



# Theatre Locale –

## Your Heavitree Squilometre Update

Welcome to the July/Aug issue of *Theatre Locale* 2019. *Theatre Locale* is your [Heavitree Squilometre](#) Update.

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But the second project for 2020 is still up for grabs!

### **MOATFISH!! Wonderful Wonford happenings**

The Wonford Pod have been very busy finding creative ways to celebrate Wonford Village and its medieval Great House. The whole project is inspired by the fact that the remains of the early medieval Great House of Wonford were discovered and excavated under what is now Birch Court (where the Gardeners' Arms used to be.)

Some members of the Wonford Pod have been creating a **Wonford Village History Trail!** They're going to create printed and digital versions so that people can follow the history of the village on foot with a leaflet or a handheld device. They collected original material in a

reminiscence event held in May this year, have trawled published and unpublished written sources and done some good old-fashioned leg work. Created by local residents, with local residents, the Trail represents an amazing resource for generations to come and will be launched at the project finale event on **27<sup>th</sup> October 2019** – more below.

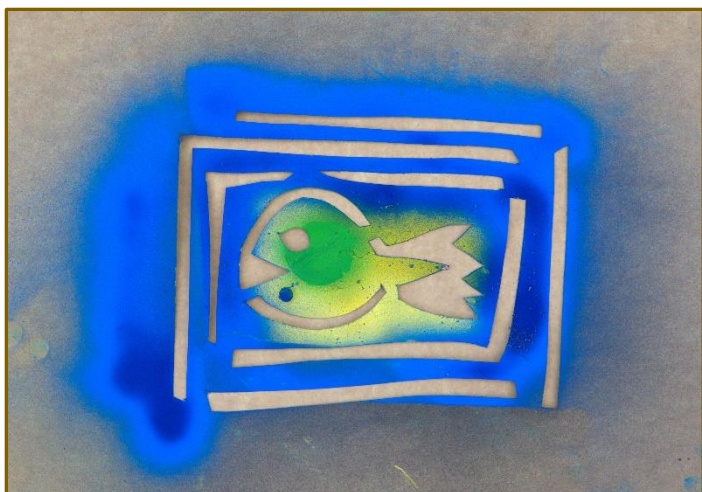
**What's a MOATFISH?** Well, it's what happens when you ask 60 children from Wynstream Primary's Yr5 to design their own medieval-inspired emblems and then re-create them at the very spot where the moat used to extend into what is now the car park of the Wonford Methodist church. A huge thank you to all the children, the teachers and TAs, our Pod volunteers and to the members of the Methodist Church who provided refreshments and support on the day. What a wonderful inter-generational, community celebration!



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### The Great House Interpretation Board

*The Wynstream children, working with Interwoven artists, created 20 medieval-inspired images in stencil that can be re-created and used to bring colour and local input to the Interpretation Board.*

Some of the Pod have been working on raising funds, clarifying permissions and designing content for an Interpretation Board that will give more detail about the early medieval Great

House itself. The Pod have met with one of the excavation team at County Hall and have learned that medieval manor houses of this type – with a moat – are rare in Devon and that the earliest finds from the moat are roof tiles that date to the late 12<sup>th</sup> century, that is around 1180-1200 i.e. the time when Richard the Lionheart was fighting his crusades, making this a very special site indeed.



*The Wonford Great House logo was designed especially for the project by local artist Steven Bramble*

The Pod hopes to have the Interpretation Board ready for the project finale and have formally invited Cllr Olwen Foggin, a true Wonford “Maid”, to unveil it as part of a procession leading to further medieval themed celebrations at the Wonford Community and Learning Centre – all part of the project finale on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019**. There will be events all day, including Trail Guide tours, a procession, music and entertainment in the evening. The Pod are working hard on all the details right now so please save the date in the diary and watch out for more as it is confirmed. And, remember, the Pod is always open to more members, ideas and hands-on help, so if you’d like to be a part of the team and have a say, just get in touch!

The Wonford Pod would like to take this opportunity to thank the ECI Community Builders for Heavitree and Wonford who have been brilliant. Our ECC and DCC councillors for both areas deserve huge thanks as they have chosen to support this project through Ward Grants, Locality Budget and a Making the Connection award. They’d also like to thank Interwoven Productions CIC for providing a governance framework for the work and RAOB Exeter for their kind support.



RAOB  
Exeter

There’s more in this bumper issue! Read on ....

