13 September. The ACE Awards are the constabulary’s highest accolades that can be awarded to an individual or team that has gone the extra mile or demonstrated exceptional commitment to policing in Cheshire.

He said: “I was very surprised to hear my name read out. This award isn’t just for me, it’s for the entire unit. It is a real team effort. It’s very humbling to be put forward and I feel very privileged. Some of our partnership work with immigration, trading standards and security agencies is now leading the way nationally and we are very proud of that.”

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Award for PCSO reducing disorder in Ellesmere Port

A PCSO who has helped significantly reduce disorder among youngsters in Ellesmere Port has won a prestigious award.

Ross Norman has worked tirelessly with partners, residents and businesses to deal with a variety of challenging issues, leading to a significant reduction in demand. He was presented with an Achieving Cheshire Excellence (ACE) Award at the constabulary's annual ceremony at Mercure Chester Abbots Well Hotel on Friday 13 September. One piece of outstanding work involved Ross forging a significant partnership with a local bail hostel. His efforts led to dangerous individuals being recalled to prison and the local area being made safer. He has a large beat area covering the town centre, a housing estate and Cheshire Oaks, and his collaborative approach to working has reduced the issues faced by people living and working in the area. The ACE Awards are the constabulary's highest accolades that can be awarded to an individual or team that has gone the extra mile or demonstrated exceptional commitment to policing in Cheshire.

After collecting the Working in Partnership Award, sponsored by Dell EMC, Ross said: "It means a lot to me to have been nominated for this award, and I definitely wasn't expecting to win. The work we do with the probation service does take a lot of time, but it has led to a massive reduction in calls, helped get dangerous people off the streets and is making the area safer. All the partners we work with across Ellesmere Port have been brilliant and I now have a colleague to support me with the work we are doing at Cheshire Oaks and in the town centre which is a big help."

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PCSOs recognised for setting up community football tournament

Two PCSOs whose drive and determination helped bring together youngsters from a range of backgrounds have been presented with a special award.

Paul Barker and Moira McCue were awarded an Achieving Cheshire Excellence (ACE) Award at the constabulary's annual ceremony at Mercure Chester Abbots Well Hotel on Friday 13 September. The PCSOs were instrumental in setting up the inaugural KickOff@3 football tournament at Widnes' Halton Stadium in April 2019. A total of 160 youngsters, aged 13 to 16, took part in the event which was aimed at engaging young people from a variety of hard-to-reach communities through sport. Both went above and beyond to secure funding and involvement from a multitude of community groups. The community feedback on the event was excellent and it attracted both local and national media coverage. The ACE Awards are the

constabulary's highest accolades that can be awarded to an individual or team that has gone the extra mile or demonstrated exceptional commitment to policing in Cheshire.

After being presented with the Community Engagement Award, sponsored by Cheshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Moira said: "Due to the tournament we have been able to build relationships with the local communities, our partners who assisted on the day, sponsors and also other forces nationally who took part in the tournament finale in London. We have hopefully also managed to raise awareness around knife crime, as the main reason of the tournament was to get some of our children who are at risk of becoming involved in crime diverted towards more productive activities. The event was only possible due to the support from our colleagues across the county, who worked extremely hard to pull teams together from some of the hardest to reach communities. The icing on the cake was seeing the kids enjoying themselves and the feedback from the local officers who organised the teams was really positive."

Chief Constable Darren Martland said: "I'm extremely proud of the fantastic work our officers, staff and volunteers do each and every day to help keep Cheshire safe. It is important that we dedicate an opportunity like the Ace Awards to celebrate some of this work and hear the inspirational stories which have led to this year's nominations. We have some truly outstanding people at Cheshire Constabulary and I would like to personally congratulate all those who were nominated by their colleagues. They all deserve this recognition for their dedicated service to both the constabulary and the communities of Cheshire."

