

# Chapelton Chat

Community News



This picture has been beautifully created by Penny Cormack, Age 7

Issue 4

June 2023

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC051928



Chapelton  
Community  
Association

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# Hello!

Welcome to the 4th issue of the Chapelton Chat! We are so excited that summer is (slowly) starting to make an appearance and cannot wait for the events that will take place in Chapelton over the next few months.

It won't be long until the Scarecrow Festival is upon us, let's hope that this year it can be bigger and better than ever!

Wishing you all a very happy summer.

As always, we welcome any feedback and suggestions on what you would like to see in the Chat or would like to provide an article/ad for the next edition then please contact [editor@chapelton-ca.uk](mailto:editor@chapelton-ca.uk).

Thank you!



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

- What's on
- David's Story
- Short Stories
- Recipes
- The making of Chapelton
- Resident News
- Allotment Chat
- Update from Rev Mary Jepp
- Solar Panel Update
- Scarecrows
- CCA Update
- & much more!



## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has kindly taken the time to contribute to this issue of the Chapelton Chat and to all of our wonderful advertisers!

A huge thank you to our distribution team, Bethany, Charlie, Charlotte, Jennifer and Sarah, we couldn't do it without you!

# DAVID'S STORY

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Some of you are aware of my son's fight, Lucas, 5, against a brain tumour. For over 4 years Lucas has been fighting an anaplastic ependymoma grade 3. He is only 5 and now his tumour is no longer curable. He has been lately dealing with some complications and we don't know how much time we could be with him. He has gone through 3 major brain surgeries, 13 months chemotherapy treatment, 2 months of proton beam therapy in Manchester, Stereotactic radiosurgery, and a shunt surgery very recently (and not counting many blood transfusions, over 90 general anaesthesia's, antibiotics, infections, etc...). Unfortunately, nothing has worked out for Lucas. I know what my mission in life is, campaigning to get more funding into brain tumours research. It is the only thing I can do for my son Lucas.

On Sunday 4th June, I will be doing the Aberdeen Kiltwalk (18 miles from Duthie Park to Banchory) as part of my fund-raising efforts for The Brain Tumour Charity. Brain tumour research is very behind and much more is needed. For instance, there is no known reason for Lucas' tumour.

Since Lucas was diagnosed, I have run different fund-raising events and pages, people around us have been great but I know I need to do something else – I know what to do but I must dedicate time to Lucas and my wife now.

In the UK, at least 88,000 children and adults are currently estimated to be living with a brain tumour. And the impact can be devastating. Just 12% of adults survive for five years after diagnosis and brain tumours reduce life expectancy by an average of 27 years – the highest of any cancer. Despite this, treatments haven't changed in 40 years and research into brain tumours is still woefully underfunded. In fact, just 3% of the money spent each year on cancer research in the UK is spent on brain tumours.

When Lucas was diagnosed more than 4 years ago, I had recently completed my Executive MBA from IE Business School. I graduated within the top 15% of a great class after 14 months of constant and intensive work – my wife got pregnant in the middle of it. I thought it was a great achievement as I had worked hard - being quite competitive so probably hurting some sensibilities too. Soon after, I started to work 80 hours a week as again, I thought it could be the best for my career and family.

**THE  
BRAIN  
TUMOUR  
CHARITY**

**SCAN ME**



However, my wife was not happy since I was neglecting her and our 1-year-old little man, and that's entirely my fault. In April 2019 (just 10 days after his first birthday), Lucas was diagnosed with the rare brain tumour and our life changed forever. Critical surgery for over 10 hours, tough recovery, treatment, relapse, another surgery, proton beam therapy, hope for a year and last December another relapse.....palliative surgery in March and here we are..... a bumpy road.....with an unfortunate end ahead. It's not fair!

As you can imagine, that has been a life changing event. I don't take anything for granted anymore, I spend much more time with my son and wife, quality time is not enough, quantity is key especially with children. Don't get me wrong, I still have a strong work ethic, but I have cut back other things.

I know next months will bring some unwanted challenges and situations, I don't know how to deal with this. I can't figure out Lucas' final moment. I don't know how I will be. I don't know if I will be the same. All I know is I have to maintain Lucas' memory alive; I owe him a lot and I can only do one thing for him.



All of this has made me think about myself, I have been always an extremely ferocious competitor in everything I do. Why? Not sure because every time I "achieve" something I feel empty, really.

Perhaps, I was focusing too much on myself and not on how I could contribute to others, including my family. However, since I started fundraising for Brain Tumour research I feel better, my efforts are very little compared to others but every contribution and effort count. As I said in my first paragraph, I think I have found my purpose in life (I really wish it would have never been at that cost), to thank Lucas all he has taught me and help others deal with such as devastating disease.

So, if you can and want, please donate to the Brain Tumour Charity, support research projects to tackle this, sign petitions to governments to invest more onto this research.

David Garcia Jurado

PS and please remember, nothing is too important, you are not too important to enjoy life and your loved ones.

# CONSIDERING HOME IMPROVEMENTS OR LONGING FOR AN EXTENSION?



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## SPRING IS HERE

With the snow in April, it felt like Spring was never arriving. But the warmer days of May have arrived. Most likely you've been out gardening or doing some DIY around the house.

When you've found your forever home and you love the community (think Scarecrow Festivals, duck races, pop ups and more), then moving is no longer something you want. But over time you may wish to spruce up the home with renovations or extensions.

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

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Remortgaging to a new lender and increasing your borrowing is another way to fund the home improvements. It could also be a product transfer, if you wish to stay with your current lender.

Team MFS are available to chat Monday to Sunday. You can book appointments via our website, [www.mcleanfs.co.uk](http://www.mcleanfs.co.uk). If you can't find a date/time to suit, give us a call on 01224 947 670.



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Here are a few words from the man behind the press... Christian, who will be hosting the event.

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The 4 course menu can be found on our webpage-<https://thestackrestaurant.com/forthcoming-events/>

**Father's Day Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

Treat Dad this Father's Day to a relaxing afternoon with great food and drink.

We shall be offering our full menus, specials and children's menus as well as our aged rib of beef with Yorkshire pudding and traditional garnish.

We are open for food from 12.15pm -7pm.

[Book now to avoid disappointment.](#)

\*\*\*

\*Every Wednesday and Thursday evening is tapas night. Our full menu is also available.

