

Community celebrates Christmas



Plans submitted for The Hub at Wintringham



Foundations for new David Lloyd club



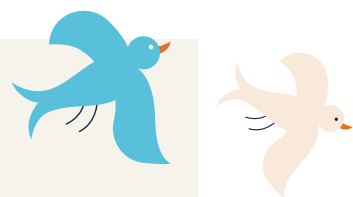
Explore Wintringham Waters



Update on St Neots town centre



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Exciting times for St Neots
town centre

Sign up to receive news,
information and updates
at wintringham.org



WINTRINGHAM COMMUNITY APP: COMING IN 2026

We're working on a new App for Wintringham residents, which will give you everything you need to know about the local area in one place.

It will provide information about local facilities, amenities, clubs, groups, activities and events.

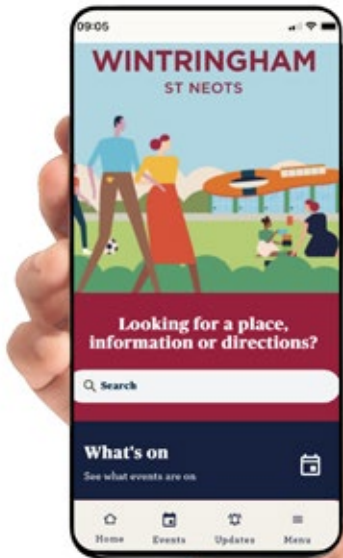
We'll also use it to keep you informed about the latest news from the development, useful contact details and FAQs.

If there's any information you would have liked to have known when you moved in, please let us know by emailing info@wintringham.org

As soon as it's available, we'll let you know!

In the meantime, we'll keep you up to date via our website and social media:

www.wintringham.org
[@wearewintringham](https://www.instagram.com/wearewintringham)



Welcome



Welcome to the latest issue of our resident newsletter – The Wintringham Wagtail – with all our latest development and community news, as well as insights from our Residents' Association and some of our other partners.

It has been a busy few months and plans have been submitted for the new M&S Food, shops, café/eatery and offices/co-working space in the northern zone of The Hub at Wintringham. The new David Lloyd health, fitness and wellbeing club in the southern zone is also starting to take shape, with foundations laid and the steel frame due to be installed before the Christmas break.

We've had some great feedback about Wintringham Waters, which is being enjoyed by residents and nature lovers. We invited social media influencer and podcaster Rock 'n Roll Birder to have a wander round and try out the bird hides, with highlights including red kites and a buzzard.

smart journeys is analysing the results of the recent Travel Survey and will be using feedback to help inform travel incentives for residents next year. Wintringham has also joined MobilityWays and residents are encouraged to sign up to find potential car sharing matches: helping save money, reduce CO2 emissions and reduce stress.

In addition to our usual partner updates, we have a couple of special features in this edition of The Wintringham Wagtail: an update on the A428 from the team at National Highways who are coordinating the improvement works; and the projects to support St Neots town centre from Councillor Ben Pitt.

We've had some fantastic events recently and have included highlights from Wintringham on Wheels, Summer Street Food, Diwali and Christmas. Wintringham Residents' Association is already looking ahead to next year, so save the date for the Lunar New Year celebrations on Saturday, 21 February. More information will be available early next year.

If you have any queries about the Wintringham development, or suggestions for articles in future editions of The Wintringham Wagtail, please let me know.

With festive wishes

Christine

christine.littlewood@urbanandcivic.com



Phase 1

This map shows the planned delivery within the first phase of Wintringham. This includes the areas each housebuilder is working in, the public realm and community spaces, and how it all comes together.

Phase 2

First homes to forever homes
There are a wide range of stylish houses and apartments available for anyone looking to make Wintringham their home. As well as new homes from a range of housebuilders, Penny Green has energy-efficient houses to rent for families looking to enjoy the benefits of Wintringham without the need to buy.

More information is available from the show homes and online at www.wintringham.org/homes

Currington Green
Paths have been installed and grass seeds sown ready for Currington Green to open in the spring, once the landscaping has established.

Considerate parking
Parking restrictions are in force on Nuffield Road from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday. If you are dropping off/picking up at Wintringham Primary Academy – and are unable to walk, cycle or scoot – please use the school car park in Aspen Avenue off Bret Road.

We appreciate everyone doing their part to keep our streets safe and accessible. Please only park in designated places to help pedestrians cross the roads safely and ensure emergency vehicles can reach all homes when needed.



The Hub at Wintringham

An important part of the future of the eastern expansion of St Neots, The Hub at Wintringham will provide the main centre for shops, services and leisure amenities within the development. It will also support the existing and planned growth of Love’s Farm.



