

OWL WATCH CYMRU CRIME WATCH NEWS

Edition 11 week ending 19.05.17

Incidents updates & appeals during this week !

Were you in the areas mentioned below recently? Did you see anything suspicious? We are circulating this information in case you were visiting these areas and so you are aware of any crime trends that may be developing, helping you stay one step ahead of the opportunist criminal.



If you have any information relating to any of these incidents, please contact North Wales Police by dialling 101 quoting OWL CYMRU/reference number.

RC17067877 Caernarfon burglary

Police are asking the public for help following a burglary in Tan y Mur flats on Church Street Caernarfon sometime between 10 & 11am Friday 12th May 2017. The offender distracted the occupant & stole property from the flat. Police hope there will have been people in the area at the time who saw a man acting suspiciously, equally there may be people who have knowledge of the incident. If you have any information or witnessed any suspicious behaviour or activity on the morning please contact Police. The man is described as white, approx. 30 years old, slim build with light brown hair with a side parting & about 5' 6 tall. Police have released an E-Fit.



RC17069062 'Shed' burglaries Holyhead

Police are reminding communities to remain alert & report any suspicious behaviour after several sheds were broken into at allotments in the Plas Road area of Holyhead. The incidents occurred sometime between the evening of Saturday 13th & the morning of Sunday 14th May when petrol from jerry cans was stolen. This follows on from a number of similar incidents earlier in May when sheds & petrol were again targeted which local Police are still investigating.

PC Mathew Jones at Holyhead Police Station is eager to hear from anyone who saw any suspicious behaviour or activity in the Plas Road area during this time. Local residents are being asked to remain vigilant & report any suspicious activity. Communities are reminded to ensure their property is always locked and secured or kept out of sight. **Shed alarms, locks, DNA & Coding kits are available from us via our crime prevention shop <http://www.owlcymru.org/shop/shop.html>**

V071107 Burglary Pontblyddyn appeal

Police are asking public's assistance following a commercial burglary at Pontblyddyn Service Station at approximately 2am of Thursday 18th May 2017. During the break-in offenders attempted to steal a significant quantity of tobacco however due to the prompt arrival of patrolling officers they were thwarted but unfortunately made off before they could be arrested. This is a useful reminder to business premises of the importance of putting in place adequate security

RC17057993 – Theft from Outbuilding in Penyffordd

There has been a theft from an outbuilding in the Penyffordd area of Flintshire on 26th April 2017. The following items were stolen: Stihl chainsaw – this is described as being about 5 years old, possibly a 181 model valued at about £350.00. A strimmer – This is described as being valued at £389.00 and 4 years old. the model number is FS90 and the serial number is 292762496.

RC17066637 – Assault in Buckley – Appeal for Information

Police are appealing for information following an assault in the Buckley area on Sunday 30th April. The incident occurred whilst the victim was walking from Bargain Booze direction in Buckley towards Rowan Close.

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Warning following tobacco thefts

Police are urging shopkeepers to be vigilant following thefts of tobacco from two convenience stores. One incident happened at a convenience store in Rhyl last Friday, 12th May, the other happened in Kinmel Bay on Saturday, 13th May. In each case the offender has asked for multiple packets of Amber leaf tobacco from the cigarette display behind the counter. When the packets have been placed on the counter the offender has snatched them & run off. Two males were involved in both these incidents. Shopkeepers are being asked to be vigilant when dealing with such purchases & to keep the tobacco well out of reach until payment has been received. Both males are described as being white of slim build, around 5'8" tall. They were wearing tracksuits at the time of the incidents. Any information call Police on 101 quoting OWL CYMRU RC17068697 for the Rhyl incident & OWL CYMRU RC17069084 for the Kinmel Bay incident.

Kinmel Bay man charged with murder

A Kinmel Bay man has been charged with murder. Detective Chief Inspector Neil Harrison said: "I can confirm that the body found on Saturday has sadly been identified as that of Tracy Kearns who had previously been reported missing. Our thoughts are with Tracy's family and friends at this extremely difficult time. They will continue to be supported by specially trained officers in the days ahead. "Her partner, Anthony James Bird, 48-years-old from Kinmel Bay has been charged with the murder of Tracy and will appear before Llandudno Magistrates Court on Monday 15th May." He added: "I am conscious of the impact the incident has had locally, and I would like to thank the community of Kinmel Bay for all their patience and support over the past five days."

