



Love's Farm News

December 2023 – January 2024

www.ourlovesfarm.co.uk

Christmas Carols and Christmas Cheers



Gather on Station Square on 22 December for some Carols before we head to the Farm House for a Christmas tippie.

Friday 22 December, 7pm at Station Square and 7:45pm at Love's Farm House

Please come to Station Square on Friday 22 December at 7pm with your best singing voices, friends, family and neighbours for our annual Love's Farm Christmas Carols.

After a round of Christmas songs, ably accompanied by Chris Hatt on piano and any other musicians we

can find to add melody to our efforts, please head for Love's Farm House from 7.45pm where mulled wine and other festive tipples will be waiting beside a virtual crackling log fire to add warmth and ambience to a community Christmas evening!

Cambridge Road works

Work has begun on Cambridge Road (B1428), from the roundabout at



Cambridge Road between Love's Farm and the A428 is subject to road works until August 2024.

the end of Stone Hill running east along the north edge of Wintringham. Until recently, this stretch of road marked the beginning of open countryside, but with the arrival of Wintringham and Monksfields developments, it needs to be redesigned as an environment for pedestrians and bicycles as well as vehicles.

There will be a new roundabout on the junction of Pelham Road, giving access to the south into Wintringham and north into Monksfields. The works also include new cycle paths, bus stops and crossing points. The new design will enable a 30mph speed limit for this stretch.

This means we can expect some disruption, with temporary traffic lights at various points along the road. These have been in place during November, but there's a pause in December. Works will recommence



Improvements include a new roundabout, bus stop and cycle path.

on 8 January and are due to be completed on 28 August.

Find out more by visiting www.wintringham.org and heading to the News section.

Murder at the Grosvenor

Saturday 9 December, 7:45-11pm,
Love's Farm House



The scene is set for a night of intrigue and mystery — 9 December at the Farm House.

Step into a world of mystery, where secrets lurk in every corner and suspense hangs thick in the air. Excitement is building for the Vintage Murder Mystery Evening at Love's Farm House on 9 December.

This exclusive event promises an unforgettable night of detective work and vintage charm. Participants are encouraged to don their finest 1930s attire, adding an extra layer of glamour to an evening filled with suspense and intrigue.

As the countdown begins, anticipation is palpable. Guests can expect a riveting whodunit experience from RAW Productions, where they become part of the story,

working with friends and fellow sleuths to crack the case wide open. The venue, Love's Farm House, provides the perfect backdrop for this immersive adventure, transporting attendees to a bygone era where mystery reigns supreme.

Whether you're a seasoned investigator or a first-time sleuth, this event promises an enchanting blend of mystery, entertainment, and camaraderie.

This event is for ages 16 and over (anyone who looks under 25 should bring ID). Tickets cost £25, with teams of up to 8 people — smaller teams may be seated together. Your ticket

includes a glass of Prosecco or soft drink. Visit www.lovesfarmhouse.com or pop into the LFH office to book.

Fossil Discoveries on Love's Farm

by Lewis Rush

When I went to the Jurassic coast in Dorset in half term, I found lots of different fossils that were 180 million year old. I found them by digging on the beach and breaking rocks apart using a rock hammer and by searching the beaches. The gold looking fossils are ammonites in pyrite.

Ammonites were sea creatures and the fossils you find are from their



Be there for cats by becoming a

fosterer volunteer

E: volunteering@stneots.cats.org.uk
www.cats.org.uk/stneots/volunteering

St Neots, Huntingdon & St Ives Branch of Cats Protection needs fosterers to provide temporary homes for cats and kittens who are waiting for a forever home. If you could open your door to a cat in need, contact the branch to find out more about fostering and other volunteer roles.





The ammonite fossil found under Hooper's Green

shells. The whole of east England used to be under the sea and they've formed from mud and sand settling on them millions of years ago.

Did you know that you can even find fossils on Love's Farm? When Hooper's Green was built, a huge ammonite was found which has been given to me by Phyllis Hooper. You can't just dig anywhere as you need



Lewis with some of his Dorset haul.

permission but there could be a fossil in your back garden.

A New Life for Old Running Shoes

Runners from across St Neots donated 60 pairs of used trainers to a national recycling campaign that aims to remove 1 million pairs of running shoes from the estimated 33 million pairs that end up in landfill every year.



An impressive haul of running shoes, off to find new owners.