\*Lighter lunch menu available Wednesday-Saturday alongside our full menu.

\*Sunday Special-Roast rib of aged beef with Yorkshire pudding, cauliflower cheese and roast potatoes -**£18.50**. Our full menu is also available.

\* Takeaways- our menus can be viewed online, and we can also adapt other dishes from the restaurant menu. Just let us know what you'd like!

**Looking for a venue for a celebration?**

The restaurant can host parties for up to 50 covers and can also be booked out for exclusive use or let us take the restaurant to you with our bespoke catering services.

\*\*\*

**Follow us on social media to keep up to date with upcoming events and news.**



# Squirrel at the Chapelton Trail

Written by Arran Smith, Aged 10

Sniff, sniff, sniff. Rumble, rumble, rumble. Rustle, rustle... What is that noise? ...rustle.

Oh, it can't be a hedgehog – they would never come out at 2 !

A-a-a-a-CHOO ! It might be a mouse, but Scruffs, my dog, would be looking around for that scent.

Wait, Scruffs is now ! BARK! BARK! BARK!

Scruffs only barks when he sees another dog or a... that must be it!

A squirrel!

Rustle, rustle, rustle, it pops its pointy head out of the leaves.

I think it is scared of us, as it scampers away down the hill.

Scruffs is running towards it, but luckily, he has his lead on !

AAH ! I let go of the lead ! After that dog and that squirrel !

Scruffs stops halfway down the hill, as he doesn't know where the squirrel has gone.

I quickly scurry down the hill, get the lead back in grasp and I search for the squirrel.

AAH ! It's on the cables ! It's sure to get electrocuted or worse... ...GET KILLED !

Instead, it jumps down and rushes down the rest of the hill.

Scruffs drags me down the hill so I go along with it and sprint down the way.

We get down to Elsick Drive and we unfortunately can't find the squirrel.

It must be behind the bushes. I bet Scruffs is upset – no more squirrels to chase.

Sniff, sniff, sniff. Rumble, rumble, rumble. There's that noise again !

I get dragged by Scruffs through the maze of bushes – but still no sign of the squirrel.

A different squirrel pops in front of us. Maybe it is the same one...

Phew, that's the hard bit done !

The squirrel launches itself into the tree.

No, Scruffs, don't go into Elsick House! NOOOOOOOOO

Ow, why did I have to bash into the gate?

The squirrel goes through the small forest.

And, of course, Scruffs drags me along into it as well.

Well, at least we're near the end of the walk.

Please, hide in the river, squirrel !

Wait – can you mind-read ? You're jumping in the river!

Scruffs is confused. Phew.

Wait... AAH !



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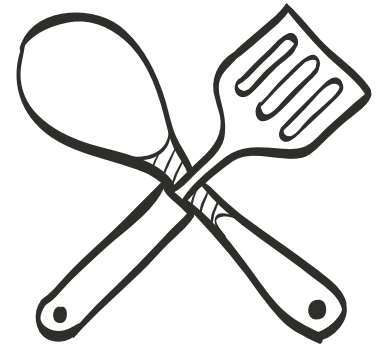
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# Recipe Time



Thank you Helen for sharing  
this recipe with us!

Some of the simplest dishes are the best!

I saw this recipe being cooked a while ago on TV and it's still my go to recipe to feed four or more depending on appetites and side dishes. Gino doesn't advise pasta in his recipe but recommends crusty bread or boiled rice, to soak up the tomato juices which I've always thought odd for an Italian dish but you can choose your preferred option. Also Gino's original recipe uses 400g of each meat but supermarkets pack in 500g so it just makes more meatballs to enjoy.

## Italian meatballs by Gino D'acampo

500 g minced pork (or turkey works too)  
500 g minced beef (I use 5%fat)  
6 tablespoons of caramelised onion chutney (own label is fine)  
6 tablespoons of olive oil for browning meat  
2 x 400g tins of chopped tomatoes (or passata if you prefer smooth sauce)  
2 tsp of chilli flakes (omit or adjust to your taste)  
12 fresh basil leaves  
Salt to taste

Put minced pork, beef and caramelised onion chutney in a large bowl and season with salt. Mix with your hands until it is thoroughly combined. Take small amounts and roll gently into a ball (about the size of a ping pong or golf ball). Sometimes I make them slightly smaller but you should get about 30 meatballs.

Heat the oil in a shallow frying pan and brown the meatballs, turning gently. I do a little at a time to avoid breaking them. You can transfer to an ovenproof dish or large saucepan (I use my Green pan wok as it holds all the meatballs) whilst the meatballs are browning sprinkle with chilli flakes if you are using. Once all are browned and partially cooked add the tins of tomatoes and more salt if required. Either simmer on the hob or place in the oven at about 180 degrees for 10 -15 minutes then add the basil and cook for about another 15 mins checking they are cooked through. Stir gently to avoid sticking if cooking on the hob.

It's important to cook the meatballs with the tomatoes as the onion chutney melts into the sauce. If you cook the sauce and meatballs separately you don't get the flavour.



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# Good Luck!



Some of you will remember that we were entertained by some of the ladies from Aberdeen Chorus at our Christmas light switch on event. We were delighted that they joined us and enjoyed their wonderful singing of carols and festive songs.

As we go to print the full Chorus of over 80 members , now one of the biggest in the UK , will be taking part in their first competition since COVID caused the cancellation of all mass singing events. We look forward to hearing them again at a future event and wish them well on their journey to the venue in Warwick and hope for a great result!

( For more visit [www.aberdeenchorus.scot](http://www.aberdeenchorus.scot) or visit the Aberdeen Chorus FB page)

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# THE MAKING OF CHAPELTON

by Ian Mollison



Not so long ago there were fields, woodland, farms, and the odd house where the growing town of Chapelton is now located. So how did that all change?

The booming economy of the North-east had resulted in urban sprawl with Aberdeen in particular spilling into the surrounding countryside to provide homes and workplaces as the oil industry expanded. Nearby Portlethen, Newtonhill and Stonehaven too had grown massively since the 1970s.

More housing was needed, and in 2007 prompted by plans for an Aberdeen bypass which would skirt the Elsick Estate, the (now) Duke of Fife pondered the implications could be.

Meanwhile the Aberdeen city and shire structure plan was being drawn up which called for some 72,000 more homes in the area.

