

Chapelton News

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Welcome from the Duke of Fife

We are delighted at the news from the Council that the first primary school at Chapelton will be available in 2026 and that the design phase is progressing with the addition of public consultations in the spring. We are hopeful that the Council will be bringing a virtual school forward for Chapelton pupils ahead of that as they have done with recent school provision in the area.

We have been working hard for over a year on the design of the neighbourhood area around the school. We have an exceptional design team and I would like to take the opportunity to highlight how fortunate we are to have them to work with. They have been working through the design options and making sure that the new neighbourhood centre looks welcoming. There will be a public square, shops, offices and a community building and it will not be long before it is submitted for planning permission.



We have all been blessed with beautiful weather throughout the summer and the sunshine has made a great backdrop for the many of events that Chapelton hosts. It is now an established programme with the 10k run, the popular Scarecrow Festival, the Bike Ride, and the Farmers Markets. Many of these are run by the residents themselves and they continue to come up with wonderful ideas.

The housing market was buoyant and the four housebuilders have been moving at a pace to meet the demand. Several areas have gone through planning permission in recently and you will find in this edition an update on all the new properties on offer.

Brae opened in Hume Square towards the end of July after a revamp. It has gone from strength to strength, with huge support from the community here, and with a mouth-watering array of savoury pastries and sweet offerings. It is a joy to see such a vibrant heart to Chapelton and in this edition of the News we introduce the whole family.

New Faces at the Boxes



It is now over a year since The Boxes were set up to offer young local businesses the chance to test the water and see whether their fledgling plans fly. They have proved very popular over that time in the main because the enterprises have the flexibility of not being tied to long licences. Some of the early starters have gone on to move their offerings to larger premises and we hope, in time, that a few might want to take on a permanent site in the new neighbourhood centre.

The aim is to have a wide-ranging selection of businesses and get retailers and services that enhance the existing boxes rather than competing directly. RedRocks, Fits the Scoop, Omnia, Wander and Graze and the Pop Up are now joined by recent additions:-



Replenish

Replenish provides plastic free or compostable packaged produce, locally produced food, fruit and veg, and eco-living products. Bring your own container to join in the new revolution

AB Wellness & Reflexology

Shona offers reflexology treatments by appointment and is the life and soul of the Boxes. There is also a selection of wellness products and gifts for sale too.

LouSells Preloved Labels – The Mini Edition

Has a full range of preloved children's clothing and footwear alongside a selection of new wooden toys, books with mindfulness themes & other items, perfect for little ones.



2022 Events are Bigger and Better

It may have been the bounce back from Covid, or just a build up of support over the years, but attendance at events has been at its peak this year and there has been joy in coming together as a community in person. Here are some of the events from the past few months.

10k run

In its third year of live operation the Chapelton 10K is described by its chief organiser as “created for runners, by runners.” Over 350 runners signed up for the challenge and £5,000 was raised for local charities.

Farmers Markets

Numbers at the farmers markets are growing fast. The summer market had the addition of live music and attracted over 3500 people to the 39 stalls. The final Christmas market took

place recently and was also buzzing with new stalls and lots to buy.

Bike Ride

The date of the Bike ride was changed twice this year, the normal date clashing with the opening of the Round Britain cycle race and then with the Queen's coffin cortege passing. In the event we had a dry day with a great atmosphere.

Scarecrow Festival

This year attracted even more families and the entries were of a very high standard with both small and large exhibits. The theme was heroes and villains with One in a Minion winning the public vote. Half way through August and the Festival the Boxes held a family fun day with bouncy castles and Chapelton was as busy as ever!



Property Update



AJC South Wolrige Gardens construction is well underway and only one house remains available for sale. Work has recently started at Benton Crescent which comprises 4 and 5 bed detached houses with double garages. Future phases, currently in design, will be to the west of Benton Crescent.

Snowdrop is currently working on two areas, the entrance to the development and at Brook Lane North, where new house types with far reaching views have proved very popular. Only one home remains on each site. Planning permission has been granted to a new area to the south of the development.

Stephen have complimented their existing selection of 2, 3- and 4-bedroom homes along Murray Street with several new 2 and three bed semidetached and detached.

