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Season's greetings from Nigel

I read somewhere that 'reflection on what you are doing, why you're doing it and what the consequences are is vital if you are going to learn and take advantage of your life experiences.' I'd be inclined to agree. And so the period of reflection at the end of the year is like gold for all of us.

You might think about what worked well for you in 2011 and a bit about what didn't. You might reflect on your goals and aspirations for 2012 – for you, your family and friends, and your Scouting – what will make a difference to those around you?

Have a happy Christmas and a fantastic 2012

New ShelterBox resources

The ShelterBox Go Global packs are now available online, crammed with activity ideas and supporting resources to make exploring the Global Zone fun and easy. You can download each section's pack from the Young ShelterBox website: youngshelterbox.org/global.php.

Globe Trekker

Launched earlier this year, the database of trip reports has grown rapidly, but we want more! Please continue encouraging leaders to add their travel reports and share their experiences with others at scouts.org.uk/globetrekker.

Help us continue developing and improving Globe Trekker by completing [this short survey](#).

International Day feedback

Thank you to everyone who completed the International Day feedback form; it was great to hear so many of you found the day useful and worthwhile. We are reviewing the feedback and will have more information about the future of this meeting in January.

Scouting ambassadors

Our ambassadors are looking for ways to engage with local Scouting, and supporting an international experience could be a great way to promote the work you do. Tell us about a trip in 2012 a Scouting ambassador could support and send us the organiser's contact details.

Fundraising for international trips

Richard Hirst (ACCI Cumbria) has some fundraising questions. How does your County assist those planning international trips? Do they give funds? Do they find sponsors? Please email him at skiphirst@hotmail.com.



Events

- Roverway: 20-28 July 2012
- BrumJam: 28 July – 4 August 2012
- Essex International Jamboree: 18-25 August 2012
- 14th World Scout Moot: 8-18 August 2013

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Serbia centenary

As part of the centenary of Scouting celebrations in Serbia, four members of the South East Europe Network (SEENet) Active Support Unit went to a celebration in Belgrade earlier this month.

The event was a great success and enabled the people from SEENet to make contact with some of the leadership teams from within the wider area and find out their plans for events in 2012 to 2014. Photos from the event can be found [here](#).

Bookbridge

In the summer, UK Scouts started a nationwide campaign to collect children's books for Bookbridge, to establish teaching libraries in Cambodia. The campaign was a huge success, so thank you to all who took part. You can read more on the World Scouting website [here](#).

JOTI 2011 UK event report

You can now download the [UK event report](#) from Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) 2011. In total 203 Scout Groups and 245 individuals registered to take part in JOTI, an increase of almost three times from 2010. To find out more about what JOTI and JOTA are about visit jotajoti.org.

Commonwealth Youth Forum

In April 2012 we are holding a Commonwealth Youth Forum at Gilwell Park. Two young people from each Commonwealth country are being invited to attend. In the new year a letter will be sent out looking for the two representatives for the UK, who should be Queen Scout Award holders and eligible to attend Windsor this year. Please encourage any good candidates to apply.

British Scouting Overseas

We are delighted to announce Peter Dawes as the new Area Commissioner for BSO. Many of you will know Peter as the existing Area Commissioner for British Groups Abroad and previously he was District Commissioner in Horsham West. We wish him well in his new role.

Branches update

Daisy and Nigel have been calling the Branch Chief Commissioners. They are in good spirits, working on development programmes for 2012 and looking to increase their numbers. Like the rest of us they find it difficult to attract leaders, and with small numbers providing proper training it is sometimes tricky.

We are working with them on ways to deliver this locally. We've heard about kite flying days, visits to police stations, plans for anniversaries, opening new Groups in schools and Scout bands. They send best wishes.

International Camps Day – cancelled

Due to lack of interest, we have now cancelled the day planned for 4 February 2012. Those who expressed an interest in attending should have received an email from us earlier this week.

