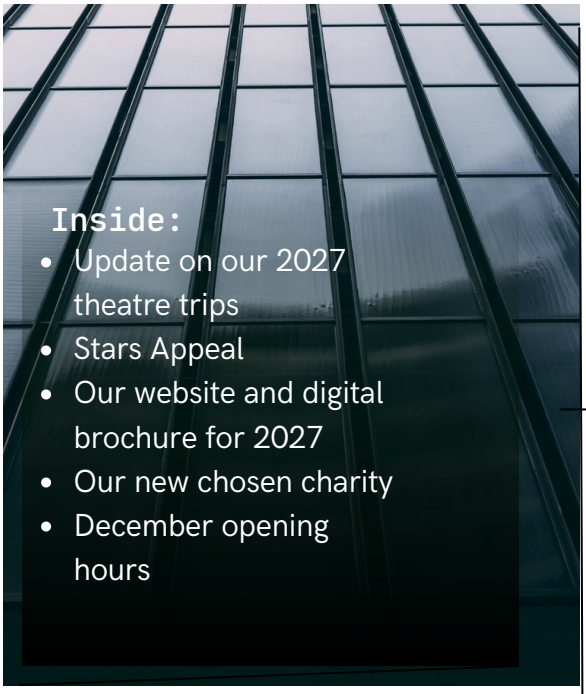
Great Days Out Newsletter November

01722 66 55 44	www.daytripsonline.co.uk	gdobookings@gmail.com



YOU CERTAINLY DIDN'T DISAPPOINT – THANK YOU! ❤️

Following on from last month's "We Need Your Help" appeal for raffle prizes for our Grand Christmas Raffle, to be drawn at the Great Days Out Christmas Lunch at The Red Lion Hotel on Friday 11th December, we have been absolutely overwhelmed by your generosity!

A huge, heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who has so kindly donated gifts and prizes, and to all those who have already purchased raffle tickets.

Feature Spotlight

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON OUR 2027 BROCHURE

We're busy putting the finishing touches to our 2027 Great Days Out brochure, and we're delighted to say we're nearly there! As we prepare for another exciting year of days out, we would kindly ask everyone to take a few moments to read the important information regarding theatre trips in 2027.

Make someone's day with a Great Days Out gift voucher!

Give the gift of choice and adventure — perfect for family, friends, or loved ones. Whether it's for a birthday, anniversary, Christmas, or simply to show your appreciation, our gift vouchers make every occasion special. Choose any denomination to suit your budget.

Vouchers can be used as full or part payment towards any of our exciting day excursions. A thoughtful gift which will create a memorable experience.




THEATRE
TRIPS
CHICAGO
THE MUSICAL
Wed 7th April
Bournemouth Pavilion
£80.00
Les Misérables
THE MUSICAL
Thu 20th May
Sondheim Theatre
£135.00
MOULIN ROUGE!
THE MUSICAL
Thu 7th October
Piccadilly Theatre
£135.00

Let's Make 2027 a Show-Stopping Year!

Three fantastic musicals – with your help, we can make them happen!

We know how much many of you enjoy a trip to the theatre, and we would really love to take you there!

As we explained last year, we have very tight deadlines between reserving theatre tickets and having to commit to purchasing them. We are generally given just one to two months to sell our seats, even though the performances themselves may be many months away.

As a small, independent company, we simply cannot take such a financial risk without sufficient confirmed bookings. With this in mind, we have three fabulous theatre trips planned for 2027.

Chicago The Musical

Wednesday 7th April – Evening Performance
Bournemouth Pavilion Theatre
£80.00 per person – Stalls seats BAND A tickets
Payment deadline: 7th January 2027

A dazzling production packed with glamour, scandal, sensational choreography and unforgettable songs, including All That Jazz and Cell Block Tango. This award-winning musical promises a fabulous evening of entertainment.

Les Misérables

Thursday 20th May – Matinee Performance
Sondheim Theatre, London
£135.00 per person – Stalls Row N
Payment deadline: 15th January 2027

Experience one of the world's most celebrated musicals. An incredibly moving story of love, courage, sacrifice and redemption, brought to life through a powerful musical score featuring I Dreamed a Dream, Bring Him Home and One Day More. A truly unforgettable theatrical experience.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical
Thursday 7th October – Matinee Performance
Piccadilly Theatre, London
£135.00 per person – Dress Circle seats
Payment deadline: 25th January 2027

Step into a spectacular world of romance, glamour and extravagance. With breathtaking costumes, magnificent sets and a soundtrack packed with iconic popular songs, this spectacular West End production is a feast for the senses.