David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, added: "The ACE Awards provide us with an opportunity to celebrate the incredible achievements of Cheshire Constabulary's talented officers, staff and volunteers and I am incredibly proud of the work that each and every member of the force carries out round the clock to protect local residents. A huge congratulations to all of those who have been recognised at this year's awards. Once again, we have heard some inspirational stories of bravery, commitment and going the extra mile to keep Cheshire residents safe."

Two men who drove dangerously through Frodsham sent to prison

Two men who were pursued by police after driving dangerously through the centre of Frodsham have been sentenced to 27 months in prison.

Joshua Austin-Tudor, aged 27, of Brown Street in Middleton was found guilty of theft, going equipped and dangerous driving. He was sentenced to 18 months. Arbie Kent, aged 34, of Watersedge in Frodsham was also found guilty of going equipped and sentenced to nine months. At 3.40pm on 23 February 2019 Austin-Tudor and Kent were seen driving an Audi which had been stolen from Surrey the previous month. The vehicle had also been used to commit a number of theft and burglary offences in the Cheshire area. When police spotted the car they attempted to stop it, however the men refused and instead drove dangerously and at high speed through Frodsham. Austin-Tudor and Kent attempted to abandon the vehicle but were caught by police and arrested. An extensive search of the car found a number of cloned number plates along with items such as screwdrivers and walkie-talkies. Officers also seized a circular saw which had been reported stolen.

Detective Constable Simon Parker, of Chester Local Policing Unit, said: "Offenders such as these operate with impunity and have a total lack of regard for their victims, the lives of other road users and the impact that their crimes have on innocent members of the public. Eventually, both men pleaded guilty and they will now spend time in prison which will protect our community from their crimes."

Both men were sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 12 September 2019 where they were told to each pay a victim surcharge of £140. Both were also disqualified from driving with Austin-Tudor banned for two years and nine months and Kent for one year and four months.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal following aggravated burglary incident in Northwich

Detectives investigating an aggravated burglary incident in Northwich are appealing for information and footage from members of the public.

At around 12.40pm on Tuesday 17 September an unknown man knocked on the front door of a house on Beswicks Road. When the door was opened the offender attempted to force his way into the house. He demanded money from the occupier in a threatening manner. The occupier managed to push him out of the address and hold the front door shut. The offender then fled in an unknown direction. He is described as around 5' 9" tall with a medium to slim build. His head and face were covered and he was wearing dark clothing including a jacket and gloves. The footwear he was wearing, believed to be boots, had mud at the bottom of at least one of them. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with information or footage regarding the offender to come forward.

Detective Constable Kelly Mitchell, of Northwich CID, said: "This was a frightening incident that has understandably left the victim shaken up. I would like to reassure the community that we are doing everything we can to try to identify the offender and bring him to justice. Enquiries are ongoing and I urge anyone who was in the area and believes that they may have seen the offender, either before he attempted to force his way into the house or as he was fleeing the scene, to contact the team here at Northwich CID. The same goes for anyone who believes they may know who the offender is, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of him. I would also like to take this opportunity to urge residents to use their door chain, if they have one, when answering the door. If you don't have a door chain ask the caller who they are through the door before opening it. If you don't know them and are not expecting them then don't open the door. If you have any doubts or concerns regarding an unexpected doorstep caller you should never open the door."

Anyone with information or CCTV footage that may help the ongoing investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 515471, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Dashcam footage can be submitted online at www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage .

Police appeal for witnesses following serious collision on the M56

At around 5.20pm on Thursday, 19 September, emergency services responded to a serious road traffic collision on the M56 motorway on the eastbound carriageway between junctions 10 and 9.

The incident involved several cars and a HGV. Sadly, a 56-year-old woman was pronounced dead at the scene, while a 62-year-old man was taken to hospital with serious injuries. A further five people sustained

minor injuries. The carriageway was shut while emergency services worked at the scene. The road was fully re-opened shortly before 5am.

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via our [General Enquiries Form](#) quoting IML 517424. If you have dashcam footage you can submit it by going to <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/submit-dashcam-footage/>

Police appeal for information after Crewe robbery

Police are appealing for witnesses after a teenager was robbed at knifepoint in Crewe.