Places for People are expanding their range of homes on two fronts at some pace. They are continuing to build to the north near the entrance to Chapelton and alongside Brio Retirement

Clockwise from left: Completed Ashley Green from above, AJC final houses at Wolrige Gardens, new retail at Quarryline Street

towards the Cookney road. The variety of homes from 1-bedroom apartments to 4 bed houses also includes retail and a small office. Buyers can also choose from mid-market rentals to Shared equity. Their next phase will take the community right into the heart of the neighbourhood.

Brio Retirement there is a great buzz around Landale Court with 13 homes already occupied, Slate and Grain open regularly and a new gym operator moving into the facility. Nearly all the single-story cottages are taken but there are plenty of other choices.

Having your say

You can find the latest news and share your views on Chapelton via our Facebook page and website:
www.chapeltonnewtown.co.uk

 www.facebook.com/chapeltonofelsick

Please email info@chapeltonnewtown.co.uk if you would like to receive a quarterly digital copy of ChapeltonNews.

 [@chapeltonlife](https://www.instagram.com/chapeltonlife)

Meet the Team



Introducing the family at Brae

Jodie - One half of Brae, the eldest sibling. The Brae content creator and project leader. Following a career in project management in oil & gas and then a few years in local government this is the next step. A bath addict, downtime includes reading, watercolour painting, yoga, wellness podcasts, swimming in the river Dee and going on sole adventures in a tent box.

Dale - The other half of Brae. The menu creator and beacon of calm. A career working primarily in catering weddings and corporate events to date and producer of Breer Pies, alongside mum (Julie). A football fan, family quiz champion and a fan of the simple life. Dale doesn't have social media and has no idea what a podcast is, but he knows what he likes and does that and is happiest when in the kitchen and getting through his list of jobs.

Haley - The youngest sibling has been called in to help keep up with demand. Haley is a staff nurse at Inverurie Hospital. A kind and caring soul. A lover of fashion, holidays, Instagram filters, animals and very talented baker.

Mum Julie has been instrumental in the success of brae so far. We couldn't have done it without her. The welcoming smile when you pop by brae. Julie was born to be a mother and loves meeting all the families, young kids, and babies at brae.

Dad Bruce - Without him Brae would be half of what it is. Using his DIY skills, honed over the years, he managed to turn the vision of brae into a reality. The panelling, the bespoke counter, the window tables, the tiled fireplace, the signage etc was all created by dad. It was a huge family effort, but Dad was key in making it all happen. Still a regular at brae, helping us in any way he can.

What was your favourite part of the refurb?

"It was seeing the vision come to life. White paint and new lights completely transformed the space. We've had a lot of comments saying how much bigger the space feels and how the new counter position works well. The service hatch for dog walkers has received some great feedback too. The design phase took a lot of time and thought - it makes it worthwhile when customers appreciate the result of all the hard work."

How have you found your first month of opening?

"Busy. It has surpassed any of our expectations. When we were carrying out the upgrade, Chapelton was very quiet and we have to admit we were a little concerned that we just wouldn't get the footfall we would need to make brae a success. The Scarecrow Festival and other events through July and August has brought in a huge footfall in addition to the unbelievable local community support - we already have regulars coming in multiple times per week which has been so lovely and so appreciated."

What do you enjoy most about working in brae and in Chapelton?

"The people and the pooches!"

"The community support has been nothing short of incredible. The positive comments and support we have received has been incredibly motivating. We always wanted to share more of what we loved, and we are just so thankful that it has been so well received. Chapelton has so much to offer, and we hope brae is adding to the pull for visitors and locals alike."

What do you think brae offers that is different from other cafes?

"A home from home. There is so much enthusiasm from residents and those further afield to support a space like brae. We genuinely listened to what people were looking for and asked a lot of questions to ensure our plans were aligned with what our customers were looking for."

Can you give us a little hint of what's coming next in brae?

"Our community events will continue with our New and Expectant Parents Group Wednesday 9-11am and Craft Club Thursdays 9-11am. We will be hosting our first Breer Pie and mash night (date tbc) soon. Thereafter we'll be hosting our first supper club, hosting a local producer to share their passion, alongside a bespoke menu created by Dale to showcase their work."

How would you describe brae in 3 words?

"Vibrant. Welcoming. Community-focussed. Maybe 4 words?"