

ChapeltonNews



Introduction

by Earl of Southesk

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Welcome to the autumn issue of ChapeltonNews. Dramatic and exciting changes are taking place for all to see on site as the first homes appear on the skyline and the foundations of the community develop.

The three housebuilders are hard at work and we anticipate completion of the first showhomes in a few weeks. Our on-site sales teams are busy welcoming the many visitors keen to learn more about the homes and facilities on offer at Chapelton.

In this issue of ChapeltonNews we hear from each of the sales teams about life on-site.

Our very own tea shop, Teacake, is going down a storm, with cakes flying off the shelves. The coconut and lime slices are a sell-out success so do pop in and get a taste of them.

Hume Square, at the heart of the development's first stage, is quickly taking shape. This area will be the centre of the first community, offering a number of commercial units. In this issue we'll also introduce you to the Square's first businesses; a dental practice and nursery school.

We very much hope you will enjoy reading ChapeltonNews.

Meet the Chapelton sales teams



Left to right: Alastair Struthers from ZeroC, Felicity Brain from Stephen, Morag Adams from AJC, Anita Collin from Teacake

The on-site sales teams from the three house builders are now part of the Chapelton family, helping many prospective residents make the most important decisions of their lives.

Each housebuilder's sales cabin showcases detailed descriptions and pictures of the house-types on offer as well as comfortable areas for people to sit down, relax and learn more.

Morag Adams, AJC

Life as a sales executive at Chapelton is very exciting and I am proud to be part of something so new and so progressive. This is the first time I have been based on-site at a development and I thoroughly enjoy sharing my excitement with visitors.

Since the launch I have been busy showing prospective buyers the different AJC homes available and helping answer any questions. We've had very positive comments from our visitors - I often hear people saying just how impressed they are about the quality of some of the structures already in place such as the roundabout and dry-stone wall.

I'm very much looking forward to moving from the sales cabin into the showhome in the next few weeks and will be very happy to give visitors a tour of an AJC home.

Felicity Brain and Graham Milne, Stephen

The launch of Chapelton, just a few months ago, already feels like a lifetime ago, with so much happening on-site. We have been working hard to make sure our visitors have all the information required to understand both what a Stephen house offers and what life at Chapelton will be like.

A lot of our visitors have come to us after viewing the Stephen or Chapelton website, so are interested in a new home and keen to learn the details. Gardens seem to be a key point of interest at the moment, so we make sure we have detailed drawings and development plans to hand.

It is very exciting to see the foundations of Hume Square emerge, knowing this space will soon be the home to a brand new community. We can't wait to be surrounded by people living and working at Chapelton

Alastair Struthers, ZeroC

Since the site opening at the end of May we've welcomed an overwhelming number of visitors, far exceeding expectations. A high percentage of househunters come from Aberdeen and the surrounding towns such as Newtonhill and Portlethen. It's great that visitors have such a welcoming place to relax and enjoy a hot drink and bite to eat at Teacake. It's a unique feature which locals, visitors and site staff really value.

Over the past few months I've spoken to many prospective buyers and answered questions. I'll never get bored hearing and seeing such a positive reaction to what is on offer at Chapelton. People are very happy that so much has been thought about and considered when planning the town and I think that is something very much appreciated by our buyers.

Even though there aren't any residents yet, the community spirit of Chapelton is already forming between the sales teams at the visitor centre. I'm sure that this sense of community will carry on as we see our first buyers move in.

Community developments



Above: Geddes Street, Cairnhill

Commercial space at Chapelton has proved to be extremely popular. The first phase of retail units was snapped up within weeks.

Hume Square will be home to two exciting businesses created to serve the community - Chapelton Dental Care and a nursery school. They will complement the new Teacake and Visitor Centre when it moves to the square.

Chapelton Dental Care

The town's dental practice will be run in partnership with Portlethen Dental Care which currently services the town and surrounding areas. All children will be accepted as NHS and New NHS. Denplan and private patients will also be welcomed, including those looking to transfer from another dental practice.

The practice, overseen by Portlethen Dental Care's principal dentist Dr Geoff Gordon, will serve the homes within the first phase of Chapelton and will be of benefit to those both living in and nearby the town.

For further information about Portlethen Dental Care visit www.portlethendentalcare.co.uk

Nursery School

Neighbouring Chapelton Dental Care will be the nursery school, a modern facility with the capacity to register up to 100 children from the area.

Linda Pirie, a pre-school teacher from Stonehaven with over 25 years' experience, will oversee the yet to be named nursery which will help support the families of Chapelton as well as those living within neighbouring towns.

The nursery school will provide day care facilities for children between the ages of two to five years as well as an after-school club for older primary school children.

Three primary schools are planned for Chapelton with the first opening when 489 homes have been built. In the longer term, a secondary school academy will be built in time for the 2705th home.

For further information about the nursery school within Chapelton please contact info@chapelton-online.co.uk

Having your say

You can find the latest news and share your views on Chapelton via our Facebook page and website:

www.chapelton-online.com

 www.facebook.com/chapeltonofelsick

In the meantime if you have questions you would like us to answer, please get in touch at info@chapelton-online.co.uk. We will respond directly and print some of the answers in upcoming issues. People and their views are at the heart of the community.

Meet the team

David Finlay – Elsick Estate



David Finlay is Farm Manager to the Duke of Fife and also runs his own family farm in Tayport, Fife. He has been involved with Chapelton and its masterplan right from the beginning – even before it was in the Local Development Plan. David brings much needed practical advice and a detailed knowledge of the land that is vital to all members of the team.

How did you arrive in your current role?

It was January 1978. I had finished agricultural college in Aberdeen and was working on the family farm in Fife when the post was advertised. I was encouraged to apply and I moved onto the estate with my wife Brenda. I do have several aspects to my role now as I am employed by the Duke but have to take all generations into account and do what is best for the wider family.

What does an average day's work entail?

There is no average day but I try to work a whole day in one place or the other. I now commute up from Fife and since this job is never predictable I generally plan where I will be the night before. With EDC and Chapelton we have had a good deal of evening work with community meetings and discussions with the consortium members.

Is there a certain aspect of your job that you enjoy the most?

I am a farmer at heart and prefer the livestock side more than the arable. When I am amongst the cattle I can switch off from all the EDC issues and the many decisions that have to be mulled over, looked at from all sides and ironed out.

What feature of Chapelton are you most excited about?

When we visited Poundbury, I liked the style. I don't mean the architecture but the feeling that you could walk

about and feel that the place was yours as a pedestrian. The roads and pavements were attractively designed. The disabled access was an integral part of the plan and looked natural rather than being bolted on as it is in most towns. We have tried to replicate that here at Chapelton.

Being a local, how do you feel about the landscape changing as Chapelton grows?

The shape will go but the underneath structure will be there and will be visible to me. Everything is always changing in the countryside and houses are really just another crop. We just have to manage it well and make a good job of it. Unlike a normal crop we only have one chance at it.

What do you think makes a good community?

The challenge will be integrating farming within the community so that it is not them and us. You see many developments now with high fences enclosing them in. I would like to feel that we are making the new inhabitants feel part of that farming community and blending the balance between the two by keeping a continual dialogue.

How do you relax?

When I do have some spare time, albeit not very often, I like to spend it with my family. I also like travelling to see farming in other parts of the world.

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- Showhomes Report
- First Buyers Move In

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