According to an excellent book, *Chapelton: The Making of a Town* by Paul Roberts and Isabelle Taylor, the duke was approached by speculative builders wanting to build on the estate.

The idea to build Chapelton was born. But not “death by a thousand cuts” with more suburban sprawl; instead a full-scale project with the vision of a new sustainable community.

The Elsick Development Company (EDC) was set up in 2008 to submit a bid to Aberdeenshire Council for the estate to be included in the local development plan.

In May 2009, Aberdeenshire Council published its main issues report, a key step in drawing up its local development plan. This indicated that 4600 houses were needed in the Portlethen-Stonehaven corridor by 2023 and the best options were either new communities at Banchory Devenick near the Aberdeen boundary or at Chapelton (at that time the location was being called Elsick). Another possibility was to continue the expansion of Portlethen and Newtonhill.

And this where I and fellow councillors on the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee played a decisive role.



Apparently, it was expected that councillors would opt for Banchory Devenick, with maybe some more housing at Portlethen. We didn't know that when the meeting began. I didn't even know what any of the other councillors were going to propose. When it comes to planning, councillors keep their views to themselves until a decision-making meeting takes place.

The 12 of us agreed that the best choice would be Chapelton. The book says it was a "plucky move" by the councillors. It was the most significant decision I took in my 15 years as a ward councillor.

The Duke and Duchess of Fife had a major task ahead to deliver a comprehensive pedestrian-orientated settlement. They did not want major house builders with their off-the-shelf plans. The aim was to have somewhere distinctive, a new town that in years to come would attract people just to see it. A legacy, if you like.



A master plan was drawn up with the public involved, and eventually in April 2013 a planning application went before Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee for a new settlement of up to 4045 houses with commercial, retail and community facilities etc. Phase 1a would deliver 802 houses, retail, commercial and civic buildings and so on.

It wasn't all plain sailing with concerns being raised about medical provision, schooling, a travellers' site, affordable housing provision, and road access. The three local community councils (Newtonhill etc, North Kincardine Rural, and Portlethen District) were not happy. Council planners addressed all the key issues being raised.

I moved that the applications be approved, and was seconded by Councillor Wendy Agnew. There was no amendment and so the plans got the green light.

Ten years later the new town is taking shape. We have a variety of house types, shops, eating places, a nursery, parks, a regular bus service, and the first primary school is on the horizon. The future is bright. And I am honoured to have played my part.



# abwr

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# CHAPELTON RESIDENT PLAYS BASKETBALL FOR SCOTLAND



Daniel Okhuoya, one of the teenagers living in Chapelton, has just recently returned from Ireland where he played for the Scotland U16 Basketball team.

The journey to playing for Scotland has been challenging but rewarding considering the effect of the covid – 19 pandemic on the sport. Daniel joined Portlethen Panthers basketball club in 2020 but was unable to play with the team until much later. Daniel has since become an integral member of the team and often plays 3-4 sessions of basketball every week.

He also got a hoop fitted in his back garden and can be spotted some evenings outside playing basketball when the weather is right... hopefully not disturbing the neighbours! Suffice to say that he has sometimes played indoors too with a few household items getting knocked down!

Such is Daniel's commitment that he recently got shortlisted for the Scottish basketball national academy for U16 in March 2023. After few weeks of training, Daniel went along with the team to represent Scotland in The Four Nations Basketball Event. This was held on the 5th and 6th of April 2023 at the National Basketball Arena in Dublin, Ireland. This event featured teams from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. The tournament was a success and Scotland played very well.

“It is a great honour and privilege to play for your Country and I am very humbled and grateful to God to be given the opportunity to play for Scotland.” says Daniel.

Daniel's passion for basketball is growing everyday and hopes one day to play in the NBA!



Daniel in action for Scotland against England U16 in Dublin, Ireland



## Classes in Portlethen and Newtonhill

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For more information and to book one of our Award winning Baby Sensory classes with Elisha Martin visit [www.babysensory.com/aberdeensouth](http://www.babysensory.com/aberdeensouth) or you can contact me directly on 07999 452858

Classes run at the following venues. Monday - Bettridge Centre, Newtonhill. Tuesday - The Den and The Glen. Thursday - The Hanover Community Centre, City Centre.

# Charlies Allotment Corner



## JUNE TASKS FOR YOUR GARDEN

### BEDDING PLANTS

Bedding plants are used to create colourful displays and fill gaps in borders, providing flowers or foliage that will last throughout summer. It is an easy way to give your garden a boost with colour schemes in pots or hanging baskets. They are tender annuals or perennials that last for one season, although some plants, such as geraniums, can be brought indoors to overwinter.

Bedding plants range from classics like petunias and lobelia to annuals that provide seasonal colour but aren't traditionally thought of as bedding, such as cosmos and sweet peas.

Most will last all summer if you do not let them dry out, especially if they are planted in containers and hanging baskets. Plants that flower from May or June right into autumn are good value for money. Remove flowers from plants when they have faded to keep plants looking attractive and will encourage fresh growth.

### VEGETABLE GARDEN

If you have a vegetable area in your garden keep it productive with new veg to crop later. Sow carrots to follow early lettuce, kale after early beetroot and swedes to follow peas. You don't have to wait until the early crops are gone as you can plant or sow in the gaps between their rows.

Runner beans and courgettes, can be planted outdoors in June now that the danger of frost has passed. Keep them well watered during dry spells as they put down new roots into the ground.

A sunny day is best to kill weeds by cutting through them with a hoe so that they dry out and die quickly. It's worth doing even on soil that seems to be weed free as it will help to disturb any tiny weed seedlings.

### HEDGES

Established hedges require trimming to keep them dense and compact. Keep box, leylandii and beech hedges looking neat by trimming the new growth with hedge shears or a hedge trimmer. When undertaking work on garden hedges check that there are no birds nesting as it is an offence to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built.



**Bettridge Centre  
Newtonhill**

**Sport | Exercise | Dance  
Community Groups | Meetings  
Parties for all ages**

01569 731320 [www.bettridgecentre.org.uk](http://www.bettridgecentre.org.uk)

The Bettridge Centre is run by the community for the community. From pre-school groups to Newtonhill Out of School Club and our ReActive8 programme for older people, we pride ourselves on providing the perfect space for a wide variety of high-quality activities at affordable prices to local people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds in a friendly, welcoming environment.