The Hub at Wintringham is divided into three zones:

- **Northern (A):** M&S Food, shops, office/co-working space and a café/eatery – in planning
- **Central (B):** nursery, health centre, community centre and library – in design
- **Southern (C):** David Lloyd Club – in construction

The Hub at Wintringham will be delivered in phases over the next 5-6 years.

PLANS SUBMITTED FOR NEW COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Following extensive stakeholder and community engagement, plans have been submitted for a new M&S Food, shops, offices/co-working space and a café/eatery set around a public square in the northern zone of The Hub at Wintringham.

The smaller shops have been designed to enable independent retailers to sit alongside the new M&S Food to give shoppers a variety of choice, whilst the new café/eatery is expected to provide a range of snacks and refreshments as well as a more extensive menu.

Plans for The Hub at Wintringham have been informed by the development’s Design Code, shaped by residents and inspired by the earlier archaeological discovery of an Iron

Age settlement in the immediate vicinity of the site. The undulating roofline of Iron Age roundhouses is reflected in the design of the three key buildings, creating a striking landmark at the gateway of the development, and echoes of archaeological finds are found in the timber circular seating and public realm materials and design.

The buildings have been designed with an emphasis on energy and carbon efficient materials and systems, with the need for fossil fuels eliminated through the use of fully electric air conditioning and hot water systems as well as mechanical heat recovery ventilation.

Accessible green spaces and features for people of all ages and abilities have also been designed into The Hub. This will help create a welcoming place that encourages people to explore and feel connected. Informal play opportunities such as boulders, stepping stones and interactive landscape features will engage children and families, while seating will provide opportunities to pause, socialise or simply sit and watch life unfold. Lighting in the shared spaces has also been designed to provide a welcoming nighttime experience, while respecting neighbours and nature.

Subject to planning consent work will start onsite early next year, with the new M&S Food expected to open mid-2027.





DAVID LLOYD CLUB CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

Work has started on the new David Lloyd health, fitness and wellness club in the southern zone.

The site has been levelled and the earthworks completed, the outdoor swimming pool has been dug, and foundations installed. During late November/December, the steel works will go in to form the frame for the new club building and the indoor swimming pool will be dug. The car park will also be tarmacked. In the new year, once the roofing and cladding have gone on and the building is watertight, the internal fit out can start.

The family-friendly club will include a state-of-the-art gym, heated indoor and outdoor swimming pools, exercise studios, soft play, racquet sport facilities and a spa.

In addition to match-quality tennis, pickleball and badminton courts, the Club will offer the latest racquet sport to take the UK by storm – padel. The Premium Club will also feature a luxury Spa Retreat with Spa Garden.

The Club will also feature a Clubroom for members to meet with friends or enjoy a bite to eat, as well as large and inviting spaces to work, relax and socialise. A range of facilities for children is also proposed including a creche, soft play and spaces for after-school and holiday clubs, offering fun and active childcare solutions for parents outside of school hours.

Other elements include a 240-space car park with disabled, parent and child, and EV charging bays, as well as cycle spaces.

Stuart Caswell, New Clubs Acquisitions Director at David Lloyd Clubs said: “We’re excited to join the new Wintringham community and to offer a fantastic health and wellness facility for all ages, as well as creating new jobs for local people. We look forward to opening our doors and welcoming new members next autumn.”

The new David Lloyd Club is due to open in autumn/ winter 2026. www.davidlloyd.co.uk

Phase 2



DELIVERABLES:

- C. 900 New Homes
- 54 ACRES Public Open Space & Sports Pitches
- NETWORK of Footpaths, Cycleways & Bridleways
- NEW Primary School
- LOCAL FACILITIES & Public Square

The next phase of Wintringham covers the area between Wintringham Brook and Hen Brook and will include around 900 homes, a 2 form entry primary school, local facilities, open space, sport and recreation facilities and a network of new footpaths, cycleways and bridleways that connect to the rest of Wintringham and into St Neots.

In 2026, the project team will be submitting planning applications for the Design Code and infrastructure works to prepare for the first new homes coming forward, which are expected to be available in Spring/Summer 2027.

We’ll keep you updated as plans progress.



KEY PHASE TWO VISION:

Creating a Safe, Sustainable Neighbourhood

- PROTECT & ENHANCE EXISTING ASSETS
- COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT
- BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN
- CARBON FOOTPRINT CONSCIOUS
- PROTECTING PEOPLE'S WELLBEING
- ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE

Explore Wintringham Waters

It is a great time to wrap up warm and explore some of the fantastic nature spots around St Neots. This includes Wintringham Waters, three lakes along the southern boundary of the first phase of the development, designed so residents and visitors can immerse themselves in nature without disturbing it.

The lakes form a rich mosaic of habitats that link into the adjacent Wintringham Brook and wider nature corridors, creating a thriving network of biodiversity and a peaceful retreat. Follow the sandstone footpaths surrounding the lakes to explore the water’s edge, watch the wildlife from one of the bird hides or pause on a bench to take in the scenery.

