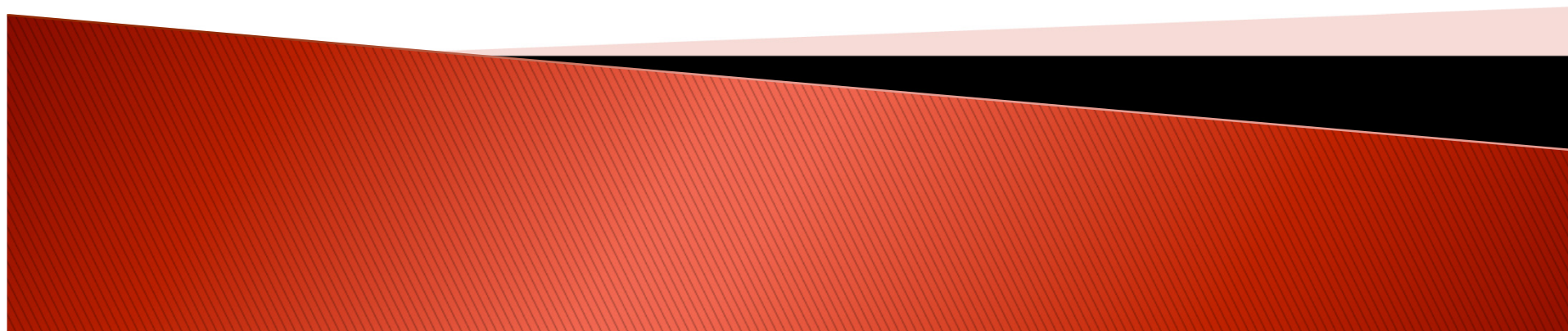




# Scotland–Russia Forum AGM report 2016–17

16 March 2018

Jenny Carr, SRF chairperson





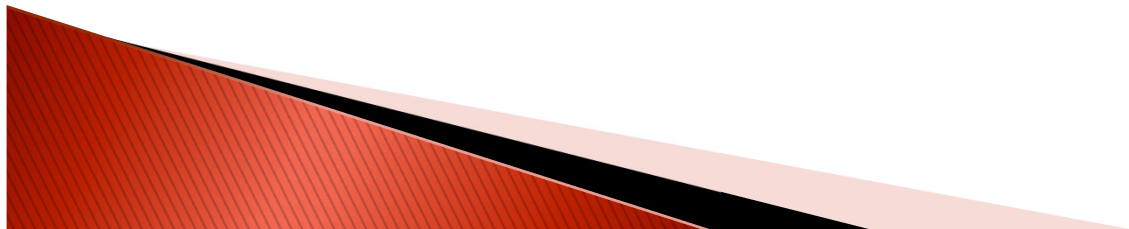
# Trustees report 2016-17

1. Objectives and activities
2. Achievements and Performance
3. Financial Review
4. Structure and Governance



Burning issues

for 2018 and beyond



# Trustees report

## 1. objectives and activities

### ➤ Objectives

- i. “to advance education through the promotion of a clear understanding...”
- ii. “creation of cultural contacts”

### ➤ Activities

Lectures, social events, magazine, e-bulletins and social media, schools, ELA programme, language classes and lending library.

### *QUESTIONS*

*-Are the activities relevant to the objectives? What could or should change?*

*-In practice all the objectives are prefaced with “Raise interest in Russia and neighbours and then ...”.*

*What else could we do to raise interest?*

# Trustees report

## 2. achievements and performance

INFORMATION

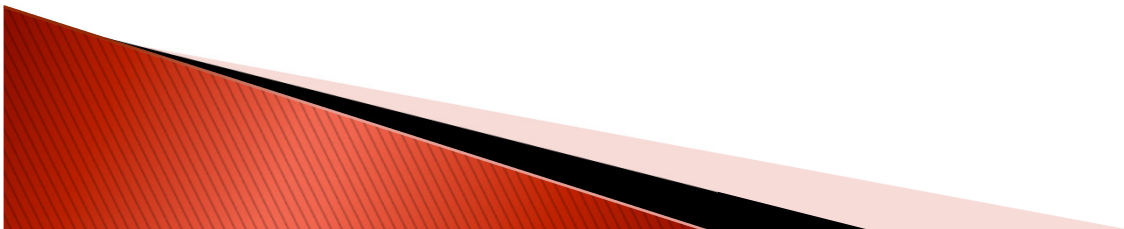
EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS

