

August 2008

Society for Social Medicine Newsletter

Note from The Editor

Please continue to submit news items, announcements, meetings, reports – anything that you think that would be interesting to the wider membership. We are particularly keen to increase the number of items relating to **Health Services Research** as well as **Public Health research that exists outside the practice of Epidemiology**.

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SSM One Day Meetings

The Committee would like to encourage it's members to organise one-day meetings in conjunction with the Society, particularly related to Health Services Research. Costs can be partially met by the Society.

Please contact the Honorary Secretary, Amy Downing, for more information and a proposal form (a.downing@leeds.ac.uk).

52nd Annual Scientific Meeting

**University of Southampton
17 - 19th September 2008**

The 52nd Annual Scientific Meeting will be held at the University of Southampton on the 17-19th of September 2008. A full programme is included with this mailing.

Registration is still open and you can access the registration form and further information from the University of Southampton's dedicated website:

<http://www.socsocmed.soton.ac.uk/>

Guest Speakers

This years Cochrane Lecture will be delivered by Professor Robert Beaglehole (Auckland) and will be on 'Global public health: A scorecard'. The Pemberton Lecture will be given by Professor Paul Elliot (Imperial) on 'Small-area studies of environment and health'.

Workshops

This year there will be an interactive workshop on the 'Small Area Synthetic Estimation of Health Needs' led by Professor Graham Moon (Southampton). This workshop will cover the development of indicators that estimate small-area (eg ward) prevalence's of variables for which local information is not otherwise available. Full details are available from the conference website.

Social Trips

As usual, social trips form an important part of the SSM Annual Meeting. This year a series of walks and visits have been organised in and around Southampton and include trips to Winchester, The South Downs and Spinnaker Tower. Further details are available on the website and you should indicate a preference on the official booking form.

Free Places for Honorary Members

Honorary Members are reminded that they are entitled to a FREE place at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The committee encourages all our Honorary Members attend!

Contact point

Dr Carol Orchard, Public Health Sciences & Medical Statistics, University of Southampton.

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Nominations for SSM Committee

Every year there are two places available on the SSM committee. This year there have been two nominations, which means that we don't need to have a ballot, and welcome Neil Raymond and David Batty to the committee. Their term of office will begin in January 2009 for three years.

Thanks go to the retiring committee members, Kate Dunn and Stephanie Taylor, for their work over the past three years.

A short biography for the two new committee members is included. They will be formally welcomed at the Annual General Meeting in Southampton. We encourage members to attend.

Neil Raymond

Neil studied Sociology at the University of Nottingham and was awarded an MSc. in Health Services Research and Health Technology Assessment from the University of Sheffield. Neil then worked in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Leicester for more than 10 years, in research and computing posts. He moved to the University of Warwick in 1999 as a lecturer and is now an Associate Professor of Epidemiology in Warwick Medical School, Health Sciences Research Institute, and is also Course Director for the Masters in Public Health Programme.

Neil has a long standing interest in the epidemiology of type 2 diabetes, chronic kidney disease, ethnicity and risk, and the use of disease registers for epidemiological surveillance. He is actively involved in Health Services Research and the evaluation of new health technologies. Neil has been a member of the Society for Social Medicine since 1992.

David Batty

A member of the Society since he was a postgraduate student, David is currently a Wellcome Trust Fellow based principally at the MRC Social and Public Health Sciences Unit (University of Glasgow) but also the recently established MRC Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology (University of Edinburgh). He has studied in Manchester, Newcastle, Bristol and London, and has worked in Denmark and Brazil.

Within aetiological epidemiology, his research interests are wide-ranging and include life course and trans-generational influences on somatic and psychiatric illness

New EUPHA Website

The European Public Health Association has now launched a new website. Please visit the following address for European news and newsletters relating to the study and practice of public health.

<http://www.eupha.org>

Submissions for the newsletter can be made through the Editor, Dineke Zeegers Paget.

Reminder: European Journal of Public Health

As an SSM member you are also a member of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA). This used to entitle SSM members to free copies of the printed version of the European Journal of Public Health, which were distributed with the Newsletter. However, the Journal is now primarily an electronic journal, so as part of your EUPHA membership you are now entitled to **FREE ONLINE ACCESS** to the full text of the European Journal of Public Health.

In order to gain access to the journal please register as outlined below:

Activating your Online Access

To activate your personal online access to EJPH, you will need to register an account. To do this, you will need a subscriber number sent to you in a letter from Oxford University Press, the journal's publisher. If you do not have or do not know your subscriber number, please contact EJPHqueries@oxfordjournals.org in the first instance.

With your subscriber number to hand, please visit <http://www3.oup.co.uk/Register>

- **If you are registering for the first time.** Help is available for activating your online access at the above web site.
- **If you've already registered an account with OUP and you need to register your additional subscriber number for EJPH,** log in at the Activation and Maintenance Page and go to 'Subscription Details Edit' to add this subscriber number to your account.
- **If you've already registered an account for this subscriber number,** then you do not need to register again.
- **You will need your username and password** to gain access to the full text of the journal.

Optional Print Subscription

In addition to online access to the European Journal of Public Health, as a EUPHA member you also have the option of purchasing a print subscription to the journal at a greatly reduced rate. For more information please visit

<http://www3.oup.co.uk/jnls/list/eurpub/subinfo/>

Free E-mail Table-of-Contents Alerting Service

The European Journal of Public Health offers a free table-of-contents e-mail alerting service. To register for the journal's eTOC service please visit <http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/alerts/etoc> and you will be sent an e-mail every time a new issue is published, listing the contents.

Should you experience problems with any of these steps contact the SSM Membership Administrator, Julia Goodwin (socsocmed@googlemail.com).

Royal Society of Medicine Conference

*Beyond Pathways to Work:
Health Work & Wellbeing*

**Royal Society of Medicine
Wednesday 10th September**

What results are being achieved by Government's Pathways to Work Programme? Are the aims and objectives of the Government's Health, Work and Well-being Strategy being realised? What is being done to move people in receipt of long term incapacity benefits into work? Is the Government's aspiration for an 80% employment rate for the working population likely to succeed? What progress has been made in engaging employers more fully in return-to-work and work-retention initiatives? These and other related issues are the substance of this conference.

For information and booking please contact:

Nicole Leida, RSM, 1 Wimpole Street, London
W1G 0AE, UK. Email: Nicole.leida@rsm.ac.uk

To book online direct, visit www.rsm.ac.uk/diary