

Acc.12142
August 2007



Inventory

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Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland

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Papers of the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1962-99

The Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland was founded in 1959 as the Scottish Branch of the Great Britain-USSR Association. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the branch became the Scottish Branch of the Great Britain-Russia Association, before becoming the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, in the later 1990s.

The aim of the organisation was to promote understanding between the two areas through personal and professional contacts on a politically impartial basis. The organisation was supported by the British Government and worked closely with the British Council and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Britain-Russia Centre Scotland ceased to exist in August 2002 following the withdrawal of its funding from the UK Government and the need to vacate its offices which it leased from the British Council, Bruntsfield Crescent, Edinburgh, when the British Council office itself closed.

Presented, 2002

Extent: 1.3m

The papers are arranged in three sequences, the first two reflecting arrangement at the point of donation. Much printed and published material has been removed and some files amalgamated.

1-82	GENERAL SUBJECT FILES
83-99	ST PETERSBURG SUBJECT FILES
100-111	OTHER FILES

1-82 GENERAL SUBJECT FILES

Aberdeen-Russia Club

1. Correspondence, notices of meetings and names and address of members, 1995.

Agriculture

2. Correspondence and other papers concerning Russian visits to Scotland to engage in training in agricultural matters and visit agricultural companies, 1992-99.

Armenia

3. Correspondence and other papers concerning the visit of a group of Armenian journalists to Scotland, 1997.

BEARR Trust [British Emergency Action for Russia and the Republics]

4. Note concerning work of Trust, c1900. Also includes a circular letter from the British Red Cross concerning 'Crisis in Eastern Europe Appeal', 1990.

BESO [British Executive Service Overseas]

5. Annotated notes on work of BESO in Russia by Meg Luckins [of Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland], n.d., and material relating to Meg Luckins becoming a BESO volunteer, c1996.

Big Issue in Scotland

6. Correspondence and notes on the work of the Big Issue in Scotland in St Petersburg and the Nochlyezhka foundation which runs soup kitchens and produces a paper to be sold by homeless people in that city in a similar way to the Big Issue in the UK, 1995-99.

Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland

7. Papers and printed material concerning the administration of the Britain-Russia Centre. Includes: Annual Reports (UK), 1989-1997 [1990, 1996 wanting]; typescript annual reports (Scotland), 1993, 1996-97, n.d.; correspondence concerning the production of the 'East-West News' bulletin, 1996; Corporate Plan, 1997-98, 1999-2002; draft job description for post of 'Coordinator (Scotland)', n.d.; account of a project visit to St Petersburg, Pskov and Moscow, June 30 – July 12 1994.

British Council

8. Correspondence between the British Council and the Britain-Russia Centre over the closure of the offices during the New Year holiday period 1999/2000, 1999. Papers concerning the promotion of an artist from the former USSR in the UK, 1996, and a visit by a Kazakh banking student to Scotland, 1998.

Bulgakov

9. Correspondence concerning the Bulgakov family estate near St Petersburg and the efforts to save it from ruin, 1994.

Business

10. Notes for a seminar, copy articles and press cuttings concerning business opportunities in Russia, 1998.

Chancellor's Financial Sector Scheme

11. Correspondence, details of involved companies, applications from individuals to the scheme and other papers concerning the Chancellor's Financial Sector Scheme, Scotland, which was launched to develop market economies in the countries of the former USSR and managed by the British Council, 1993-97.

Charles Cameron

12. Papers concerning the work of the architect Charles Cameron in Russia, and exhibitions concerning his work. Also includes a letter from the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, to Kensington Palace concerning the visit of HRH Princess Michael of Kent to St Petersburg in 1996 and her interest in Tsarskoye Selo and the work of Cameron there, 1995-98.

Cooking

13. Correspondence and other papers concerning the baking of Russian rye bread and cooking in Georgia, 1990-98.

Cyrillic Software

14. Correspondence and vouchers concerning the purchase of cyrillic software and new computer systems for the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1994.

Dance

15. Correspondence of the Rebecca Walker Dance Schools concerning exchange trips for students, n.d.

Dewhirst (Martin)

16. Correspondence and copy papers of and to Martin Dewhirst, Glasgow Representative, Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, covering a variety of subjects concerning the work of the centre, 1995-96.

DOM in Edinburgh

17. Correspondence, delegate lists, and other papers concerning the DOM festival of art, music and animation, 1997.

Ecologia Trust

18. Letter and flier concerning the work of the Ecologia Trust in Kitezkh, Russia, 1999.

Edinburgh (learn English in)

19. Printed material concerning courses in English and Russian, 1989-98; and correspondence and other papers concerning a display entitled 'Learn English in Edinburgh', 1998.