LIBRARY



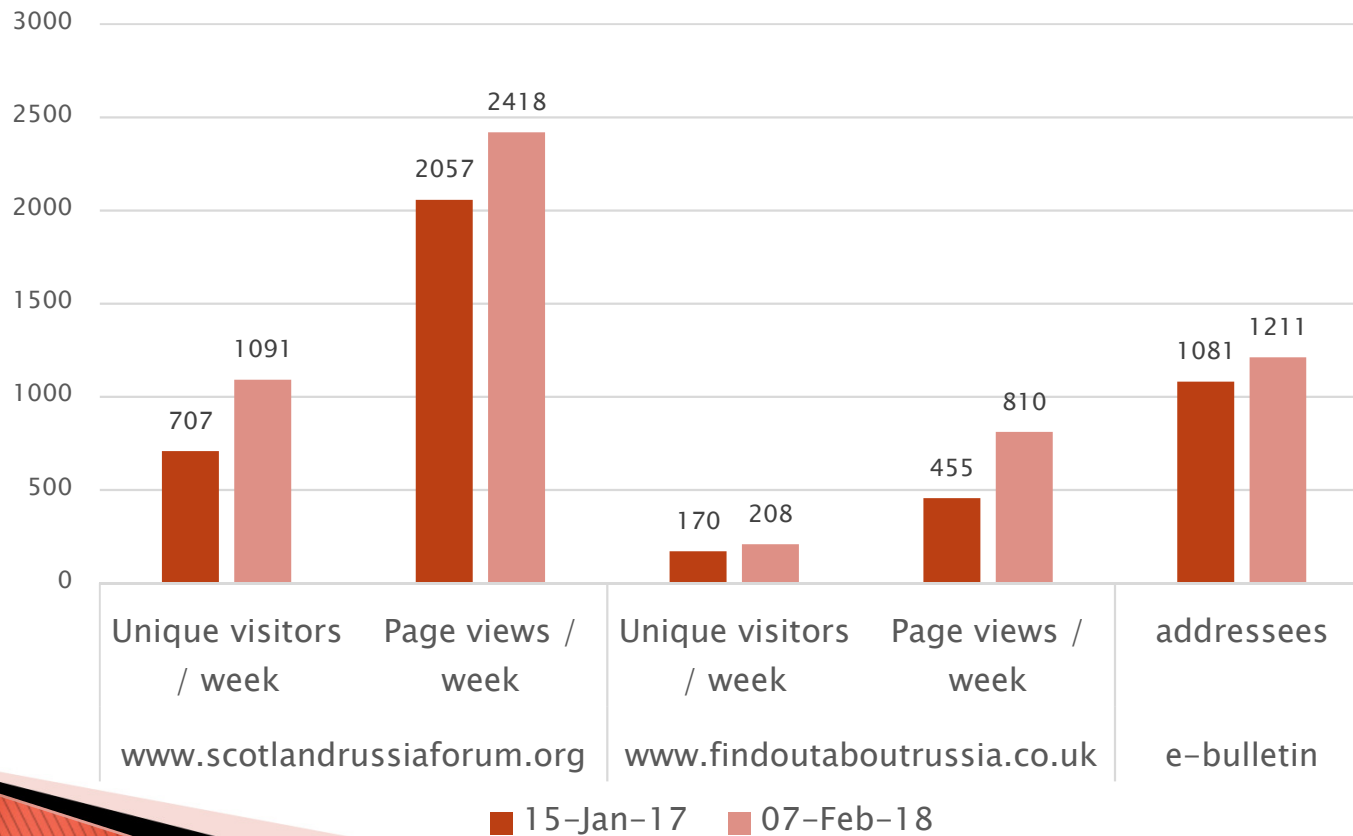


## 2. achievements and performance

### i) Information – websites, bulletin

- INFORMATION
- EVENTS
- MEMBERSHIP
- SOCIAL PROGRAMME
- RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS
- LIBRARY

