

# East Lothian News



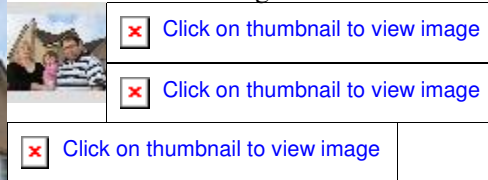
Tuesday, 15th April 2008

- **Published Date:** 19 October 2007
- **Source:** East Lothian News
- **Location:** Lothian

## Couple left fuming over chimney dispute



Sharon and David Rogerson outside their home at Toll House Gardens.



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By [Craig Finlay](#)  
 Reporter

Tranent couple Sharon and David Rogerson have been left fuming over a misplaced chimney in their new £330,000 home.

### Compensation

Having moved into their dream home at the De Quincey Court development on August 1, the husband and wife were astonished to discover that the centre-point of their livingroom was in fact 700mm out of place — standing at the back of the room instead of in the middle where it was supposed to be.

Reluctant to take the chimney down, property developer Charles Church has offered the Rogersons £5,000 in compensation, but Sharon (29) and David (32) feel this is an insult and are threatening to move out after seeking legal advice from their solicitors.

Sharon told the News: "We reported the matter only days after moving in. After going to the sales office to complain we were offered £3,000 to leave it where it is but there is no chance of that happening.

### Solicitors

"They then upped the offer to £5,000. If it was an offer that reflected the seriousness of this major error we would have accepted but on a £330,000 house it is not acceptable.

"The builder came to have a look and told us that it would take three-to-four weeks to move the chimney, with eight or nine different trades involved.

"He apparently went back to Charles Church and recommended that it should not be moved as he could not guarantee that there would not be any problems in the years to come.

"We have been in contact with our solicitors and they are looking into the situation — we are at the stage where we just want to move out and get our money back."

Despite making several attempts to contact Charles Church, the property development company was unavailable for comment at the time of going to press. The couple are pictured outside their house at Toll House Gardens.

Staff Photo: 19/10/07/ELN/CHIMNEY1

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