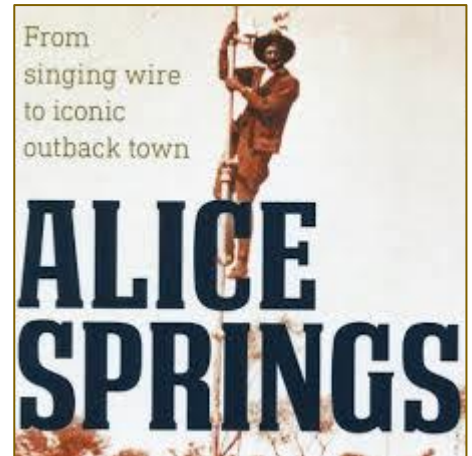
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## Heavitree Gap – Author of *From Singing Wire to Iconic Outback Town* is coming to Exeter!

Stuart Traynor, author of this comprehensive history of the settlement of Alice Springs, is coming to Heavitree, Exeter! JoJo Spinks of the Heavitree *Squilometre* was put in contact with Stuart back in 2015 when we first started talking with the Akeyulerre Healing Centre in Alice. He was kind enough to let her see an extract from his then forthcoming book. Amidst fascinating details about early surveys for the overland telegraph line, the book contains several references to William Mills, his origins in Devon and his role in the re-naming of the Alice Springs waterhole and the Heavitree Gap in the McDonnell Ranges.



*“Mills and two others headed off to Temple Bar on 7 March [1871]. They got there four days later and continued east another 15 kilometres to a much bigger gap in the range. Mills called this one Heavitree Gap after his school in Devon in the south of England. He was unaware of its spiritual significance to the local Arrernte (a-ren-ta) people who call it Ntaripe (n-tuh-rip-a)”.* p 32 **Alice Springs: From Singing Wire to Iconic Outback Town.** By Stuart Traynor (Adelaide: Wakefield Press, 2016), pp.456, AU\$39.95 (pb).

Stuart plans to visit Heavitree on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and has even offered to host a talk. We’ve passed him the contact details for the Heavitree Local History Society but if anyone else has any other ideas of how we might welcome Stuart then please do get in touch.

We’re also really pleased to say that the Akeyulerre Healing Centre recently gained \$5M support for a new Arrernte Living Culture Centre – <https://www.facebook.com/Akeyulerre/>. A group of residents from Heavitree, Exeter clubbed together, back in 2015 and made a purchase from the Healing Centre’s social enterprise. They used the opportunity to say hi, from one community to another, whilst gaining some gifts-with-a-difference for Christmas that year!



If you fancy doing the same you can find their bush products here - <http://www.akeyulerre.org.au/orders/>

If you make an order, though, be sure to say hi from Heavitree, Exeter and to extend the conversation that we’ve been having with Arrernte groups and individuals, and indeed the whitefellers, of Alice Springs. For us at the Heavitree *Squilometre*, it’s not about reparations or apologies for the Heavitree Gap renaming, those are not ours to give. It’s about finding the right conversations for the future; PEOPLE TO PEOPLE, PLACE TO PLACE, ONE COMMUNITY TO ANOTHER.

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## Voting for 2020 - we're gonna call it – Ladysmith Road wins!!

But the second project for 2020 is still up for grabs!

As you can see from the current state of play in the voting (you can take your vote here - <http://www.heavitreesquilometre.org/where-next---you-choose.html> or use the contact details below) Ladysmith Road is streets ahead! In fact, it has been way out in front all through 2019 so – we're gonna call it – **Ladysmith Road wins for 2020!**

The Ladysmith Pod is already forming – come be a part of it!

If you voted for Ladysmith Road then come join in the fun and, at the same time, make sure the project goes the way you would like to see.

We can't wait to see what the Pod comes up with!

### Two projects!

We're going to try and run **two projects next year, the Ladysmith project for, say, six months plus another, smaller project, for three.**

Let us know what you think. The second project for 2020 is still up for grabs. Take a look at the voting and let us know what you would like it to be.

Bucolic Heavitree Bridge	7.06%
East Wanford Hill - throughway to the East	3.75%
Gordon's Place and Lamp Post (the link with Gordon of Khartoum)	6.62%
Origins of North Street/Shelton Place	6.84%
Higher Cemetery - Theatre Fire monument	7.28%
Big ole whole community celebration!	7.73%
Heavitree Brewery	6.4%
Northbrook - A walk to the source of the Heavitree Pannypopo	5.74%
Sacred Trees of Heavitree - again!	3.75%
Ladysmith Road	14.35%
Kingsway	3.31%
Victor Street	1.55%
Regent Square	5.3%
Secret Gardens of Heavitree!	9.71%
Haker Road	0.44%
Gallows Cross - bones, crime and punishment	8.39%
Stuart Road	0.66%
Mowbray	0.22%
The Workhouse (under Waitrose)	0.66%
Sivell Place	0.22%

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