

Wales Mammal Conference Feedback – 2008

1. Was the conference useful to you?
Yes: 98% (59) No: 2% (1) Tot: 60
2. Would you like to see the conference run again?
Yes: 97% (58) No response: 3% (2) Tot: 60
3. If yes, when?
1 yr: 28% (17) 2 yrs: 58% (35) 1-2 yrs: 3% (2) 2-3 yrs: 3% (2)
3 yrs: 0 No response: 7% (4)
4. Value for money
Excellent: 62% (36) V.gd: 33% (19) Gd: 5% (3) Tot: 58
5. Accommodation
Excellent: 30% (13) **V.gd: 43% (19)** Gd: 27% (12) Poor: 2% (1) Tot: 44
6. Range of talks
Excellent: 54% (32) V.gd: 39% (23) Gd: 7% Tot: 59
7. Food
Excellent: 36% (21) V.gd: 32% (19) Gd: 29% (17) Poor: 3% (2) Tot: 59
8. Conference Venue
Excellent: 53% (32) V.gd: 35% (21) Gd: 12% (7) Tot: 60
9. Pre-conference organisation
Excellent: 38% (23) V.gd: 33% (20) Gd: 23% (14) Poor: 5% (3) Tot: 60

A few interesting comments:

Talks:

- Some programmed talks a bit limited, but overall very informative 2 days, highly recommended.
- Some talks a bit basic..... some very good.....would be good to talk on practical conservation to help re-inspire some of us. But overall still very interesting.
- Good range of topics and topical data (*This came up many times*)
- Excellent blend of talks, good to get student papers and long-established researchers
- Good range of talks and plenty of opportunity for networking, just as important. Excellent value for money
- Would be interesting to hear from other spp. groups and discuss potential conflict and how this can be overcome, e.g. birds and mammals
- Talks mainly focus on individual sp. in isolation, their role in the functioning ecosystem would be interesting

- Is it possible to make the presentations available via e-mail/internet please?

Organisation and content:

- Brilliant value for money
- Didn't hear much about the conference beforehand (*advertising/marketing*)
- Would like a longer break before supper
- Signs showing locations of lecture room and registration would be useful (*few comments about this*)
- Conference reminder and map, parking permit etc. before the event would help a lot (*for some reason there were a number of people who didn't receive their pre-conference info*)
- Some information on mammals at/near Aberystwyth would be nice for those not familiar with the area, incl. sea mammals. Perhaps an optional visit to a bat roost at dusk?
- Last session needed a break between the last 4 lectures.
- Difficult to hear floor questions without a mike (*fair point*)
- May not bother to attend next time, 2 days too long
- Lack of time for questions (*tricky, as in general it was quite difficult to get questions from the floor, so don't want to leave too much embarrassed silence space*)
- Queues for drinks/lunch (*only one comment about this*)
- Perhaps a few interactive sessions to break up the lectures (*an idea to discuss for next time*)
- Food would have been much nicer if it had been hot!
- Should have shortened lunch on Sat by ½ hour to allow everyone to get away earlier
- From a consultant point of view, new research is very useful when considering survey techniques. Conference is an excellent way to gain knowledge of what's going on. (*excellent*)

Random praise (*there was lots of this*)

- Fantastic opportunity for networking, as well as many fascinating talks
- Excellent as expected
- Most enjoyable as an interested amateur
- We shall be back (*I think this is a good thing!*)