

# Chester Northgate Update



Chester  
Northgate



Latest news from the Northgate project team

November 2022



## New Market now open

The new Chester Market opened its doors to the public on Tuesday 8th November

The market will be open six days per week and closed on Mondays. Opening hours will be from 8am to 10pm on Tuesday to Saturday and from 10am to 9pm on Sundays.

The driving force behind the new market has been to create a 'modern traditional market' that takes the best of the new breed of thriving city produce markets such as Borough Market in London, or Barcelona market; combined with pioneering communal foodhall markets in Altrincham and Stockholm, to create a unique blend of produce, goods, food and beverage traders in a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone to enjoy – where you really can shop local and eat global.

The design of the market was guided by extensive consultation with residents and traders prior to construction to ensure it could be fit for purpose, adaptable and sustainable.

Cutting the ribbon at the opening was Geoff Hughes, who first started working in the old market when he was 14, later setting up Geoff Hughes Family Butchers in 1996, together with his wife Debbie. Geoff said, "We are delighted to be able to make the move to the new building, as Chester Market begins a brand-new chapter in what I believe to be a very proud history; we look forward to welcoming all our current customers and gaining many new ones."

For more information see [www.newchester.market](http://www.newchester.market)



## Look North

North Light, a brand-new bar and restaurant concept is coming to Northgate next year.

The concept, developed specifically for Chester by New World Trading Company will replace The Florist to offer a more modern, distinctive venue with a creative edge.

North Light takes its name from the optimal light for creativity, combined with the beautiful light from its unique glass building, the rich history of Northgate.

# Praise for archaeology

**We have been congratulated by Historic England for our archaeological strategy.**

In spite of all of the activity on site, the construction did not result in any major intrusion into the important archaeological remains.

A target was set of disturbing less than 3% of the significant archaeology; however, the actual impact figure was under 2.4% which is a remarkable achievement.

During the works over 10,000 Roman artefacts were found, including over 2,000 fragments of pottery, both decorative and practical, from far-flung corners of the Roman Empire such as Spain and Germany as well as items known to have been made locally and in southern England.

Other artefacts found included glassware, copper-alloy keys, tweezers and a rare gaming piece or token made from bone.

A triangular roof tile or antefix was also found bearing the name of the Twentieth Legion (Leg XX) and its emblem a running boar, which has been chosen as the logo of the new market in recognition of the site's Roman history.

Working in partnership with Vinci Construction UK and Oxford Archaeology North, we undertook a detailed process of planning the site's construction to limit the intrusion wherever possible. **See our factsheets:** [www.chesternorthgate.com/archaeology](http://www.chesternorthgate.com/archaeology)



## New Market Parking now open

**The brand-new multi-storey car park has now opened on Hunter Street and will provide parking for 800 vehicles.**

The new car park will replace the Market car park under the old market and Forum shopping centre which has now closed and was first opened in 1967. The new car park will include many improvements over the old Market car park including:

- Significantly improved accessibility design, lighting, safety and extensive CCTV coverage
- Fully naturally ventilated, with open sides, and saving energy compared to the old Market car park which required a ventilation system to be permanently in operation
- An energy saving LED lighting system with zoned timeclock and movement sensor controls
- Energy efficient lift design
- Stair-cores decorated with artwork designed by Chester artist Graham Boyd, featuring murals celebrating two thousand years of Chester's history
- The car park will also include nesting boxes for swifts and bats to support wildlife.

From late November additional features are expected to be operational:

- Electric vehicle charging points, operated by Genie Point and with the capacity for future expansion in charging provision, as the adoption of electric vehicles increases
- An indoor secure cycle hub for fifty cycles with free e-bike charging and tool/repair station with access via an entry card for a £10 one-off membership fee.
- Access to the new car park is from St. Martins Way at the junction with Hunter Street via a newly remodelled junction allowing for two-way traffic into and out of the car park.