

Sarah Macfarlane

From: Dr Judith McClure <chair=icloud.com@mail132.atl121.mcsv.net> on behalf of Dr Judith McClure <chair@icloud.com>
Sent: 10 April 2016 18:13
To: Sarah Macfarlane
Subject: SCEN Letter April 2016

Dear Member of the SCEN Network,

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I hope you have managed to have a Spring break and that you are feeling rejuvenated! Over the last months I have been thrilled to see your responses to SCEN as a newly-incorporated charity. In our tenth anniversary year, I believe we all have a determination to continue and develop our mission to promote the teaching and learning of Chinese and about China at all levels in Scotland.

SCEN TRUSTEES AND AMBASSADORS

The Trustees of SCEN have met for the first time and the fruits of our discussions are already emerging. Rosemary Mitchell is proving a tremendous Convener of SCEN Ambassadors and led the team of SCEN Ambassadors at the Language Show Live in Glasgow with great energy and success, accompanied not only by her husband Colin but also by the Giant Panda, which represents Lasswade High School's decade-long China connection. Heartfelt thanks to all who were so welcoming and informative at the SCEN stand and attracted so much interest. The Trustees have decided we shall do the same next year.

Rosemary and the group of SCEN Founder Ambassadors are looking to develop the role of SCEN Ambassadors, including those who belong to the Youth Committee convened by Stuart Main and our superb International Ambassadors. More soon on this crucial topic.

The Hong Kong Scotland School Improvement Partnership (HSKKIP)

SCEN is supporting a wonderful new initiative: the Hong Kong Scotland School Improvement Partnership, Founder Director Archie McGlynn, the former HM Chief Inspector of Schools and Founder Director of the Hong Kong Schools Self-Evaluation Network. Our Hong Kong partners are visiting us in the last week of April and we have a most interesting programme. We hope that this will give many opportunities of further educational and cultural links between Hong Kong and Scotland. Here are the partner schools:

James Gillespie's High School, Edinburgh (Head Teacher Donald MacDonald), partnered with Law Ting Pong Secondary School (Principal Lancy Tam)

The Edinburgh Academy Senior School (Senior Deputy Rector, Debbie Birrell), partnered with Tsung Tsin Christian Academy – the two schools have already made a successful start to a partnership through Debbie's visit to Hong Kong earlier this year (Principal Jenny Kwok)

The Edinburgh Academy Junior School, partnered with Tsung Tsin Primary School and Kindergarten (Principal Dr Cindy Tam)

George Watson's College, Edinburgh (Principal: Melvyn Roffe; Head of Senior School: Heather Wilson), partnered with Creative Secondary School (Principal Cheung, Siu Ming)

Loretto Roman Catholic Primary School, Musselburgh (Head Teacher Margaret Anne McBean), partnered with Sham Tseng Catholic Primary School (Principal Lourdes Yu)

The Royal High School, Edinburgh (Rector, Pauline Walker), partnered with Yuen Yuen No 1 Secondary School (Principal Florence Man)

Boroughmuir High School, Edinburgh (Head Teacher, David Dempster),

partnered with Kwok Yat Wai College (Principal Ivan Ho)

SCEN and the Teaching of Mandarin

Simon Macaulay continues his excellent leadership of the very collaborative SCEN Learning of Chinese Programme, now in its third year. Fiona Pate HMI will be producing a new evaluative report and Seok Hui Ooi of the University of Edinburgh will be conducting a further research project on behalf of the *Bilingualism Matters* Centre at the University of Edinburgh. Simon will tell us more next time.

The Chinese Teaching Club is meeting at Fettes College on Friday 20 May. If you would like to hear more, please let me know and I shall put you in touch with the Co-Conveners, Zhu Zhu and Lynnette Martin.

SCEN AT LASSWADE HIGH SCHOOL, 17 JUNE 2016

There will be a meeting of the SCEN Advisory Council on Friday 17 June at Lasswade High School, Bonnyrigg, Midlothian. SCEN Ambassadors and Network Members will be invited for a sandwich lunch and an afternoon meeting. I shall be sending more details soon, but if you want to make an early booking as an individual or as a group leader, just email me.

Thursday 9 June 2016: *Zheng He-When the Dragon Ships Came*

Central Hall, West Tollcross, Edinburgh, EH3 9BP

The Confucius Institute for Scotland in the University of Edinburgh, in association with SCEN, is delighted to present this award winning show, blending puppetry, video and animation. The hour-long show tells the tale of the fantastic journeys of the famous Chinese explorer, Zheng He, whose voyages took him from Indonesia, India and the Arabian coast to Africa- almost 100 years before Christopher Columbus set off to America.

His Chinese fleet of more than 300 enormous “dragon ships” proclaimed the power of the Chinese Emperor. While every child in China knows the story of Zheng He’s travels (as does the Arab-speaking world, where he is known as Sinbad the sailor) in Europe his adventures remain largely unknown.

Karin Schäfer of Figuren Theatre tells the story of this great Chinese explorer as encounters with some of those he met on his journey – a scholar from Arabia, an African fisherwoman and a businesswoman from Siam (Thailand).

Winner of the Austrian Children and Youth Theatre Award STELLA 2011 this production has won many plaudits for its innovative set design, which features interaction between the video and the action on stage. The animated films, video clips, shadow images and masks form a poetic space which develops the narrative on a visual level, while the multi-lingual audio and musical score ensure that audience members are fully engaged by the production.

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Venue Website [www.centralvenues.org](http://www.centralvenues.org) Video Extract of Production

[www.figuretheater.at/english/zheng\\_he\\_videoclip.html](http://www.figuretheater.at/english/zheng_he_videoclip.html)

SCEN [www.scen.info](http://www.scen.info)

Confucius Institute for Scotland [www.confuciusinstitute.ac.uk](http://www.confuciusinstitute.ac.uk)

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We invite your school to make a provisional block booking for up to 40 students and staff for this FREE event on Thursday 9 June 2016, Central Hall, Tollcross, Edinburgh 1pm-2pm.

Please email info@confuciusinstitute.ac.uk with the subject line **Zheng He. We will then send you a registration form for your completion and return**

There is certainly much going on! I hope to see you at SCEN events soon.

Warmest wishes,

Judith

Dr Judith McClure CBE

Chair of SCEN



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