Sometime between 9.45pm and 9.55pm on Thursday 12th September a 14-year-old boy was cycling with a friend when two males approached them on Dunwoody Way in Crewe near to the bridge. They asked if they wanted to buy drugs. The victim said no and then one of the male's demanded his bike. The suspect pulled out a large silver knife from his jacket pocket before pushing the victim. The victim handed his Green and black Carrera mountain bike to the offender before running off.

DC Simon Knowles said: "The teenager was very shaken up by the incident, but thankfully was not harmed. Crewe CID are investigating and are asking for any witnesses who may have passed by the location during this time and witnessed the incident, or anyone who may know who the offenders are, to contact police."

The first suspect who had the weapon and assaulted the victim is described as mixed race, aged 17-18 years old, with short spikey or curly dark hair. He is approximately 5 foot 8" tall, and was wearing a dark coat. The second suspect is described as white, aged 16 to 18 years old, with blonde hair.

Anyone with information should contact Crewe CID on 101 or via quoting IML 511570 <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries/> . Alternatively information can be given anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Witnesses urged to come forward after an attempted robbery in Northwich

Detectives investigating an attempted robbery in Northwich are appealing for the public to come forward with information.

At approximately 6pm on Sunday 15 September two men approached a 48-year-old woman on Winnington Lane opposite the entrance to Northwich Infirmary and demanded she hand over her phone and money. The men then take hold of her and begin to search her coat while continuing to make demands. After being unsuccessful in stealing her phone and money they run off down Winnington Hill. One man is described as being of Asian origin, aged in his 30's, of a normal size, around 6ft in height and with brown eyes. He also has a 2-3cm scar next to his left ear and a tooth missing. He was wearing all black clothing with toggles on his jacket and a large single pocket at the front and his hood pulled up. The second man is described as being of Asian origin, aged in his 30's, of a chubby build with blue eyes. He was wearing glasses with metal frames in a rounded shape and had a tooth missing on the right side. His hooded top was black with a zip up the middle and a tear on the upper left arm.

Detective Constable Neil Wharmby, of Northwich Local Policing Unit, said: "This was understandably a terrifying attempt to rob a woman who was walking down the street on her own. "While we have been

following a number of lines of enquiry, I am also appealing to the public to come forward if they believe they recognise the men described by the victim or saw the incident take place. "If you have any dashcam footage around the time of the attempted robbery please submit it through to us. Any information provided – no matter how small could really help with our investigation."

You can provide information by calling Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 514100, through the force's website <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries/> or anonymously by visiting the Crimestoppers website <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/> Dashcam footage can be submitted through this link and quoting IML 514100 <https://cheshireconstabulary.egressforms.com/>

Appeal after boy is pushed into canal in Warrington

Detectives are appealing to the public for information and footage following an incident in Warrington.

At around 7pm on Sunday 15 September a 14-year-old boy from the town was accosted by a small group of teenage boys as he sat near Sankey Brook. One of the three boys then pushed him in the water by the footbridge near Lockton Lane. The victim was unable to get out of the canal. The incident was reported to emergency services and the boy was pulled out of the water by firefighters. He was taken to hospital via an ambulance and has since been discharged. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who was in the area and witnessed anything that may aid their investigation to get in touch. They also want to hear from anyone who believes they may have footage regarding the incident or the three teenage boys that accosted the victim. One of the boys was on a bicycle.

Detective Constable Darren Burns, of Warrington CID, said: "Thankfully the victim was rescued by firefighters and is now back home after being assessed by doctors in hospital. The consequences of this incident could have been far worse. I would like to reassure residents that this is believed to be an isolated incident and we are determined to establish the identities of the teenage boys involved and make them face the consequences of their actions. Enquiries are ongoing and I urge anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to our investigation to contact the team here at Warrington CID."

Anyone with information or footage that may aid detectives with their investigation is asked to call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 514157, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/general-enquiries> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

To find out further information about the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association, to log into your account or for Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Literature please visit our website: <http://cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk/>