As one of the largest venues south of the city, we support these activities by letting out space for parties, functions, festivals, show and events of all kinds.

The centre is fully accessible and has disabled toilet and shower facilities. With easy transport links via the A92 and the bypass, plus free car parking, we are the perfect venue for all occasions.

## REGULAR WEEKLY PROGRAMME

<b>MON</b>	Baby Sensory	9:15	-	15:30
	La Jolie Ronde	10:00	-	11:00
	Art Classes	11:30	-	13:30
	Line Dancing	13:30	-	14:30
	Choi Kwang Do	18:00	-	20:00
	Walker School of Highland Dance	17:00	-	20:00
	Newtonhill Netball Club	20:00	-	21:30
	Maitland Badminton (Private hire)	20:00	-	21:00
<b>TUES</b>	Chair Yoga	11:00	-	12:00
	Open Pickleball	14:00	-	15:00
	Aberdeen Badminton Academy (NOOSC)	17:00	-	18:00
	Newtonhill Netball Club	17:00	-	21:00
	Beavers/Cubs	18:00	-	20:00
	Aberdeen Astro Society (last Tues of month)	19:30	-	21:30
<b>WED</b>	Teeny Tunes	09:30	-	12:30
	ReActive8 meetings + coffee mornings	10:30	-	12:30
	Library Service	15:30	-	18:00
	Metafit	18:00	-	19:00
	Yoga	18:15	-	19:15
	Scouts	19:00	-	21:00
	Yoga	19:30	-	20:30
	Lethen Archers	19:30	-	21:30
	Harding Badminton (Private hire)	21:00	-	22:00
<b>THU</b>	Yoga	9:30	-	11:00
	Disabled/Inclusive Sports	13:00	-	14:00
	Jacob Badminton (Private hire)	18:00	-	19:00
	Yoga	19:15	-	20:15
	Auld Boys Football (Private hire)	21:00	-	22:00
<b>FRI</b>	Parents & Toddlers	9:30	-	11:00
	La Jolie Ronde	10:00	-	11:00
	Library Service	13:00	-	15:30
	Coffee & Craft Group	13:15	-	15:15
	Dance Dimensions	16:00	-	18:00
	Choi Kwang Do	18:00	-	20:00
	La Jolie Ronde	18:00	-	19:00
	Jacob Badminton (Private hire)	19:00	-	20:00
<b>SAT</b>	Dance Dimensions	9:15	-	15:30
	Footstars	10:00	-	14:00



## WHAT'S ON!

**Craft Club at Brae**  
Thursdays 9-11am

**Parent's Club at Brae**  
Wednesdays 9-11am

**Running Club at Hume Square**  
Wednesdays at 6.30pm

**Walking Group at Bettridge Centre**  
Mondays at 6.30pm

**60's Club at Slate & Grain**  
Last Wednesday of the month

**Chapelton 10K**  
Sunday 16th July

**Chapelton Scarecrow Festival**  
August 2023

**Bettridge Coffee Mornings**  
28th June, 30th August

**Skateraw Fair**  
Saturday 24th June

brae

## NOW OPEN TUESDAYS!

Good News! Brae have decided that they will open 9-4pm on Tuesday's for the summer, starting June!



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# 'I COME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE'

by Mary Jepp

---

I think regardless of your political position it would have been pretty hard not to have been aware that Charles III was crowned on Saturday May the 2nd. It struck me that the first sentence he spoke included the words 'I come not to be served but to serve'. Since the 2nd I have been thinking about those few words not only in relationship to the royal family but to all of us.

In our society we expect, when we go into our shops and restaurants to be served, it is after all in many cases service that we are paying for. If we think about the King's word in some ways it may seem odd that an individual from one of the most prominent and wealthy families of the UK let alone the world would suggest that he should serve. Of course it is said of the late Queen Elizabeth that her life was very much bound to the service of her people.

Every one of us inhabit our own particular, and I hesitate to use the word, station in life. We all live in particular places, have relationships with others, do particular things. Our circumstances define who we are whilst living on this earth. In the run up to the Coronation on Wednesday 3 May there was an amazing programme on BBC 2 called The Coronation Tailors - Fit for a King. The programme was about the making of the military uniforms for the event, what I found of interest was the story of the family who ran the business and had been working in tailoring in the UK since the 1920's. The family's name was Kashket, they were a Russian Jewish family who had been milliners in Russia and emigrated to the UK in the 1920's and established the company that exists to day. The business is still family owned and continues to flourish. There is no doubt that as immigrants that they had to work hard, but in the programme there were indications that they cared deeply for their staff and their staff were loyal to them. In their situation as employers they were in fact serving their employees just as the employees served their employers. Care was central to their relationships.

Sometimes events and pressures in our lives cause us to be self centered, focusing on our own particular needs, but I am not so sure that that outlook is good for ourselves nor those we live alongside nor in deed our world. Service, caring for others and also the environment not only are a benefit to others but also a benefit to ourselves in so many ways. Following the Coronation on the Monday, King Charles urged everyone to volunteer, the day was billed as 'The Big Help Out', many people did just this. For awhile my husband, Mike and I hung out with the Stonehaven Sea Cadets, helping with the harbour tidy. Despite the rain it was good fun, there was much laughter, chatting and a very large box of Tablet shared. They say that you often get more out of volunteering then you put in and in this instance I would say it was true.

In the past many people have give much to improve their communities through volunteering, these days the number of volunteers has dropped significantly and many organisations such as Guides, Scouts, or Sea Cadets, to name a few struggle to find people to help. For a moment think of who has helped you in the past. Ask yourself what could I do to make things a bit better for someone else. Ask yourself what would our communities be like if everyone just did a little bit of service.



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# CHAPELTON SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2023

Last year we had an amazing number of visitors to the festival-but more importantly-an incredible number of entries-all of them absolutely amazing!!! Thank you to everyone who built a scarecrow, spread the the word, visited and donated-we raised an amazing £1200 which was shared between the allotments, Pillar Kincardine and MND-My Name is Dottie.

This year the theme is “Musicals”-and we cant wait to see what you come up with-a west-end blockbuster or a disney classic?? If you want to pre-register to enter simply scan the QR code and fill in the form. This year the straw will be in a new location-so make sure youre following us on social media for all the updates. Entry packs will be distributed mid July to give you plenty of time to build before August starts!! Scarecrows that have been up from the start of the festival often get a lot more votes (by virtue of being up longer!).

