

Adders are Amazing! Gwiberod Gwych!

23. PRESENTATIONS FOR ADULT GROUPS

During the Adders are Amazing! project, news that we were available to speak to interested groups spread like wildfire. Many different types of group were keen to hear about our native reptiles and amphibians. If you would like to spread the word, and help adders and other native herpetofauna, consider giving public talks and pro-actively approaching different groups in your area. Be aware that many groups, such as the Women's Institute and the University of the 3rd Age book their talks several months in advance, so bear this in mind. Some will also cover reasonable travel expenses, so it is worth asking. Some examples of groups you could contact:

- Women's Institute groups
- University of the 3rd Age (U3A)
- Local wildlife/conservation groups, such as Wildlife Trust regional groups
- Community Councils
- Local history groups
- Young Farmers' Associations
- National Parks
- The National Trust
- Local visitor centres

Alternatively, why not hire a village hall and advertise a talk locally?

Many groups are able to provide a laptop, overhead projector and screen, so all you need to bring is your talk on a memory stick. Having a visual aid is definitely beneficial – show beautiful photos, take along shed skins, or models. We are trying to instil a feeling of awe and appreciation, however, be aware that some people are not keen on snakes, so do let them know you will be showing photos in advance, so they don't get a sudden surprise.

As for: '22. Community Engagement', you may want to gauge the group's feelings towards snakes before you start, to get a feel for the audience. Most people report feeling much more at ease with adders after a positive presentation. ARG UK has resources for a PowerPoint presentation to get you started (available on the Adders are Amazing!' pages of the ARG UK website www.arguk.org)

