

18TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 10TH TO 12TH May 2013 at The Paris Marriott Rive Gauche Hotel , Paris

A New Year, a new conference venue! We have decided to take conference abroad for the first time ever – and this year we are taking it to Paris! The venue will be The Paris Marriott Rive Gauche Hotel, situated by the Latin Quarter and Saint-Germain-des-Près (www.marriott.co.uk). You will find both the Booking Form and the draft Business Programme attached. I have once again managed to arrange excellent rates for all of you so that you can have peace of mind when booking. This year, we are offering you a package to include your accommodation for two nights, your delegate fee and all your food. Also included in this package is your lunch on Sunday. I would strongly advise you to book early, as you will need to book your travelling arrangements to Paris. There are extremely good offers available on both Eurostar and flights if you make your booking well in advance of your travel dates. Orly airport is just 30 minutes away from the hotel.

The closing date for bookings for the conference is 5th March 2013 and we expect the conference to be extremely popular, so please send your booking forms in as soon as possible and do not miss the deadline. As always we have a fantastic Business Programme. Also this year, we have arranged a coach and boat trip down the River Seine on Friday evening costing just £25.00 per head. The coach will leave the hotel at 8.00pm and will return by 11.00 pm. It will be a wonderful and romantic trip as Paris is beautiful by night, so please ensure you make it clear on your booking form if you want to join us for this. The hotel has an amazing and fully-equipped gym and spa treatments can also be arranged – in true Parisian style and luxury, you can even book a spa treatment to take place in the comfort of your own room! And to inspire the chef in you, the hotel also has a 'learn to cook shop' where you can book to take a lesson and cook your own French cuisine or just learn a thing or two from the experts!

Paris is an amazing and romantic city, with many things to do, whether your interest is art, history, architecture, shopping or just sitting in a café and watching the world go by! I am sure both you and your families will thoroughly enjoy this weekend break. If you would like to extend your break and stay for an additional night in the hotel on Sunday, leaving on Monday 13th May, you may also book this at the discounted room rates. So please let me know in advance should you wish to do so.

As always, we shall be having our Annual Gala Dinner on Saturday evening. The dress code will be black tie for gentlemen and black, or black and white (with, of course, lots of sparkle) for the ladies. This year, as we are in Paris, the home of luxury and glamour, we have decided to have a theme of "Masquerade ", so please feel free to express your mysterious side by wearing a mask to the ball!

It would also assist if, when booking for both yourself and a guest to attend the Annual Gala Dinner, you could indicate on your booking form the name of each individual person next to their particular food option, as this will greatly assist both ourselves and the hotel in ensuring that the evening meal service proceeds smoothly and efficiently. "

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or send me an email. My details appear on the booking form.

I hope to see as many of you attending this conference as possible. After all, the conference each year is only a success due to your continued support.

Sushila Abraham

SPG Executive Committee and Conference Organiser