

Theatre Locale — The Heavitree Squilometre Update

Welcome to the May issue of *Theatre Locale*, the newsletter for <u>Interwoven Productions</u>, featuring the <u>Heavitree Squilometre</u> update!

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:-

- The results of your vote! What's coming next.
- Pig & Pickle Taphouse -Sponsoring partners for the Heavitree Squilometre!
- We don't charge a ticket price Why? Finding new ways to make performance.
- Some further historical resources Heavitree Local History Society and the Devon Heritage Centre.

The votes are in!! The

good people of Heavitree have been voting for where we go next and here are the results!!! We'll be bringing you ...

a Victorian themed show of summertime family fun in South Lawn Terrace

(In association with the 2nd Exeter Scout Group)

We'll be exploring the story of the Victorian building boom and how it connects with the brickworks in Heavitree and the clay deposits of the local waterways. Stories that are all interconnected and right here under our feet!

Add to the mix, a little Victorian scoundrel named Bunch who'll introduce you to some fun, games and a few surprises, and hey presto, you have a Squilometre show! Dates to be finalised soon so watch this space!!

Do you recognise this corner of Heavitree Park? (It is tucked behind the row of terraced cottages just before Hamlin Lane turns into South Lawn Terrace)

Did you know that it used to be a Victorian brickworks? It is likely that they deepened the ditch that now runs along the bottom of Chard Road gardens at this time so that the stream that still ran there could be used as a water supply and a sewer.



We're thoroughly looking forward to exploring all these connections and bringing your landscape heritage to you in a fun show this summer. We'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who voted. If your nomination didn't make it to the top this time - don't despair - we are committed to you and to the *Heavitree Squilometre*. We value all of your nominations and, with your help, we will get to them all. Please take a moment to pay-it-forward into your very own community.



Pig & Pickle Taphouse, Fore St, Heavitree

We're completely thrilled to announce that we'll be working in partnership with the Pig & Pickle Taphouse on the development of the Heavitree Squilometre.

This means that we'll have somewhere to meet and develop new ideas, we'll have a 'station' there for Heavitree people to drop-off their

feedback/votes and local artists can even apply to display their work there for sale. Just contact JoJo Spinks, as below, if you're interested in showcasing your art. We think it's a great little venue. Come join us for some great Squilometre planning fun!

We don't charge a ticket price - why?



Some of you may be wondering why, as a performance company, we have chosen not to charge an up front ticket price for our shows, or maybe you've assumed that we are subsidised in some way.

The answer is, no, we are not subsidised but the decision not to charge up front is deeply grounded in our philosophy. We believe that there is a more beautiful use for money in the arts than a commercial transaction. We think that the bestowal of a *gift* creates a "space into which new energy may flow" (Hyde 2012:148). Poet and philosopher Lewis Hyde explains that when a gift is freely given, the increase in its worth stays with the 'object' and increases as it is passed along. As it works its way around a community, it grows and grows, building

relationships and enabling change. In contrast when a service is exchanged for an agreed price, the transaction nullifies the relationship and any further emotional connection. So we will not charge our audience a fixed price up front but will ask them to pay-it-forward for the next show, so that they can be part of what happens next in their own community (Lewis Hyde 2012 The Gift - How the Creative Spirit Transforms the World).

If you want to know how this affects you as an Associate Artist then we've put some more detailed guidelines together for you on the Interwoven website.

Some further historical resources

Do check out the site for the <u>Heavitree Local</u> <u>History Society</u> for a great overview of Heavitree history, useful articles, links and forthcoming events.

For those who haven't discovered it so far, the old Westcountry Studies Library has been revamped and is now housed at Sowton under the heading <u>Devon Heritage Centre</u>. I confess, I find their website and online catalogue a little inscrutable but, when visiting, the staff there are really helpful and it's a fantastic research environment, open to all.