The bird hides will include information panels to help identify the variety of species expected to frequent the Waters throughout the year. To support birds through the winter months and enhance wildlife viewing, bird feeders have been placed close to the bird hides, enabling visitors to quietly observe birds at close range without scaring them away.

The paths around Wintringham Waters link into the wider leisure trail, providing a route of approximately 4km around the first phase of the development that will be extended to around 9km as future phases are rolled out.

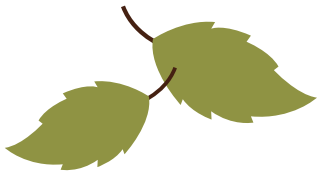
Wayfinding boards provide an opportunity to discover more about Wintringham, its heritage and nature. This includes the variety of trees planted and the fruit you can snack on as you explore, as well as the different habitats – from grasslands to wetland meadows and brooks to woodland – and the species they support.

Paul Murfin, Communications and Partnerships Manager for Wintringham, said: “We know that being in nature is incredibly important for our health and wellbeing, and at Wintringham we’re creating spaces for people and nature to live in harmony.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you enjoy watching the wildlife at Wintringham Waters and would like to help by keeping the bird feeders topped up through the winter months, please let us know by emailing info@wintringham.org



HIDE AND SEEK

Birds you might see at Wintringham Waters in winter/early spring:

- Black headed gull
- Canada goose
- Coot
- Gadwall
- Little egret
- Little grebe
- Mallard
- Moorhen
- Mute swan
- Herring gull
- Meadow pipit
- Pied wagtail
- Reed bunting
- Teal



“These wonderful lakes at Wintringham Waters give residents and visitors an opportunity to get close to nature without disturbing birds and other sensitive species. So, whether by yourself or with friends and family, grab your coat and walking boots or running shoes, and enjoy exploring this fantastic space. Well behaved dogs on leads are also welcome.”

Wintringham Waters has been specially designed with habitats for more sensitive species away from the paths, including on islands in the lakes, where they can enjoy feeding and resting away from people. Please stick to the paths and keep dogs on a short lead.

Find out more at wintringham.org/nature-at-wintringham/



INTRODUCING ROCK ‘N ROLL BIRDER

To help highlight some of the diverse species using the lakes and surrounding habitats, we invited influencer Matt Spracklen aka Rock ‘n Roll Birder to explore Wintringham Waters.

Visit his YouTube Channel – Rock ‘n Roll Birder TV – and watch ‘Am I The FIRST To Bird Here?’

Listed in The Guardian’s top podcasters, Matt shares his ornithology enthusiasm along with bird watching tips and how to attract birds to your garden. We’ll be sharing some of his highlights in the next edition of The Wagtail.

Visit www.rocknrollbirder.com and follow on Instagram @rocknrollbirder

PAID PARTNERSHIP



Supporting active and sustainable travel

Wintringham has been designed to encourage a healthy, sustainable lifestyle with the right infrastructure and services being put in place for people to lead low carbon lives as the development rolls out.



smart journeys, the Sustainable Travel Planning Team hosted by Cambridgeshire County Council, is supporting Wintringham residents to choose cycling, walking and catching the bus over using their car: improving their health and decreasing their carbon footprint.

PERSONALISED TRAVEL PLANNING

smart journeys offer Wintringham residents 1-2-1 personalised travel planning sessions designed to explore sustainable and active travel options available to them.

PEDAL POWER

Wintringham has an extensive network of cycle paths throughout the development that link into St Neots and the surrounding area, and *smart journeys* has a range of initiatives to help residents get out and about by bike.

Wintringham residents have access to a range of free initiatives including 1-2-1 cycle training, bike servicing and repairs, and bike maintenance training.

Those buying bicycles as Christmas gifts, or as part of a New Year’s resolution to be more active, were also able to book a free bike building session so they were pedal-ready for the holidays.

CAR SHARING

To help reduce the number of car journeys at Wintingham, the lift sharing App – MobilityWays – has been introduced to Wintingham.

MobilityWays supports new and existing residents in the area to car share by finding matches with other people living locally and travelling to/from similar destinations – as a driver, passenger or both. As more members join, there will be more potential matches!

Lift sharing helps you to:

- Save money – share the ride and split the costs. A typical commuter will save over £1,000 a year!

- Reduce CO2 emissions – be part of the bigger picture to help improve air quality in your area by simply sharing your commute with someone else going your way.
- Reduce stress – by cutting congestion and having some company on your journey.

If you haven’t already joined, simply follow the steps below:

- 1 Download the Mobilityways App
- 2 Open the App and ‘Search for a community to join’
- 3 Search for ‘Urban&Civic’ and click to join ‘Wintringham Liftshare’
- 4 Join with your email or sign in with Apple or Facebook
- 5 Add in your details, i.e. your journey, if you are a driver or passenger (or both)
- 6 Let the App do the rest and find potential matches!

