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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for February 17th, 2017

To see what we've added to the Electric Scotland site view our What's New page at:  
<http://www.electricscotland.com/whatsnew.htm>

To see what we've added to the Electric Canadian site view our What's New page at:  
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/whatsnew.htm>

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:  
<http://www.electricscotland.com/>

### Electric Scotland News

I was watching a wee story on the BBC where a woman was being interviewed about her writing a story of her father so that his care givers knew more about him.

I thought this was a truly great story and as Dementia is growing I think we should all try to write down something of our life and even record a video talking about your life. This should then be attached to your own personal file so that should you have to go into a care home it can be part of your file.

And of course we'd be happy to add the life story to our site if you wished to send it in.

#### Electric Scotland Update

I was looking again at my site introduction video I did in 2010 and so I thought I'd do a 2017 update to bring things up to date.

You can view this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/espeople/index.htm>

#### Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

Note that this is a selection and more can be read in our ScotNews feed on our index page where we list news from the past 1-2 weeks. I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines. I might also add that in newspapers such as the Guardian, Scotsman, Courier, etc. you will find many comments which can be just as interesting as the news story itself and of course you can also add your own comments if you wish.

#### Education report card makes grim reading

Today, during questions to the first minister, the tone was set by her deputy. Boy, did he look glum.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-38925463>

#### Forensic experts to solve 270-year-old mystery of clan chief The Fox

A top forensics expert has been called in to solve a 270-year-old mystery over the final resting place of a clan chief beheaded after the Battle of Culloden.

Read more at:

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/forensic-experts-to-solve-270-year-old-mystery-of-clan-chief-the-fox-1-4362540>

#### Blondie star Debbie Harry reveals she's totally Scottish

Punk icon Debbie Harry has revealed she has Scottish ancestry after it emerged she has roots in the Mackenzie clan.

Read more at:

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/blondie-star-debbie-harry-reveals-she-s-totally-scottish-1-4363726>

The tough, entrepreneurial women who ran Highland inns  
Who better to run these premises than tough, entrepreneurial women, according to new research.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-38917839>

How can we cure the ailing Scottish NHS?  
Scotland's NHS is struggling to cope with the rising demand for its services.

Read more at:

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/how-can-we-cure-the-ailing-scottish-nhs-1-4364486>

Seal hitches a ride with kayaker in the Forth  
A cheeky seal shocked a seasoned kayaker by hitching a ride on board while he was out paddling.

Read more at:

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/our-region/edinburgh/seal-hitches-a-ride-with-kayaker-in-the-forth-1-4366365>

The Single Market is grossly overrated  
by Jonathan Stanley

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkliving/articles.html?read\\_full=13023](http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkliving/articles.html?read_full=13023)

Delays for justice worsen  
Delays in Scotland's courts are getting worse after a raft of closures across the country, it has emerged.

Read more at:

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/delays-for-justice-worsen-in-wake-of-scottish-court-closures-1-4367872>

Everything you need to know about walking in Glencoe  
Some of Scotland's most dramatic scenery can be found in Glencoe

Read more at:

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/everything-you-need-to-know-about-walking-in-glencoe-1-4368546>

Campaign to raise funds for Monarch of the Glen painting  
The Monarch of the Glen, painted by Sir Edwin Landseer in 1851, features an iconic image of a Highlands stag.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-38994055>

Introducing V&A Dundee

See a video at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m\\_pSyg0UPgA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_pSyg0UPgA)

## Electric Canadian

Chronicles of Canada

Added Volume 18: The Adventurers of England on the Hudson Bay: A Chronicle of the Fur Trade in the North.

I might add that I've found text copies of these volumes so have added a link to them on the page. I also found a page where you can get audio copies so have placed a link to these as well.

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/chronicles/index.htm>

D. C. Beard

Author of many books on bush craft for the Boy Scouts of America. I thought I'd bring you a few of them as having found them I enjoyed them and so hope you do as well.

