

# HoMER 2026

*Cinema Communities and Community Cinemas*

*7 July 2026 - Pre-conference workshops*

*8–10 July 2026 – Main conference, University of Exeter, UK*

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## Registration

Please can all delegates complete the online registration process and pay the conference fee by 25<sup>th</sup> May. This can be completed here: <https://tinyurl.com/HoMER2026>

Standard Rate: £130

Unwaged / Student Rate: £110

The registration fee covers all conference sessions, delegate materials, evening activities and refreshments. The conference dinner is not included and will be paid to the restaurant on the night.

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## Keynote Address

Instead of a traditional academic keynote address, and in light of the conference's theme of community cinemas and cinema communities, we will instead have an industry keynote from [Cinema for All](#), the UK's national charity for the support and development of community cinema, formerly known as the British Federation of Film Societies. Cinema for All supports more than 1,600 community cinemas and film societies and has been in operation since 1946.

Speaker: Jaq Chell, CEO, joined by the Cinema for All team and community cinema practitioners from across the UK.

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## Conference Programme

The draft programme is undergoing final preparations and will be shared in the coming days. A full programme of evening activities is also being planned and will be announced closer to the conference.

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## Venues

[Devon and Exeter Institution](#) — Pre-conference workshops

[Alexander Building](#) — Main conference sessions

[Roborough Studios](#) — Plenary sessions (approx. 10-minute walk from Alexander Building)

Please be aware that the walk from the Alexander Building to Roborough Studios is short but uphill. Should you have mobility needs that would make this prohibitive, please contact [m.w.jones@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:m.w.jones@exeter.ac.uk) so that alternative transport can be arranged.

All venues are fully accessible, but delegates with any specific concerns are encouraged to contact [m.w.jones@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:m.w.jones@exeter.ac.uk) to discuss their requirements.

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## Getting to Exeter

The UK has an extensive and reliable rail network that is connected to the wider European rail network through direct Eurostar services between London and Paris, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Brussels and Cologne. Exeter is served by two main train stations, Exeter St Davids (near the university) and Exeter Central (in the centre of the city). Please consider the environmental impact when choosing how to travel to Exeter.

[Exeter Airport](#) — 5 miles from city centre and accessible by bus or taxi. Serves a number of destinations across Europe.

[Bristol Airport](#) — 60 miles from Exeter, but extremely well connected by train. Serves a wider range of international connections.

London [Heathrow](#)/[Gatwick](#) — Very regular train connections to Exeter.

Train from Heathrow to Exeter:

- Heathrow Express train from the airport to London's Paddington station (20mins), then connect at Paddington for trains to Exeter St David's (~2h20)

Train from Gatwick to Exeter:

- Several different routes available, but the most convenient is to take the train from the airport to Reading, and then to change onto the service to Exeter St Davids or Exeter Central (~3h30)

UK train routes can be planned and tickets purchased via [The Trainline](#).

International delegates should check UK [visitor visa](#) requirements. Should you not require a visa to visit the UK, please be aware of the new [ETA requirements](#).

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## Accommodation

Bed and breakfast accommodation on the University of Exeter campus - <https://event.exeter.ac.uk/stay/bed-and-breakfast>. Please use the promotional code PC26 for a 10% discount.

[Queens Court Hotel](#) — Close to campus and available at the discounted rate of £95/night including breakfast if you ask for the University of Exeter conference rate when making your reservation.

Other options include [City Gate Hotel](#), [Hotel du Vin](#), [Hotel Indigo](#), [Leonardo Hotel](#), [Mercure Southgate](#) and [Premier Inn](#) (St Davids or City Centre locations). The area is also a popular tourist destination and so many properties are available on AirBnB and other similar services.

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## Essential Information

Wifi: Eduroam is available throughout with guest access possible for those who require it

Campus map: [Available here](#)

Time zone: BST (UTC+1)

Currency: GBP (£)

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## Extend Your Visit

Exeter is a historic cathedral city with vibrant culture and attractions. It is situated in the county of Devon, which is home to some of the UK's most stunning countryside, including two national parks, beaches and a host of traditional seaside towns. If you would like to extend your stay to see some of this beautiful region, we can recommend the activities listed below.

For cyclists and walkers, the stunning [South West Coastal Path](#), which encircles the Devon and Cornwall coast, can be picked up within the city. [Bike hire](#) is available in Exeter.

From Exeter you can easily access the sprawling [Dartmoor National Park](#) by [train or bus](#), or you can head to the north Devon coast to explore [Exmoor National Park](#), an internationally recognized [Dark Sky Reserve](#).

The [Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site](#), famed for its fossil hunting, begins in the beach town of Exmouth, which is 20 minutes from Exeter by direct train.

The [English Riviera](#), a UNESCO Global Geopark, with its traditional fishing communities, rich geological history and diverse landscapes, begins just south of Exeter and continues via Torquay to Brixham. Along this coastal stretch lie numerous castles and heritage towns, all of which are accessibly via the [English Riviera train line](#), which begins at Exeter St Davids station.

Traditional food and drink in the English West Country, of which Devon is part, include freshly caught seafood, local cider, and delicious cream teas, though one ought always to remember to apply the clotted cream to the scone before the jam for fear of upsetting the local population. When crossing the border to Cornwall, the reverse becomes true. You'll catch on.

For those keen to experience the region but with less time to spend, it is worth considering the [Dartmouth Round Robin](#), a circular daytrip from Paignton (45 mins by train from Exeter) that visits the beautiful coastal town of Kingswear, the naval college town of Dartmouth and the medieval market town of Totnes by heritage steam railway, open top bus and riverboat.

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## Next Steps

We will share the draft conference programme and details of the evening activities in the coming days, while the final programme and more precise arrive instructions will be shared closer to the time. In the meantime, should you have any questions please contact Matthew Rule-Jones at [m.w.jones@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:m.w.jones@exeter.ac.uk).

Please remember to register to attend HoMER2026 at <https://tinyurl.com/HoMER2026> by 25<sup>th</sup> May.