

Open Air Series

The Open Air Series takes training programmes to outdoor locations, combining classroom teaching with outdoor sessions on rock outcrops which serve as analogues for oil and gas reservoirs.



The Open Air Series is based on the idea that effective learning need not be classroom-based, and that courses with aspects of rock outcrop fieldwork should not be limited to geologists.

The Open Air courses are therefore pitched at multi-disciplinary audiences as well as traditional geoscience groups, and most courses from the other Series can be offered in this format. Geoscience, petrophysics, reservoir engineering and well-based training have all been delivered this way, sometimes in combination.

Typical Open Air courses are based at locations with conference facilities which are close to the analogue rock outcrops. The schedules are a blend of classroom- and outdoor-based teaching, the balance of which depends on the location, content and weather.

Open Air courses have ranged from short three-day programmes to two-week courses covering a range of discipline areas, and can be themed according to client needs. Previous course themes include basin analysis, field development planning and reservoir modelling, all of which have been run for multi-discipline groups.

Open Air Series continued

Existing locations

Most Open Air Series courses have been based in the UK to date, but can be staged at any location with appropriate analogue rock outcrops and local access to suitable conference facilities and international air transport connections.

Programmes to date have been run at the following locations:

Moray Firth-based Events (Scotland)	Northumberland-based Events (England)
Annot-based Events (France)	Dorset-based Events (England)
• Sand-Rich Fan Systems	Provence-based Events (France)
• Basin-Scale Analysis of Confined Turbidite Systems	Utah-based Events (USA)
Tabernas-based Events (Spain)	East Kentucky-based Events (USA)
Yorkshire-based Events (England)	County Clare-based Events (Ireland)
Derbyshire-based Events (England)	Sicily-based Events (Italy)
Pembrokeshire-based Events (SW Wales)	

The TRACS tutor pool also has existing oil industry-based field experience to be able to run similar programmes in Norway, Australia, Trinidad, the Spanish Pyrenees, Southern Germany, the Italian Dolomites, South Africa, Azerbaijan, Egypt and Oman.

People

The tutor group of over 20 experienced staff members and close associates work from TRACS offices in Aberdeen and London.

Series Focal Point



Mark Bentley PhD

Main Series tutoring: Reservoir, E&P Overview, Open Air and Master Class

Industry experience: over 30 years, geoscience

Career background: Shell, AGR and TRACS

Personal: Author 'Reservoir Model Design', SPE and EAGE Distinguished Lecturer, AGR (Training Director), TRACS Training Director, associate professor Heriot-Watt University