Education

20. Correspondence and other papers concerning the visit of Russian students to Scotland to examine the education system for the purpose of curriculum development, 1995. Correspondence and notes concerning curriculum development in literature and media studies, 1995, and programme with notes for talk by Meg Luckins at conference 'Education and Training Export Opportunities, Russia', 1998.

Environment

21. Correspondence concerning environment issues in the United Kingdom and Russia, 1995-99.

Europartenariat

22. Correspondence, papers, collection of business cards of delegates and report concerning the Europartenariat conference in Genoa, Italy, 1996-97.

Edinburgh Festival

23. A large amount of correspondence and other papers concerning the Edinburgh Festival and Fringe, and the organisation of various visits to, and other involvement with, events by the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, and visiting groups from the former Soviet states, 1995-98.

Film

24. Notes and photocopy articles concerning films from the former Soviet states, 1984-85.

Freight

25. Correspondence and notes concerning the transport of books and posters from Russia to Scotland, 1998.

Institute of Linguists

26. Correspondence concerning 'Diploma in Translation', 1999.

Insurance

27. Correspondence and other papers concerning a training course for the members of the Russian insurance sector and the associated visit to Scotland, 1995-96.

Glasgow Film Theatre

28. Letter to GB-Russia Association concerning season of Eisenstein films, 1997.

Harry Milne Memorial Fund

29. Papers concerning the background to the creation of the Fund, and entries for the Harry Milne Memorial Essay Prize, 1991.

Kazakhstan

30. Correspondence concerning development of a training programme for offshore oil and gas infrastructure development in Kazakhstan, 1993-96.

Kiev

- 31-32. Correspondence, printed material, photographs, press cuttings and other papers concerning the twinning of Edinburgh and Kiev in 1989, c.1990.

Kola

33. Correspondence and other papers concerning environmental management in the Kola Peninsula, 1994-95, including manuscript notes, press cuttings and photocopy papers used by Meg Luckins in the production of the report, for the Britain-Russia Centre, 'Environmental Management and Protection in the Kola Peninsula', 1995.

Kolbintsev (Vladimir)

34. Correspondence concerning potential lecture by Vladimir Kolbintsev, Chief Scientist, Aksu-Dzhabagly Reserve, to the members of the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1999.

Kuzbass / Kemerovo

35. Proposals for 'Focus on Kuzbass' exhibition to promote the area which would be part funded by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kemerovo, 1997-98.

Kyrgyzstan

36. Itineraries, notes of expenses and other papers concerning the visit of a Kyrgyz delegation to Scotland, organised by the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1996. Correspondence and other papers concerning the 'Focus on Kyrgyzstan' exhibition in Edinburgh, 1997. Correspondence and notes about the area used in the production of the 'Focus on Kyrgyzstan' exhibition, with one photograph of farmers in Kyrgyzstan, 1997. Papers for the booklet 'Kyrgyzstan in Focus', and cassette tape of Kyrgyz music performed by Nurlanbek Nishanov, with photographs of the performer, 1997. Correspondence and other papers concerning the visit of the Kyrgyz Ambassador to Scotland, 1998.
37. Correspondence, notes and other papers concerning Meg Luckins' visit to Kyrgyzstan as a BESO advisor and the exhibition that was used on the trip, 1997. Notes for a talk by Meg Luckins on the 'Culture of Kyrgyzstan' with a copy of talk and associated material, n.d.

Land Registration

38. Correspondence, note of expenses and other papers concerning the visit of two Russians to study land law and land registration practices in Scotland, 1994-95.

Law

39. Correspondence and other papers concerning the visit to Scotland of a delegation to study Land law in Scotland, 1997. Correspondence and papers relating to proposal by Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, to act as a call down consultancy for legal and human rights issues in Russia based on an Overseas Development Administration initiative, 1997.

Lease

40. Correspondence and copy lease concerning space leased from British Council by the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, n.d. [c2001].

Literature

41. Correspondence concerning the visit of Professor G U Filippovsky, Chair of Russian Literature at the University of Yaroslavl, to Britain, 1996.

Lodder (Professor Christina)

42. Correspondence concerning the visit of Professor Christina Lodder to the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, to speak on 'The Russian Avant-Garde Paintings in the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art', 1999.

Alexander Men Project

43. Papers concerning a project to highlight the life and work of Father Alexander Men (1935-1990), a Russian Orthodox priest murdered in 1990, 1999-2000.

Moscow Caledonian Club

44. Correspondence concerning the work and aims of the Moscow Caledonian Club, 1995-97.

Moscow School of Political Studies

45. Fax message concerning the seminar programme at the Moscow School of Political Studies, 1996.

Muir and Mirrielees

46. Invitation for, and copy of, talk 'Muir and Mirrielees: the Scots in Russia', by Harvey Pitcher, lecturer in Russian, St Andrews University, 1995.