websites and e-bulletin,  
15 Jan 2017 and 7 Feb 2018



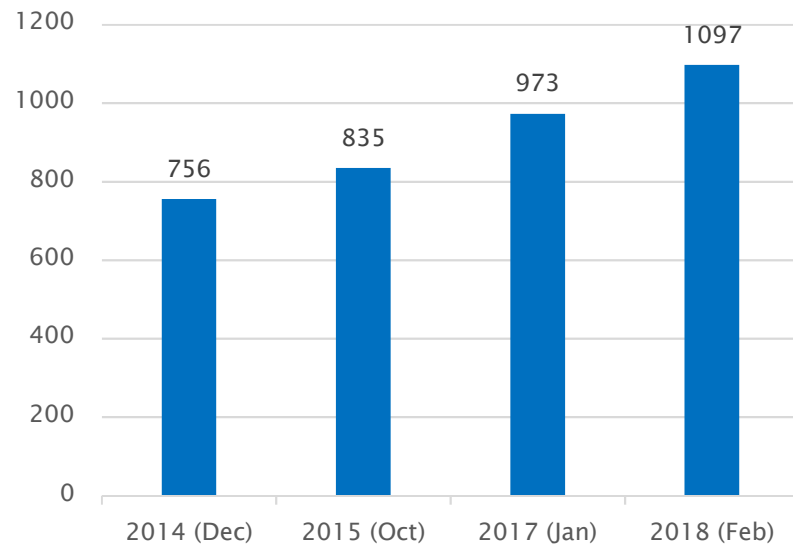
## 2. achievements and performance

### i) Information – social media

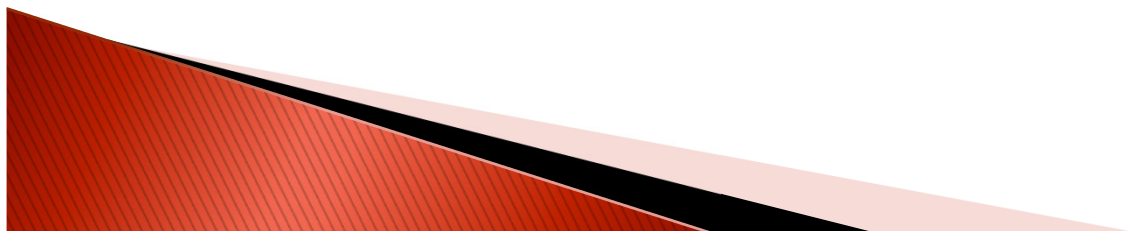
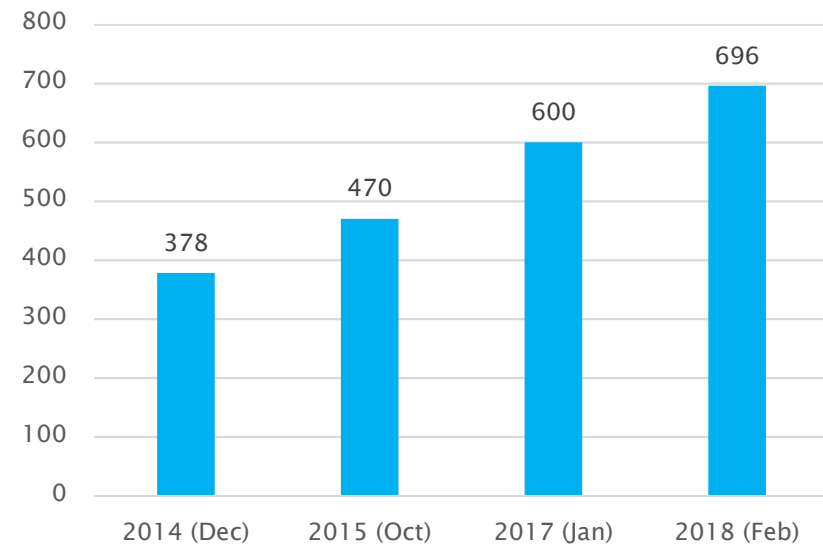
INFORMATION  
EVENTS  
MEMBERSHIP  
SOCIAL PROGRAMME  
RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS  
LIBRARY



Facebook "likes"