THEFT: Marine Equipment

Police are urging boat owners to secure their marine equipment following a spate of thefts from Rhos-on-Sea and Conwy harbours. During the past three months three outboard motors have been stolen off boats, together with numerous items of equipment from fishing boats. Police are appealing to boat owners to take all possible steps to secure their marine equipment, and to ensure that the equipment is easily identifiable. Police are also asking the public or anyone who lives close to harbours, boatyards or marina's to report any suspicious activity.

RC17067956 Theft of Pedal Cycle in Deeside



There has been a report of the theft of a pedal cycle from a bike rack at the rear of Lifestyle Fitness, Cambria College, Kelsterton Road, Deeside. The incident occurred between 1210 hrs and 1330 hrs on 12th May. The bike was secured to a bike rack with a cable bike lock. Both bike and lock have been stolen. See picture of bike. The bike was a Chris Boardman Hybrid Comp bike in white. The original seat had been changed and end bars were added on the handlebars.

V057959/V069554 Damage to School in Mostyn

There has been a report of damage caused to a school in the Mostyn area of Flintshire recently. No further information is known at this time however, this serves as a useful reminder to report anyone on school grounds, out of school hours to Police.

With the up and coming School holiday closure soon the Public is being asked again to keep a watch over the School and report anything suspicious immediately.





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DOORSTEP/TELEPHONE COLD CALLERS

Purchasing or using the services of cold callers can be a risky business, as if something goes wrong with the service, or product, they may prove difficult to trace. **Some cold callers are also linked to burglaries, or other criminal activity.** Reputable, local traders can be found via North Wales Trading Standards Services 'Buy With Confidence' Schemes information visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk



A Flintshire resident had a cold call on the afternoon of Saturday 13th May from a lady trying to sell pictures that she had drawn. She didn't speak at all but held up a card explaining what she was doing. The card was hand written. The resident said following a previous cold call of this type, when someone was persuaded to buy a painting they had a large number of similar cold callers over the following days. We would like to remind residents to also be wary of agreeing to purchase a product or service from a cold caller as they may be difficult to contact if anything goes wrong with the service or product.

A Wrexham resident received a **Cancer charity collection bag** on Monday 15th May, with a collection date of Thursday 18th May. The resident put out their donations but by 4pm it hadn't been collected. The resident checked with the charity, using a telephone number on the bag, and it transpired **that a number of charity collection bags have been stolen in Britain and they are being put out by those who have stolen them.** The offenders then collect the donated clothing and bric a brac and pocket the money they raise. The persons distributing the bags, in this instance, were not collectors for the charity. Type in the details of the link below into your browser for advice from Action Fraud <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/beware-of-bogus-charity-collectors-dec10> . To check if a Charity is genuine visit the Charity Commission website <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission> . If you wish to donate to a charity in this way and you are sure they are a genuine charity – to ensure the collections are authorised, it is advisable to ring the charity on a telephone number obtained from a trusted source.

A Flintshire resident has received two telephone cold calls from a withheld number from a company wanting to **'survey' their property to 'check' their security.** On each occasion they implicated that they were an official body. The resident told the callers that they were not interested. Be very wary when dealing with the security of your home. Always seek advice from reputable businesses or organisations. Approved security businesses can be found with the Buy with Confidence scheme <https://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/> . **Crime Prevention leaflets and resources can be provided by FWOOLA at Mold Police Station 01352 708118 watch@owlcymru.org .** You can also seek advice from your Community Safety officer via North Wales Police by dialling 101.

PLEASE – Take Note !

A Flintshire resident received a telephone call, claiming to be from BT, relating to his computer. Initially, he put the phone down on the caller twice, telling them they knew it was a scam. However the caller was persistent &, as they had been having problems with their computer he allowed them remote access. The caller told the resident they had '105 faults' on their computer & they would fix them for free. The caller went on to say that because they had received such poor service they would like to offer them free line rental for 12 months, which worked out at £204 in this instance. They asked the resident to go into their bank account online, so they could see it being paid in. Eventually, on the screen, a page appeared that showed £4,204 had been paid in, implicating that there had been a £4,000 overpayment. **The resident told the cold caller of this & the caller asked**

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Edition 11 week ending 19.05.17

him to send the 'overpayment' of £4,000 to a private account, so not to accrue business tax. The caller also asked the resident **NOT** to tell their bank what the payment was for, as they said if they did tell their bank it would be treated as a business transaction, and he would have to pay tax extra. The resident did this. The caller was on the phone for a number of hours. There were items coming on his screen which made it appear that the 'problems' were being fixed. **It transpired that this was a scam and the resident, unfortunately, has lost the £4,000.** It would appear they may have been able to trick the resident by putting a 'screen shot' on his computer to make it look like there had been an overpayment. This was reported to Police and Action Fraud. This proves that even the most vigilant of people can be taken in by scammers. Please take care !