After reading about JogOn, the UK company behind the campaign, Love's Farm resident Katherine Hesketh decided to facilitate a local collection. After securing support from Pocket Parkrun as well as local running clubs Riverside Runners and Love's Farm Runners, Katherine's "amnesty on smelly old trainers" soon had four large boxes of trainers to donate to JogOn. The company is able to re-use 97% of the donations they receive, passing them to charities both within and outside of the UK. The remainder will be recycled.

"It was shocking to learn that the average pair of trainers takes around 1000 years to decompose, yet 18 billion pairs of running shoes are sold every year! I knew I was guilty of holding onto trainers I no longer wore and felt sure I wasn't alone! It's so important that we each play a part and support campaigns like this on a local scale, to collectively reduce the environmental impact of the sport we love."

Same Pastures, Different Role for our Community Chaplain

by Helene Tame

Time flies! Almost 10 years ago I came to work as a 'pioneer minister' on Love's Farm. The idea was to find ways for the church to serve the community despite the lack of a physical church building and so, in September 2014 my family and I moved onto Love's Farm where I assumed the role of Community Chaplain.

Community Chaplain seemed to



The Community Garden at 76 Stone Hill



Helene at Breakfast Church.

me a more easily explained role title and better expressed my heart and understanding as well. The role of chaplains is a familiar one, they pop up everywhere and anywhere — not with the intent of trying to get you somewhere but rather to find you where you are and be part of your journey. I hope I've done that! I've loved pitching in, sometimes joining with the efforts of others, sometimes spearheading those efforts, and sometimes offering something quite different altogether, like Breakfast Church (or Muddy and Messy Church).

I've always believed that the Church ought to eat together a lot more, make its welcome wide and its table as large as possible. Breakfast Church has sought to do that, offering people a place at the table way before they're sure about what they



Muddy Church in Auntie's Wood

believe or how that will impact the rest of their life. Breakfast Church launched the day after Love's Farm House and in the time since we've come to run by three key words: community — there's a place at the table for you, encounter — there's a place not just to meet others but to meet God too, and discipleship — a word we're much less used to hearing but which basically describes the way people and things shape our choices and story... Those three words are inextricably linked because at the centre of the Christian faith is a meal by which we're invited to remember the story of God's great love for each of us, when we encounter that love it shapes us — and if you think about it we're always best shaped, or shaped best, by love.

I have loved being Love's Farm's

community chaplain but at the end of this year I am stepping back from the role. I will stop doing some things, carry on with others and hand some things over. For instance, Marcus and Kathryn Pickering will take over as main leaders for Breakfast Church. I'll carry on with SMART days and Friday's Youth Club, do the occasional assembly, step back from Little Loves and the Love's Farm House café team and take a back seat on Sundays at Breakfast Church.

What about the house and community garden?! As a family we have moved out of 76 Stone Hill and moved into our own home on Love's Farm at 150 Stone Hill. We hope in time someone else will move into 76 and pick up some of the other elements of my role — for now we'll keep the garden as tidy as we can and think about where the library box might be rehomed.

Am I retiring then? No. From January I'm going to start working two days a week at the Wintringham School as part of the new education resource base as well as give extra help to Becky — who lots of you know.

I'll also continue to take a share, as so many of you do, in seeking ways to make Love's Farm the place to live by being deliberate about building community, and over and above all those things I will continue to pray for the community which I can genuinely say I have loved/love being a part of.

Volunteers Wanted!

Love's Farm House is on the look-out for volunteers to join our friendly café team.

Do you have a few hours to spare on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday morning at least once per month? Do you enjoy meeting people and helping the community? We have volunteer roles available at the Farm House Café.

The role involves serving pastries, cakes and hot drinks, taking payments and generally being a friendly and welcoming face at our community café. You don't need any experience, full training is provided. All we ask is that you're willing to pitch in and have a friendly and welcoming attitude. In exchange, you'll get to work as part of a friendly team, gain customer service experience and meet lots of interesting people!

If you're interested in this role, please email jenny@lovesfarmhouse.co.uk, call 01480 262626, or complete our volunteer form at <https://tinyurl.com/3ykder4n>



Our café volunteers serving tea and scones for the Mayor during our Coronation event

Join Us at the Farm House Bar and Café

Café Opening Times (term time only): Tuesdays & Fridays
9am-12noon, Saturdays
9.15am-11.15am

Bar Opening Times: Fridays
7.45pm-11pm (year round)

Did you know that the Farm House Café now runs three mornings per week at Love's Farm House?

