Solo Trips – Sept 26

The meeting aims are:

- Review any trips that have happened since the last meeting
- To discuss any future planned trips
- To propose any future trips
- To recommend any local businesses to the group

Apologies
Thank you all that offered their apologies, too many to list!

Group size
We have 37 members and 1 person on the waiting list, in addition we have a number of new members who expressed an interest in joining the group. Of the members we have; some never attend the meetings; some members who are seasonal; members who are not well; some who never attend; some who never go on trips etc.
The question raised for discussion was, "Is the importance the meeting or the trips?" It was agreed that the LED Tennis Centre was a good location, but we were limited in size at the venue. So we do not want additional attendees at meetings. It was agreed that we could we have associate members who are invited to go on selected trips, but the preferred solution would be a new separate group.

WhatsApp
It was agreed that WhatsApp was an excellent methodology for impromptu trips e.g. trips to the cinema, local theatre, music events etc.
However, there are too many messages. It was agreed in future:

1. Only reply to an event if you wish to attend. Do not use the group chat to say you cannot make it.
2. Do not use the group for specific arranged events, a separate WhatsApp group should be established for each event.
3. Do not forget, not everyone is on WhatsApp.
4. Do not use the Solo Trips WhatsApp group for video or phone calls.

Review of Trips
Exeter Cathedral Roof – No one present went on the trip, but the feedback was excellent and many thanks to Marlyn for organising.

The Whale (Budleigh Salterton Drama Club) – Only 3 members booked. It was an excellent production and the cast are superb. As it is amateur all productions are in the evening and this put off some members. It was highlighted that the new bus timetable includes extra (evening and Sunday) services between Budleigh and Exmouth.

Murder Mystery Dinner – Feedback was good, it was an enjoyable evening. The Pavillion are organising these monthly now. It was decided to wait a period of time before thinking bout arranging another one. It was highlighted that the Northcott Theatre was also arranging murder Mysteries, and there may be more circulating space!

Upcoming

Dartmouth Food Festival by train – 23rd October.
9 members are booked on the trip. If anyone wants to go last minute, they can book a ticket for the steam train online. Please let Steve know.

Come Away - Blackmore Theatre
Jan has kindly booked the tickets for matinee performance and Steve has booked the tickets for the evening production. If anyone wants to go please contact Steve or Jan so we can let you know the seats we have booked.

Christmas Meal – Friday 18th December 2026
The Puffing Billy is booked and the menus have been sent out. The deposit this year is £10. The pub have said they will contact Steve nearer the time to collect the deposit and menu choices. Steve will let you know when he needs both.
We have 21 members booked for the meal and we will arrange transport details nearer the time.

Burns Tea - 25th January
Anne and Dorothy are still working out the details for the tea. Anne will think about the number of members that can attend, so there will be a limit on places.

Future events

Pippa proposed The Full Monty at Budleigh Salterton Playhouse on Tuesday 8 December. Tickets are now on sale and selling fast, hence the WhatsApp. Please let Pippa know ASAP if you would like to go.

Liedeke kindly produced a list of potential trips and events.

The Creative Craft Show from 24th -26th September at Westpoint, Exeter.
https://www.creativecraftshow.co.uk/exeter-2026/
If anyone wants to go on a specific day, probably best to message on WhatsApp (see above).

Exeter Cathedral Autumn Fair 2026 Tuesday 13 October, 6:30pm – 9pm Wednesday 14 October, 10am – 3:30pm

https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/events/exeter-cathedral-autumn-fair/

Anyone interested in going please let Steve know (and what day).

Exeter Cathedral Concert by candlelight – Vivaldi's Four Seasons and a Lark Ascending by Vaughan Williams on Saturday 24th October at 7.30pm.
https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/the-four-seasons-and-the-lark-ascending/
Anyone interested in going please let Steve know (and what day).

Exeter Cathedral Concert – the Voices of Valjarn – Thursday 5th November at 7.30pm.
https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/voices-of-valjean/
Anyone interested in going please let Steve know.

Northcott Theatre –2 hours of Buddy Holly.
Sorry I could not find any link to this event at the Northcott

Sense & Sensibility – It was mentioned that this film will be at the cinema soon. It was agreed that it would be best to organise via WhatsApp.

ELO again at Exmouth Pavillion. 22nd January at 7.30pm.
Steve said that he had been recommended this show as a authentic reproduction of the music of ELO.
https://www.exmouthpavilion.co.uk/whats-on/elo-again/
Anyone interested in going please let Steve know.

Recommendations
A new section has been added to our monthly meeting. Places you would recommend in Exmouth and District.

Exmouth Photo Services on the Strand roundabout
https://www.exmouthphotoservices.com/

TravelWorld on the Strand
https://www.travelworldexmouth.co.uk/

Exmouth Computers – Exeter Road (Scott)
https://www.exmouthcomputers.com/

Telephone Shop - Exeter Road (Troy).
https://www.letstalkmobiles.co.uk/
(I hope this is the right link!)

Garners Hardware Shop
https://garners-home-hardware.edan.io/

Bring your recommendations to the next meeting!