



Scotland-Russia Forum Bulletin

23 October 2013

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SRF News

Volunteers / Russian in schools: We have recently recruited some excellent volunteers to help with office admin and others keen to offer Russian tasters in schools. If you know of a school, primary or secondary, in or near Edinburgh that might be interested please let us know.

SRF events: We are still looking for events organisers - if you have ideas and can organise events please get in touch. Our only regular event at the moment is the monthly tea club, Chai 'n' Chat (next one is on 31 Oct).

Other events: Please let us know of any events in your area which you would like us to advertise. The addressee list for these bulletins is well over 1000 and we have 600+ followers on Facebook, all interested in Russia and her neighbours.

Events Listings October-December 2013

Russia-related events in Scotland.

For more information on all these events please follow the links below. Updates posted regularly on www.scotlandrussiaforum.org/whatson.html and linked pages.

Church services: Edinburgh Orthodox church of St Andrew, [Easter to Christmas 2013](#); Orthodox Community of St Nicholas, Dunblane. [October-December 2013](#); Russian

Orthodox Church, Sourozh Diocese. [July-August 2013](#); Ukrainian Catholic Church of Our Lady of Pochayiv and St Andrew. 24 Dalmeny Street, Leith, Edinburgh EH6 8RG. [Newsletter Autumn 1013](#). Contact via [Maria Renz](#).

29 May 2013-13 March 2014: Arctic Convoys. Edinburgh Castle. [Exhibitions](#)

21 October-16 December: Three Icon Painting Courses. Edinburgh. [Courses](#).

22 October – 9 November: Crime and Punishment. Edinburgh. [Theatre](#).

25-26 October: Middle and Creative: Emerging Russian Social Groups in Language and Culture. Dashkova Centre, Edinburgh. [Conference](#)

30 October: My Perestroika, a documentary by Robin Hessman. Followed by discussion led by Luke March. Edinburgh. [Film](#)

30 October: Tamara Martsenyuk - Challenges and Opportunities in researching LGBT Families in Ukraine. Glasgow. [Seminar](#)

31 October: Чай н Чат. Edinburgh, [Social](#). [SRF event](#)

31 October: PianoPiano - Dedicated. Incl. music for Valentina Tereshkova. Edinburgh. [Music](#)

8-15 November: Russian films in Edinburgh. Brief details in "Notices / Russian Film Festival" below.

5 December: Charles Hendry MP - Being Energy Minister. Incl impressions of Russia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan etc. Edinburgh. [Business](#)

14 December: The AniMotion Show. Artist Maria Rud with musicians incl. Evelyn Glennie. Edinburgh. [Music](#)

Events outside Scotland

6 November: The Dash Cafe & Pushkin House present: Russia on Stage. A discussion exploring cultural diplomacy & soft power. Live music from Sasha and the Highly Skilled Migrants. London. [Details](#)

7-17 November: Russian Film Festival. London. [Details](#)

9 November: SCRSS Russian History Seminar. [Details](#)

21 November: Russia - Practical Solutions (Albion Overseas). London. [Business](#)

22 April-17 May 2014: Belka Productions "A Dashing Fellow" (based on Nabokov stories). London. [Details](#).

Notices

Что Где Когда

The Edinburgh student Что Где Когда (What Where When) group is growing fast and now includes students from some of the other Edinburgh universities. They are still searching for a good longterm home - a room / rooms large enough for 4 teams (or more), central Edinburgh, not too expensive. For the rest of the semester they have a good base at Kings Buildings, meet on Tues evenings, and welcome enquiries from potential new members as well as ideas on a venue. See the [Chto Gde Kogda](#)

[Facebook page](#)

Edinburgh Russian Choir

The Russian Choir of Edinburgh invites experienced singers. They meet at 61 York Place, on Mondays at 7pm. Contact via their new [Facebook](#) page or tel. 0131 261 9063 / 07950906228, email [MailScanner has detected a possible fraud attempt from "scotlandrussiaforum.us7.list-manage2.com" claiming to be therussianchoir@gmail.com](#)

Russian gardens

Sheila Sim, SRF committee secretary, photographer and gardens enthusiast, has set up an excellent new blog on Russian gardens. She would welcome comments and ideas - please have a look

at <http://notesfromarussiangarden.wordpress.com/>

Scottish Ukrainian Community Newsletter

October issue just out - [download](#).