Once you’ve found someone suitable, introduce yourself and arrange how and when to meet. Please do not share your home address; meet at the end of a road or at a local landmark like a post box.

To support the use of car sharing throughout the festive period, MobilityWays is running a ‘Gift A Lift’ campaign for those signed up to Liftshare, with two raffles for £250 of vouchers.

For more information, visit:
liftshare.com/uk/community/wintringham



To find out more about the sustainable and active travel initiatives and incentives at Wintringham, visit *smart journeys*’ Facebook page or email wintringham@smartjourneys.co.uk



ANNUAL TRAVEL SURVEY

Each October, *smart journeys* carry out an annual travel survey to find out more about travel choices of people living at Wintringham and gain a better understanding of the barriers that prevent commuters from using more sustainable modes of transport.

The data collected helps influence future transport decisions and public transport improvements across the local area. It will also be used to inform future travel incentives *smart journeys* offer to Wintringham residents.

Next year, *smart journeys* will be working with Wintringham’s design team to create a sustainable travel area in the northern zone of The Hub at Wintringham, near the new M&S Food. They will be using the data from the recent travel survey to create a space that is bespoke to Wintringham residents’ needs such as hire bikes, a car club and a relaxing place to wait for a bus.



Thank you to everyone who filled in this year’s travel survey. Your feedback is crucial to the work we do and helps ensure we deliver a tailored travel strategy for Wintringham. We are currently analysing the survey feedback and will share the results and how this is helping inform next year’s travel plans and initiatives in the next edition of The Wagtail. Marianne Spilling, *smart journeys*

LOCALGO

Wintringham residents have exclusive access to a range of discounts and initiatives through a scheme called LocalGO. Delivered as part of Wintringham’s commitment to supporting active travel and low carbon lifestyles, residents can use LocalGO discounts to get about more healthily and sustainably.

RESIDENTS CAN ACCESS THE FOLLOWING OFFERS:

- **CYCLE SOLUTIONS DISCOUNT**
LocalGO members can access 8% off gift vouchers at Cycle Solutions.
- **MONEY EBIKE SAVINGS**
Save £5 on monthly subscription costs with Hurrecane eBikes.
- **HALFORDS DISCOUNT**
Enjoy 7% members discount in store and online.
- **RAILCARDS**
Save on selected Railcards and get up to 1/3 off fares.
- **RENT-A-CAR DISCOUNT**
Save up to 10% on car and van hire.

Create your **FREE** account and access the above offers at <https://localgo.co.uk/wintringham/>

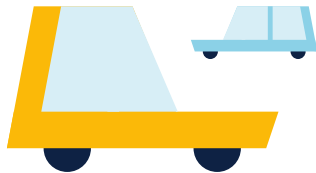
Your scheme password is: **Wintringham@localgo.co.uk**

Need help? Email: info@localgo.co.uk



Update on A428 improvement works

The A1, A421 and A428 around Black Cat roundabout (Bedfordshire) and Caxton Gibbet roundabout (Cambridgeshire) are well known for heavy traffic and frequent delays. To facilitate quicker, safer and more reliable journeys for thousands of road users every day, National Highways is providing a new 10-mile dual carriageway and upgrades to Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet junctions.



Once complete, journeys at peak times are expected to be cut by up to 10 minutes. This will save businesses and road users an hour and a half in travel time over a working week.

We asked the team coordinating these works for an update on progress.

HITTING THE HALFWAY MARK ON THE A428 BLACK CAT TO CAXTON GIBBET IMPROVEMENTS

October brought an exciting milestone in our region’s biggest road project, with the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements officially reaching the halfway point in its construction journey. This is a major achievement for the scheme, which is set to transform travel across Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire, including right here in St Neots.

TACKLING A LONG-STANDING BOTTLENECK

For years, the single-carriageway stretch of the A428 between St Neots and Caxton Gibbet has been a notorious pinch point, with long delays and unpredictable journey times – especially during rush hour or after an incident. Locals know all too well how frustrating it can be.

Now, that’s changing. Since work began in late 2023, progress along the route of the new 10-mile dual carriageway has been remarkable. From major earthworks to bridge construction, every milestone brings us closer to smoother, safer and more reliable journeys for thousands of drivers each day.

At the heart of the project are three key locations: the upgraded Black Cat junction, the new Cambridge Road (St Neots) junction and improvements around Caxton Gibbet roundabout. These sites are already taking shape, with visible progress for residents and regular road users alike.

MILESTONES ACHIEVED SO FAR

The team has moved an incredible 7.1 million tonnes of earth to lay the foundations for the dual carriageway, link roads and supporting structures – the equivalent of more than seven billion standard bags of baking flour!