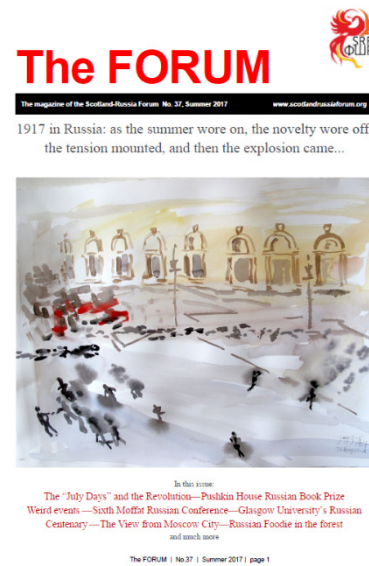
Twitter followers



## 2. achievements and performance

### i) Information – magazine

INFORMATION  
EVENTS  
MEMBERSHIP  
SOCIAL PROGRAMME  
RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS  
LIBRARY





## 2. achievements and performance

### ii) Events 2016–17

INFORMATION  
EVENTS  
MEMBERSHIP  
SOCIAL PROGRAMME  
RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS  
LIBRARY

All year	Chai n Chat met monthly
All year	Russian classes
All year	Monthly news e-bulletins
Sept 2016	New version of <a href="http://www.scotlandrussiaforum.org">www.scotlandrussiaforum.org</a> launched
Nov 2016	SRF stand at SALT teaching conference
Dec 2016	SRF Christmas Party
Jan 2017	SRF stand at SCILT schools events in Dundee, Inverness and Edinburgh
Jan 2017	SRF AGM + presentation by photographer Simon Croft
Jan 2017	Winter issue of the SRF magazine published (36)
Feb 2017	Relaunch of <a href="http://www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk">www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk</a>
Feb 2017	SRF event: Dairmid Gunn “Cold Seas and Warm Friendships – interviews with Arctic Convoy veterans”
Feb 2017	SRF event: Maxim Katz “Oppositional politics in Russia – an insider’s view”
Mar 2017	SRF stand and events at the Language Show, Glasgow
Mar 2017	“Russian in Scottish schools” – talk at the Russian Teachers Group conference, London
Mar 2017	SRF event: “Revolution”, Edinburgh Filmhouse
Mar 2017	SRF event: Robert Brinkley “The current situation in Ukraine”
Mar 2017	SRF Library Open Day

## 2. achievements and performance

### ii) Events 2017–18 so far

INFORMATION  
EVENTS  
MEMBERSHIP  
SOCIAL PROGRAMME  
RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS  
LIBRARY

All year	Chai n Chat meets monthly
All year	Russian classes
All year	Monthly news e-bulletins
Sept 2017	Members' subscriptions due!
Sept 2017	"Look East" workshop for teachers
Sept 2017	Summer issue of the SRF magazine published (37)
Nov 2017	SRF presentation at SALT teaching conference
Nov 2017	SRF event: Angus Roxburgh "Russia: Past and future" (with NLS and Cable)
Nov 2017	SRF supported event – Russian Film Week in Edinburgh (with Un. Of Edinburgh)
Jan 2018	Winter issue of the SRF magazine published (38)
Feb 2018	SRF event: Ian Proud "Business and people to people links with Russia" (with UEBS and Cable)
Feb 2018	SRF AGM

Forthcoming:

8 March: Sheila Sim "Russian gardens"

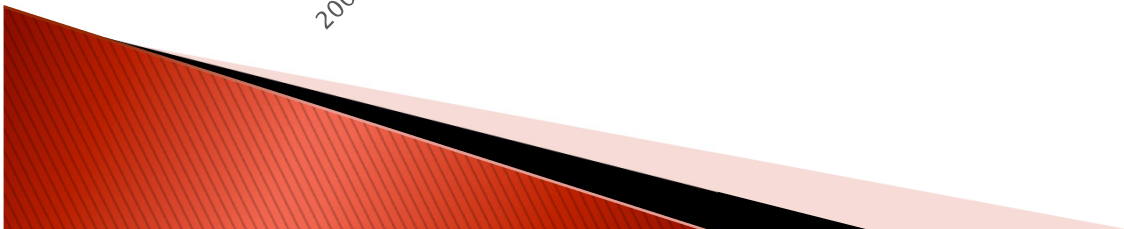
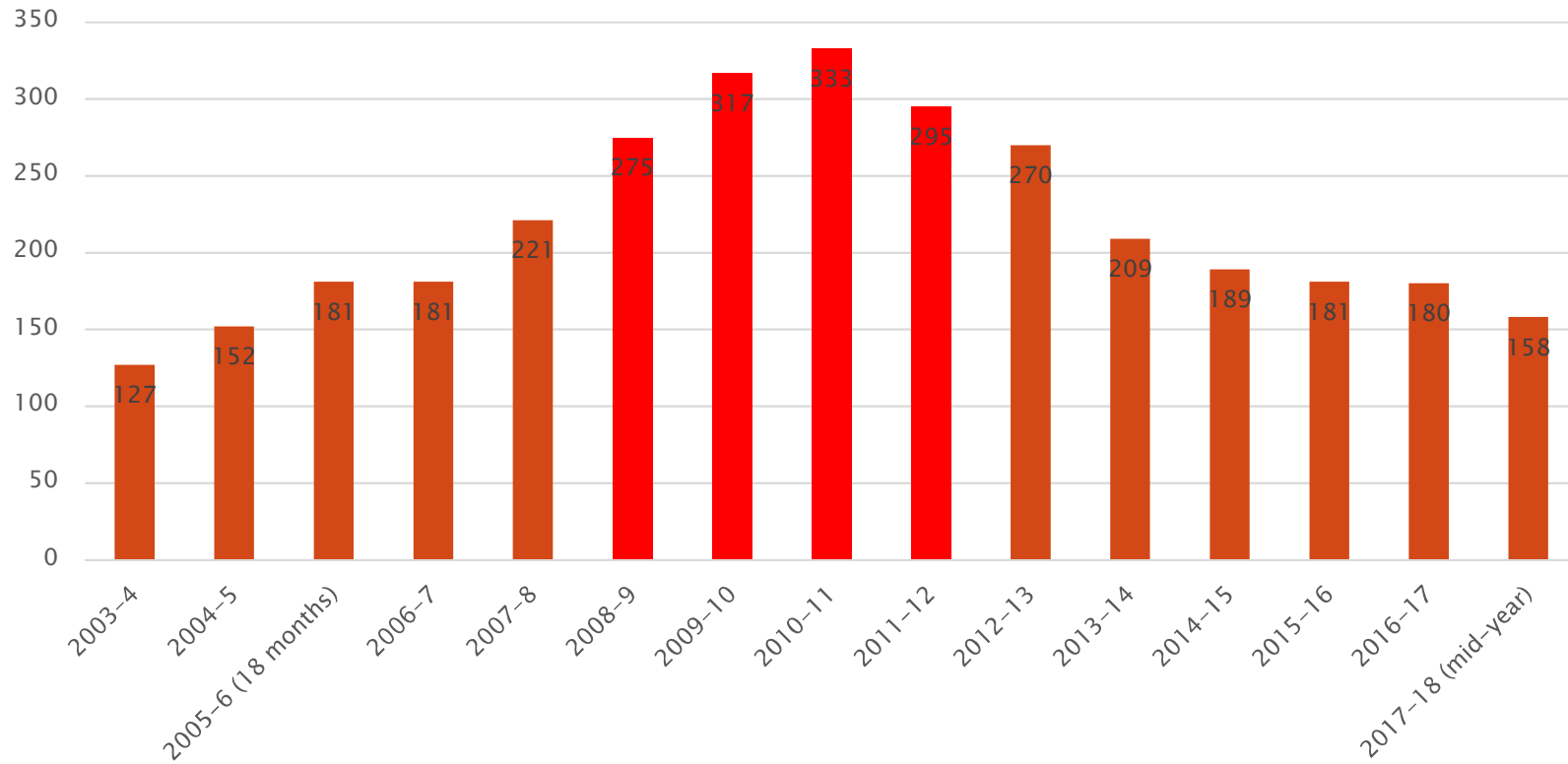
28 March: *Uncle Vanya* at the Cameo

# 2. achievements and performance

## iii) Membership

**INFORMATION**  
EVENTS  
MEMBERSHIP  
SOCIAL PROGRAMME  
RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS  
LIBRARY

SRF membership  
*2008-12 is the period we ran the SRIInstitute*



# Trustees report

## 2. achievements and performance



*Q Where do you DISagree with our assessments??*

INFORMATION

EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

RUSSIAN IN SCHOOLS

LIBRARY

- growing and ?popular
- varied, good attendance
- stable at 180
- small but stable
- lots of work, some success, uphill
- excellent resource, unused

