

AGSD (UK) Annual Conference 2006

Personal Thoughts on the 2006 Conference.

I licked my lips in anticipation of our second conference at the Novotel in Bradford. The first one had been very memorable. Firstly, it had been very international. I remembered having a very interesting conversation with a Swedish delegate who was a member of the indigenous Sami tribe and a New Zealand visitor, also a member of the indigenous people, a Maori. Amazingly, they had much in common. You cannot get more cosmopolitan than that! Second, I got to sample a wonderful authentic Indian meal in town. Bradford is the Yorkshire capital of the sub-continent. In addition to this, the conference had been memorably informative.

As it turned out, the 22nd Annual Conference was a much more parochial affair, but no less enjoyable and informative. I also missed out on the Indian food. The folk we met on Sunday evening for a meal had booked a table at a Thai restaurant! Excellent, but not what I was anticipating.

These two minor disappointments were counterbalanced by the quality of the workshops. I am Type 2 and we are fortunate that a new enzyme replacement therapy has been approved and funded. Allan Muir had been successful in attracting almost all the specialists in the UK who were involved in giving this treatment. Thus, we were able to get all the up to date information on the likely results of therapy. I think most people were highly encouraged by what we heard.

My spies tell me that the other workshops were full of interest. I still find it a great shame that there is so little interaction between the various types of AGSD members

The venue, the Novotel, is in an industrial estate on the edge of town. Apart from this, I found them very welcoming, my room was fine and breakfast and lunch were good. I must admit that dinner in the restaurant on Friday evening left a bit to be desired, but on the whole it was good value.

I thought that it was an excellent and enjoyable conference. Our thanks are due to Sue Del Mar and all the others who contributed to its organisation.

Clive Tonks