Ukrainian classes

The Ukrainian Community is running classes in Ukrainian at the Ukrainian Club in Edinburgh (14 Royal Terrace) - £5 per class, Wed. evenings 6-7.30pm. New students welcome - please contact Maria Renz
ukrainiangirl.renz@gmail.com.

Language partner sought

Second year student of Russian at Edinburgh University would like to find a Russian student willing to offer Russian speaking practice. He is happy to offer English in exchange. Contact Ankur Shah [MailScanner has detected a possible fraud attempt from "scotlandrussiaforum.us7.list-manage1.com" claiming to be saha27@hotmail.co.uk](#)

Christmas cards

We were unable to distribute ChildAid's excellent Christmas card brochure by post this year - but you can still order their cards and other items by going online to www.childaidrr.org.uk. Visitors to the SRF office can collect a paper brochure from us too.

Volunteer Interpreter

Dumfries & Galloway Council are looking for a Russian speaker to act as a guide to the Kazakhstan Under 20s ice hockey team when they compete in world championships ice hockey at Dumfries ice bowl from 9-15 December. The commitment would be for 2/3 half days. NB this is an unpaid job - but fun for the right person! Contact Ian Barr, tel 07734073401 or 01387-245935, email Ian.barr@dumgal.gov.uk

Volunteer & Study Russian whilst helping vulnerable children

Places available from September 2014 and through 2015 - check Ecologia's [website](#) for details and dates

Russian Film Festival in Edinburgh

The annual Russian Film Festival starts on 7 Nov in London ([details](#)). There will be three film screenings in

Edinburgh too, in partnership with the University of Edinburgh's Dashkova Centre, together with visits by the films' directors:

8 November: Yury Bykov's [The Major](#).

11 November: Aleksandr Veledinsky's [The Geographer Drank His Globe Away](#).

15 November: Vitaly Mansky's [Pipeline](#).

All these screenings will be accompanied by Q&As with the directors. More information should be on the [Dashkova Centre website](#) and/or [here](#) very soon,

Interpreters needed

Global Connects are currently recruiting Interpreters over a wide range of languages for locations throughout Scotland.

You'll ideally have the DPSI (Scottish legal option) and practical experience of interpreting within the Scottish Criminal Justice system. Please send your CV to recruitment@globalconnects.com

Russian courses in Petrozavodsk

A variety of winter courses - individual or small group tuition with homestay. Also volunteer opportunities (combine learning Russian with teaching English to schoolchildren). [MailScanner has detected a possible fraud attempt from "scotlandrussiaforum.us7.list-manage2.com" claiming to be http://enjoyrussian.com](#)

30inch Railways Worldwide - new book by Edinburgh author David Scotney

An Introduction to the Development of 750mm, 760mm and 2ft 6in gauge Public Railways.

In the latter part of the 19th Century and the first half of the 20th Century 30inch Railways provided the only practical link from many rural areas to the outside world. They could be found across the globe but had particular concentrations in areas as diverse as the USSR, India, Germany, Yugoslavia, China, Poland, Japan, Hungary, Austria, Egypt, Argentina, Chile, Taiwan, Brazil, Korea,

Bolivia and Romania.

More than 35,000km of public 30inch Railways were built.

Their main attractions were their ability to follow the landform, with sharp curves and steep gradients, and a resultant relatively low capital cost. This, however, came with drawbacks of low speeds, limited capacities and freight transhipment. These problems made them particularly vulnerable to the rise in road transport.

Some 30inch lines do still exist to provide a lifeline for rural areas while a few others offer an intriguing tourist 'experience'.

This book, the product of many years research, tells the what, why, how and where of these 30inch Railways along with their actual story. The book is illustrated comprehensively with photographs, specially prepared line drawings and maps.

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