

The venue in Heavitree, Exeter and its environs

We will be holding 'Steps to Connection' at the Staves, 5 The Old Cooperage, Sivell Place, Heavitree, Exeter EX2 5EU. The venue is a single-storey house converted from industrial buildings that originally formed part of the cooperage and pump house of the Heavitree Brewery. It is situated in a tucked away position on a cobbled yard which though, quiet and secluded, is close to the centre of Heavitree. Heavitree shops are easily accessible with the boutique shops and cafés of Magdalen Road just a short distance away. Heavitree is also well situated for the city centre, M5 motorway and Exeter airport.

Formerly a village beyond the walled city, Heavitree today offers a wide variety of shops and amenities including supermarkets, cafés and restaurants, takeaway outlets, a Spanish delicatessen, a pharmacy, a post office, a laundrette, several pubs, charity shops, hair salons and churches. There is public parking behind The Ship & Pelican which is accessed from Gordons Place. The local monument, the 'Voice of Heavitree Arch', stands at end of the same road. Nearby, the Heavitree Pleasure Grounds provide large green spaces with mature trees, tennis courts, bowling green and children's play area.

From the venue, the RD&E Hospital is only a 7-minute walk away where you can catch the H bus to St Davids station. From Heavitree Fore Street there are good transport links to and from the city. Travelling from Exeter's High Street you can take the D, S, R or A and get off at Heavitree shops in front of the Coop supermarket. The Green also goes from town via Heavitree to Sowton P&R (where you can catch buses to Bristol and Plymouth). Travelling into the city from the venue, there's a regular flow of buses to the bus station and beyond from the Post Office stop (which is actually outside GW Key And Shoe Repairs). The 56 or 56A will take you direct to St Davids station from that stop.

Directions by car/taxi

From Exeter Central station (via New North Road), turn right on Queen St to New North Road/B3183. At the roundabout, take the 4th exit onto New N Rd/B3183. At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Blackall Rd. At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto Pennsylvania Rd. Continue on York Rd to Western Way/B3212. At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Heavitree Rd/B3183. Continue to follow B3183. Turn right onto Gordon's Pl. Continue to Sivell Mews. The venue is the red brick building to the right of the cobbled courtyard in front of you.

From Exeter Central station (via Magdalen Rd), turn left onto Queen St. Queen St turns right and becomes Paul St. Turn left onto North St. Continue onto South St. Use any lane to turn left onto A3015. Continue straight onto Magdalen Street/B3212. Turn right onto Magdalen Road. Merge onto Fore St/B3183. Continue and turn right into Gordon's Pl. Drive to Sivell Mews. The venue is the red brick building to the right of the cobbled courtyard in front of you.

From M5 motorway, leave at Junction 29 then take the A30 exit to Honiton/Exeter Airport. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for Exeter/A3015. Turn right onto Honiton Rd/A3015. At Moor Lane Roundabout, take the 2nd exit and stay on

Honiton Rd/A3015. At the roundabout, continue straight onto Honiton Rd/B3183. Turn right to stay on Honiton Rd/B3183. Continue to follow B3183 (Fore St) into Heavitree. Turn left onto Gordon's Place and continue onto Sivell Mews. The venue is the red brick building to the right of the cobbled courtyard in front of you.

Travelling by public transport

There are coaches and buses that travel to Exeter Coach station on Sidwell St. You would then need to catch a local bus or taxi to the venue in Heavitree.

Exeter has two stations Exeter St Davids and Exeter Central. Exeter Central is slightly closer to Heavitree but fewer trains run direct to that station. GWR runs a regular train service from Bristol Temple Meads to Exeter St David station. You would then need to catch a local bus (H or 56) or taxi to the venue in Heavitree. South Western Railway runs a train service (currently subject to RMT strikes) into Exeter Central (buses H and D to venue or take a short walk to the High St for more options).

Local accommodation

There are a number of B&Bs and hotels available in and around Exeter and below is a list of accommodation accessible by car from the venue at Sivell Place, Heavitree EX2 5EU. If you are coming as part of a group, it might be worth booking together and sharing the cost of accommodation. You might find closer and more affordable accommodation through AirBnB.

Jurys Inn Exeter, Western Way, Exeter EX1 2DB (1 mile from the venue). Tel. 01392 312400

Premier Inn Exeter City Centre hotel, 2 Southernhay Gardens, Exeter EX1 1SG (1.1 miles from venue)

Hotel Buckerell Lodge, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4SQ (1.5 miles from venue)

Innkeeper's Lodge & Toby Carvery, Exeter, Rydon Lane, Exeter EX2 7HL. Tel. 01392 435353 (1.5 miles from venue)

Premier Inn Exeter (M5 Junction 29), Fitzroy Rd, Exeter EX1 3LJ. Tel. 0871 527 9468 (1.7 miles from venue)

Holiday Inn Express Exeter (M5 Junction 29) Exeter Business Park, Guardian Rd, Exeter EX1 3PE. Tel. 0871 902 1611 (1.7 miles from venue)

Bendene Townhouse, 15-16 Richmond Rd, Exeter EX4 4JA. Tel. 01392 213526 (1.9 miles from venue)

Premier Inn Exeter (Countess Wear) Hotel, 398 Topsham Rd, Exeter EX2 6HE. Tel. 0333 777 7933 (2.9 miles from venue)

The Devon Hotel, Matford, Exeter EX2 8XU, England (4.2 miles from venue)

Food and drink

We will provide lunch on the Saturday and simple refreshments will be provided in the form of tea/coffee and biscuits throughout the workshop. However other meals will

need to be self-catered or bought locally. The following are a list, in no particular order, of local cafés, takeaways, restaurants and pubs in Heavitree:

The Daisy Café, 98 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2RS. Tel. 07769 695113

The Heavy Tree, 77 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2RN. Tel. 01392 660857

The Gurkha Kitchen, 164 Heavitree Rd, Exeter EX1 2LZ. Tel. 01392 276219

New Orient, 40 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2QL, Tel. 01392 259965

Eddy's, 46 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2QL

Curry King, 49 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2QN Tel. 01392 255960

La Vita Pizzeria, 30C Fore St, Exeter EX1 2QL Tel. 01392 258000

The Royal Oak, Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter, EX1 2RN. Tel. 01392 431902

Horse and Groom, 50-52 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2QL. Tel. 01392 437322

The Ship & Pelican, 54 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2RR. Tel. 01392 255174

Supermarkets

Coop, 61-63 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2RJ. Tel. 01392 276055

Tesco Esso Express, 85 Fore St, Exeter EX1 2RN, 0345 610 2965

Waitrose, 2 Gladstone Rd (off Heavitree Road), Exeter EX1 2ED. Tel. 01392 276748