To date, 60,000 tonnes of asphalt have been laid across key areas, creating smooth new road surfaces around Black Cat, Cambridge Road, Eltisley and Caxton Gibbet.

Behind the scenes, a huge amount of utility work has been completed too. More than 27 miles of broadband, gas, water and power lines have been successfully diverted – that’s roughly a nine-hour walk if you were to cover it on foot!

Construction teams have also lifted 84 bridge beams into place across 13 new structures, with a total of 18 bridges planned once the scheme is complete. To support the new road, 25 miles of new drainage systems have been installed so far.

At £1 billion, this is the largest road infrastructure project currently under construction in the country.

As National Highways celebrate this important halfway milestone, work continues at full speed. Once complete, the A428 improvements will not only make journeys easier but also strengthen connections between our growing communities – from St Neots to Cambridge and beyond.



It’s brilliant to see how much has been delivered as we are now at the halfway point in construction. Already motorists who regularly travel on the route will see major visible changes. It’s a powerful testament to the hard work, expertise and dedication of everyone involved, and means we remain on track to open in spring 2027.

The end result will be a smoother, safer and more free-flowing road network. This is now firmly in sight and we’re grateful for the ongoing understanding and support from the local community and road users.

Lee Galloway, Project Director for National Highways

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW 2025

This information is correct as of November 2025.

12,000

People engaged through in-person events.

1,000

People engaged through online events.

5

Major events attended, such as Bedford River Festival, Gransden Show and Paxfest.

52

Advance notifications sent out to the local area.

National Highway’s regular monthly drop-in events are taking a break over Christmas and winter period, but they’ll be back out again in early 2026 at Roxton, St Neots and Cambourne. Keep an eye out for further details.

An update from our local partners

Councillor Richard Slade
Mayor of St Neots and
Councillor for St Neots
Priory Park & Little
Paxton

richard.slade@stneots-tc.gov.uk



It's been a busy few months and my diary has been packed with civic events and community activities.

The annual St Neots Dragonboat Festival was a fantastic day out for all the family. A few new teams joined the competition this year, eager to challenge last year's winners. Our council team didn't quite make it to the semi-finals, but we were delighted to take part and cheer everyone on.

We joined St Neots Library to celebrate its 40th anniversary. It was wonderful to meet staff past and present, share memories and, of course, cut the cake. I was fascinated to learn that the library was once located on Huntingdon Street, a detail I hadn't known before.

At the Association of Local Councils conference in September, I joined our council officers for a series of useful presentations. The highlight of the day was undoubtedly seeing St Neots named Council of the Year – an incredible honour given there are nearly 300 parish councils across Cambridgeshire.

St Neots Remembrance Parade and service was a proud and reflective morning for all those involved. We shall never forget those who gave their today so we could live our tomorrow.

It was also fantastic to mark the start of the festive season in St Neots town centre with the annual Christmas Lights Switch On at the end of November. It was a magical evening filled with live stage entertainment, music, dazzling performances and festive fun for the whole family. We had a great time sampling food from a variety of stalls and trying our hand at fairground games. We even caught a glimpse of Santa bringing Christmas cheer to local children in his brand-new Grotto!

These are just a few of my highlights. You can find out more and see what we have planned for next year on the St Neots Town Council Facebook page.



Tracy Bryden
Headteacher of
Wintringham
Primary Academy

head@wintringham.cambs.sch.uk



As I'm writing this, the staff are busy preparing lots of exciting events in the run up to Christmas. Our Year 6 children will be travelling by train to London to see the ballet The Snowman performed by the Sadler's Wells ballet company. They are very excited about this.

The children in Reception will be telling the story of the Nativity to their parents and singing some Christmas songs. The children in Year 1 and 2 are busy practising for their performance to parents of The Wiggly Nativity. I am looking forward to watching both of these.

On the last day of term, our KS2 children will be walking to St Mary's Church in the town centre to join other schools in The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust for a carol concert. I particularly enjoy this end to the term.

We continue to welcome new children to the school and currently have 345 children within the school, Pre-school and our SEMH Department. I am always delighted with how quickly our new children settle into school life at Wintringham.

We would ask members of the school community to walk to and from school whenever possible, but if you have to drive, please be respectful of the residents near the school and park considerately and safely when dropping off and collecting your children.

Details of how to apply for a place in school can be found on our website: www.wintringhamprimary.co.uk



Scott Jenner
Chair of Wintringham
Residents' Association

info@ourwintringham.org.uk



Hello. I'm Scott. I moved to Wintringham over three years ago with my partner and our dog. Moving away from friends and family back in Hertfordshire, it was really important for me to build great connections at Wintringham, and I've been so privileged to have built amazing friendships.

I joined the Residents' Association shortly after moving to Wintringham to help build a connected, safe and inclusive community for all my neighbours. One where people say hello in passing.