A Flintshire resident had five calls relating to 'Pop ups' that were appearing on their screen saying 'cannot access Microsoft' system – unable to access'. The resident spoke with their provider BT who confirmed this was a scam. The pop ups did eventually disappear.

A Wrexham resident has received a telephone call claiming to be from TalkTalk. The number appeared to be an International number. The caller **said there were ongoing Cyber attacks** and hackers trying to access the residents internet connection. They also said that their **internet service would go off within 24 hours** unless they were allowed remote access to the residents computer. The caller went on to ask how many computers and laptops they had. The caller also asked how many lights were flashing on the router. The caller asked the resident to go online, which they refused to do. The resident went on to say that they were not with TalkTalk, to which the caller replied that it didn't matter who their provider was as they all go through TalkTalk. Thankfully the resident did not allow them remote access. This is a trick to gain remote access to your computer.

Below is Security advice from National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)

The latest NCSC guidance on Ransomware. The NCSC are aware of a ransomware campaign relating to version 2 of the "WannaCry" malware affecting a wide range of organisations globally. NCSC are working with affected organisations and partners to investigate and coordinate the response in the UK. This guidance will be updated as new information becomes available. From investigations and analysis performed to date, we know that the malware encrypts files, provides the user with a prompt which includes; a ransom demand, a countdown timer and bitcoin wallet to pay the ransom into. The malware uses the vulnerability MS17-010 to propagate through a network using the SMBv1 protocol. This enables the malware to infect additional devices connected to the same network.

Home Users

ADVICE: Home users and small businesses can take the following steps to protect themselves:

- Run [Windows Update](#)
- Make sure your antivirus product is up to date and run a scan – if you don't have one then install one of the free trial versions from a reputable vendor
- If you have not done so before, this is a good time to think about backing important data up – you can't be held to ransom if you've got the data somewhere else. We recommend that you don't store backups on the same computer, or any other device within your home network. Home users should consider using cloud services to back up their important files. Many service providers (for example, email providers) offer a small amount of cloud storage space for free

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Edition 11 week ending 19.05.17

A resident received a telephone cold call from a person claiming to be phoning relating to a **bank reclaim benefit organisation**. The caller knew the residents name. She claimed to be phoning relating to banks **overcharging customers over the years**. The figure of £4,900 was mentioned in this instance. The caller did not know which bank the resident was with. The caller also implicated there was a link with trading standards, but the link was not clear. The caller said that the Government had taken the banks to court and had got money which was now due to customers who had been overcharged. **When the resident pressed for further information relating to the court case the line went dead**. The incident has been reported to Action Fraud. **These incidents serve as a useful reminder not to pass on any information to a cold caller.**

CALL BLOCKERS ARE AVAILABLE FROM OWL WATCH CYMRU PROTECT – online crime prevention shop at a neighbourhood discounted price

A scam is simply a scheme to con someone out of their money, the best way to deal with the scammers is by hanging up the telephone. Once you show the slightest interest in their scheme they will repeatedly contact and harass you.



Some things to remember:

SCAMS
TARGET YOU
PROTECT YOURSELF

SCAM AND SUSPICIOUS E MAILS, TEXTS OR LETTERS

Remember, scam and phishing e mails are designed to panic you into reacting, or make you respond without thinking. Never automatically click on a link or respond without being sure that the sender is genuine

A resident has reported that they have received a scam letter from a person who works in a **bogus bank in Hong Kong**. The letter stated that the resident is eligible to claim a huge amount of money due to the death of a person, who was a British citizen who shared the same surname as relatives that had not been traced. They asked the resident to contact them by email, or phone call for further discussion. This is a scam. Enter details of the below link into your browser for more information and advice from Action Fraud <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/protect-yourself/inheritance-fraud>

A resident has received an e mail saying there was 'unusual activity' on their American Express card. It asked the resident to open a file giving details of their account. The resident did not have an American Express card and did not open the file. Suspicious e mails can be sent to spoof@americanexpress.com Enter details of the link below to view advice from American Express on their steps on keeping people safe online <https://www.americanexpress.com/us/content/fraud-protection-center/how-we-protect-you.html>

