**CALL FOR PRESENTERS**

**AOT Annual Conference**

**‘Sharing practices and building perspectives’ in Outdoor Therapy**

Plas y Brenin, The National Outdoor Centre

 8-9 November 2025

**The Association for Outdoor Therapy (AOT) is excited to announce its 2025 Annual Conference is to be held in the heart of Eryri, North Wales**

This conference will explore diverse ideas, share insights and perspectives, and deepen our connections within the broad field of outdoor therapy and its associated practices. The conference will include topics about theoretical models and practical aspects of working therapeutically outdoors, including, therapeutic outdoor adventure-based practices, nature and eco-therapy approaches, outdoor mental health interventions, green prescribing, environmental psychology, inclusive practices in outdoor therapy settings, innovation in research approaches, and issues of working ethically in therapeutic outdoor settings.

This is an exciting opportunity to share your expertise and perspectives, engage and network with like-minded professionals, develop your understanding, find out more, and contribute to shaping future developments of outdoor therapy in the UK.

**Call for Presenters:**

We are calling for presenters to share their knowledge and experiences under the following themes:

* **Programmes & Practice**: Sharing innovation and developments of outdoor therapy programmes, approaches, and practices to help celebrate and understand outdoor therapy in action.
* **Professionalism**: Sharing topics on professional standards, ethics, and challenges in developing ethical and effective outdoor therapy practices.
* **Research and Theory**: Sharing understanding of theoretical, research or evaluation approaches, or research studies and findings, that contribute to outdoor therapy being a more recognised and credible approach.

We look forward to welcoming a diverse range of perspectives across different communities of practice to help facilitate dialogue, develop understanding and build a community of outdoor therapy practice across the UK.

**Presenter Formats:**

You can submit an abstract for presenting in one of the following formats:

* **Presentation:** *30-minute lecture style presentation* on any aspect of outdoor therapeutic practices or developments. For example, this could be an organisational case study, development of a theoretical or ethical perspective, or a research study.
* **Workshop:** *1 or 2 hour**experiential indoor or outdoor workshops* focusing on any aspect related to delivering or developing ethical outdoor therapeutic practices. For example, this could be exploring a theoretical approach in action, exploring a key agenda to facilitate peer-to peer dialogue and reflection, or building ethical or technical understanding on a specific topic. All workshops will require completion of a relevant risk assessment. Once a workshop is accepted you will be contacted regarding the risk assessment procedure in preparation for conference delivery.
* **Poster Presentation:** *Visual, creative representations* of original research or case studies of outdoor therapy (A0 size, 841x1189 mm or 33.1x46.8 in). All poster presentations will get a 2-minute slot to introduce their poster to the conference audience.

*Please note,* we are able to scope resourcing use of the local landscape for specific outdoor activity-based workshops. If you wish to include an outdoor activity aspect as part of a proposed workshop, please note this in your abstract submission. There is no guarantee this will be permitted, however, we will work to see what can be feasible in support of getting outdoors and making the most of the local outdoor environment as part of the full conference programme.

**Acceptance of Abstracts:**

The overall goal of the conference is to celebrate a wide range of perspectives as represented in the Statement of Good Practice in Outdoor Mental Health Interventions and Outdoor Therapy.Abstracts will be considered for acceptance based on their overall quality and relevance across diverse perspectives of therapeutic outdoor practices**.** Please note, due to the conference duration we have an upper limit of presenter slots available. If we are oversubscribed with relevant abstracts a final decision will be made based on those submitted first.

**Abstract Submission Instructions - what to submit:**

Submit your abstract as a **Word document with all the information below**:

* + Title of the presentation/workshop/poster
* Name(s) of the author(s) and affiliation(s)
* Contact information (email, phone number)
* A brief abstract (no more than 200 words)
* Keywords (maximum of 5 keywords)
* Type of presentation. either a presentation, workshop (please state length of 1hr or 2hrs) or a poster.
* Preferred theme. 1) programmes & practice, 2) professionalism, or 3) research and theory.
* *For workshops only:* please specify type(s) of activities you hope to be using or want to scope out using so we can address required risk assessments and feasibility of these for conference delivery. If you are offering a specific outdoor activity as part of a workshop, please also state any related qualifications/training that would help support safe delivery of outdoor activity components you propose to use.
* In submitting a presenter abstract, if this is accepted for the conference, you are agreeing for your abstract, name and affiliation to be published in the public domain (for example, on the conference website and in a conference abstract booklet).
* All accepted presenters will need to book and pay for conference attendance in advance to secure a presenter slot.

**Please submit your conference abstract** **by email** **to:** aot@outdoor-learning.org

**Submission Deadline:** 30 April 2025

* **For more information on costs and bookings**, please visit:

[www.outdoor-learning.org/news-events/ems-event-calendar/save-the-date-association-for-outdoor-therapy-annual-conference-sharing-practices-and-building-perspectives-in-outdoor-therapy.html](http://www.outdoor-learning.org/news-events/ems-event-calendar/save-the-date-association-for-outdoor-therapy-annual-conference-sharing-practices-and-building-perspectives-in-outdoor-therapy.html)

* **Event Location:** Plas y Brenin, The National Outdoor Centre, Capel Curig, Conwy, Eryri, North Wales. LL24 OET
* **Dates:** 8-9th November 2025
* **Please book early to avoid disappointment**.

Thank you for taking the time in considering submitting to AOT’s Annual Conference.

**Stay tuned for more conference details and updates!**