The countdown continues: 
T – 52 days until the 50th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin’s historic spaceflight.

YG50 NEWS

Gagarin’s Life and Flight Timeline is now online.

This week, YuriGagarin50 was at the International Space University’s Space Station Symposium in Strasbourg (see next page for details).

Next week YuriGagarin50 is off to Moscow for the signing of an agreement between the UK and Russia for a joint ‘Year of Space’ (see next issue for a report) and then at the annual conference of UK Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (UKSEDS) in Manchester for the week-end of 26-27 February. Come and see us if you are in the area!

LITTLE EAGLES

Rona Munro’s Little Eagles is a gripping new play charting the space race from the perspective of the Soviet Union. It brings to life the fascinating and little-known story of the brilliant man behind their success, Sergei Korolëv, and of the cosmonauts, his beloved ‘little eagles’. Little Eagles will be premiered in Hampstead from 16 April – 7 May 2011. Book tickets at: www.rsc.org.uk/whats-on/little-eagles/

ROCKETS FOR YURI –UPDATE

YuriGagarin50, Out of this World Learning, Vix Southgate and the tutors and students at Canterbury University have collaborated to produce Launch Manual 1. This manual includes a step-by-step instructions to build an easy-to-make Air-powered Rocket. There are also Key stage 3 & 4 curriculum links for use in schools. To receive your ‘Rockets for Yuri - Launch Manual 1’ email office@yurigagarin50.org

YuriGagarin50 ONLINE

YuriGagarin50 is now on YOUTUBE. We would like you to join us and upload any YG50 related videos.

TWITTER: @YuriGagarin50 now has 169 followers. We have a daily tweet which includes the countdown and space-related news and Yuri Gagarin facts and dates in history. Please join us! Tell your friends!

FLICKR: We would also like to see your YG50-related pictures. Download our logo from the website and photograph yourself, friends, family, colleagues and post them on the group pool. www.flickr.com/groups/yg50/

GAGARIN 50 EXHIBITION

Gagarin 50 celebrates the first human spaceflight by Yuri Gagarin in 1961 and his visit to Trafford & Manchester in July of that year. The exhibition opens with a special launch event at the Waterside Arts Centre in Manchester on Yuri’s Night - 7pm, April 12th 2011. Featured in the show will be specially-commissioned work from mural artist Walter Kershaw, a video installation by Mishka Henner and David Oates and rarely-seen archive images from the RIA Novosti photo library, alongside film footage of Gagarin in Manchester from NW Film Archive and authentic Soviet-era posters direct from the former Eastern bloc. The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Trafford Council and Waterside Arts Centre. Full details at www.gagarin50.co.uk

RIA NOVOSTI

YuriGagarin50 would like to thank Ralph Gibson from the London Office of RIA Novosti, News and Press Agency, for all the help he has given over the past few months. Yuri Gagarin photographs from the visualrian archive will be added to the YuriGagarin50 website soon. If you require any images for press releases or for use at your events please contact Ralph at photos@novosti.co.uk for more details. You can search for Yuri Gagarin images on the visualrian website.

Do you want to write a piece about your event? Copy deadline for the next newsletter: 25th February
YuriGagarin50 at the
Space Station Symposium

Over the last week, more than 200 members of the global space community have gathered in Strasbourg, France for the 15th International Space University Annual Symposium. This year’s symposium focused on the International Space Station and YuriGagarin50 was there promoting the anniversary and finding new supporters. A key moment was the premier of the trailer for First Orbit, a film by Chris Riley recreating the view from Gagarin’s capsule using contemporary footage filmed from the space station by ESA astronaut Paolo Nespoli. The trailer will be available for download from www.firstorbit.org from 1 March 2011, while the film itself will be available online on 12 April.