We have a great calendar of community events each year and it is always lovely to catch up with neighbours and make new friends whilst enjoying a range of festivities and activities.

I have had the honour of being Chair of Wintringham Residents' Association for the past two years and have worked with a fantastic team of talented volunteers who have created and lead some fantastic neighbourhood events. I will be stepping down as Chair at February's AGM but will continue to play an active role in our amazing community.

Nominations have been received from existing members seeking re-election and potential new members. To help select next year's Wintringham Residents' Association members – including the new Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer – come along to the Annual General Meeting in February. Keep an eye out for updates on our website!

If you are new here, congrats you've moved into a wonderful community – and here's to many happy years in your new home at Wintringham. If you are in a new build, your neighbours will also have moved here recently, so take the leap and introduce yourself!

To find out more about Wintringham Residents' Association and get involved, visit: ourwintringham.org.uk

Wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



Keep an eye
on our website
and social
media for more
information!



Events and activities

A range of events and activities are organised throughout the year to provide additional opportunities for Wintringham residents to meet neighbours, form friendships and enjoy time together. Here we share highlights of some of the key events since the last edition of The Wagtail.

WINTRINGHAM ON WHEELS

This year's cycle-themed community fun day – Wintringham on Wheels – returned with a packed programme to showcase and develop skills, service bikes, support security and encourage residents to get pedalling.

From high-flying BMX stunt displays to pedal-powered smoothies and practical support, the event catered for all ages, abilities and interests.

Highlights included jaw-dropping BMX performances, complete with obstacle jumps and daring tricks – including jumping over a willing assistant lying on the ground! Children also had the chance to take part in a BMX workshop, inspiring the next generation of riders.

Attendees also had an opportunity to try out electric bicycles courtesy of App Bikes, and Cambridgeshire County Council's road safety team encouraged children to cycle smart and safely with fun and interactive activities.

For bicycle owners, Dr Bike held free bike repair and servicing sessions to check tyres, brakes and lights to ensure bikes were roadworthy and ready for long summer cycle rides. Security was a top priority too, with the local Transport Police and PCSOs providing free security bike marking and advice.

Adding a fun and tasty twist, Wintringham's travel planning partner *smart journeys* brought along a smoothie bike so that thirsty attendees could blend healthy drinks through pedal power! Meanwhile, Perky Beans mobile barista was on hand with a delicious range of beverages, refreshments and cakes.

Christine Littlewood, Community Development Lead for Wintringham, said: "It was great to see so many people come along to this year's event, which was full of energy, fun and pedal power! Cycling is a great way to travel – whether you're a beginner, a family looking for fun outings together, or a serious athlete. We hope it inspired more people to get on their bikes to explore Wintringham and the local area."



SUMMER STREET FOOD EVENT

Residents, friends, family and neighbours flocked to Wintringham School Plaza for this year's Summer Saturday Street Food event, which brought the community together for an evening of food, music and merriment.

Organised by master developer Urban&Civic in partnership with Off The Beaten Truck, the event boasted a delicious array of flavours to tempt the tastebuds. From wood-fired pizza, gourmet burgers, sourdough flatbreads and fresh salads to churros, cakes and ice cream, there was something for everyone to enjoy. There was also a mobile bar serving refreshing drinks to accompany the feast.

Deck chairs were arranged around the Plaza, and many families brought their own picnic blankets, creating a relaxed setting for a chilled-out evening. A local DJ added to the atmosphere, playing a summer soundtrack to provide a festival vibe.

Christine Littlewood said: "We had a fantastic turnout, and it was great to see the community coming together to enjoy an amazing summer evening with fantastic food and drink. The sun shone and we saw neighbours meeting for the first time, old friends reconnecting and new friendships being formed."

DIWALI

Over 400 residents, family and friends came together to celebrate Diwali at Wintringham on Saturday, 25 October with colour, music and laughter. The festival of lights was marked with traditional music and dance performances, vibrant crafts and an array of delicious food.

Organised by Wintringham Residents' Association and supported by Urban&Civic, the event was held at Wintringham Primary Academy, at the heart of the community.

The celebration featured lively music from Dholbeats and dazzling performances from Bedford Bangra Classes and Mayura School of Dance, which also included opportunities for the audience to try out some dance moves. Children and adults alike also put their creativity to the test with a variety of craft activities including lantern making and poster colouring.

Adding to the festive flavour, Jalebi and other popular Indian sweet treats were made locally by Chai Hub, while The Chai Stall's food truck served delicious, loaded naan breads on the school plaza.

Scott Jenner, Chair of Wintringham Residents' Association said: "What started as a relatively small event to bring together neighbours has grown over the past few years and become a highlight of the community calendar. This celebration truly represents the diverse and inclusive spirit of our community and is a great way to mark this important festival. It was fantastic to see everyone joining in and having such a wonderful time."





