

Feedback report – TAP Conference 2015

‘Healing the Trauma of Sexual Abuse’

Headlines: The 2015 Conference was another successful event. Although less well attended than last year, there were still 80 delegates in the audience, 100% of whom (all of them!) rated it ‘Excellent’ or ‘Very Good’.

Nearly half of those attending were TAP members, up on last year, but that is only half the total TAP membership.

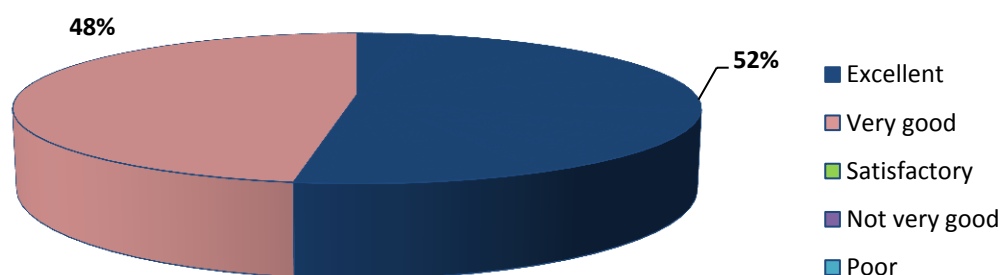
17 bursaries were taken up, each paying £50. 6 Council members attended but did not pay, and neither did Angela McCormack who introduced the speakers. This means that well over 25% of those attending paid either a reduced amount or nothing at all, perhaps something to reconsider in future years.

36 members attended (8 more than last year).

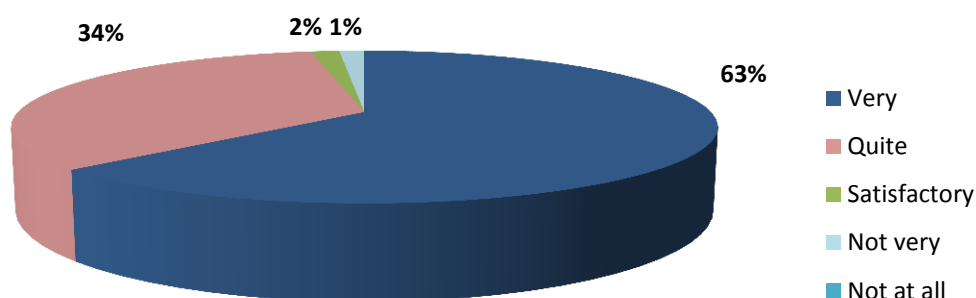
61 feedback forms were returned. This year we offered the opportunity to rate each speaker individually

Results

How do you rate Conference 2015 overall?



How relevant was Conference 2015 to your work?



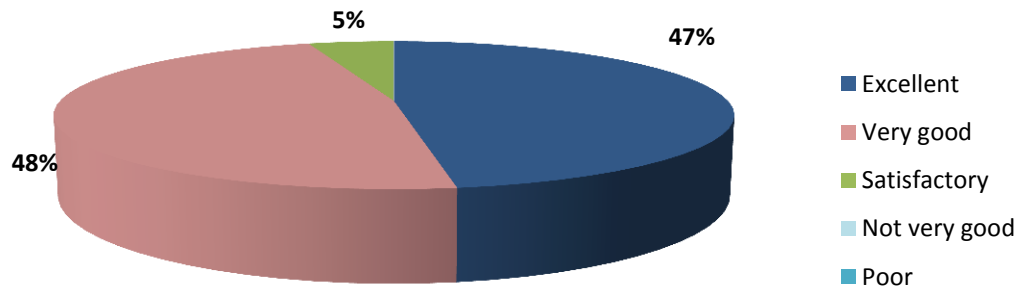
This year, **52% thought the conference was 'Excellent'** compared to 56% in 2014, but this is still a significant improvement on previous years, especially as **all the remaining respondents felt it was 'Very Good'**. Many thought it well organised, although some mentioned that it would have been more helpful to have Fay's handouts in the pack (she explained to us that she did not have enough to do that).

When looking at how relevant the conference was to their work, **64% felt it was 'Very Relevant' to their work**, down from 71% year but still much higher than the 46% in 2012. 34% thought it 'Quite Relevant' compared to 28% 'last year. 2% felt it was 'Satisfactory' compared to 0% last year and 1% considered it 'Not Very Relevant'.

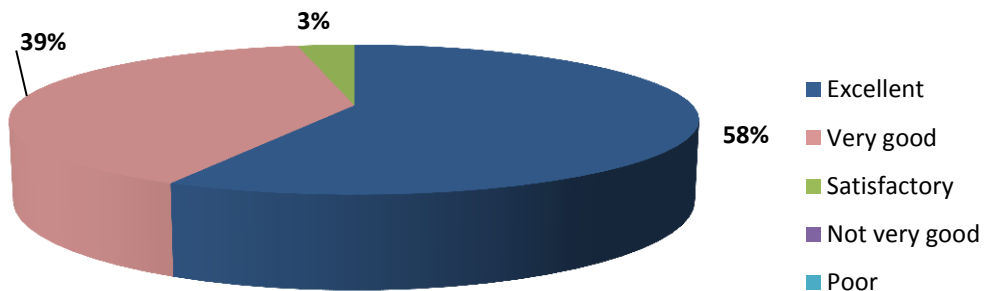
In the second year of using the Racecourse as a venue, it received a much more positive response. The cabaret style set up was mentioned as an improvement and overall **95% felt the venue was 'Excellent' or 'Very Good'**. The main complaints related to it being very 'car-centric' and cold at times when the air conditioning was on.

