

I, Heather Woodman of 58 Thackeray Road, Exeter EX4 8EX do solemnly and sincerely declare that: -

1. I have known Dean Aggett of Meadow Forge, Bickleigh since about 1979 when I lived next door to his Mum's shop on Exe Bridge Street, Exeter. We have both lived and worked in and away from Devon over the intervening years but have always kept in touch and are family friends.
2. I recall that Dean bought the building and land in 2006, which he named Meadow Forge, but I didn't visit until the winter that year, and he had moved all his work things in.
3. The first thing I really remember about the first visit to the forge was Dean was working on the gates from an estate in Clovelly in the workshop as they were large and as they took him 3 or 4 years to refurbish, it was nice to watch progress when visiting.
4. From 2006 until the present day, I have visited Dean every few months or so to sit and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat, at weekends and, after 2012 when I incorporated my company and had more time, in the week too, when passing. I recall that comfort improved after a few years when he had built his kitchen with its stove and had all his personal things there to make it a home.
5. My late father [REDACTED] was of the make do and mend generation, and he also liked to go out to the forge, sometimes with me or with something for repair but often just to see what was in and watch, or chat with Dean in the kitchen with a cup of tea.
6. Dean also repaired stained glass windows from the National Trust and church buildings, and he and the forge were once featured in a TV programme with Kirstie Alsopp. It was always interesting to see Dean's own items in design mode or in production, like his rocket stoves, pokers, and horseshoe trivets, or to look at the various things, like motorbike frames or Vardos in for repair and restoration.
7. The interior of the Meadow Forge building changed over the years as Dean built the rooms on the first floor and while I remember that he showed me around his home one Christmas. I can't recall exactly when as it was so long ago, but it was certainly before my silver wedding anniversary in August 2014. I recall vividly that Dean had had a bit of a problem with post to his home at the barn going missing as his invitation, sent in May, didn't arrive and we all had a few chats about it. Dad then allowed Dean to use his house at 36 Stratford Avenue,

Exeter EX4 8EX as his correspondence address, even though Dean lived at the Meadow Forge barn, and from 2014 until December 2024 when I sold the house, he and I used to pop any of the letters up with us when we visited or Dean used to collect his post when he visited me or my parents.

8 Dean, my father and I also shared a big interest in gardening and horticulture over many years, swapping plants and advice, as well as recycling, and regularly visited each other's homes. My father was the runner bean man, and he helped Dean dismantle my old greenhouse, which was in my garden for Dean to re-erect it to use on his land, so his vegetable production improved.

9 I confirm that I have regularly visited Dean's property over the last 20 years both as his workplace in the early years, and then as his home over at least the last dozen years.

and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835

Signature

Heather Woodman (declarant)

Declared at Leachwater House, Exeter, Ex2 5WR
[FULL ADDRESS]

On: 29 April 2026
[DATE]

Before me: Callum C. Doherty

[Name]

[Signature] Commissioner for oaths/Solicitor