Murmansk

47. Fax messages between the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, and MRCEP (Murmansk Regional Employment Centre) concerning the work of the latter body, 1996.

Music

48. Correspondence and other papers concerning Russian musicians and visits to Scotland, 1996-99.

Nabokov

49. Correspondence concerning the Nabokov estate, with notes in Russian about the work of the museum there, 1994.

Nizhny Novgorod

50. Correspondence concerning visit of education and social welfare staff from Nizhny Novgorod to Scotland, 1998.

Nytva

51. Correspondence with a Russian teacher, Olga Rozhneva, concerning the exchange of information between Scotland and Russia, 1995.

Painting

52. Correspondence and other papers concerning the painting of George Hay and the repair of the painting 'Young Ladies Spinning', 1994-95.

Peter the Great

53. Papers and printed material concerning the events to commemorate the three-hundredth anniversary of Peter the Great's visit to the British Isles, 1997.

Projects

54. Correspondence and other papers concerning project proposals involving the Britain Russia Centre, Scotland, 1998.

Pskov

55. Correspondence and other papers concerning Pskov and its twinning with Perth, 1997. Also includes: correspondence and other papers concerning a conference on international trade organised by the Scottish Export Association which was attended by delegates from Pskov Volny University. Includes information on the Scottish Export Association and Pskov Volny University, 1995-96.

56. Further correspondence and papers concerning the links between Pskov and Perth, 1996-97.

Pushkin

57. Correspondence and other papers concerning the life and work of Alexander Pushkin. Largest amount is material concerning the 'Pushkin Prizes', a literary competition set up in Pushkin's memory and open to school children, with examples of prize winning pieces, 1991-99.

Romanovs

58. Correspondence concerning a talk at the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, by Dr John Kleir and Helen Mingay entitled 'The Quest for Anastasia: solving the mystery of the lost Romanovs', 1996.

Rostov

59. Correspondence concerning potential visit of delegates from Rostov to attend the Central College of Commerce, Glasgow, and the associated problems in arranging the visit, 1995-96.

Ruslan

60. Correspondence concerning the provision of Russian language materials to schools from 'Ruslan', 1998.

Russian Navy

62. Correspondence and other papers concerning the programme of events at the Royal Society of Edinburgh to make the tercentenary of the foundation of the Russian navy, 1995-96.

Saratov

63. Correspondence concerning the university in Saratov, with some letters in Russian, 1994-97, and photographs of theatre productions, probably from the Saratov School of English, n.d.

Scotland

64. Papers marked 'Scotland', then further sub-divided into the following areas:
- (i) 'Petropolitana'. Correspondence, notes and printed material concerning 'Musica Petropolitana', a Russian ensemble specialising in baroque music, 1997.
 - (ii) Correspondence [in Russian] concerning the Edinburgh International Festival, c1997.

- (iii) 'Scottish Gateway'. Note concerning the work of Scottish Gateway, a company set up to support Scottish businesses interested in trading with the Russian Federation, c1997.
- (iv) Correspondence concerning, and list of potential delegates for, a UK-Russia forum, 1997.
- (v) Papers [mostly in Russian] outlining possible projects for funding by the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, n.d.

Scottish Export Association

- 65. Correspondence, minutes, and other papers concerning the Scottish Export Association and Meg Luckins' role as a Board member of that body, 1995-96.

Scottish Trade International

- 66. Correspondence concerning the activities of Scottish Trade International, a body promoting East-West links, 1995-98.

Shtandart

- 67. Substantial amount of correspondence, literature and printed material concerning the project to build a replica of the Shtandart, Peter the Great's frigate, and the associated 'Powder Monkeys' material for schools in Russia and Britain, 1997-98.

Baroness Smith of Gilmorehill

- 68. Papers and press cuttings concerning the John Smith Memorial Trust and Baroness Smith and her work, 1996-98.

St Andrew – Aid Relief

- 69. Printed material and letter concerning the St Andrew Foundation and St Andrew – Aid Relief, 1997.

Stewart (John Massey)

- 70. Correspondence between John Massey Stewart and Meg Luckins concerning lecture by the former on environmental issues in Russia, to the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1998.

Surprising Scotland

- 71. Correspondence concerning Burns' supper in St Petersburg organised by Surprising Scotland, 1995.

Tayburn McIlroy Coates

72. Correspondence concerning help by Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, during visit of Russian involved with this company, 1995.

Thank you

73. Series of letters from the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, thanking speakers at various events and lectures in which it was involved, 1996-99.

Training

74. Correspondence concerning training programmes to encourage development in the former USSR, 1996-97.

Trans-Global Cargo

75. Correspondence and notes concerning the movement of parcels of books, 1996.

University Reps in Scotland

76. Correspondence and other papers concerning the establishment of an email mailing list, 'Russian Studies', amongst the academic community, 1995-96.