Local clubs, societies, groups etc in Chapelton, Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore are also very welcome to get involved-and if you don't have a front garden you are welcome to place your scarecrow in any of the communal green spaces around Chapelton!

We are also keen to hear from anyone interested in sponsoring the festival or donating a prize. All our sponsors get a feature on our socials and on the voting website-last year we had over 5000 views during August, so thats a lot of local eyes on your logo!



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# Meet Josh!



Hello, I am Josh, I own and run Cox & Co barbershop and I am resident of Chapelton. I moved to Chapelton late 2020, funnily enough on a clients recommendation of the area and as soon as we visited we knew this is where we wanted to grow our family.

Luckily enough a few months after moving in, the opportunity for retail premises' became available at the Chapelton boxes and I jumped at the opportunity to enquire about how it was going to work. I knew it would save me a commute into town but it also meant I can stay close to my partner and children a, I can nip home on lunch breaks and when I finish I can be home within 45 seconds (my current commute PB).

The initial launch back in August of 2021 was fantastic, starting with a soft opening for friends, family and residents of Chapelton the support was amazing and a lot of those residents are now regular clients and also good friends of mine.

I decided that it was time to rebrand to my own name in the middle of 2022 which took much longer than expected, but successfully relaunched under my new brand name Cox & Co at the start of April.

Again the support from my clientele was overwhelming and I cannot thank everyone enough for any sort of mention, recommendation or review they have given me since then, it means a huge amount to a small local business owner.

I started my career in barbering as an apprentice at a well known shop in the city centre and worked my way through the ranks until I reached the top level in barbering for that company. I also expanded into education, teaching people of all ages the craft of barbering.

I am very excited for the future of the shop within Chapelton. I am currently awaiting news of Geddes Square, the next phase in Chapelton, providing lots of new Retail premises for the businesses that are currently in the box park. I hope to secure myself one of the future shops and settle into a permanent location. I also hope to be taking on new staff members soon to expand my offering and once set up in a proper shop to launch a barbering training programme for all skill levels and ages. Cox & Co strives to offer not only great haircuts but a fantastic service as well, with each haircut our guests receive a complimentary head & shoulder massage and refreshment.

We do everything from hair to beards but also facials and a colour service too. Due to still just being on my own the shop I can't offer walk-ins and am appointment only, but please feel free to pop your head in any time and I can make the appointment for you. Alternatively I have a booking app called Nearcut or you can get in touch via social media.





# Summer Reading 2023



Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June to Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August

Check our website for more details: [www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/live-life-at-home/](http://www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/live-life-at-home/)

## Ready, Steady, Read!

**It is time for Summer Reading 2023 and this year's theme is diversity** – From mountain to sea, diverse communities across Aberdeenshire.

Taking place at your local library from Thursday 15th June - Saturday 26th August 2023 there is plenty of time to get involved and it is open to readers of all ages.

Get along to your local library to sign up or register online from the 15th June at <https://www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/live-life-at-home/>

Newtonhill Library @The Bettridge is open Wednesday 3.30-6pm, and Friday 1-3.30pm. If you are interested in craft there is a free craft club meets at the Newtonhill Library every Friday.

Portlethen Library is open: Monday 9am-5pm; Tuesday 9am-1pm; Thursday 3-7pm, and Saturday 10am-2pm.

Bookbug takes place at Portlethen Library on Tuesday at 10am and Lego Club from 3.30-4.30pm on a Monday.

Planning on setting up a book group? Did you know the library can provide you with sets of books, there are hundreds of titles to choose from? Just pop to your library and have a chat.

# SOLAR PANEL UPDATE

by Alastair Struthers

---

Given the interest in the topic I thought it might be worth providing everyone with a little update on the solar panel saga. For anyone un-aware, Chapelton has a restriction on solar panels being installed on the front of any building that faces a main road or square. The community petitioned the landowners to revise this policy in light of the environmental benefits they bring, the public perception that it's odd to not have them (or indeed have them in places where they shouldn't be), and the impact of the cost of living crisis but we were unsuccessful.

In April, local Green Party MSP Maggie Chapman visited the village and we met with a journalist from the P&J who wrote a front page piece about the topic that highlighted the concerns of the residents and generated a lot of discussion in the wider public. A few days later there was a response piece published that represented Elsick Development Company's position and included the following quote:

"The limitation affects relatively few properties, being only those with south-facing elevations onto main roads, so it is, in the broader scale of things, immaterial....We do not see the need to change the current guidelines so that a few can commercialise their roof spaces in the meantime"

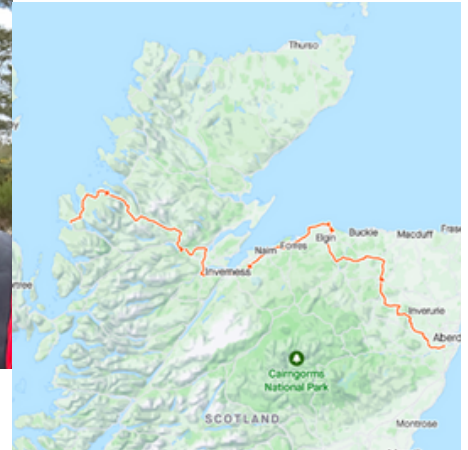
It sadly misses the point that the policy is forcing panels to be placed on elevations that are not efficient and means that instead of a single panel generating power, several panels are required which has a much greater carbon footprint.

They do allude to the potential for a solar farm to be developed for the town which would be wonderful but that is unlikely to happen in the near future and would still not help with the residents' costs of living.