Important Booking & Payment Information

All prices include return coach travel and your theatre ticket.

Unlike last year, when we accepted deposits, **all theatre trips for 2027 must be paid for in full upon receipt of your invoice.**

We already have reservation lists for all three productions and will begin issuing invoices as soon as our new brochure lands in December.

Please be aware that each theatre trip **requires a minimum of 14 confirmed, fully paid bookings to go ahead**. Should we not reach the required number by the payment deadline, the trip will be cancelled and any payments made will be refunded in full.

Let's Help Each Other Make These Trips Happen!

If you would love to join us for any of these fantastic productions, please don't wait until the brochure arrives. Email us and register your interest NOW!

Why not encourage a friend or family member to come along too?

We would love to continue offering theatre trips as part of our annual programme, but we really do need your support to make them possible.

Together, let's make 2027 a wonderful year of theatre, entertainment and memory-making!

Mamma Mia… Here We Go Again!

And let's not forget our ever-popular **ABBA Voyage** trips to the ABBA Arena in London!

As many of you know, these seats go like hotcakes! Our April 2027 trip is already SOLD OUT, and reservations are coming in thick and fast for our July and November dates.

So, whether you're a Dancing Queen or a Super Trouper, why not Take a Chance on Us and experience this absolutely spectacular show?

Saturday 3rd July 2027 – Matinee
Saturday 20th November 2027 – Matinee
£135 per person, including travel and entry to the show.

If you've missed out over the last couple of years, don't find yourself sending out an SOS because you've left it too late again!

And as for the Money, Money, Money, there's no need to pay just yet. Simply get your name on our reservations list now, and we will invoice you in January.

Remember, The Winner Takes It All – and in this case, it's those who reserve their seats early!

Thank You for the Music!



A quick word on our website - www.daytripsonline.co.uk

We Listened – and Our Full-Year Programme Is Back!

We're delighted to announce that our 2027 programme will once again feature a full year's itinerary, running from April through to December 2027, giving you plenty of time to plan your adventures with us!

Our new index brochure will be available to collect from all our usual brochure stands. However, this year, we really want to encourage everyone to visit our website and explore our NEW 2027 Digital Brochure.

Designed in the style of our previous brochures, in a month-by-month and day-by-day format, the digital version contains much more detailed information about each trip, along with important additional information that we simply cannot fit into our printed index brochure.

Downloading your digital brochure couldn't be easier:

- Visit www.daytripsonline.co.uk
- Locate the brochure underneath the photograph of the two ladies.
- Click on the download folder and save the brochure to your device, ready to browse at your leisure.

I will email everyone as soon as the brochure is available to download.
Whilst you're there, please take a little time to explore our website. You'll find details of our brochure stand locations, helping you find your nearest collection point, as well as our latest flash sales, special offers and additional days out throughout the year.

Below is a preview of our 2026 brochure which is already online, and what our new digital brochure will look like once downloaded.

We can't wait to share another exciting year of adventures, new destinations and wonderful memories with you all!



ghtfully Planned Bespoke Day Trips, Thoughtfully Planned Bespoke Day Trips, Thoughtfu

Download Our 2026 Brochure Below And View All Of Our Trips

Aug to Dec Great Days Out Trips (pdf) ⬇ Download

THURSDAY 6TH AUGUST



Lyme Regis

Seat price	Additional Pick-Up points	Pickups start at	Home around
£41.00	(O, P)	08:15	18:30

The charming seaside town of **Lyme Regis** is one of the true gems of England's south coast, celebrated for its natural beauty, rich history, and relaxed coastal atmosphere. Often referred to as the "Pearl of Dorset," it lies on the spectacular Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its dramatic cliffs, ancient rock formations, and world-famous fossil discoveries. Visitors are drawn to its sandy beach, picturesque harbour, and quaint streets lined with independent shops, galleries, cafés, and traditional pubs.

At the heart of the town is its most famous landmark, The Cobb, a historic stone harbour wall that has protected Lyme Regis for centuries. Immortalised in literature and film, The Cobb is a wonderful place to enjoy a leisurely stroll while taking in sweeping views across Lyme Bay and watching fishing boats return with the day's catch.

For those wishing to experience the coastline from a different perspective, optional Jurassic Coast boat trips depart directly from The Cobb. These relaxing cruises offer breathtaking views of towering cliffs, secluded coves, and the unique geology that has made this coastline world famous.