# Trustees report

## 3. financial review



Income £4,764

o/w

members £3,495

3 yrs Gift Aid £1,088

Loss -£1,486

Reserves at year end £14,750

Expenditure £6,249

o/w

office £2,461

events £2,164

IT £776

print/stationery £649

*QUESTIONS (answers to the Treasurer later)*

*-Do you think expenditure is in line with our objectives?*

*-What do you think our policy on reserves should be?*



# Trustees report

## 4. structure and governance

- Charity Name The Scotland–Russia Forum SCIO
- Charity Number SC038728
- Trustees 2016–17

Jennifer Carr (chair)

James Patterson (treasurer)

Sheila Sim (secretary)

David Brew

Alexandra Smith

Margaret Tejerizo

Joseph Wake

### *QUESTIONS*

- *Have you ever downloaded the SRF constitution? Or looked at the “About Us” page on the website?*
- *Do you have any questions about any aspects of the structure and governance of the SRF?*



# Burning issues for 2018 and beyond

1. How can we use our existing resources (human and financial) to maximise effective progress on our aims?
  - *What else could we do? Should we give up on anything? How can we economise?*
2. How can we increase those resources?
  - *Fundraising? Membership? Volunteers?*
3. How can we ensure the future of the SRF?
  - *How can we find trustees with time, energy and ideas to keep things going?*
4. Data Protection changes

*info@scotlandrussiaforum.org*  
*0131 560 1486*

# Thanks to

- The SRF's founders: Dairmid Gunn, Meg Luckins and Ian McGowan
- officers and trustees
- members
- other supporters, moral and financial
- Чай н Чат organisers
- magazine contributors
- language tutors
- organisations and individuals who have worked with and supported us this year – incl. SCILT, SALT, the consulate, StageRussia, RFW, RTG, UofG, UofE, Glasgow City Council, Cable, NLS, Cameo, Filmhouse, Summerhall, retweeters, FB sharers, and anyone else I've (inadvertently) left out ...



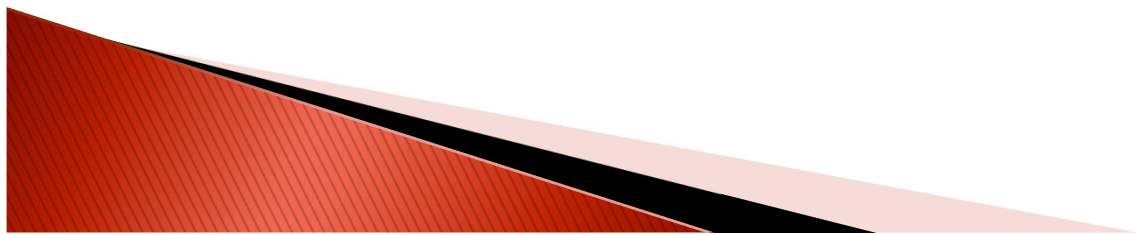
## Statement from the chair of the Scotland–Russia Forum on the recent events in Salisbury. 14 March 2018, Edinburgh

A Russian–manufactured military nerve agent Novichok has been implicated in the attempt to murder UK citizen Sergei Skripal and his daughter, and has also seriously affected a local police officer and endangered many other UK citizens. UK prime minister Theresa May described this as an “unlawful use of force by the Russian state against the United Kingdom”. Nicola Sturgeon called for a “firm response”.

As chair of the Scotland–Russia Forum I deplore the attack and support the government’s position.

The situation strengthens our resolve to continue the SRF’s work as an independent organisation to raise interest and inform Scots about all aspects of Russia. We hope that people to people contacts through culture, commerce, travel and other non–governmental channels will continue since these are of great benefit to mutual understanding.

*Jenny Carr*  
*The Scotland–Russia Forum*  
*Charity no. [SC038728](#)*



# And finally ...

In the latest SRF Bulletin we asked "What should our priorities be for the future?"  
Two replies received so far. Please join the conversation!

What about creating an SRF TRAVEL CLUB?

The aim would be to organise flexible group travel to Russia for its members and perhaps their friends.  
There might be themed visits if there was sufficient enthusiasm.

*.. making more use of the Cameo for THEATRE SCREENINGS.  
... would it be feasible to advertise OCCASIONAL EVENING MEALS*

Send your ideas to:

[info@scotlandrussiaforum.org](mailto:info@scotlandrussiaforum.org) OR Scotland-Russia Forum, Summerhall, Edinburgh EH9 1PL