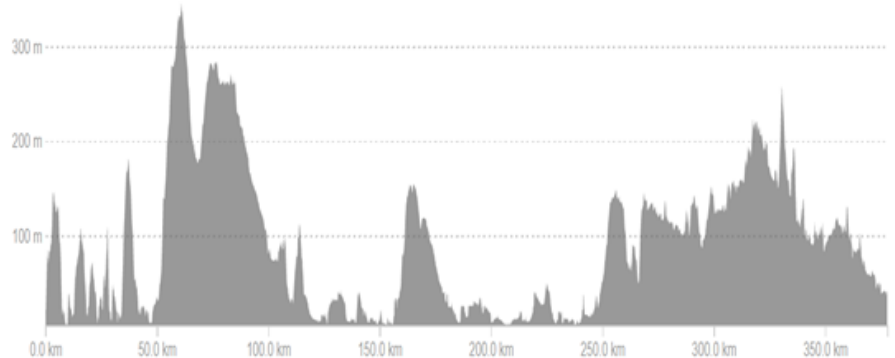
Happily, Elsick Development Company have invited Maggie to visit the town for a tour with them where hopefully she can argue on our behalf, maybe with more success than we managed. Her office also mentioned that there are land reform acts being discussed in the Scottish parliament at the moment which could potentially be used to remove such restrictions entirely but that is probably a last resort.

If there are any further developments on this fun journey I'll be sure to let kyou know in future issues of the Chapelton Chat.

# BP COAST TO COAST 14 CHARITY CYCLE RIDE



Along with 60 of his colleagues, Chapelton resident, Richard Sharp will be cycling 235 miles from Gairloch back to Aberdeen, over three days at the end of May, all in aid of raising money for The Archie Foundation, Baird Family Hospital Appeal.



The Archie Foundation is very close to Richard and his wife Steph. Both of their sons, Findlay and Drew, benefited from the staff and services that they support, when they arrived in the world.

Findlay was born small for dates. This led to him spending time in the neonatal ward, where he received some close attention, to give him the start in life that he needed.

Drew was diagnosed with viral meningitis at 10 weeks old. Steph and Drew spent a week in one of the parent and child wards at Royal Aberdeen Childrens Hospital, where Drew was treated for his illness.

Findlay and Drew are now teenagers...enough said!!

Richard would be very grateful for people to make a donation. Any donation that is made will be matched by Richard's employer, bp.

This will be the 14th year that cyclists have taken part in bp's Coast 2 Coast cycle across Scotland. Ahead of the Coast 2 Coast cycle at the end of May, bp has announced that the ride has raised an incredible £2,013,487.68 over the past 14 years. It is hoped the cycle will raise more than £120,000 this year which will be shared between The Archie Foundation's Baird Family Hospital Appeal and these three other charities;

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/richardC2C14](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/richardC2C14)

A total of 35 local charities of all sizes in the North-east have been helped to deliver vital services within the community by the Coast 2 Coast cyclists over the years.



## The Archie Foundation's Baird Family Hospital Appeal

The Archie Foundation was formed in 2000 to support the build of Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital. The charity supports maternity, neonatal and paediatric health services across the North of Scotland and provides a vital support service for bereaved children. The Charity is mid-way through a £2m fundraising appeal to support NHS Scotland's largest capital build project - The Baird Family Hospital in Aberdeen.

The Baird will bring the following services under one roof for the first time in NHS Grampian's history – maternity, gynaecology, breast screening and breast surgery services, a centre for reproductive medicine, an operating theatre suite and cutting-edge research & teaching facilities led by the University of Aberdeen. The Neonatal Unit within The Baird Family Hospital will be a centre for excellence.

The Archie Foundation aims to raise £2m to “deliver the difference” at the Baird, funding design and environment enhancements, uplifting artworks and cutting-edge specialist neonatal equipment that will be above and beyond the core facilities provided by the NHS. To date £943,000 has been raised towards the £2,000,000 target. [www.archie.org](http://www.archie.org).

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/richardC2C14](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/richardC2C14)

# CCA UPDATE

by Charlotte Litherland-Moir

---

Hello!

What a beautiful sight the bulbs we planted by the path down to the roundabout are!! They have really brightened up the changeable weather we have had recently.

We have had another busy few months here starting with a brilliant Camera Club from the incredibly talented Cheryl Michie where we learned a lot about composition as well as the basic principles of photography. Then we had a brilliant spring wreath workshop from Hollie Berries Flowers, the Crochet class block has finished and the ladies are keen to form a crochet club and this will run on the last Thursday of the month. The Feedback from the first aid classes was amazing-and huge congratulations to everyone who now has their qualification!! The 200 club continues to grow-and the monthly prize pot is now up to £104!! There are still 96 numbers available if you want to get involved!! The 60s club had a book swap and a visit from the library service (as well as lots of good chats over a wee drink).

Our Easter celebrations were very busy-with lots of people hunting down all the eggs (kindly donated by AJC) on our trail-beautifully decorated by our wonderful neighbours. We teamed up with the Messy Church team and the Easter Bunny on Easter Sunday to bring you an egg-decorating egg-stravanganza which was incredibly busy and lots of fun!! Thanks to Places for People for sponsoring this event so we could make it free of charge.

We Celebrated the coronation with a Duck Race in the Elsieck Burn-which in true British fashion was a week delayed due to adverse weather! The ducks meandered at a very serene pace down the course and the race was eventually won by Jenson Hislop!

We have purchased a little shed which will become our community book swap/library. It will be placed up at the boxes once it arrives-and we will pop all the details on our socials as soon as it's ready!!

We have a few things pencilled in for the next few months-hopefully we will have Yoga in the Park with Sally Munro the Wellness Warrior, a bug hunt with the Aberdeenshire Rangers, Autumn wreath making and a litter pick. We have been given permission to put a remembrance bench in the new town centre (when it's built) so that our community has a focal point for poppy day-so we are looking into costs and designs for this. We hope to be able to plant more bulbs this autumn as well. We are starting to think about Halloween and Christmas celebrations so if anyone has any ideas or wants to get involved please give us a shout!

We will have our AGM on the 15th of June in Brio at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come-members especially-we look forward to seeing you there. If you're not a member yet-its free and easy to do so-just print and fill out the form on our website and pop it through the door of 130 Greenlaw Road-this will give you voting rights at our AGM. We are hoping we will be able to get some feedback on what we have managed in the first few months of running (we only started in september!) and what we should focus on going forward. We are also keen for anyone interested in getting more involved to come and have a chat and see how we can work together to make our community the best it can be.



# JUNE UPDATE

by Cllr Mel Sullivan

---

It's hard to believe it's been one year since the council elections. In many ways it feels much longer, but I still have so much to learn!

The new bin collection system will be up and running at the end of May. The council has already secured a better price for the paper and cardboard that will be going into the blue bin, as it will be cleaner than before. PLEASE be careful what you put in each bin – the better we all recycle properly, the better for both the environment and the council's coffers.