Remember there are only 20 seats available for each trip so please book early to avoid disappointment.

TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST



Dorset Queen Afternoon High Tea Cruise from Poole Harbour and Christchurch

Seat price	Additional Pick-Up points	Pickups start at	Home around
£79.00	(K, L, M, N)	08:15	17:30

Christchurch is the perfect base for exploring the beautiful Dorset coastline, and one of the region's most memorable experiences is the **Dorset Queen Afternoon High Tea Cruise** from nearby Poole Harbour. Combining stunning coastal scenery, elegant dining, and fascinating maritime history, this relaxing excursion offers a wonderful way to experience Dorset from the water. Your journey takes place aboard the Dorset Queen, a beautifully restored vintage motor yacht dating back to 1938. Departing from Poole Quay, the 90-minute cruise passes Brownsea Island, the exclusive Sandbanks peninsula, and the entrance to Christchurch Harbour, offering breathtaking views across one of the world's largest natural harbours and the spectacular Jurassic Coast.

The highlight of the experience is a traditional Afternoon High Tea served on board. Guests are welcomed with a glass of Prosecco before enjoying a delicious selection of freshly prepared finger sandwiches, homemade scones with clotted cream and jam, and an assortment of cakes and pastries, all accompanied by a pot of Dorset Tea. Soft jazz and soul music provide the perfect backdrop, while the captain shares entertaining commentary about the harbour, local wildlife, and notable landmarks. **High Tea and Cruise is included in your seat price.**

WEDNESDAY 12TH AUGUST SHORTER DAYS OUT



Lulworth Cove and Sculpture by the Lake

Seat price	Additional Pick-Up points	Pickups start at	Home around
£35.00	(O, P)	09:30	17:00

Lulworth Cove is one of Dorset's most iconic natural landmarks and a highlight of the UNESCO World Heritage Jurassic Coast. Surrounded by dramatic cliffs and crystal-clear waters, it is a favourite destination for sightseeing, photography, coastal walks, and relaxing by the sea. Visitors can also explore the nearby limestone arch of Durdle Door, one of Britain's most photographed coastal landmarks, or enjoy the village's cafés, gift shops, and visitor centre.

In the afternoon, you may wish to visit the nearby **Sculpture by the Lakes**, a unique outdoor sculpture park and botanical garden set within 26 acres of tranquil Dorset countryside. Created by acclaimed sculptor Simon Gudgeon, the attraction combines contemporary art with beautifully landscaped gardens, lakes, and peaceful walking trails. Sculptures are thoughtfully displayed throughout the grounds, creating an inspiring blend of art and nature. Visitors can also browse the Makers Yard, featuring galleries, artisan shops, and a café serving homemade food and local produce. **Please note: Admission to Sculpture by the Lakes is not included in your seat price. Please book the afternoon entry from 2.00pm which costs £12.00 when booked online or £13.50 on the day.**

THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST



Kew Gardens

Seat price	Additional Pick-Up points	Pickups start at	Home around
£44.00	(A, B, C, D)	08:15	18:30

Nestled on the banks of the River Thames in southwest London, **Kew Gardens** is one of the world's most celebrated botanical attractions. Officially known as the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, this UNESCO World Heritage Site covers more than 300 acres and is home to over 50,000 living plants, making it a haven for gardeners, nature lovers, and anyone with an interest in the natural world.

Founded in 1759, Kew combines stunning landscapes with centuries of scientific research, conservation, and horticultural excellence. Visitors can explore beautifully landscaped gardens, discover rare and exotic plants from around the globe, and admire an extraordinary collection of historic glasshouses. Highlights include the magnificent Victorian Palm House, home to a lush tropical rainforest, and the Princess of Wales Conservatory, which features ten distinct climate zones showcasing plants from deserts to rainforests.

For spectacular views, the popular Treetop Walkway allows visitors to stroll 18 metres above the ground, offering a unique perspective across the gardens and towards the London skyline. Throughout the year, seasonal displays transform the landscape, with colourful spring blooms, vibrant summer borders, rich autumn foliage, and magical winter illuminations ensuring every visit is unique. **Entry to Kew is not included in your seat price. Admission is £25.00 when booked on line.**

Small Group Trips January to March 2027

Small Groups, Big Possibilities!

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, although our usual coach trips will be taking a winter break during January, February and March, we certainly won't be putting our feet up!

We're keen to explore something a little different during these quieter months by offering a selection of more intimate and specialised days out using our 8-seater taxi.

