

# ChapeltonNews



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## Introduction

by Earl of Southesk

Welcome to the first issue of ChapeltonNews of 2015. In 2014 we saw the launch of the house-types, the sales cabins open and house construction begin. With the first residents due to move in from February, the year ahead is set to be equally as exciting.

The majority of the first release of homes and all the commercial spaces have been taken to date. We are now beginning to see the first of our neighbourhoods take shape with roads and houses bringing structure to the new landscape.

House-builders ZeroC and Stephen are set to open the doors to their showhomes at the beginning of this year following AJC who opened their doors at the end of 2014. In this issue we will convey the benefits of buying a home at Chapelton as well as the opportunity to meet some of our first home buyers who are set to make Scotland's largest new town their home this spring.

We will also introduce Elaine Farquharson-Black of commercial law firm, Burness Paull LLP, who is a crucial support to the EDC team.

We very much hope you will enjoy reading this issue of ChapeltonNews.

# First Show-homes Launch at Chapelton



**The three house-builders, AJC, Stephen and ZeroC, have been hard at work and we are now beginning to see the first properties spring up with one show-home already open for public viewing.**

The AJC sales and marketing team opened the doors to their show-home at the beginning of November receiving a remarkable 1500 visitors over the course of a month. The team has received fantastic feedback with visitors complementing the attention paid to detail both internally and externally.

The five-bedroom house boasts an open plan kitchen dining area, double garage and great views overlooking the sea. Neutral tones and soft furnishings flow throughout the property that offers enough space for busy family living.

The home demonstrates the high-specification construction techniques that AJC is known for. Materials have been carefully selected to provide the property with a modern feel whilst respecting the nature and character of the surrounding area.



Above: The Stephen showhome with their terraced housing beyond  
Left and below: bedrooms in the AJC 5 bed showhome

At the same time, the clever use of efficient building materials helps to reduce carbon emissions and energy costs.

ZeroC will showcase the first of their homes in just a few weeks, a five-bedroom property built with traditional architecture yet contemporary in design.

Stephen is inviting ChapeltonNews readers to the launch of their Melfort show-home which will open the weekend of the 17th and 18th January. In the run up to Christmas Stephen home-buyers had the opportunity to preview the stunning four-bedroom detached family home, all of whom were delighted with the superb specification and attention to detail this NHBC award winning house-builder brings to Chapelton.

The visitor centre and all show-homes are open to visitors Thursday to Monday between the hours of 11am and 5pm.

For more information and updates visit [www.chapeltonofelsick.com](http://www.chapeltonofelsick.com)



# Chapelton's First Residents

We caught up with some of our first home buyers to hear what the town's emerging community has to say about their new life in Chapelton.

**Margaret Macdonald, owner of a two-bedroom ZeroC property**

With both my children already grown up and flown the nest, it was time for me to relocate. I was keen to move to a property that is outwith the city centre yet close to amenities and Chapelton was the answer. The town has so much to offer and is a perfect fit for me.

I am now the proud owner of a two-bedroom ZeroC home located within the centre of the town at Hume Square. The property is fantastic, it not only has spacious interiors but it completely self-contained. There is also a small, manageable garden which I will be able to enjoy year round. I was really impressed by the different hard-furnishing options such as flooring and doors. The ZeroC team was fantastic at helping me choose these.

There is already great community spirit at Chapelton, something that is important to me having moved away from my residence of 40 years. EDC is committed to ensuring good camaraderie between residents of all ages and I've already got to know those who will soon be my neighbours.

**Kelly and Liam McGregor, four-bedroom AJC homeowners**

As newlyweds, we were keen to move to a town that would offer us a bright future. We had read about Chapelton in the local news and after enquiring, were offered the chance to view an AJC home in Aboyne to get a feel for the properties that would soon be available at Chapelton. A couple of weeks later at the house-type launch we secured a property and have since watched our new home emerge.

This is our first time buying a new build property and both of us have been delighted with the process so far. The customer service from AJC is great and we are always kept in the picture about progress on the property.

We can't wait to move into our new home and begin our lives



Clockwise: Kelly and Liam McGregor, Margaret Macdonald, Darun Chopra

together in a community that it only just starting out itself. Chapelton please contact [info@chapelton-online.co.uk](mailto:info@chapelton-online.co.uk)

**Darun Chopra, five-bedroom Stephen homeowner**

My wife and I have been looking for a new property for a number of months and so when we heard that Chapelton was offering the first of its homes we were quick to find out more. We reserved a Stephen property in June and haven't looked back.

The Stephen sales team has been great at helping to answer all of our questions and are always very accepting of our suggested alterations to the interiors and fittings of the property.

Chapelton offers us more than just a home, it offers us the chance to be part of a community.

## 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](http://www.chapelton-online.com)



[www.facebook.com/chapeltonofelsick](https://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](mailto: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

Elaine Farquharson-Black, Burness Paull LLP



Elaine Farquharson-Black is Partner at premier law firm Burness Paull LLP. She has been involved with Chapelton since its inception in 2007 providing vital planning advice to the team at EDC.

## How did you arrive in your current role?

A number of years ago EDC came to me to discuss the planning prospects for developing land at Chapelton, which at the time was zoned as countryside. Having considered all the options, a decision was taken to promote the entire estate, along with neighbouring land, for the construction of a new community.

My original role was to lead the team to demonstrate that the land could and should be allocated for development through a review of the Development Plan.

As the project progressed to the submission of a planning application, my role was to negotiate the terms of the legal agreement covering the planning obligations which apply to the development.

Along the way, my work has included everything from co-ordinating public meetings to chaperoning the design team during the charrette, including doing their washing, and I have loved every minute!

## Describe your typical day at work

It would be fair to say that I spend most of my days in meetings. These may be with clients, design teams, politicians or the public. Evenings are spent catching up on emails and preparing for the following day's meetings.

## What would you say motivates you to do what you do?

I went into law because I like writing and arguing. I am very fortunate to have a job that I enjoy immensely.

## What does working with EDC on Chapelton mean to you?

I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to be involved in the planning and development of the new community at Chapelton. Working with the team at EDC is great fun.

## What do you think makes a good community?

I think that people who have a shared sense of belonging and interest in the welfare of a society make a good community.

EDC has strived from the outset to put in place a framework that will lead to a strong sense of community within Chapelton. The design and layout of a town and its facilities play a key part in bringing people together.



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## How do you relax?

I have two boys and a dog, so Saturdays will find me cheering at the side of a sports pitch or out walking. Sundays are often spent on the golf course. I am captain of the Great Britain and Ireland women's golf team and head off to Australia in January to compete.

## Next issue:

- House-builders - a year on site report
- First planting of trees
- Chapelton Visitor Centre
- Stephanie Gray at Turnberry Consulting

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