



Latest news from the Northgate project team

December 2022

## New Market tops 300,000 visits within first month

**Since fully opening on November 8, the new market has seen a huge influx of visitors during its first month and a more than trebling of the peak pre-pandemic footfall in the old market.**

A favourite from the old market, Planet Anime, will be opening their new Pokémon and comic collectables stall in the coming weeks, whilst a new wool and yarn retailer RKM Wools is expected to be open before the end of the year.

Further produce traders are being sought to complement the butcher and fishmonger both of whom have been very busy since the new market opened. The current mix of traders is roughly 60% goods or produce and 40% food and beverage stalls.

The 300,000th visitor was Gemma Edwards from Ellesmere Port, who was returning to the market for the second time to show her mum around. Gemma received a £50 voucher to spend in the market and a goodie bag.

Councillor Richard Beacham, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Growth, Economy and Regeneration, said: "We are delighted to see the new market thriving and proving such a big hit with visitors, it has been an incredible journey to transform the market and provide such a popular city centre attraction for our traders, residents and visitors alike.

"The market's popularity means we are having to manage numbers into the building, particularly at weekends, this is to ensure sufficient capacity and seating is available and our traders can cope with demand, please bear with us if your entry is briefly delayed."



## Turtle Bay confirm Northgate opening

**Caribbean restaurant and bar Turtle Bay, are set to open their first restaurant in Cheshire this spring.**

The brand new 3,000 sq ft restaurant will serve a total of 182 covers (158 inside and 24 outside). Bringing the magic of the Caribbean to Chester, guests can expect Turtle Bay's signature beach shack-style decor, a trademark Caribbean-inspired menu, as well as a tried-and-triumphed selection of rum-based cocktails. [More](#)

# The Start of all Imaginings

Artist Patricia MacKinnon-Day has worked with some of our market traders to follow their journeys from the old market to the new and what it means to be a market trader.

Since early 2021 Patricia embedded herself within the old market: filming, observing, listening, and forming relationships with nine Chester Market traders.

The series of films brings together interviews and behind-the-scenes footage exploring the realities of everyday market trading. The film narratives give voice to each individual's personal journey as a trader, their excitement and anticipation moving to a new market building; the challenges often faced delivering quality products, and their day-to-day relationship with the public and market community.

The films offer a forum for sharing the day-to-day realities of a market trader's life and help to raise the visibility of personal journeys and tenacity to succeed, acknowledge the value and significance of having a local market community within our midst.

Watch the films on our [YouTube channel](#).



## First office deal for Northgate

**We have secured our first office tenant, with Sovereign Corporate & Trustee Services Ltd signing for 1,200 sq. ft.**

Sovereign, which is relocating from Bromborough, is one of the largest independent corporate and trust providers with 26 offices globally.

Commercial property consultancy Legat Owen secured the deal on behalf of the Council with RivingtonHark acting as development and leasing managers. Around 10,000 sq ft of office space is available across four office suites at above Coachworks Arcade.

Legat Owen will be holding an open day on 15<sup>th</sup> December to view the remaining 3 suites. Contact for more details: [info@legatowen.co.uk](mailto:info@legatowen.co.uk)



## Cycle Hub set to open

**Chester's first indoor cycle parking space will open on 15 December within the New Market Parking, with the first 30 access cards available for free.**

Anyone wishing to use the 56 space Cycle Hub can pay a one-off £10 fee for an access card, available from the car park office within the New Market Parking to the right of the entrance.

The free access cards will be available from 2pm – 5pm on Thursday 15 December onwards on a first come basis, and thereafter cards can only be bought from 2pm each day. [More](#)