Velikiye Luki

77. Correspondence and printed material concerning the visit of two delegates from Scottish Agricultural Colleges to Velikiye Luki on fact finding trip, 1993.

Video Library

78. Listing of the Britain-Russia Centre's Russian language video library, n.d.

Visiting Arts

79. Correspondence of Visiting Arts organisation requesting advice from Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland concerning a possible research trip to central Asia, 1998.

Welcome Pack

80. Examples of welcome packs for overseas students visiting Edinburgh, c.1997.

Writers Forum

81. Correspondence and other papers concerning appearance of Russian writers and musicians at events organised by the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1996. Also includes: letter concerning the potential involvement of the Scottish International Education Trust in a project to send a youth drama group to Russia, 1995.

Young Leaders Forum

82. Correspondence and copy papers concerning the Young Leaders Forum, a forum for professionals from the Eastern Europe to learn about the British system of government, 1997.

83-99 ST PETERSBURG SUBJECT FILES

British Council

83. Letter and fax/photocopy papers concerning the work of the British Council, St Petersburg, 1994-95.

British East-West Centre Project 378

84. Correspondence and other papers concerning a project visit to St Petersburg by Meg Luckins, 1996.

Business in St Petersburg

85. Correspondence and other papers concerning business investment in St Petersburg, 1997.

Catherine the Great

86. Letter concerning small exhibition about Catherine at the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1996.

Edinburgh City Council

87. Correspondence, minutes and other papers concerning the Edinburgh City Council 'St Petersburg Working Group', and the 'Edinburgh-St Petersburg Link', 1994-97.

Editors

88. Letter concerning visit of six Russian Editors to Britain in preparation for the celebrations around the Tercentenary of Peter the Great's visit to Britain, 1997.

Edu-Care

- 89-94 Papers concerning the 'Edu-Care' conference in St Petersburg on Russian/British co-operation in Higher Education, 1996.

89. Copy of bid to BISTRO for financial assistance for conference, 1996.

90. Correspondence and other papers concerning the travel arrangements for, and participation by, various delegates in the conference, 1996.

91. Draft layout for 'notes on contributors' section of the published volume of conference papers with photographs of some of the delegates and 3.5" floppy disk with some photographs in JPEG format, 1996.
92. Correspondence, completed pro-formas, and associated statistical analysis concerning the evaluation of the conference, 1996.
93. Proof copy of Edu-Care book of published conference proceedings, 1996.
94. Copy of published conference proceedings, Kanis B ed, *EDU-CARE: Russian/British Co-operation in Higher Education*, (Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, 1996), with other printed material concerning the conference, 1996.

Fermor (William)

95. Correspondence, notes and copy papers (in Russian) concerning William Fermor (1702-1771) and architecture in Russia, n.d.

Poore (Mrs J)

96. Correspondence with Mrs J Poore and the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland, concerning the diary of Emily Loch and some transcriptions of same (1897-8), 1995.

St Petersburg Partnership

97. Correspondence, and other papers and printed material in English and Russian, concerning St Petersburg, the St Petersburg Partnership and the preparations for the 300th anniversary of the Peter the Great's visit to Britain, 1997-98.

Tall Ships Race

98. Correspondence, copy papers and printed material concerning the Cutty Sark Tall Ships races in St Petersburg, 1996.

TACL

99. Report of the Training and Academic Links Programme visit to St Petersburg to monitor the development of conveyancing and land law courses in the law faculty of St Petersburg State University, 1996.

100-111 **OTHER FILES**

100-2 Copy papers including some annual reports of the Centre and general mailings about its activities, 1962-98.

100. 1962-85.

101. 1988-95.

102. 1995-98.

103. Visitors book for Centre, 1963-75.

104. Address book of Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland with list of members, n.d.

105. Accounts ledger, 1987-97.

106. Photographs of various events and exhibitions in which the Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland was involved, n.d.

107. Bulletin of the Great Britain-USSR Association, Scottish Branch No 1-30, 1968-79. Leaflet about the work of the Great Britain-USSR Association (Scottish Branch), n.d.

108. Shotlandia Magazine, published by the Great Britain-USSR Association, No 1-3, 1984-86. Guide to Edinburgh in Russian.

109. Volume of poetry in Russian and English presented to the Britain-Russian Centre, Scotland by Eric Wishart, Treasurer, Scottish Poetry Library, 1990.

110. Copy articles of Lt Cdr D Gunn, former Chairman, Britain-Russia Centre, Scotland and published in various publications of the Centre, 1987-96.

111. Book, in Russian, produced by the Great Britain-USSR Association, Scottish Branch as an introduction to Scotland, n.d.