Travelling in smaller groups opens up a whole new world of possibilities, allowing us to visit places and enjoy experiences that might not necessarily feature in our main coach programme.

Perhaps you have a particular interest or somewhere you've always wanted to visit? We'd love to hear your suggestions, whether it's:

- Art galleries and special exhibitions
- Interesting talks and guest speakers
- Historical houses and places of interest
- Theatre performances and shows
- Hidden gems and unusual attractions
- Specialist experiences that lend themselves to smaller groups

It's also a wonderful opportunity for WI and U3A groups, clubs, societies and associations to organise a bespoke day out tailored to their shared interests, without the challenge of filling a larger coach.

Of course, you don't need to be part of an organised group to join us. Whether you're travelling independently, with a partner or with a few friends, everyone is welcome. Once all eight seats are booked, the trip will go ahead!
Help us shape our winter programme!

If this is something that appeals to you, please register your interest and share your ideas with us at gdobookings@gmail.com. If there is sufficient interest, we'll start putting together some exciting days out for the first three months of 2027. After all, great experiences don't always need a big coach!

How to book your trips over the Festive Period

Our New 2027 Brochure – Let the Bookings Begin!

We really hope you enjoy browsing our new 2027 brochure and that you earmark some exciting days out to look forward to!

With our brochure being released during the festive season, we thought it would be helpful to explain how to book your trips and share our Christmas opening hours.

David and I have worked extremely hard throughout the year and are looking forward to spending some well-earned quality time together with family and friends over Christmas.

But don't panic! From the moment the brochure lands, I will be ready and waiting to take your bookings!

A Little Help with Your Bookings

As our telephone lines are only open from 9am to 1pm, Monday to Thursday, I would kindly ask that, wherever possible, you email your booking requests in the first instance. I will work through these in the order in which they are received.

To help things run as smoothly as possible, please:

- Email all booking requests to gdobookings@gmail.com.
- If you telephone and I am helping another customer, please leave a voicemail.
- Avoid sending duplicate requests by both email and voicemail, as this creates additional administration and can slow down the booking process for everyone.
- Please do not send booking requests by text message to the driver's mobile phone or use any other email address.

How to Book Your Trips over the Festive Period

The first few weeks following the release of our brochure are undoubtedly my busiest time of the year. I would really appreciate your patience whilst I work my way through everyone's requests.

Christmas & New Year Opening Hours

Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd December
Telephone lines: 9am–1pm (voicemail thereafter)
Administration: 9am–5pm

Wednesday 23rd December – Sunday 3rd January
Closed for our Christmas and New Year break

Monday 4th January 2027
Normal opening hours resume

During our Christmas break, I will be checking the inbox periodically for urgent matters only. All other enquiries and booking requests will be dealt with upon our return.

Thank you, as always, for your patience, understanding and continued support. We are just as excited as you are about our new programme and look forward to another wonderful year of adventures, friendships and making memories together!

Paola - Bookings Manager



Fundraising in aid of the STARS APPEAL Salisbury Hospital's Charity

Charity no. 1052284

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS, GENEROSITY AND CONTINUED SUPPORT.





We know times are not easy for everyone, and that makes every single donation, every cake baked, every raffle ticket purchased and every helping hand offered all the more special.

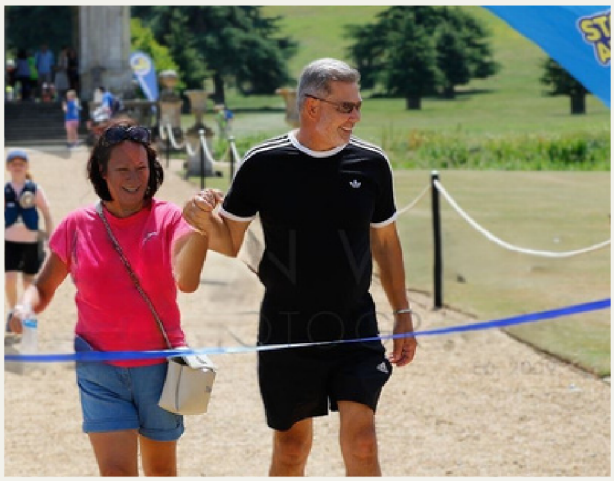
Please know that we genuinely appreciate every single penny and every act of kindness.

We are absolutely delighted!

WE HAVE SMASHED OUR £800 FUNDRAISING TARGET FOR STARS APPEAL - AND WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET!

