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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for December 8th, 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

Got the first fall of snow here in Chatham... just an inch and it quickly melted away. However that was a warning so have now booked my car in for an oil change and the winterizing package.

Actually Chatham doesn't usually get much in the way of snow as we don't get what they call "lake affect" snow as we're around 20 miles from a Great Lake.

I am looking at replacing the Google Site Search engine with a new search engine which doesn't provide advertising links and adverts. If things work out it might be installed by next week if it all works out.

Some of you might have noted my comments about Germany starting 2 world wars and my conclusion that they have embarked on a third one but this time economically through the EU. The first news item takes you to a YouTube video with some interesting views on this topic.

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.

The EU is the Continuation of Germany By Other Means

I came across this YouTube video which tends to suggest that my recent view about Germany trying to win a WW3 economically is correct.

View it at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5265-Germany-and-the-EU>

Queensferry Crossing is a bridge too far for the SNP spin machine
IT WAS all so different back at the beginning of September.

Read more at:

http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read_full=13392

Golf in Scotland is sinking fast, delegates told
We are all on the Titanic if we choose not to do anything,

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/sport/golf/golf-in-scotland-is-sinking-fast-delegates-told-1-4629560>

Look who's back!

Dennis the Menace wows new generation of mischief-loving children

Read more at:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2017/dec/03/dennis-the-menace-beano-dandy-minnie-the-minx>

Meet Harmony, the sex robot with a Scottish accent

A robotic sex doll with a soothing Scottish accent is going through its final stages of testing before release in 2018.

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/video-meet-harmony-the-sex-robot-with-a-scottish-accent-1-4630603>

Inverness Courier marking its 200th anniversary

The Inverness Courier was first printed in December 1817.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-42221677>

Scottish Gypsies still face acceptable racism

Discrimination against Gypsy/Travellers in Scotland has become the last form of acceptable racism, a young campaigner claims.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-42193431>

Should you want to read about the Gypsies in Scotland go to:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/gipsies/>

Plans submitted for Scotland's first caviar farm

Plans have been submitted for Scotland's first caviar farm beside Loch Fyne in Argyll.

Read more at:

<https://foodanddrink.scotsman.com/producers/plans-submitted-scotlands-first-caviar-farm/>

10 of the best traditional Scottish treats

It'll come as no surprise that as a nation Scotland has something of a sweet tooth, here are 10 of our favourite Scottish sweet treats.

Read more at:

<https://foodanddrink.scotsman.com/food/10-of-the-best-traditional-scottish-treats/>

Electric Canadian

Industrial Canada

Added volume 10 which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/industrial/index.htm>

Musical Canada

Added volume 11 to our collection which you can read at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/music/musical_canada.htm

Narrative of a Voyage to the Northwest coast of America

In the Years 1811 1812, 1813 And 1814 or the First American Settlement on the Pacific by Gabriel Franchere (1854) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/GabrielFranchere.pdf>

Alexander Milton Ross

Added a couple of books about this Philanthropist and Scientist. You can find these books down the page under the pictures at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_34.htm

The Settlers in Canada

By Captain Marryat, R.N.

I enjoyed this book and you can read it at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/The_Settlers_in_Canada.pdf

Conrad Black

I've always had a lot of time for Conrad Black and so as he writes from Canada on a number of issues of interest from around the world I'm intending to include links to his writings for you to view.

The looming crisis of a service-only economy

<http://www.conradblack.com/1353/the-looming-crisis-of-a-service-only-economy>

The Latest Wave of Anti-Trump Hysteria

<http://www.conradblack.com/1354/the-latest-wave-of-anti-trump-hysteria>

Electric Scotland

Sir Howard Douglas

Added a couple of his books at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/nb/douglas.htm>

British Birds

I came across this publication through finding a Memorial to the author so thought I'd provide this for you to read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/nature/britishbirds.htm>

Elissa - 140 Years and Still Sailing

A story of an Aberdeen sailing ship by Stanley Bruce which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/poetry/banff/ellisa.pdf>

History of the Parish and Burgh of Laurencekirk

By William Buxton Fraser, M.A.