On Tuesdays and Fridays you can pop in straight from the school run at 9am, or have a leisurely lie-in and join us mid-morning. On Tuesdays we serve a selection of pastries as well as speciality coffees, loose leaf tea and deluxe hot chocolate. On the 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays of the month we are joined by Little Dutch Bites who offer their poffertjes (mini Dutch pancakes) in addition to our normal menu, with plenty of delicious toppings to choose from.

The Friday morning cafe is run in conjunction with new Love's Farm based business Three Sweet Treats, who offer a selection of delectable cakes and cookies as well as the usual hot drinks — and we can confirm that the cakes taste as good as they look!

Lazy Breakfast on Saturday mornings is a Love's Farm institution. Our volunteers serve up a menu of pastries, deluxe waffles, fresh fruit and our signature sausage rolls, along with freshly prepared hot drinks



Some of the delicious cakes on offer from Three Sweet Treats at the Farm House Café on Fridays

and fruit juice. Bring your friends or a newspaper, borrow a book from our micro library or surf the internet using our free Wi-Fi and start your weekend the lazy way.

The Farm House Bar is open every Friday from 7.45pm (except 30 December) and has a strong holiday theme this month. In addition to our usual round of themed nights, Emma, our Quiz Master extraordinaire, will be covering all things festive at the Christmas Quiz on 8 December. Love's Farm Book Club will be sticking with the winter theme on 15 December, discussing *Winter Garden* by Kristin Hannah. At Christmas Cheers on Friday 22 December, we'll be welcoming the carol singers to the bar, to warm up with some mulled wine after their stint on Station Square.

The Love's Farm House bar and café sessions are open to everyone (children are welcome at the bar until 9pm). All the income from these sessions goes straight back into covering the running costs of the building, helping to safeguard this important

resource for our community. So bring your friends and neighbours along for a cuppa or a drink and make the most of your community centre!

Author Visit to Love's Farm Book Club

At our November meeting, the Love's Farm Book Club were privileged to be joined by not one but two amazing authors, Sophie Hannah and Emily Winslow!

Sophie may be familiar to you as the author of the new Poirot novels and we were lucky to hear the whole story of how this came about. She has also written many other crime and romance novels, including our November book *Haven't They Grown*.

Emily writes the Keene and Frohmann series, which are crime novels with a strong sense of place — the place being her adopted hometown of Cambridge, where she moved from the USA shortly before writing our October book club pick, *The Whole World*.

What fantastic guests Sophie and Emily were! As well as answering our many questions, they gave us a fascinating insight into their writing processes and their completely different approaches to planning their books. They also shared lots of insider gossip and funny stories, keeping us entertained for hours.

Huge thanks to Sophie and Emily for coming to join us, to Catherine Gregorious for making it happen and



Authors Sophie Hannah (l) and Emily Winslow (r) with the Book Club's Catherine Gregorius

to Book Club leaders Katie Rush and Charlotte Kane-Belcher for organising and hosting.

Love's Farm Book Club meets on the third Friday of every month at

7.45pm at Love's Farm House. You can find out which book they're reading and what events are coming up by joining the Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/lovesfarmbookclub

Broadway Boogie Kids

Tuesdays 5pm-5.45pm,
Love's Farm House, £5 per class

Broadway Boogie Kids is a new dance fitness programme designed to get kids active while they dance to their favourite songs from movies and musicals. The class allows children to grow in confidence, portray a variety of their favourite characters and use



Host your party at Love's Farm House

Children's parties (12-3pm or 3-6pm) - £90

Saturday night (6pm-midnight) - £290

Saturday all day (midday-midnight) - £450

Please call 01480 262626 or email bookings@lovesfarmhouse.co.uk
for more information

www.lovesfarmhouse.com facebook.com/lovesfarmhouse

movement to create their own Broadway show. There are elements of the class where children can really use their imaginations to create their own choreography, stories and characters.

The class is suitable for ages 4-13. After a free trial session, classes cost £5 per session. Contact Lynne on dsmdancewithlynn@gmail.com for more information or to book your child's space.