Wintringham Christmas celebration

The Wintringham community kicked off the festive season in true Christmas spirit with a heart-warming celebration filled with fun, food and music. Families, friends, and neighbours wrapped up warm and came out to enjoy a magical evening together.

The school plaza was transformed into a winter wonderland, beautifully illuminated by festoon lighting, with a stunning Christmas tree that will be lit at night throughout the festive period.

The celebrations began with traditional carols led by St Neots Evangelical Church, bringing all ages together in song. This was followed by SAND, a five-piece powerhouse band that spread Christmas cheer throughout the evening, inspiring children to dance along to their lively music.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious array of food, from wood-fired pizza, flavour-packed tacos and Korean street food to warm churros and baked treats. A mobile bar provided a range of refreshments, while a barista ensured there were plenty of hot drinks to help keep warm.

Paul Murfin from Urban&Civic said: “What a fantastic evening! The music, food and atmosphere made it a truly special night and a wonderful start of the countdown to Christmas. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening so special.”

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Wintringham Residents’ Association helped organise a Christmas crafting event exclusively for adults. Attendees enjoyed a festive workshop, where everyone created and took home a unique wreath beautifully crafted from wicker, baubles and an assortment of seasonal paraphernalia.

The event proved incredibly popular, with all 30 spaces snapped up within minutes of bookings going live. The lively atmosphere, creativity and festive spirit made for a memorable evening.

Scott Jenner, Chair of Wintringham Residents’ Association, said: “The response to our Christmas wreath workshop was fantastic and it was great to see participants having so much fun creating their festive masterpieces. We’re delighted the event was so well received and look forward to hosting more creative gatherings for adults as well as children in the future.”



SAVE THE DATE:
Lunar New Year celebrations on
Saturday, 21 February 2026



Mobile library

From 3.05-4pm on the second Monday of each month the mobile library stops on Nuffield Road, opposite Wintringham Primary Academy. With up to 3,000 books to browse, including fiction, non-fiction, children’s books and audiobooks there’s a fantastic choice for all ages and interests.

Anyone who lives or works in Cambridgeshire can use the accessible mobile library and can join Cambridgeshire Libraries on board the mobile library or online.

Books can be pre-ordered from the Cambridgeshire Libraries’ catalogue in advance for easy collection, with a 50p reservation fee per item.

Find out more at: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries



Food trucks on the Plaza



WEEKDAY TREATS

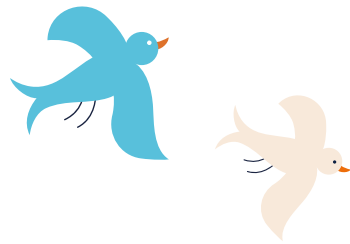
Perky Beans mobile barista is on Wintringham school plaza from 8am-11am on Wednesdays and Fridays with your favourite hot drinks and sweet treats. Whether your usual is a flat white, cappuccino, espresso or a long black, be sure to stop by for your coffee fix – and don’t forget the bakes and sweet treats too!

Days might change depending on the weather, so keep an eye on [@perkybeans23](https://www.instagram.com/perkybeans23) social media for updates.

FRIDAY EVENING FOOD TRUCKS

From 5-8pm each Friday we welcome a food truck to the school plaza with a range of culinary offerings for the community to enjoy. Pop-ups include Pizza Mondo with wood-fired pizza, Hit Wrap with Hong Kong street food, Pig-casso’s smoked burgers and loaded fries and Nomadough’s sourdough flatbread wraps – to name but a few.

Follow Off The Beaten Truck’s social media for the latest food truck news. www.offthebeatentruck.co.uk



Exciting times for St Neots town centre

Town and District Councillor Ben Pitt provides an update on the ongoing efforts to transform St Neots town centre.

When I last provided an update on St Neots town centre – in the Winter 2024 edition of The Wagtail – the Market Square and Priory Centre were both closed for refurbishment. So, while there were lots of exciting plans, there wasn’t yet much to show for it.

A year on, I’m delighted to say that there has been some tangible progress. The Market Square refurbishment is now complete, and the quality of the paving, seating, planting and drainage is massively improved.

The refurbishments have come in for flak on social media, with some labelling it ‘a £15m patio’. For the record, the £15 million budget was for four projects – the Market Square, High Street improvements, the Falcon Hotel and Priory Centre. A lot of the budget for the Square was spent underground on flood alleviation. However, I recognise that it’s not so much the appearance of a place that defines it, but rather people’s relationship with it. That’s why I’m committed to ensuring that the Market Square is used regularly as the cultural and civic heart of the town.

The Town Council ran a weekend of activities in May to mark the reopening of the Square, with live music, a film screening, carnival games, fairytale-themed children’s activities and lots of market stalls. It was wonderful to see the Square packed with people once again.