The Kincardine & Mearns Area Committee budget is accepting applications for 23-24. We have £81,200 available to support local groups and projects – you can find the criteria and how to apply on the council's website. At our first meeting of the new financial year, 14 applications totalling over £33,500 were approved, including £6,000 to the Portlethen and District Voluntary Community Ambulance, £380 to Maryculter Scouts and £430 to the North Kincardine Rural Community Council.

Weekly news emails continue to be sent out. These include the latest planning applications and other local items of interest. Please let me know if you would like to receive these. My email address is [cldr.m.sullivan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.m.sullivan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) You can find me on Facebook as 'Councillor Mel Sullivan, North Kincardine'. My webpage is <https://melsullivan.mycouncillor.org.uk>.



## SMALL TALK...

Each issue we will be interviewing children from the community and asking them about their favourite local classes. This time we interviewed James, about his dancing class!

James, why do you like going to Dance Dimensions?

*I like doing heel spins and new moves.*

What do you think of your teacher?

*I like Sharon lots, but she makes me dizzy and tired with lots of dancing!  
Sharon gives me nice cuddles and stickers.*

What do you think other boys and girls would like about Dance Dimensions?

*They love to learn new moves and spins!*

What has been your proudest moment so far?

*When Mummy and Grandma came to my show.*

What have you learnt from your time at Dance Dimensions?

*I learned how to do spins and Ghostbuster dancing for my show.*



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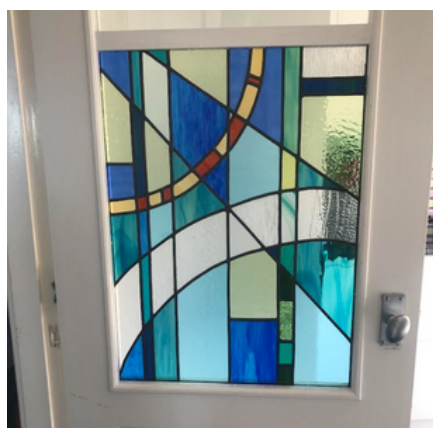
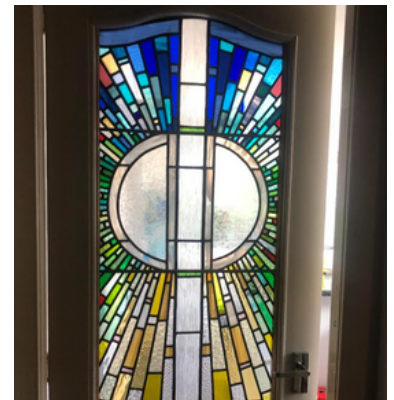
# NEWTONHILL STAINED GLASS

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Meet Rachel, the creator of Newtonhill Stained Glass. She designs and makes both traditional and modern leaded glass panels, along with smaller ornaments and even garden sculptures!

Rachel started glass work as a 'mindfulness' hobby to escape the stresses of a busy day job as an engineer. The creative process of designing and physically making the glass panels has not really changed much in hundreds of years and it is so rewarding to see the end result. The way the light diffuses through a stained panel is amazing.

If you want to bring a bit of colour into your life, contact Rachel <https://www.facebook.com/rachelglassart>





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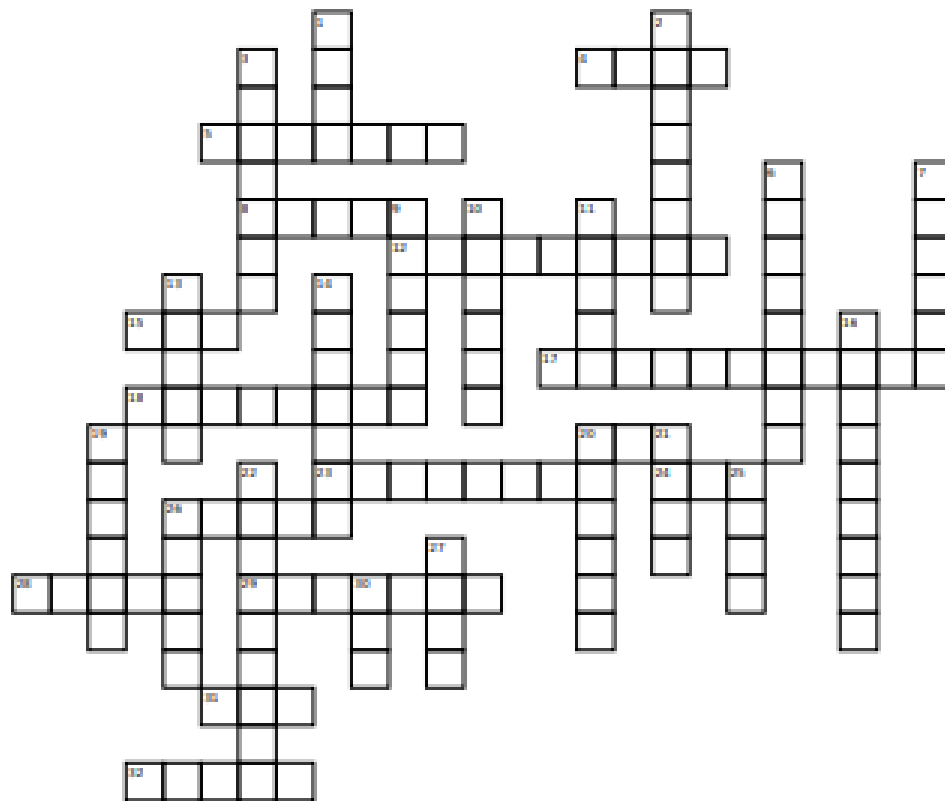
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is now very cosy"*

*"Great description of the system.... and an informative visit to  
properly talk through installation and how to make it best  
work for me"*

*"Workmanship of a very high quality - it really is a different class"*

*\*£7,500 available for most properties, £9,000 for those classified as 'rural' by HES*