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/gazetteer/vol4page475.htm>

Sir David Lyndsay's Heraldic Manuscript

This is an 1878 reprint which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/heraldry/>

May Margaret

Called The Fair Maid of Galloway by S. R. Crockett (1905)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/raiderland/maymargaret.pdf>

The Black Watch

The Record of an Historic Regiment by Archibald Forbes LL.D. (1896)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/bwatch/blackwatch.pdf>

The Highlander

Found a couple of old issues of this magazine which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/newspapers/highlander.htm>

Lights and Shades of Military Life

Edited by Lieutenant-General Sir Charles J. Napier, G.C.B., Second edition (1850)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/lightsshadescharlesnapier.pdf>

The Story

This week I provide you with three trivia stories...

This is from the Canadian Weather Trivia Calendar of 2002.

"Feb. 13, 1870: After heavy snowfall and rain at Low Point, N.S., a wall of snow struck a house and carried it and its six occupants downhill. At the shore, the occupants were spilled out and the building was carried out on the ice. The husband and children escaped unharmed, a baby remained in the cradle sound asleep, but the wife suffered bruising and burning when she fell against the stove."

Where do you get babies like that? The house was the little home of Donald MacEachern of Creignish, Inverness County. It was just south of where Floyd MacDonald lives today. The wife was Elizabeth Murphy of Port Hood (her injuries were not serious). The dog and cat were killed by shock. Some of that family were still living in 1922, but not in Creignish!. See: MacDougall's "History of Inverness County".

Johne's Disease

Crohn actually didn't discover Crohn's disease. The first person to give it a clear description was a Scottish surgeon named Kennedy Dalziel in 1913. He wrote, "I can only regret that the etiology [cause] of the condition remains in obscurity, but I trust that before long, further consideration will clear up the difficulty." Eighty-eight years later and the scientific community is still not sure what causes Crohn's, but Dalziel had a hunch which a growing number of prominent scientists now think may be correct.

About two decades earlier in 1895, German doctor H.A. Johne was the first to describe the cause of a disease in cattle characterized by chronic or intermittent profuse intractable diarrhea. Clinically, the disease in cattle was virtually identical to that which we now know as human Crohn's disease. The gross pathology of the infected cow's intestines likewise had the same cobblestone appearance; microscopically, the Crohn's diseased intestines and the diseased cattle intestines were dead ringers. Dalziel wrote that the tissue characteristics were "so similar as to justify a proposition that the diseases may be the same." He theorized that the disease in cattle and the disease in people were the same entity.

Thanks to Greg Rankin for sending this in.

The following is quoted from Drummer on Foot:

Isabel Nigh'n Dhughaill (Isabel # 89, daughter of Dougald MacFarlane) and Maireread, wife of Ewen Cameron (Margaret Gillis, # 49), were first neighbors, while both lived, and experienced the hardships of pioneer life in raising large families. I may here quote again from an article quoted before, just to give us an idea of life then:

"No, the work of women in those days was no maiden's play. Let me cite only one instance to prove this. There were no automobiles, no carriages of any kind, no horses, no roads or paths, nothing better than blazes on trees to guide the traveller (sic) through the dense forest. On a certain occasion Margaret and a neighbor of hers, Mrs. Angus McPherson, better known as Isabel Nigh'n Dhughaill, another estimable woman, finding their homes needed something more than milk to help down the good potatoes, proceeded to the harbor, a distance at least ten miles, guided by the indispensable (sic) "blaze" through the woods and by the winding course of the river. Early in the evening they returned home, each with a half-barrel of good fat herring, in a sack on her shoulders. Think of this ease loving sports of to-day. Think of it, all you who have been brought up upon the level plains, transformed from the forest by them, and are yet dissatisfied notwithstanding all your travelling facilities and other modern conveniences; all of you who through a spirit of unrest, born of a desire for greater things, for wealth or gaiety or some similar craving, that the mind never sees satisfied, seek other lands and forsake the land of your birth and the cradle of your faith."

Margaret immigrated to at Achadh an Tobhair in 1801.

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

Alastair