Added another book, "The American Boys Handybook of Camp Lore and Woodcraft" in which you get shown how to start a fire and various other useful skills which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/beard/>

## Electric Scotland

The Forfar Directory and Year Book

A most interesting publication with lots of wee stories and articles. I have now added more editions which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/forfar/direct/>

Clan Gunn

Got in a graphic of an article about the new Clan Gunn chief and I've added this to our Clan Gunn page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/dtog/gunn.html>

Australian Pictures

Drawn with pen and pencil by Howard Willoughby (1886)

Also lots of wee stories included amongst the many pictures and you can view this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/australia/AustralianPictures.pdf>

English Pictures

Drawn with pen and pencil by the Rev. Samuel Mannng LL.D. and the Rev. S. G. Green, D.D. which you can view at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/england/index.htm>

Airdrie, Scotland

By Christine Alexander

A wee but interesting book which you can view at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/council/Airdrie.pdf>

Rev. James Gilmour

Added two books about him and his work among the Mongols.

You can read these at: [http://www.electricscotland.com/bible/james\\_gilmour.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/bible/james_gilmour.htm)

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Got in section 2 of the March 2017 edition which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Memorials of the Stewarts of Allanton, Coltness and Goodtrees  
by Sir Archibald Stewart Denham (pdf)

A good genealogical resource which you can view at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/stoz/coltnesscollections.pdf>

A History of the Witches of Renfrewshire

From authentic documents. A history of the witches of Renfrewshire, who were burned on the Gallowgreen of Paisley. Published by the editor of the Paisley repository (1877)

You can view this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/social/social07.htm>

Harry Muir: A Tale of Scottish Life

By Margaret Oliphant

This is a novel which I thought I'd share as an example of her writing which you can read on her page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/women/wh49.htm>

## The Story

I found this story printed in 1888.

## THE SCOT IN ENGLAND

IN the year 1698, William Armstrong, of Kinmont, a noted border trooper, was taken prisoner by the warden of the Western marches of England, and lodged in Carlisle Castle. This was in defiance of a truce which then existed between the wardens of the borders. The Lord of Buccleugh, who had the charge of Liddesdale, after in vain demanding that Kinmont Willie should be set at liberty, gallantly took the castle of Carlisle by surprise one night with a body of two hundred men, and effected the prisoner's delivery. He crossed the Esk at nightfall, broke open the postern gate, seized the sentries, forced open Kinmont's cell, and was again on Scottish ground almost before the English garrison could draw breath. The consequences of this enterprise are thus mentioned by Spottiswood:—

"This fell out on the 12th of April, 1696. The queen of England, having notice sent her of what was done, stormed not a little. One of her chief castles surprised, a prisoner taken forth of the hands of the warden, and carried away so far within England she esteemed a great affront.

"The lieger, Mr. Bowes, in a convention kept at Edinburgh the 22nd of May, did, as he was charged, in a long oration, aggravate the heinousness of the fact, concluding that peace could not longer continue betwixt the two realms unless Buccleugh were delivered up in England, to be punished at the queen's pleasure."

Buccleugh compearing and charged with the fact, made answer:—"That he went not into England with intention to assault any of the queen's houses, or to do wrong to any of her subjects, but only to relieve a subject of Scotland, unlawfully taken, and more unlawfully detained; that in the time of a general assurance in a day of truce, he was taken prisoner against all order, neither did he attempt his relief till redress was refused; and that he had carried the business in such a moderate manner as no hostility was committed nor the least wrong offered to any within the castle; yet was he content, according to the ancient treaties observed betwixt the two realms, when as mutual injuries were alleged, to be tried by the commissioners that it should please their majesties to appoint, and submit himself to that which they should decree. "The convention, esteeming the answer reasonable, did acquaint the ambassador therewith, and offered to send commissioners to the borders, with all diligence, to treat with such as the queen should be pleased to appoint for her part."

The end of the matter was that Buccleugh was not delivered up. He, however, was subsequently surrendered into English hands for making an inroad into England, for which no justification could be pleaded. On this occasion Buccleugh seems to have remained in England from October, 1597, till February, 1598. According to ancient family tradition Buccleugh was presented to Elizabeth, who, with her usual rough and peremptory address, demanded of him "how he dared to undertake an enterprise so desperate and presumptuous."

"What is it," answered the undaunted chieftain, "what is it that a man dares not do?"

Elizabeth, struck with the reply, turned to a lord in waiting: "With ten thousand such men," said she, "our brother of Scotland might shake the firmest throne of Europe."

And that's it for this week and I hope you all have a good weekend.

Alastair