

SOSD Newsletter 1

Dear friend of Shores of south Devon

Thank you for coming to our inaugural meeting or for showing an interest in our group. We were delighted with the size of the attendance - 25 people was more than twice what we were expecting, which explains the rather chaotic way the meeting evolved. Still we learnt what we wanted to know, that there is local enthusiasm for such a group and that most people were happy with, or preferred evening meetings.

With that in mind we have arranged for our first regular meeting to take place at the same place, Teign Corinthian Yacht Club, in the evening of Thursday 20th Feb. Doors will open at 7 pm and the meeting start at 7:15 pm. Meetings will normally last less than 2 hours and consist of an outside speaker / expert whose talk will last for about 45 mins with 15 mins for questions. For the first meeting or so we will have to leave time to discuss some business, e.g. to choose a treasurer, agree on aims and objectives, and name, and set fees and structure of our organisation.

We haven't set up a programme of external speakers yet, so to get the ball rolling and set the format in Feb Mike and I will each give a short presentation of a few of our favourite shores between Dawlish Warren and Plymouth with a taster of the incredible pictures of some of the extraordinary animals we have found there. If you know of anyone who could give a talk, or could give one yourself please let us know at the meeting.

At the inaugural meeting Mike and I each paid £12.50 for the rental of the room. Very kindly some people made voluntary donations totalling £23.80. We have set this money aside for future needs. This time, since we don't know our annual budget, we're asking you to donate at least £3 (which we'll collect after the talk).

With the help of Huw Weatherhead, a neighbour, we have reserved a domain name "ShoresofSouthDevon.org.uk" for our forthcoming website and for email addresses. (You will notice that this message is coming from info@shoresofsouthdevon.org.uk, not my personal email). Domain name activity will be hosted by ionos.co.uk and cost of order £50 a year.

We now need to create a user friendly website that be the 'mother ship' for our Facebook site ("The Shores of South Devon"). If you have web design experience or know someone who has (preferably with Wordpress) please let us know. The sort of thing we have in mind can be seen at "CoastwiseNorthDevon.org.uk". In the meantime I will see if I can work with Wordpress to give us some basic presence.

With best wishes and see you on Feb 20
Toby Sherwin and Mike Puleston