Sarah Macfarlane

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SCEN Summit and For Your Diaries!

Dear Network Members,

As you recover from online shopping and see all the events ahead, before you can collapse for a break, we must do two things: rejoice in our glorious Fourth China Youth Summit, and mark our diaries (electronically in Bold, paper in Black Ink) for 2016!

THE FOURTH SCEN CHINA YOUTH SUMMIT WITH SCIBC AT HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY

What a magnificent event! You can imagine how much I hated not being able to be there myself. But I had a constant flow of online communications and afterwards brilliant Chair Simon Macaulay and senior SCEN team member Morag Anderson came round to take me through every single item! There were 380 delegates, 6 universities represented, nearly 40 schools from all over Scotland: Aberdeen, Glasgow, Fife, Argyll, Falkirk, Midlothian, Moray, Perthshire, East Renfrewshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, Edinburgh ... and Hong Kong. Now we have Simon Jones's excellent pictures too: so do see yourself online at:

<u>www.scen.info</u>

Great thanks and congratulations to our marvellous Guests of Honour, piped in by the super SCEN Piper Aaron Hossein from Oban High School. It was so good to have contributions from leaders like Mr Pan Xinchun, Chinese Consul General, Graeme Pearson MSP, Convener of the Cross Party Group on China at the Scottish Parliament, and Nigel Fong, Founder Director of the Hong Kong Scotland Education Connection and Director of Swiss-Sure HK. Professor Gill Hogg, Deputy Principal (External Relations) emphasised our wonderful partnership with the Scottish Confucius Institute for Business and Communication at Heriot-Watt University. The teams at Heriot-Watt who supported the event were absolutely magnificent: nothing was too much trouble. We owe them an great debt of gratitude.

Simon was ably supported by Stuart Main, leading member of the SCEN Youth Committee. Stuart's former Depute Rector from Queen Anne High School Dunfermline (whose Scottish and Chinese music-making was terrific), Peter Billington, described the event as follows:

I would echo Simon's summation: it was an excellent Summit and it was very encouraging to hear the amount of Mandarin being spoken by pupils from every school represented - a major difference from several years ago. It was also very good to hear from former pupils who had moved on and were able to reflect on how the learning of Mandarin had opened doors and enhanced opportunities in many and varied ways. I thought the pieces from

the two Mums were so heartening from two very different perspectives: quite refreshing to hear these views, thoughts and ideas!

We must bear in mind that the Fifth SCEN China Youth Summit 2016, on Friday 2 December, will also celebrate SCEN's Tenth Anniversary! So, now for those diaries:

SCEN Dates for 2016 SCEN's Tenth Anniversary Year!	
Wednesday 20 January 2016 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm Scottish Parliament	Cross Party Group on China Presentations from the Scotland China Association in its 50 th Anniversary Year and on China Direct Flights Wine Reception to Follow!
Friday 22 January 2016 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm Confucius Institute for Scotland	Meeting of Chinese Teaching Club
Monday 25 January 2016 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm 12A Ravelston Park	SCEN Youth Committee
Tuesday 2 February 2016 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm Confucius Institute for Scotland	Meeting of the Languages Think Tank
Monday 22 February 2016 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm The New Club, Edinburgh	Meeting of the Asia Connections Network
Tuesday 8 March 2016 6.00 – 7.30 pm Scottish Parliament	Meeting of the Cross Party Group on China Wine Reception to Follow: last meeting chaired by Convener Graeme Pearson MSP
Friday 11 - Saturday 12 March 2016 SECC Glasgow	Language Show Live Event SCEN Stand with Ambassadors!
Sunday 24 April 2016 – Friday 29 April 2016	Visit of Hong Kong Principals to Scotland as part of Hong Kong Scotland School Improvement Partnership, led by Archie McGlynn Big SCEN Event to be included: Programme to follow!
Friday 17 June June 2016 Lasswade High School, Midlothian	SCEN Network and Ambassadors' Meetings Details to follow!
June 2016 Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh	Learning of Chinese Celebration Details to follow!
Friday 2 October 2016 Glenalmond College, Perthshire	SCEN Events at Glenalmond College Meetings of Advisory Board and SCEN Ambassadors: to be discussed
Friday 2 December 2016	Fifth SCEN China Youth Summit A big occasion for SCEN's Tenth Anniversary! Details to follow.
To be arranged	China Day at Dunoon Grammar School

AN ONLINE LINK WITH A SCHOOL IN WUHAN

Mr Jiang Bai Chu is a teacher of English in Wuhan. He is keen to establish an online link for approximately 50 S1 students. Ideally, Mr Jiang would like to pair up each of his students with a Scottish student interested in learning Chinese and about China. Do contact him if you are interested:

<u>jbc3912@126.com</u>

SCOTLAND CHINA ASSOCIATION COMPETITION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

THE SCOTLAND-CHINA ASSOCIATION PRIMARY SCHOOLS ART COMPETITION 2016 incorporating

THE TOM MURRAY MEMORIAL PRIZE

The aim of this competition is to stimulate interest in Chinese culture amongst primary schoolchildren in Scotland. Children are encouraged to explore Chinese culture and to enjoy expressing what they learn

The subject of the 2016 competition is :

CELEBRATING FIFTY IN THE YEAR OF THE MONKEY

<u>http://www.scotchina.org/index.php/tmmt/300-sca-schools-competition-</u> 2016

THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOR SCOTLAND (RZSS) AND THE CHINA MOBILE LIBRARY

Sandie Robb, Senior Education Officer at RZSS, writes that since August 2015, when the new China Mobile Library was launched, the *Beyond the Panda Programme* has engaged with **1730 pupils** and **162 adults** from **29 different schools and** *groups.* Sandie has visited Aberdeen, South Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, Fife, Falkirk, Bo'ness and 12 Edinburgh schools. She says that the feedback has been excellent:

After doing the Panda Box activities with the three classes, I can really see the positive impact that it had on the children's learning. All three classes were engaged and enthusiastic throughout the activities. When speaking with the children after they had completed the tasks, they could tell me lots of things that they had learned. Thank you for letting us use the wonderful resources and thank you for the great workshops! Teacher from St Peter's Primary School, Aberdeen

Sandy is partnering with the Confucius Institute for Scotland at the University of Edinburgh and keeping her close links with CISS. The RZSS development team are trying to find funding for a China Mobile Library vehicle: she is always looking for additional funds to help to upgrade these excellent resources!

Happy Christmas, everyone, and Happy 2016! You will need the break. The Year of the Monkey beckons. Chinahighlights.com tells us that people born in a year of the Monkey are witty, intelligent, and have a magnetic personality. Just like Network Members!

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE FURTHER UPDATES FROM SCEN, PLEASE LET ME KNOW BY REPLYING TO THIS EMAIL.

Very best wishes, Judith

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