97% of those attending felt the standard of catering was 'Excellent' or 'Very Good', with the only complaints being the lack of knowledge of staff as to ingredients and the serving of vegetarian food with meat tongs. One delegate also felt there was insufficient pudding for special diets, and one wanted cake with tea in the afternoon rather than lunch.

How would you rate the venue overall?



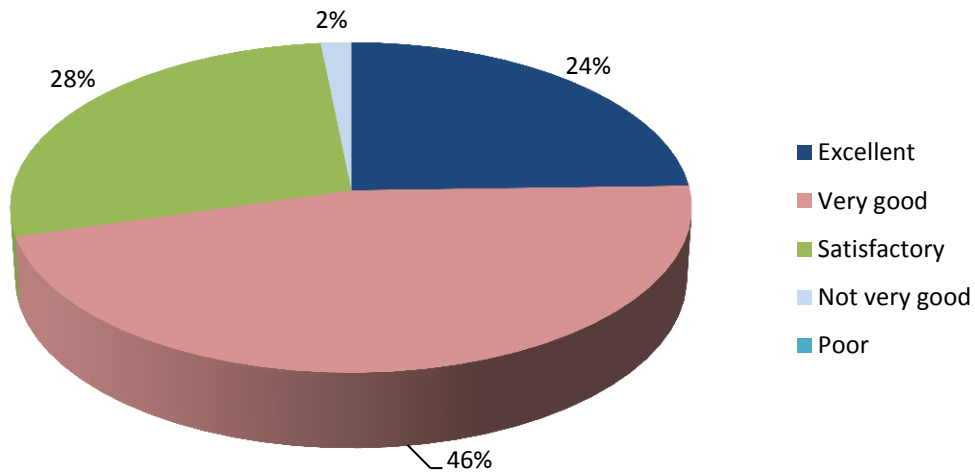
How would you rate the standard of food & catering?



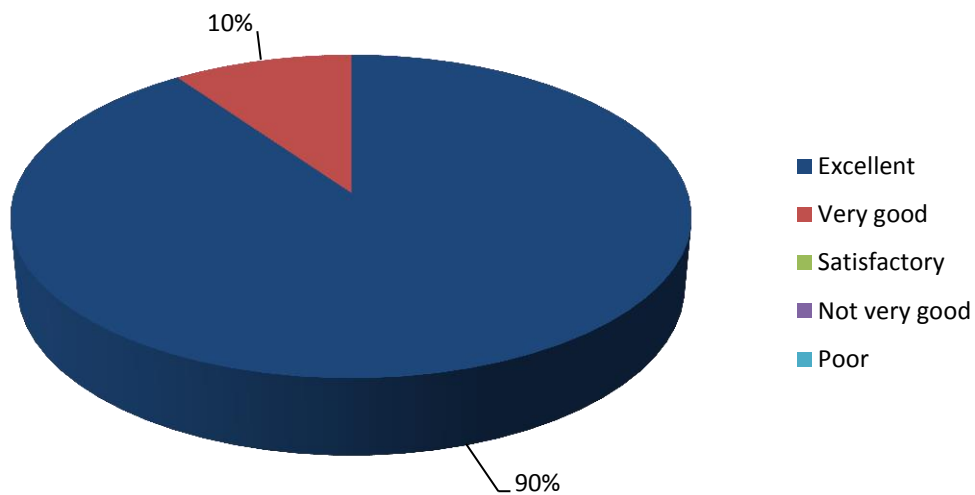
This was the first year that we offered delegates the opportunity to comment on the speakers on the feedback forms. As can be seen from the graphs (below), there was a significant difference in opinion with Zoe Lodrick receiving an overwhelmingly positive response – 100% saying she was ‘Excellent or ‘Very Good’ and describing her as ‘captivating’, ‘absorbing’, ‘inspiring’ and ‘the best speaker I have heard on the subject’. Any complaints about Fay’s presentation related mainly to practical problems with her laptop and handouts, although some felt she was too academic and that they would have taken more in from reading a book. Others felt she was passionate and inspirational, so clearly she divided opinion.

A few people mentioned that they would prefer the old three speaker format, but a similar number would have preferred to have the day devoted to one speaker – Zoe.

Speaker 1 - Fay Maxted



Speaker 2 - Zoe Lodrick



Suggested topics for future conference/workshops/talks

This year, we did not have as many suggestions for future conference themes, and some were more suitable for workshops:

- Bodywork
- Working with the elderly and end of life

- Suicide and self-harm
- Children and adolescents
- Anger management
- Generational trauma
- Surgical issues
- Eating disorders
- Working with trauma – process and recovery
- Working with addiction
- Creative and art therapy
- Dream work

Three people requested a day on supervision with Robin Shoet .

General comments

Relating to administration and organisation

- Well organised
- One speaker would have been better
- Three speakers would have been better
- Not enough time to interact with speakers
- More handouts and in folders
- Loop system
- Location back on delegate list (last year asked for job title)
- Short biography of speakers on promotional material.
- Title of conference a little misleading – expected more about ‘healing’
- Repetition of questions from the floor

‘Loved the room layout’

Relating to the Speakers

Fay:

‘Shame about the laptop problems’

‘Very wordy’

‘Stats overwhelming’

‘Loved the passion’

‘Great insight’

Zoe:

'Would have liked to explore interventions'

'Stimulating, almost overwhelming'

'Wonderfully informed, relevant and inspired'

'Best speaker I have heard on the subject'

'Stunning, powerful'

Overall

There were lots of thanks and much appreciation of the day as a whole, the subject matter, the speakers and the overall organisation.

'Informative and inspirational day'

'Thank you for this extremely high quality conference, superb presentations, well facilitated, gentle, great pacing, delightful refreshments, well-organised handouts, CPD certificates etc...'

'Thank you!'

Suzie Grogan May 2015