

**\*\*\* ADVANCE NOTICE and INVITATION to contribute \*\*\***

The **Society for Social Medicine's 56th Annual Scientific Meeting** will be held for the first time at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine from 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September 2012. Jointly organised by the LSHTM and colleagues at University College London, the Meeting welcomes contributions from the fields of epidemiology, public health and health services research. The 2012 Meeting will provide the opportunity to report new research findings, debate academic and policy issues, and will offer early stage researchers, among others, the chance to present in a friendly, relaxed environment.

*"The SSM is a unique and wonderful beast. I was very struck at my first SSM conference by the camaraderie, enthusiasm and sense of history amongst the old guard and how generous and welcoming they were to younger attendees." Ian Forde, Early Career Researcher Committee*

The conference will include a mix of lectures by key note speakers, parallel sessions, poster presentations and workshops which will be of interest to both UK and international delegates.

**The organisers invite you to contribute by leading or sending ideas for an interactive workshop during the conference or a pre-conference meeting on a topic of interest. Suggestions from multidisciplinary teams are particularly welcome. Please contact the organisers if you are interested or would like more details.**

Delegates will be able to enjoy exploring Bloomsbury, one of London's most vibrant areas, steeped in medical and public health history. One afternoon is set aside for visits to places of interest, including the Wellcome Collection and the Hunterian Museum, and for themed walks. There will be opportunities to socialise at a reception at the King's Fund (one of the UK's leading health policy and management think tanks) and to enjoy dinner in the stunning surroundings of the Great Hall in Lincoln's Inn.

You are welcome to attend the full three-day conference programme, or as a day delegate, and there are a number of free places available for students. Delegates opting for our residential package will be located in Halls just around the corner from the School, while those opting for hotel accommodation will be able to choose from the wide selection on offer in London. The organisers of the 2012 Meeting aim to offer a carbon neutral event. Food at the reception and dinner will be locally sourced, and accommodation and visits are within walking distance of the London School or easily accessible by public transport.

Guidelines on how to prepare a proposal for a workshop are attached. **Please send your ideas to Christine Rivett-Carnac by 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011 ([Christine.Rivett-Carnac@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Christine.Rivett-Carnac@lshtm.ac.uk)).**

More information on the SSM's Annual Scientific Meetings is available at:

<http://www.socsocmed.org.uk/meetings.htm>

[Attachment: workshop guidelines]