

Chapelton News



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Welcome from the Duke of Fife

As I write this, we are poised to see Chapelton's largest planning application to date. We have designed 180 units with Places for People, which will include the whole of the Cairnhill neighbourhood centre and will feature 11 retail units including a pharmacy, a formal park adjacent to Patey Park, allotments and eventually a larger community hall to replace The Hut.

It is the culmination of many years of work and will ensure that the infrastructure is in place for the building of the first primary school at Chapelton. Discussions with the Council on its provision are proceeding with an intended opening date of autumn 2026. We have also designed one of the units in the neighbourhood centre to be a pub/bar so we hope that a suitable business may be tempted by the opportunity.

We were particularly delighted to receive the first award from the Prince's Foundation through their Building a Legacy programme. The award, which is of bronze and weighs in at nearly 6kilos was given for Outstanding Contribution to Community Activities.



The King, as Prince of Wales, has for decades encouraged a people friendly and sustainable approach to building and so we feel honoured to have been recognised for putting community first. It is a fitting time just as the Chapelton Community Association gets underway.

The Boxes continue to be a vibrant and varied place to shop, and the participating business owners have created a wonderful atmosphere for all to enjoy. It is encouraging to see many of the businesses thriving and this year two of our existing retailers are expanding into new premises on site. The Lounge is also moving to a larger, more prominent building near Brio and will enjoy views across Liddell Park. The newsletter will give you an update on these changes.

Part of the newest planning application is a facility to house a centre for young people with ASN. This building is at the heart of the neighbourhood but designed to be peaceful and backs on to woodland to offer outdoor play and fun. Amanda Greig is an inspiration, and, in this edition, we meet her and find out about her incredible vision.

I hope you enjoy reading all this and would urge you to come along and see what the builders are offering now.

All Change at The Boxes



Since the amazing Christmas Santa event there has been a big move around in businesses with two of the existing Chapelton businesses doubling in size and others offering new products or rebranding.

Red Rocks has been at the Boxes since the very beginning and is moving into the double box at the front to offer an even broader range of jewellery where Claire hopes to stock more beautiful jewellery and be able to demonstrate at workshops.

Devenick Drinks arrived in December and have enjoyed great popularity with the community, with their Pop-Up Pub events in the Hut. The Pop Up will be moving space to allow them to have a tasting area and they are brimming with ideas for events.

Stinky Beasties have featured at the Pop Up but the company, offering their own range of quality products that will help care for your dog from ear to paw (including wide selection of yummy natural dog treats, toys, and lots of accessories) is now moving to its own Box.

Replenish, with its plastic free and local ethos, is offering delicious grab and go meal bags as well as all its fresh produce and cupboard staples.

The Omnia is a homeware and gift store which boasts decorative home accessories, including beautifully scented candles and diffusers, cushions, throws, cards and gift bags.

Fits the Scoop offer so much more than ice cream and there is news coming with all the fresh things they have to offer. It is a great place to find a bite to eat.

Mr Dun is rebranding now that Josh, a familiar face in Chapelton, has branched out on his own and there will be news coming on that too.

AB Wellness - If you have not visited Shona for a reflexology session then it comes highly recommended. It is the most relaxing experience.

CCA and the Community



As well as receiving the Community Award we can report the emergence of the Chapelton Community Association (CCA). A very active group of member residents has come together to build on Chapelton's sense of community, through organising recreational activities and sharing local news and information within the 'Chapelton Chat'.



The CCA now runs regular events from photography workshops to bingo nights. In March there will be truffle making, first aid training, wreath making and a camera club. They hope to do an Easter trail for the holidays. Part of their remit is also to support other residents to organise and run community groups and events.

Upcoming events include:

Truffle making with cocoa ooze - 2nd March

First aid course - 11th and 25th March

Spring Wreath making 25th March

Camera Club-with wildlife photographer Cheryl Michie 26th March

They recently set up a post box for the young people in Chapelton to post their Valentine's cards and many were distributed to senior residents at Brio.

Building Progress



The fine weather has brought great progress in new housing and new residents moving to Chapelton.

Places for People are building in several areas, simultaneously completing the cottages behind the main Brio building, and continuing to build out in the Moray Place area. The new Quarryline Street is also emerging as a characterful mixed-use street.

AJC Homes have sold everything at Wolrige Gardens and are concentrating their efforts on Benton Crescent where they have planning permission to expand their build out to the southern end.

Snowdrop are coming towards the end at two separate sites, with only two properties left to reserve before heading to a new area.



Left: Plan of Cairnhill Centre, above: The Lounge is moving to Quarryline Street

Stephen are putting the finishing touches on their final homes in Murray Street with only a handful remaining.

Chapelton Calendar



Every month we are asking people to send in their photos so that we can compile a calendar at the end of this year.

These two amazing photographs were winner and runner-up.

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

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

Meet the Charity



We are delighted to introduce Amanda Grieg, the founder of OaKley who is starting up a new, not-for-profit social enterprise in Chapelton. Her ambitious plans to open a play and therapy centre for children and young people with additional support needs (ASN), have begun. She has secured a plot here to build a sector leading purpose-built facility. This desperately needed facility will allow children and young people with ASN to build confidence, develop life skills and make lifelong friends.

When did you first get the idea for OaKley?

"In 2021 we came to the decision that our only option was to remove our son from school and home educate. Our little boy has multiple additional support needs. He was brilliant, hilarious, smart, kind and loving, but he just wasn't thriving."

"The lack of appropriate services in education and health was having a lasting impact on his wellbeing, and he had become the collateral damage of a crisis in education and health. The more we looked, the more we realised that there were hundreds like him who were being failed by the system."

"With the help of many others in a similar situation we have joined together to offer support to families with children with ASN needs. We need to change the narrative for children and young people with ASN and their families. So we have embarked on something different."

What attracted you to Chapelton in particular?

"We were keen to find a site to the south of the city which was accessible to as many people as possible with good transport links and plenty of space. The site at Chapelton won my heart the first time I saw it feels just right. There is such a family friendly feel to the town, when visiting with my own son businesses and residents would go out of their way to ensure everything was as accessible as possible and we always feel very welcome. We feel Chapelton is the perfect place to establish our project and grow as the town itself grows around us. Much more than we could ever have hoped for! There really isn't anywhere else that can offer both the location and the outdoor space that we will have here."

Have you had a good response from the residents?

"From day one we have been welcomed by both residents and businesses within Chapelton. Each time I visit I meet someone else who is keen to hear about the project and offer support in one way or another."

"We have established really strong links with some of the local businesses already and are keen to expand that further. We are planning a family fun day with the Boxes and hope to use this as an opportunity to introduce ourselves to the residents we haven't yet met. We are always on the lookout for new volunteers to help us reach our fundraising goal and everyone is most welcome to come along to our meetings to see what we are all about."

If you get any free time, how do you like to spend it?

"With 4 children at home life is never quiet! Evenings are spent taxiing children from one activity to the next and back again. I do like to catch up with friends for a coffee or lunch when I can. And I really must try to find some time to start running again - It is a hobby I love but motivation to actually run seems to come and go! I love being out on a paddle board in the Spring/Summer months - my kids would tell you I'm pretty rubbish at it. I confess my balance isn't the best, but I enjoy it all the same."