

# The Society of Anaesthetists



## of the South Western Region

### Spring Meeting 2010

### Rome, Italy

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010

January 2010

Dear Member

The spring overseas meeting of the Society will be a joint meeting in Rome with our Italian colleagues and will be held adjacent to the Vatican at the conference hotel which provides a high standard of service. The venue situates members within easy reach of the spectacular attractions of Rome. For those arriving early there is a guided tour of the Coliseum and Forum on Wednesday morning with a gathering in the hotel lounge for drinks that evening. The President's reception will take place on Thursday evening aboard a boat cruising along the Tiber River with views of the major sights. The gala dinner will be held on the Friday evening at the Teatro Arciluiit, Piazza Montevincchio.

Social events for members and their partners have been arranged for Thursday and for non-delegates on Friday morning. The academic programme includes speakers from the Society and our Italian hosts. The programme can be viewed on our website and includes Safety and Quality, Medical Education, Simulation and the Airway. The Trainees' prize competition involves trainees from both countries plus the opportunity for poster presentations to be displayed. The programme details are below with an application form. The scientific programme, combined with the social programme, in one of the world's great capital cities makes this a meeting that everyone should enjoy and remember.

As discussed informally at previous international meetings by our retired members, a small registration has been levied to cover the inevitable costs of the President's reception and administration of the meeting.

#### Overview

Weds 12th	9.00-12.00	Guided tour of the Coliseum and Forum
	19.00	Society gathering before a free evening
Thurs 13th	9.00-16.00	Guided tour of Villa D'Este and Tivoli Gardens
		Society Lunch at Tivoli, returning late afternoon
	20.30-23.00	President's Reception cruising on the River Tiber
Friday 14th	09.30-17.00	Academic Meeting
	09.00-14.00	(social programme visiting Ostia Antica)
	20.30-23.00	Gala dinner with Italian hosts
Sat 15th	9.00-12.45	Academic Meeting followed by lunch
	15.00-16.00	Guided tour of the Sistine Chapel and Vatican Museum

Specific details of social events, hotel accommodation, and travel arrangements are given overleaf. Please note the closing date for bookings of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

## **Travel**

Members are asked to make their own travel arrangements. Flying to Rome is possible from Bristol and London airports. Easyjet flies to Rome Ciampino and offers the best value but, this airport requires a long taxi ride to the centre of Rome. Flights arrive late afternoon, unfortunately catching the rush hour. Scheduled airlines from London land at the international airport which is more convenient for travel into Rome. If you are flying to Ciampino please inform us of your flight number and arrival details. If the numbers warrant, it will be possible to organize a coach to convey members to the conference hotel. If this is not possible please "buddy up" to minimize the costs of the taxi journey. If you are not able to commit to a particular flight by the time you return your booking form, please feel free to contact Kate Prys-Roberts subsequently with your travel details.

For those arriving early there is a tour arranged for Wednesday morning, but the President and I hope that most people will arrive in time for the informal Wednesday evening drinks in the hotel lounge as attendees have an early start at 9am on Thursday for the social programme. The Society has arranged for to visit to Tivoli on the Thursday and an excellent lunch is promised followed by the President's Reception that evening which will be spent cruising on the Tiber.

Members are all well versed in making travel arrangements but may find the Expedia website ([www.expedia.co.uk](http://www.expedia.co.uk)) useful in planning their travel and alternative hotel accommodation.

## **Hotels**

The Society has pre-booked 50 rooms at the 4\* Michelangelo ([www.starhotels.com](http://www.starhotels.com)) as the hotel is hosting the meeting, located close to St Peter's Square and offers a discounted rate. These rooms are available through the Society; if bookings exceed 50 rooms and if you confirm your intentions soon, it will be possible to acquire further rooms.

There are numerous hotels close by, as the internet hotel agents offer a wide selection of alternatives at competitive rates, the Society has not pre-booked alternatives.

To make our management of the booking process easier, I'd be most grateful if you could specify whether you wish to share with another member or partner, and whether you would be prepared to discuss sharing with another member should demand for rooms be high (there would be no obligation to do so). In the interests of fairness, hotel rooms will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

The society has reserved 50 rooms from Wednesday to Saturday night, inclusive with a few rooms also pre-booked for the Tuesday. Any additional accommodation required should be arranged independently with the hotel, quoting the SASWR meeting, by emailing Ms Antonella Olivieri ([a.olivieri@local.starhotels.it](mailto:a.olivieri@local.starhotels.it)) Reservations Manager, Starhotels Michelangelo, Via della Stazione di S. Pietro, 14 00165 Roma (Telephone:+39 06 398739).