# Animals Crossword

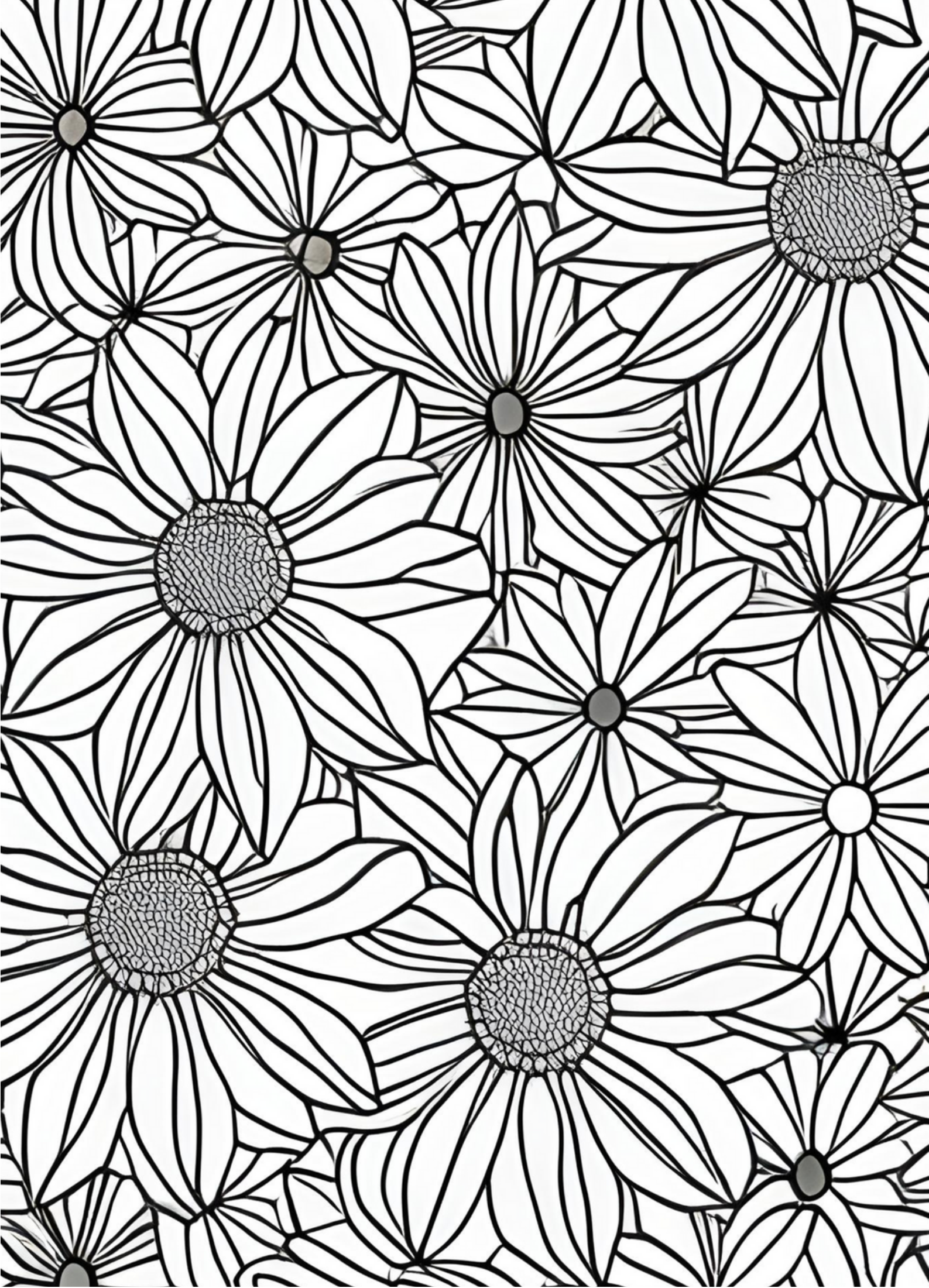


## Down:

1. You'll have to kiss him to find your prince!
2. How high can you jump?
3. bet you cant catch him
6. Can you count the spots
7. Charlotte or Incy Wincy
9. He's been in Mr MacGreggors garden!
10. South american camel cousins
11. Bamboo is his favourite snack
13. he might look cuddly, but he smells of eucalyptus
14. Did you know they're mute?
16. four and twenty of these were baked in a pie
19. The king of the Swingers
20. Shreks buddy
21. gruff billy
22. In a While \_\_\_\_\_

## Across:

4. Baloo? Winnie? Rupert?
5. suit or waddle?
8. He came to tea-but he ate everything!
12. See you Later \_\_\_\_\_
15. He jumped over the moon
17. He's very hungry-very, very hungry
18. Elmer?
20. He laughed to see such fun, and the dish ran away
23. Theyre pink and stand on one leg
24. he went to sea with the pussycat
26. You can lead him to water, but you cant make him drink!
28. Have you any wool?
29. the sky is falling!
31. He loves a mud bath!



# FOODIE REVIEW - THE STACK

---



Mothering Sunday is always a juggling act in our household-seeing both sets of grandparents slotted around the kids' activities and trying to have a little time to relax and enjoy a bit of time with just our wee family. This year we went out on the Saturday with my husband's parents, and on the Sunday my mum came over for lunch-but after a full week of chasing the kiddos, working and everything else I decided that cooking was definitely off the menu (and Hubby could burn water...)

On the Wednesday before I had a wee browse of the website-and decided the easiest thing would be to order fish and chips for everyone-boring I know-but everyone-including my fussiest eater-will eat them, and the thought of chasing orders in the family WhatsApp really didn't appeal! I pinged them an email with our order, a few hours later I had a reply checking which variety of chips we wanted-it was just so easy to order.

Sadly they don't deliver, so hubby was duly dispatched on Sunday lunchtime to collect them (the least he could do since he hadn't even done the ordering!) He said they were super friendly as always when he arrived to collect-and the chef was just boxing them up-couldn't have been fresher! And what a treat they were-delicious, hot, fresh and crispy. No complaints, No cooking, No washing up (because we ate them out of the package like the true heathens we are) and a full table of empty plates.

We have been and eaten in The Stack several times, and love that the bar area is dog friendly, the staff are always chatty and friendly with recommendations and local chitchat. The food is always flawless and utterly delicious. This was the first time we had used the take away option as the thought of dragging toddlers to a restaurant two days on the trot really didn't appeal-and I can honestly say we will most likely use it every time it's my turn to cook a family meal-I might even pick it up before they arrive and pretend I've cooked it next time!!

Chapelton Foodie



This picture has been beautifully painted by Phoebe Cormack, Age 5