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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for April 12th, 2019

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:

<https://electricscotland.com/scotnews.htm>

Electric Scotland News

Well Brexit now goes onto 31st October 2019... sheesh... will this never end???

Theresa May and EU agree flexible extension to Article 50 period until 31st October 2019. Here is the text of Theresa May's statement just delivered at the conclusion of the emergency European Council meeting: Read at: <https://brexitcentral.com/theresa-may-and-eu-agree-flexible-extension-to-article-50-period-until-31st-october-2019/>

It's now likely Britain will now need to participate in the European elections and it will be interesting to see how and if people vote.

You can view a video introduction to this newsletter at:

<https://youtu.be/BZRryBt0MoU>

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.

Success of first Scottish pantry in Aberdeen offers food for thought

A basket full of high-quality food for £2.50 may seem too good to be true - but that's now the reality for shoppers at Scotland's first food pantry.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-47806341>

Top German carmakers charged with blocking clean emissions technology

BMW, and Volkswagen face possible hefty fines after EU antitrust regulators on Friday charged them and whistleblower Daimler with colluding to block the rollout of clean emissions technology.

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-eu-autos-antitrust-emissions/top-german-carmakers-charged-with-blocking-clean-emissions-technology-idUKKCN1RH0XB>

Sir Billy Connolly led New York City Tartan Day Parade

Around 30,000 spectators watched the Scottish comedian perform the role of Grand Marshal.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/the-big-yins-big-day-in-the-big-apple-sir-billy-connolly-leads-annual-tartan-day-parade-in-new-york/>

Young Scots pipers in flash mob performance at Grand Central Station

A young pipe band brought Grand Central Station in New York to a standstill with an impromptu performance ahead of their appearance in the Tartan Day Parade.

View this at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/news/scottish-news/young-scots-pipers-in-flash-mob-performance-at-grand-central-station/>

William completes humbling work experience with spy agencies

The Duke of Cambridge has spent a humbling three weeks working with MI5, MI6 and GCHQ, to better understand how the UK's security and intelligence agencies work.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/news/uk-news/william-completes-humbling-work-experience-with-spy-agencies/>

Those wanting a close UK-EU relationship should beware Brussels' opaque law-making processes

The Council of the European Union doesn't reach decisions by magic. A cascade of rules and laws flows through over 150 specialised working parties and committees known as the Council preparatory bodies.

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/wanting-close-uk-eu-relationship-beware-brussels-opaque-law-making-processes/>

The case for restoring the lost rivers of Scotland

The social and economic regeneration benefits of doing this are proven, what's needed now is some ambition from our politicians and innovation from our engineers, planners, urban designers and ecologists.

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/the-case-for-restoring-the-lost-rivers-of-scotland-jonny-hughes-1-4904088>

Justin Trudeau Falls From Grace

The Canadian prime minister faces a political crisis of his own devising.

Read more at:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2019/04/snc-lavalin-justin-trudeaus-fall-grace/586645/>

Broken Europe

Why the EU Is Stuck in Perpetual Crisis

Read more at:

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/europe/2018-12-10/broken-europe>

Edinburgh school pupils get their own back on teacher with Tunnock's tea cake maths challenge

The humble tea cake has been used to create a quirky maths formula by a class of enterprising Scots pupils.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/edinburgh-school-pupils-get-their-own-back-on-teacher-with-tunnocks-tea-cake-maths-challenge>

Scientists save one of the world's rarest trees, found by accident on the Isle of Arran

Only one Catacol Whitebeam is known to exist in the wild in Scotland, putting it in joint top spot as the most critically endangered tree on the planet.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/scientists-save-one-of-the-worlds-rarest-trees-found-by-accident-on-the-isle-of-arran>

My muse, your muse, a'body's muse

John Byrne hails the genius behind Oor Wullie

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/my-muse-your-muse-abodys-muse-john-byrne-hails-the-genius-behind-oor-wullie>

Remains of 14th century castle uncovered in Orkney

Remains of a 14th century castle have been found in Orkney by archaeologists.

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/remains-of-14th-century-castle-uncovered-in-orkney-1-4904303>

Who now doubts the power of the EU?

Before the referendum pro Remain commentators and MPs delighted in telling us we were a free and independent country whilst still in the EU.

Read more at:

<http://commentcentral.co.uk/who-now-doubts-the-power-of-the-eu/>

BBC's Jackie Bird leaves Reporting Scotland

Jackie Bird, the BBC's face of news in Scotland for the past three decades, has left Reporting Scotland.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-47891358>

New £150m Caledonian Sleeper trains are hotels on wheels

From June, 75 new carriages will offer en-suite double rooms for the first time.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-47887656>

Julian Assange arrested

Wikileaks founder faces US extradition

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/julian-assange-arrested-wikileaks-founder-faces-us-extradition-1-4905809>

Distillery makes case for its claim that it's officially Scotland's oldest licensed whisky distillery

It's one of the most debated subjects within the Scottish whisky industry. Now, new evidence being put forward states that a popular Lowland distillery, which last produced whisky in the early 1990s, is officially the oldest licensed whisky distillery in Scotland.

Read more at:

<https://foodanddrink.scotsman.com/drink/whisky-distillery-makes-case-for-its-claim-that-its-officially-the-oldest-licensed-whisky-distillery/>

Electric Canadian

Just as Brexit is dominating British politics the SNC-Lavalin scandal is likewise dominating Canadian politics.