We are extremely grateful for the kindness, generosity and continued support of all our Great Days Out customers.









A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

To everyone who has volunteered their time throughout the year, helped set up, served refreshments, washed up, cleared away and generally rolled up their sleeves - we couldn't do this without you!

A particularly big shout-out to **Dawn, Doreen, Sharon, Sylvia and Lydia**, who have been so wonderfully hands-on and supportive.

And to everyone who has baked, bought or donated cakes, biscuits and refreshments throughout the year - thank you! A special mention to Elizabeth, Betty and Vicky for your lovely contributions. And a very special thanks to Mark! Those Victoria sponges are amazing!

NOW FOR THE REALLY EXCITING BIT... THE NUMBERS!

Our fundraising target for 2026 was £800.

At our last Coffee Morning, including sales of tickets for our Grand Christmas Raffle, we raised an incredible £437.00! Less £35 for the hire of the hall, leaving a fantastic £402.00 raised! This brings our Great Days Out fundraising total to £1,149.00! But there's more...

Back in July, David and I also took part in Walk for Wards, raising another £592.00. Which means that, collectively, we have raised an absolutely AMAZING:

£1,741.00 FOR STARS APPEAL!

From an original target of £800, we could never have imagined such a wonderful result.



AND WE STILL HAVE ONE LAST HURRAH!

Our Grand Christmas Raffle will be drawn on Friday 11th December, at our Great Days Out Christmas Lunch at The Red Lion Hotel Salisbury

So there's still an opportunity to add even more to this incredible total! **David will be selling raffle tickets on all trips until then.**

We started the year hoping to make a small difference to a charity that does such extraordinary work for our local hospital and community. Thanks to all of you, that small difference has become something rather special.

Our Chosen Charity for 2027 - Encircles

Feeding the Hungry and Homeless in the Salisbury Area - relying on great volunteers

As many of you know, each year Great Days Out chooses a local charity to support through our fundraising activities. For 2027, we are delighted to announce that our focus will be on ENCIRCLES, a wonderful Salisbury-based charity making a real difference to the lives of people within our community.

Established in 2019 and run entirely by dedicated, unpaid volunteers, ENCIRCLES provides a vital lifeline to those experiencing homelessness, financial hardship, hunger, loneliness and social isolation.

Their incredible team works 365 days a year, providing:

- Over 950 meals every month to those in need.
- Hot Sunday lunches and takeaway supper bags.
- Emergency food parcels for struggling families.
- Essential supplies, including warm clothing, sleeping bags, blankets and toiletries.
- Friendship, companionship and a listening ear to those who may have nowhere else to turn.

What makes ENCIRCLES particularly special is that their support is available to anyone in need, without judgement or means testing.

Sadly, hardship is often closer to home than we realise. Behind the beautiful streets of our city are individuals and families facing daily challenges that many of us may never see. ENCIRCLES relies on the generosity of local businesses, volunteers and public donations to continue its invaluable work.

As a small, independent Salisbury business, we feel passionately about giving something back to the community that has supported us so generously.

Throughout 2027, we hope that, together, through our coffee mornings, raffles and fundraising activities, we can make a meaningful contribution to this very deserving local charity. Whilst we spend our days creating wonderful memories for others, let's also help make everyday life a little brighter for those less fortunate within our own community.

To find out more about the wonderful work of ENCIRCLES, please visit www.encircles.org Registered Charity No. 1182985.

And Finally… A Personal Note from Us Both

As we reach the end of another busy year and our final newsletter of 2026, we thought we would finish with a few words on a more personal note.

There is no denying that the past few years have been challenging. The rising cost of living has affected us all, and we recognise that days out are a luxury rather than a necessity. As a small, independent business, we also face increasing fuel prices, maintenance costs and the general expense of operating a coach.

A considerable amount of work goes on behind the scenes to keep our trips competitively priced whilst maintaining the quality and personal service that you have come to expect from Great Days Out.

One of the most rewarding aspects of running Great Days Out is seeing people enjoying themselves, exploring new destinations, meeting new people and having the opportunity to get out and about. After all, we all need something in the diary to look forward to!

Our charity fundraising has also been a particularly successful part of 2026 and demonstrates what can be achieved when a local community comes together.
Looking ahead to 2027, we are pleased to be returning to a full-year programme, with a great selection of new destinations alongside some of your established favourites. A lot of time and planning has gone into putting this programme together, and we hope there is something to appeal to everyone.

Whatever your plans over the festive period, we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you on board in 2027!

With our warmest wishes,

David & Paola