The Market entertainment is back, accompanying the Farm & Craft Market, on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. Since September there’s been soul, jazz, musical theatre and a pottery workshop.

On 13 December we enjoyed some Christmas craft activities accompanied by festive songs from students from Stageworks performing arts school. Head down on 20 December – note the change of date from the normal schedule – as Bedford Brass Band will be filling the Square with yuletide tunes. I love a brass band at Christmas!

The Market Entertainment programme is partly about creating a pleasant atmosphere for people visiting the Farm & Craft Market, but it also gives people a reason to come into town. There are some wonderful stalls offering local produce, handmade gifts and hot food. However, the entertainment means you don’t need to spend anything to enjoy the town centre. It’s a great opportunity to meet other people, spark up a conversation and start to put down roots in our beautiful town.

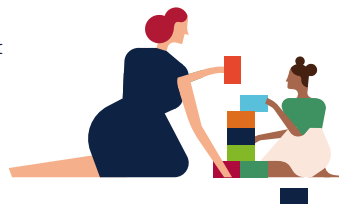
I’m continuing to work hard behind the scenes to increase the number of events on the Market Square – watch this space or get in touch if you have an idea!

The Priory Centre remains closed for refurbishment, but the Town Council has relocated to Priory New Street and the Eatons Centre to host a wide range of community groups. Work on the Priory Centre is making good progress. It’s unrecognisable on the inside – stripped back to its shell as internal walls are redesigned, a balcony is installed to increase its seating capacity and various extensions are built. What was once a well-used but rather tired community centre is set to be a landmark venue with a genuinely exciting programme of music, theatre, community activities, a restaurant, bar and much more besides. It’s set to reopen in autumn 2026.

The Town Council has green-lit a new splash park with £650,000 of funding. It’s currently under construction on the land between Eat’n’Bowl and Priory Park. It’s being delivered by an independent charity and is due to open in spring 2026.

Last December, the Town Council secured central government funding to purchase the Oast House, a beautiful, listed building in the centre of town that has sat empty for almost 10 years. The Council is working with an architect to develop plans to turn it into a community asset. Developing the site is not without its challenges, but it’s a key heritage landmark for the town that deserves a bright future. I’m really looking forward to sharing the work done to date and inviting local residents to help shape the next chapter in the building’s life.

Ben Pitt
ben.pitt@stneots-tc.gov.uk



Far left: *The Oast House is now owned by the Town Council and will be redeveloped as a public asset.*

Left: *The Oast House has previously served as a bell foundry and snooker club. It’s shown here as part of John Day Brewery, which traded from 1814 to 1960.*



Above: *The Day Column in the newly refurbished Market Square.*

Right: *The Priory Centre has been stripped back to its shell as part of ongoing renovations.*

Far right: *The Farm & Craft Market runs on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 9am to 2pm.*



Key Contacts

General maintenance

Including: grass cutting; clearing drains; gritting roads in Winter; repairing street lighting; trimming hedges; and ensuring play area safety.

Managed by Encore Estate Management
01223 866980
info@encoreestates.co.uk

Housebuilders

Please contact your house builder with any queries about the new homes you have moved into, including outside lighting, electricity, water and network connections.

Housing associations

If you have any queries about your home, please contact your housing association representative.

Hopefully you have had a chance to look through the *Welcome Pack* you received, and this should have a wealth of information about local facilities and amenities. Below is a handy summary of the key contacts you might find useful:

Wintringham community development and events

Including: community events; activities, facilities and new resident information.

Christine Littlewood,
Community Development Lead
Christine.littlewood@urbanandcivic.com
07384 816725

Employment and training

Support with recruitment, employment and training opportunities in the local area.

Local government

Information about your local elected representatives can be found at:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk
(St Neots and Gransden division)
www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk
(St Neots East ward)
www.stneots-tc.gov.uk
(St Neots East ward)

Health

A number of local GP practices serve residents within Wintringham including Lakeside St Neots, St Neots Health Centre and Almond Road Surgery. You can choose to register with any of the practices that cover Wintringham postcodes. You can find out more, and register online with a practice, via www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/gps/how-to-register-with-a-gp-surgery/

Alternatively you can contact the practice you'd like to register with directly.

Lakeside St Neots:

01480 406677

St Neots Health Centre:

01480 219317

Almond Road Surgery:

01480 473413

Please also refer to your *Resident Welcome Pack* for further information and contact details on local hospitals, dentists and healthcare providers, and a range of other facilities and services.



Wishing you a very
merry Christmas and
a happy New Year

St Neots Food Bank

If you are able to help, the Food Bank is in need of a range of everyday items such as longlife fruit juice, longlife milk, teabags (80), tinned meat and tinned fruit.

You can drop off your donations at a number of locations in St Neots. For more information, visit:

<https://stneots.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

WINTRINGHAM
ST NEOTS