The theme we have chosen for National Non-Fiction November (NNFN) for this special 50th Anniversary Year is 'Food and Festivals Around the World'. The global perspective and the focus on food links directly with the theme for National Share a Story Month, which will be celebrating a world of stories, looking at food in stories and exploring the basic 'ingredients' required for a good story. Stories feed our imagination and our need for telling and listening to stories is a basic element of being human, regardless of where we come from or live, and contributes to our sense of belonging and well-being.

Food is also a necessary requirement: for keeping healthy, and in the case of children, for growing and developing. It is also associated with celebrations and festivals around the world. Young people enjoy having the opportunity to grow their own food and to learn how to prepare food and cook for themselves, and we hope that one of the outcomes of NNFN will be the creation of some fabulous recipe books to share. We also hope that the theme will provide an opportunity for children to explore the everyday food enjoyed at home and by different cultures, in addition to finding out about the special foods associated with the festivals of the major religions.

It is always the aim of NNFN to highlight some of the best non-fiction titles currently available and celebrate the enjoyment of reading information for personal interest and pleasure. We are looking forward to discovering books about healthy eating, growing, making and preparing food and the food associated with different cultures and religions which will feed our young readers’ natural appetite for knowledge!

Chris Routh NNFN co-ordinator