



Theatre Locale – The Heavitree Squilometre Update

Welcome to the February/March 2017, early Springtime!, issue of *Theatre Locale*, the newsletter for [Interwoven Productions](#), featuring the [Heavitree Squilometre](#) update!

We've got some great stories to share with you of projects enjoyed and new projects planned.

Everything is in bud! This is a great time to come along and join us.

The Heavitree community have voted for so much work -

WE NEED YOU!!

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:-

■ **What a wonderful time in the Park!**

- Heavitree's Dark Skies
- Park in the Dark Exhibition

■ **What's next?**

- Heavitree Quarry Trails
- Fore Street improvements
- How to make your vote

■ **Incorporation plans - mutual benefit!**



Image by Chris Spinks

Theatre Locale is produced by Jojo Spinks and [Interwoven Productions](#)

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■ What a wonderful time in the Park!

- Heavitree's Dark Skies

A whole series of Park in the Dark events happened all through the coldest months including poetry and reflection under the Wolf and Snow full moons of January and February and a fabulous star-gazing event provided by the University of Exeter Astrophysics Outreach Team.



Image by Chris Spinks



Star-gazing with Dr Claire Davies

Image by Chris Spinks



"The Coronation Oak " by one of the Macula Collective

- Park in the Dark Exhibition

All of this work was ably brought together in February 2017 by Rebecca Baker, Interwoven Director and Project Lead, in a Photography Exhibition featuring the work of a group of young, local photographers. By exploring the park in darkness they were able to bring us images of our favourite community space like we've never seen it before! Huge thanks to the Macula Collective and to Park Life Heavitree for providing their pop-up café on the same day.



By working together we were able to show that our Park is a great place to be, even in wintertime, and that our young people are willing and talented contributors to our community.

Heavitree should be very proud of both!

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■ Heavitree Quarry Trails

- Heavitree Quarries came out on top of the voting last year so we're really excited about the community-involved and creative potentials of celebrating our quarries and our very own [Heavitree Stone](#).

Here's a little background:-

You'll be familiar with many of Exeter's Mediaeval features, such as St Edmunds Bridge, St Nicholas Priory, many of Quay warehouses and our little distinctive red stone chapels (St Stephens, St Pancras, St Olaves, St Mary Steps) which are all made from stone [quarried here in Heavitree](#). More than this, there are long expanses of boundary walls, like the extraordinary example all along Wonford Road that make great "trails" to follow.



The Guildhall Shopping Centre



The Quay



Cathedral Close



St Marys Steps

So, we've hit upon the idea this time of extending our celebrations out from the Quarry Lane/Coates Road quarries and all the way into the City to these amazing examples of Mediaeval stone working. What a great way to show the rest of the City just how much they owe to Heavitree!

And the trails could be arranged in any way you think. Tours led with actors in costume, trails way-marked with local stories and photography, audio-trails perhaps? – and where they converge there could be fun events, exhibitions or happenings.



It's bigger than anything we've done before and just doing the initial survey (the survey is a hallmark of the *Squilometre*, place-based technique) is going to be a much bigger task than usual so we're going to need all hands on deck.

Trews Weir Mill – the lower course is beautifully dressed Heavitree Stone

First stage – we've applied for funding to hold some planning meetings with proper space, resources and refreshments and this is your invitation to attend. If you've got an idea of how you'd like to creatively celebrate this aspect of Heavitree's contribution to the City of Exeter then please do get in touch now, using the contact details below, and as soon as we've got the dates for the first meeting we'll make sure you're invited along.

- Fore Street improvements

One interesting development this year is the possibility of gaining a commission from Exeter City Council to help with the “improvement” and “enhancement” of Fore Street, Heavitree using the *Squilometre*, community-involved approach. This would be using monies provided under Section 106 by the Waitrose and Rydon Lane Retail Park developments. We've submitted a proposal for this and, if successful, it will move forward this year alongside the Quarry project survey and may mean that the main body of the Quarry Trails work is moved into 2018. But don't worry, we're not going anywhere and neither is the Heavitree Stone! - With your help we'll take the project to it's full potential.

- How to make your vote

If you've not already nominated a street or feature of Heavitree for a special *Squilometre* creative celebration then please do check out the [Where next? - You choose!](#) page now. This is your chance to commission professional artists for your own community. Relevant, quality, community-involved creative practice – delivered on your streets and open to all. Please consider [paying-it-forward](#) as you make your vote, to allow the next project to happen. Thank you!

■ Incorporation plans - mutual benefit for all!

We can also reveal that we are currently seeking advice on the most appropriate form of not-for-profit incorporation for the Heavitree *Squilometre* project as a separate entity from Interwoven Productions. Interwoven, as a collective of professional artists, will stay active in Heavitree and remain available for your commissions but we think that it's time to hand this Heavitree-specific project over to you. It's growing at a remarkable rate and has demonstrated just how powerful a place-based, community-commissioned approach can be in bringing people together and connecting them to their place. If you'd like to be involved in it's future direction then please do get in touch.