



AGM report

28 October 2015
Jenny Carr, SRF chairperson



THE TIMES
UK News

News | Opinion | Business | Money | Sport | Life | Arts | Puzzles | Papers | Irish news

Britain has frozen us out, says Russian envoy



Political dialogue between Russia and Britain has gone and “the only sphere we have left is culture”, Russia’s ambassador to London has told The Times.

Alexander Yakovenko said that diplomatic relations had sunk to new lows over the Syria and Ukraine conflicts after having “bit by bit fallen into decline” in recent years

.....
Times, 26 October 2015



What is the SRF and what is it trying to do?

- ❖ Educational charity
- ❖ Tries to promote understanding of all the countries of the FSU
- ❖ Broad range of interests

“the respective ways of life, history, heritage and the cultural and commercial activities and voluntary services of the said countries and through the creation of educational contacts of all kinds between the peoples of these educational contacts of all kinds between the peoples of these countries”
Constitution 3.2
- ❖ Independent
- ❖ Voluntary



SRF events 2014-15

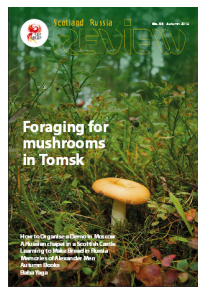


- ❖ Sept 2014: Lermontov Exhibition and Reception, Scottish Parliament
- ❖ Oct 2014: Business roundtable
- ❖ Jan 2015: Roundtable on the Russian economy
- ❖ March 2015: talk by Peter Pomerantsev on the Russian media
- ❖ All year: monthly “Chai n Chat” meetings + summer outing
- ❖ 2015-6 so far: *David MacFadyen on Russian Popular Music, Student party, Natalia Maeva poetry recital (2 Nov), Warwick Ball on Eurasian history (19 Nov).*

The Scotland Russia Review



Feb 2015



Sept 2015

- ❖ 500 copies are distributed, to members and others
- ❖ The Review is also available online on www.scotlandrussiaforum.org/publications.html. The Feb 2015 issue was downloaded 1532 times Feb–Sept.

Library



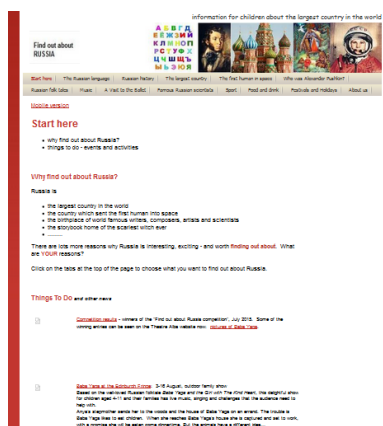
- ❖ Reorganised
- ❖ Catalogue updated
- ❖ Open for business

Schools project

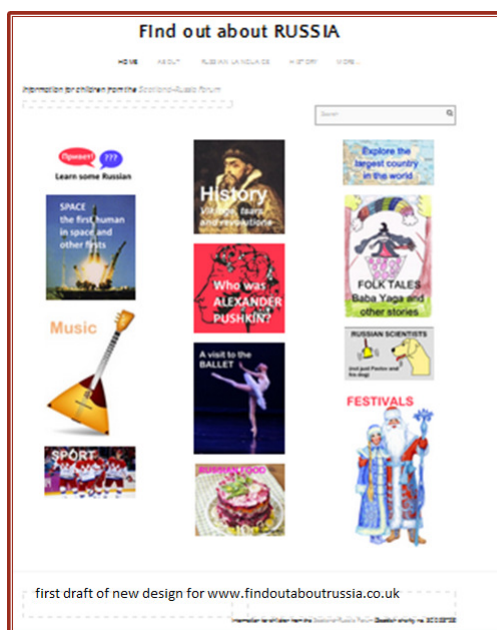


- ❖ Launched www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk
- ❖ Competition
- ❖ Exhibition
- ❖ School visits

- ❖ *Plans for 2015-16: more school visits, relaunch and improve [the website](#), design other materials for schools*



www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk



first draft of new design for www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk

Russian classes



2014-5:

- ❖ classes continued , mainly intermediate and advanced, numbers overall were lower than in the past and many classes run in tutors' homes
- ❖ Student feedback good

2015-16:

- ❖ launched the year with an Open Day and more publicity so now have a strong beginners' class in addition to the other levels
- ❖ Most classes this year will be in Summerhall

Information



Our main activity, mainly online

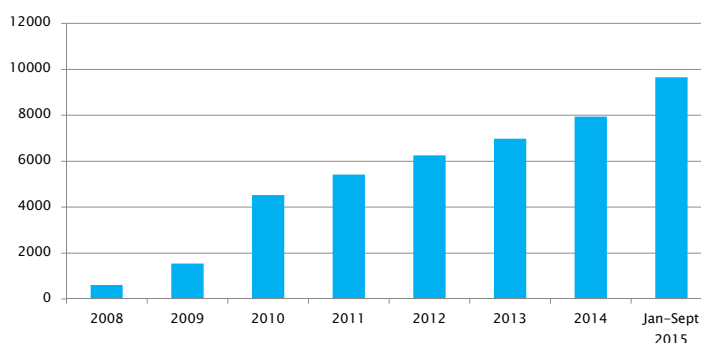
- ❖ Monthly email bulletin
- ❖ Website www.scotlandrussiaforum.org
- ❖ Facebook "The Scotland–Russia Forum"
- ❖ Twitter @ScotRussiaForum
- ❖ (... and everything else we do)

Benchmarking – social networks

Related organisations	Facebook “likes”		Twitter followers	
	Dec 2014	Oct 2015	Dec 2014	Oct 2015
Academia Rossica	10286	10370	1798	1765
Rossotrudnichestvo UK	3935	5085	14	3025
Pushkin House	2682	3925	1696	2439
AUGB	2523	3324	732	841
Russian Art & Culture	1134	1863	2198	5796
SRF	756	835	378	470
Dashkova Centre	462	557	190	349
SCRSS	171	293	0	0
Westminster Russia Forum	191	248	925	1043
RCS Haven	114	138	23	34
GB-Russia Soc	29	113	10	12

Websites and e-bulletin

www.scotlandrussiaforum.org : av. visits/ month



www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk:
average 2000 visits March–Sept 2015

E-bulletin: 1145 addressees, Oct 2015

English language assistants



We recruit English language assistants for a number of Russian universities.

Work closely with Scottish university Russian depts and last year had more applicants than ever before.

Placements are few most years but closer relations with the Russian universities should improve the situation.

Plans for 2016

- ❖ New constitution
- ❖ Redesign of both websites
- ❖ New Russian writing – work with Glas
- ❖ Talks and exhibition(s)?
- ❖ Stand at the Language Show in Glasgow
- ❖ Visit more schools



The screenshot displays the website for the Scotland-Russia Forum (SRF) and its partnership with Glas. The header features the SRF logo (a stylized phoenix) and the text "The Scotland-Russia Forum" and "Форум Шотландия-Россия". A navigation menu on the left lists various sections, with "New Russian Writing" highlighted. The main content area is titled "New Russian Writing" and "A SRF-Glas partnership", accompanied by the logos for SRF and Glas Moscow. Below this, it says "More information to follow!" and provides the URL www.scotlandrussiaforum.org/newwriting.html.



A collage of images illustrating various projects and activities. At the top left, there are colorful 3D letters spelling "EVENTS". Below this is a sign that says "New projects". In the center, there is a book cover titled "Foraging for mushrooms in Tomsk" with a picture of mushrooms. To the right is a photograph of a library. Below the book cover is the SRF logo. To the right of the logo is a colorful drawing of a person in a basket. At the bottom left, there is a whiteboard with "ENGLISH" written on it. In the center bottom, there is a globe and the letters "WWW". At the bottom right, there is a photograph of a person writing on a whiteboard.

Thanks to:

- ❖ Officers and committee
- ❖ Members
- ❖ Supporters, moral and financial
- ❖ SRF Review team
- ❖ Чай н Чат organisers
- ❖ Language tutors
- ❖ Collaborators
- ❖ Volunteers
- ❖ Russian and Ukrainian Consulates
- ❖ And others!