Love's Farm Out of Doors – Postscript

by Phyllis Hooper

A few days ago Lara, District Councillor and Chair of LFCA, dropped by my house and gave me the most amazing "going away" gift. I am humbled and SO grateful. Not only had she designed and sewn a beautiful, unique wall-hanging (If you want a job done ask a busy person!), she also brought a very generous Garden Gift Voucher and a card, touchingly notated by many, many friends on Love's Farm.

I have lived here for twelve and a half years, good years. It has been a complete chunk of life, unlike any before, and one of my pleasures has been watching and helping, sometimes with frustration, the development of our green areas. Although I would call myself an optimist I also tend to see my past through a haze of failures, real and perhaps imaginary, of which there



Phyllis's cross-stitched leaving present

have been several outdoors on Love's Farm — trees that have died, Mazes that didn't happen etc, gardens untended. But there are some living trees, some tended areas/advised gardens, some blogs read, I hope.

What Lara's visit did for me was to push aside that haze and remind me of the good times, the interesting jobs and above all the Community of Love's Farm. Long may that spirit grow and thrive. Thank you all for everything. Orwell (near Wimpole Hall) is not far, the kettle will be the first installation, my contacts remain the same. If you want Mistletoe come and cut some!

With love, Phyllis.

phyllis.hooper@btinternet.com

Advertise Here

Advertise your company or event with a half-page, quarter-page or classified advert. This newsletter is delivered to 1,500 homes on Love's Farm. Please contact Jenny on 01480 262626 (9am-3pm Monday-Friday) or email jenny@lovesfarmhouse.co.uk.

Get In Touch

Love's Farm News

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Love's Farm Community Association (LFCA)

info@ourlovesfarm.co.uk
Chair: Lara Davenport-Ray
chair@ourlovesfarm.co.uk
www.ourlovesfarm.co.uk
  ourlovesfarm

Love's Farm House

Bookings and general enquiries
(Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm):
Jenny 01480 262626,
jenny@lovesfarmhouse.co.uk
Chair: Andy Hill
chair@lovesfarmhouse.co.uk
www.lovesfarmhouse.com
  lovesfarmhouse

Town Councillors

Anna Crompton,
anna.crompton@stneots-tc.gov.uk
Katie Dundas-Todorov, katie.
duns-todorov@stneots-tc.gov.uk
Jaideep Kumar
jaideep.kumar@stneots-tc.gov.uk
Ben Pitt, ben.pitt@stneots-tc.
gov.uk

District Councillors

Marcus Pickering,
marcus.pickering@
huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Lara Davenport-Ray,
lara.davenport-ray@
huntingdonshire.gov.uk

County Councillor

Stephen Ferguson, 07525 987460,
stephen.ferguson
@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Financial Difficulties

Money Advice St Neots (Mast):
www.mast.support 01480 260234,
help@mast.support

Breakfast Church

Helene Tame, 07938 803501
community.chaplain@yahoo.co.uk

BPHA

Contact Customer Services on
0330 100 0272 www.bpha.org.uk

Hartbeeps

Ages: 0 to 4.
Contact Sarah on 07872 331260
sarah.armstrong@hartbeeps.com,
www.hartbeeps.com

Kidslingo French

Ages: 4 to 8.
Call 07707 027640 or email
harriet.ward@kidslingo.co.uk

Lift Lean, Zumba, Fitness Pilates & Fit Mum

Contact Nicola at njfitness
andmassage@outlook.com,
www.njfitnessandmassage.com.

Moo Music

Ages 0-5. Contact Julia on
julia@moo-music.co.uk

Pilates with Laura

Contact Laura on 07900 242904 or
laura@pilateswithlaura.co.uk

Healthy You

Call 03330 050093 or visit
www.healthyyou.org.uk

Youth Café

School years 7 to 13. Email Jake at
jakelfcafe@outlook.com

Love's Farm Tang Soo Do Karate Club

Ages: 6 to adult. Contact
Paul on 07790 217170

Broadway Boogie & Broadway Boogie Kids

Contact Lynne on
dsmdancewithlynn@gmail.com
or facebook.com/
dsmdancewithlynn.

Little Loves

Ages: Birth to Preschool, £1
per family. Helene, 07938 803501,
community.chaplain@yahoo.co.uk

GPC Mixed Martial Arts

Visit www.gpcmma.com.

Love's Farm Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

guides@lovesfarmguiding.org.uk,
www.girlguiding.org.uk

Mama Baby Bliss Yoga

Yoga for babies, toddlers, mums
and dads. Contact
joanna.miller@mamababybliss.com
call 07904 374212 or visit
www.mamababybliss.com/
classes/book-a-class/
biggleswade-st-neots.