A resident has received an e mail claiming to be from Paypal. The e mail stated that they have faced some problems with the recipients account and the account needed to be updated. The e mail warned, if they did not update their account it would be closed. It then invited the recipient to click on a button to update, or to click on a link below to open in a 'secure browser window'. Suspicious e mails of this nature can be forwarded to Paypal at spoof@paypal.com . Enter details of the link below from Paypal for advice in helping to identify scam e mails. <https://www.paypal.com/us/webapps/mpp/security/report-problem>

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NEW ULTIMATE MARKING KIT – HANDS OFF

UniTeam2017 are Students from Chester University who are working with OWL Watch Cymru team to prevent & deter crime in your neighbourhoods.

‘UniTeam 2017’ have been out & about this last week highlighting the importance of coding your property with their innovative “HANDS OFF! It’s marked – make sure you code your load” initiative with the “ultimate property marking kit” “the world’s first dual marker pen” with the unique choice of two inks making it the most effective tool for property marking.

It also has clear laminate labels and all weather warning labels which are designed for use on property kept and used outdoors. The kit also includes a cycle wrap around label and holograms labels for items such as mobile phone thereby acting as a visual deterrent/warning.

If you would like to have a promo session in your store, business, neighbourhood, work place, school, college etc, please contact us either by email watch@owlcymru.org or telephone 01352 708118



This last week the team has been hosting Dementia Friends Awareness Session events – RT Hon Lord Barry Jones who is President of OWL Watch Cymru joined some of the team to start the week off. Well done Ella Older People’s Engagement Worker for the Older People’s Strategy everyone enjoyed the sessions



The OWL Watch Team joined with Tesco Mold who hosted a group of older residents for an



afternoon tea & were presented with a doorstep crime awareness pack from the OWL watch team

HANDS OFF ! its coded crime prevention promotion by UniTeam 2017 – features Ellie, Lucy, Csaba & Michael who have thoroughly enjoyed meeting residents from North Wales helping them to keep their property safe.



The Ultimate coding kits costs £2.50 each

RFID Protection: as requested by Public we now have RFID Passports and RFID Wallets and RFID Purses in stock – don’t forget if you are going abroad !In stock now call us on 01352 708118 or email : watch@owlcymru.org

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Edition 11 week ending 19.05.17

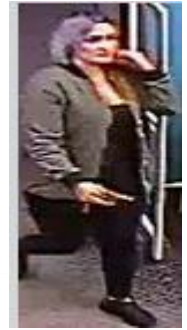


Caught on Camera – can you help us identify them ? RM17007044 – Rhyl

The identity of this male is sought to assist with an investigation at Home Bargains, Rhyl on 27/03/2017. Can you help us identify him?

RC17012433 – Bangor

The identity of this female is sought to assist with an investigation at Asda Bangor on the 29/01/2017. Can you help us identify her?



Community Remedy Consultation/Ymgynghoriad Camau Unioni Cymunedol.

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced the Community Remedy and the requirement for Police and Crime Commissioners to consult with their local communities if they wish to change the remedy. The Community Remedy is a list of remedies available to officers for low level crime and anti-social incidents. The list of remedies gives victims an opinion in how offenders are dealt with for low level incidents.

link below to complete the consultation English

English: <http://www.surveymqzmo.com/s3/3463456/Community-Remedy-Consultation>

Ymgynghoriad Camau Unioni Cymunedol

Cyflwynodd 'Y Ddeddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Trosedd a Phlismona 2014' y syniad o Ddatrasiad Cymunedol a rheidwydd ar y Comisiynywyr Trosedd i ymgynghori gyda'u cymunedau lleol os ydynt yn dymuno newid tren y datrasiad. Mae'r Datrasiad Cymunedol yn rhestr o ddatrasiadau sydd ar gael i swyddogion o fân droseddau a digwyddiadau gwrthgymdeithasol. Mae'r rhestr o ddatrasiadau yn rhoi llais i ddiodeffwyr ar sut i ddelo gyda mân ddigwyddiadau."

Cymraeg: <http://www.surveymqzmo.com/s3/3558003/Ymgynghoriad-Camau-Unioni-Cymunedol>

Contact us if we can be of any further help

OWL Watch Cymru
Email: watch@owlcymru.org
Tel: 01352 708118



Events coming soon !