## **Social and Academic Programmes**

### Guided tour of the Coliseum and Forum

#### **Wednesday morning**

This tour is for the early arrivals. It will take in a cradle of modern civilization and is one of the most memorable tours the Hon Sec has experienced. The cost is to cover the tour guide who will escort and inform you about the Coliseum and Forum. The tour leaves the hotel by taxi (9.00a.m) and entry is free to members aged over 65, less experienced members will have to pay 12 Euros as a separate cost. Members afterwards are free to walk to other sights, eat etc.

### Guided tour of Villa D'Este and gardens, Tivoli followed by the Society's lunch

#### **Thursday morning and afternoon**

This is the main social event of the meeting with nearly all the delegates, members and partners expected to attend. We will visit the Renaissance Villa d'Este built in the 1550s for Cardinal Ippolito d'Este, the son of Lucretia Borgia, and it has lavishly frescoed reception rooms and a breathtaking garden. The Villa d'Este's gardens are composed almost exclusively of water features and include 'Fountain of the Dragons', 'Hundred Fountains' and the centerpiece, the gigantic Water Organ Fountain.

Entry to the villa is free to attendees aged over 65, again, less experienced members will have to pay 12 Euros as a separate cost.

Lunch will be a relaxed and enjoyable affair in a local restaurant with views across Tivoli before returning to the hotel late afternoon for a gentle rest before the President's reception.

### President's Reception Cruise on the River Tiber

#### **Thursday evening (20.30-23.00)**

The President invites you to an evening cruise embarking opposite the Castel S. Angelo before cruising along the Tiber, taking in the many sights. Boarding is at 8.40, returning at 11.00 with a buffet and refreshments to ease our conversations. A coach will be arranged to convey members between the conference hotel and boat.

### Ostia Antica (Social programme)

#### **Friday morning**

The archeological excavations at Ancient Ostia will allow the experience of living in ancient Rome, strolling among bars, thermal baths, public toilets, laundries and temples of 2000 years ago. The visit will last about 2 ½ hours, leaving the hotel at 9.00 by coach. Entry is free to attendees aged over 65, again, less experienced members will have to pay 7 Euros as a separate cost. Lunch is available within the site at a splendid café; this choice will minimize the time lost should the party travel to a local restaurant and allows the guests to return to Rome and the shops....

### The Gala Dinner at "L'ARCILIUTO"

#### **Friday evening (20.30)**

The dinner is being held in an historical building which reputedly once housed Raphael's studio and is now home to one of the most romantic candlelit spots in Rome. During the dinner there will be musical offerings to include Neapolitan love songs and Italian madrigals. Dress will be lounge suits and both members and their partners are most warmly invited, as are our Italian colleagues. The venue is located close to the Piazza Navona and requires a short walk from where the coach will park.

### Guest Lecture 12.00 Academic Programme

On Saturday morning the academic programme will continue with the scientific lectures finishing at 12.00 with a guest lecturer of interest to all. Partners are welcome to join the meeting for this final session and to take lunch together in the hotel afterwards at 13.00.

### Guided tour of the Vatican and Sistine Chapel

#### **Saturday afternoon**

Although the meeting will have closed many of the delegates and partners may wish to visit the Vatican therefore a further tour is available to visit the Vatican and Sistine Chapel. A guide is essential to avoid the queues by entering via the museum. The tour will start about 3.30 pm but this will be adapted at the time. There is no discount available and everyone is required to have the earphones supplied to enter the Sistine Chapel.

I do look forward to receiving your application to join us on what promises to be an excellent overseas meeting. Please feel free to contact me (cr\_monk@hotmail.com) or our administrator Kate Prys-Roberts (K.Prys-Roberts@bristol.ac.uk) with any questions you may have. Kate can also be telephoned on 0117 342 2103.

Please note the closing date for applications (this is necessary for us to meet our contractual obligations to hotels and other suppliers) of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

Kindest regards

Chris Monk  
Honorary Secretary  
SASWR