Junior Youth Club

School Years 3 to 6. Contact Helene
on 07938 803501,
community.chaplain@yahoo.co.uk

Love's Farm Book Club

Join the Facebook group at
[www.facebook.com/
lovesfarmbookclub](http://www.facebook.com/lovesfarmbookclub)

Street Dance

Various classes for ages 4+.
Contact Katy on 07500 875060,
[www.katynorthdanceacademy
.com](http://www.katynorthdanceacademy.com)

Footsteps Dance Academy (ballet, tap & modern)

Contact
missjemma@footsteps.co.uk or
www.footstepsdance.co.uk

Love's Farm Ladies (WI)

lovesfarmladieswi@gmail.com

Love's Farm Runners

Visit [www.facebook.com/
lovesfarmrunners](http://www.facebook.com/lovesfarmrunners)

2nd St Neots Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

tinyurl.com/lovesfarmcubs



What's On

December 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Hartbeeps 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.45 Lift Lean 6.15 - 7pm Zumba 7.05 - 7.50pm Fitness Pilates 8 - 9pm	* FH Cafe 9am - 12noon Moo Music 9.45, 10.45 * bpha Drop-In 9.30 - 12 Broadway Boogie Kids 5 - 5.45pm R'bows & B'nies 5pm, 6.15pm Pilates 6pm, 7pm, 8pm LF Runners 8pm @ Stn Sq	Healthy You 9.30 - 1.30 Fit Mum 9.35 - 10.20am Fitness Pilates 10.30 - 11.30am * Youth Cafe 3.30 - 5pm Karate 5.30 - 7pm Broadway Boogie 7.10pm	* Little Loves 9.30 - 10.30am GPC MMA 4.30pm, 5.15pm Brownies 6 - 7.30pm Guides 7.30 - 9pm	* Farm House Cafe 9am - 12noon Toddler Yoga 9.45am Baby Yoga 10.45am Youth Club 5pm, 6pm * Karaoke @ the Farm House Bar 8pm - late	* Lazy Breakfast 9.15 - 11.15am Street Dance 9.15am, 9.45am, 10.30am, 11am Footsteps Dance 8.45am - 4.30pm	<i>Love's Farm House is available for private hire at weekends. Call 01480 262626 or visit www.lovesfarmhouse.com</i>
Hartbeeps 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.45 Kidslingo French 4.40 - 5.20pm Lift Lean 6.15 - 7pm Zumba 7.05 - 7.50pm Fitness Pilates 8 - 9pm	* Farm House Cafe Moo Music Broadway Boogie Kids Rainbows & Brownies Pilates LF Runners <i>Times as above</i>	Healthy You 9.30 - 1.30 Fit Mum 9.35 - 10.20am Fitness Pilates 10.30 - 11.30am * Youth Cafe 3.30 - 5pm Karate 5.30 - 7pm B'way Boogie 7.10pm	* Little Loves 9.30 - 10.30am GPC MMA 4.30pm, 5.30pm Guides 7.30 - 9pm	*FH Cafe 9am - 12noon Toddler Yoga 9.45am Baby Yoga 10.45am * Games Night @ the FH Bar 7.45pm - late * Love's Farm Book Club 7.45pm	* Lazy Breakfast 9.15 - 11.15am Street Dance 9.15am, 9.45am, 10.30am, 11am	* Breakfast Church 10am
Hartbeeps Christmas Parties 10am, 12noon, 2pm Kidslingo French Lift Lean Zumba Fitness Pilates <i>Times as above</i>	* Farm House Cafe 9am - 12noon Broadway Boogie Kids 5 - 5.45pm Pilates 6pm, 7pm, 8pm LF Runners 8pm @ Stn Sq	* Youth Cafe 3.30 - 5pm * LFCA Committee Meeting 7.30pm via Zoom	Love's Farm Ladies WI 7pm @ SNFC	* Love's Farm Carol Singing 7pm @ Stn Sq * Christmas Cheers & Cozy Crafts @ the Farm House Bar 7.45pm		
* Christmas Day Breakfast Church 11am						

Events are at Love's Farm House foyer, hall or meeting room, Round House School or out and about. Events with a * mean just turn up. For others, please book in advance. Visit www.lovesfarmhouse.com or call 01480 262626 for more information.