Read some of what is happening at:

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/inside-the-brief-conversation-in-which-jane-philpott-was-expelled-from-the-liberal-caucus-1.5084030>

Canadian Archive Reports

Added the 1905 report in three parts.

You can read this at: https://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/brymner_douglas.htm

The Canadian Horticulturist

Volume 21 (1898) can be read at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/agriculture/Horticulturirst.htm>

Unpublished Old Gaelic Songs with Illustrative Traditions

By Colin Chisholm (1885) (pdf). Mostly in the Gaelic language but some introductions in English.

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/UnpublishedoldGaelicsongs.pdf>

Farming in Canada

Or Life in the Back Woods by Frank Lynn, F.R.C.S. (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/agriculture/farmingincanada.pdf>

Ecclesiastical History of Newfoundland
By the Very Reverend M. F. Howley, D.D. (1888) (pdf)

You can read this at:
<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/newfoundland/EcclesiasticalHistoryOfNewfoundland.pdf>

James Richardson
Leading grain merchant in central Ontario. Also contains information on other names.

You can read this at: https://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/richardson_james.htm

The Dominion Annual Register and Review

It is no exaggeration to say that the want of a work of the scope and character of The Dominion Annual Register and Review has been long felt in Canada. The politician, the journalist, the man of business and the student of history have each felt the need of a work where information of an accurate and reliable character touching the present Political and Domestic concerns of the Dominion and of its several Provinces could be obtained without the labour of long and tedious research. Only those whose business it is to look up at short notice facts and data scattered through newspaper files, blue-books, pamphlets and other publications of a similar character can estimate properly the value of a work comprising, under one cover, a record of all the material and important matters in a young nation's history for the preceding twelve months. Such a work, urged thereto by many leading public men throughout the Dominion, it has been the aim and design of the Editor to produce. The first volume will speak for itself; and while claiming the indulgence of the reader for unavoidable deficiencies, the Editor must not omit to state that he has laboured very earnestly to make the book all that it ought to be. The Record of Political Events since 1867 is, perhaps, not so full as it might be, but, taken as it stands, it embodies many facts and contains many documents of great value and interest to all classes of readers. As an event of more than ordinary interest, special prominence has been given to the Vice-regal Reception last fall and to a description of the Progress of his Excellency the Governor-General and his Royal Consort from Halifax to Ottawa. This, it is hoped, will compensate for some omissions. A Record of the Progress of Literature and Art—which we have been compelled to omit—will find a place in each succeeding volume. In conclusion, the Editor assures his readers that no trouble or pains will be spared to make The Annual Register and Review a work of permanent historical importance, replete with information on subjects of general interest, thoroughly impartial in its narration of events, and perfectly reliable in its data and its statements of fact.

You can read their first volume at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/dominion.htm>

Lawrie Todd
Added this 3 volume book by John Galt to the foot of our page about him at:
<https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada/library6.htm>

I read the three volumes this week and enjoyed it very much although there are bits that are a bit long winded but these bits are easy to skip through.

Conrad Black

If You Think U.S. Politics Is Bad, Check Out Britain
<http://www.conradblack.com/1466/if-you-think-us-politics-is-bad-check-out-britain>

Electric Scotland

The Scottish Review
Added Volume 33 - Jan to April 1899 for you to read at:
<https://electricscotland.com/history/review/index.htm>

Clan Munro Australia
Got in their April 2019 newsletter which you can read at:
<https://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/munro/index.htm>

Colin Chisholm
Inspector General of Ordnance Hospitals in the West Indies and you can read about him at:
https://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/chisholm_colin.htm

A Boy's Adventures in the Wilds of Australia

Or Herbert's Notebook by William Howitt (1854) (pdf)

You can read this book at: <https://electricScotland.com/history/australia/aboysadventuresinaustralia.pdf>

Allan Octavian Hume, C.B.

Father of the Indian National Congress 1829 - 1912 by Sir William Wedderburn, Bart.

You can read about him at: https://electricScotland.com/history/india/hume_allan.htm

History of the Meharry Family in America

Descendants of Alexander Meharry I who fled during the reign of Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, on account of religious persecution, from near Ayr, Scotland to Ballyjamesduff, Cavan County, Ireland and whose descendant Alexander Meharry III emigrated to America in 1794 (pdf)

You can read about them at: <https://electricScotland.com/webclans/families/meharry.htm>

Clan Baird Fact Sheet

Got in a new fact sheet on the Clan Baird for April 2019 which I've added to our Baird page at:

<https://electricScotland.com/webclans/atoc/baird.html>

Annals of a Fishing Village

By a son of the Marshes edited by J. A. Owen (1892) (pdf) which I added to the foot of our Fishing Heritage page at:

<https://electricScotland.com/thomson/fishing.htm>

From Chart House to Bush Hut

Being the Record of a Sailor's 7 years in the Queensland Bush By C. W. BRYDE (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/history/australia/bushlifetocabinlife.pdf>

Cattle and Cattle Breeders

By William M'Combie, M.P., Tillyfour (second edition) (1894) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/agriculture/cattle.pdf>

The Story

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 Ishabel 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 hope you all have a great weekend.

Alastair