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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for March 20th, 2020

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

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

### Electric Scotland News

At this point in the season, CDC estimates indicate that there have been 13 million influenza illnesses, 120,000 hospitalizations, and 6600 flu-related deaths.

There are now 156,400 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 5,833 deaths and 73,968 recovered from COVID-19 worldwide,

In the words of Graham Medley, the remarkably humble Professor of Infectious Disease Modelling who appeared on Newsnight this week: "Anyone who tells you they know what's going to happen over the next six months is lying."

I watched the CTV news channel this week only to see many people in Florida in the US collecting on the beaches. Seems to me these are very selfish people and it's crucial we respect social distance in our daily life.. Also, I noted another large family in the New York area where a number of an extended family have died due to the virus. They apparently decided to have a family get together which is why so many of them have died as one of the family was infected.

It would seem the situation is clear... social distancing is the key. We need to get out of the habit of greeting by shaking hands, kissing cheeks and giving people a hug. I just heard on the news that the Province of New Brunswick has mandated that collection of people of 10 or more is now illegal. Also churches are also closing down both Catholic and Anglican/Presbyterian.

On a more positive note it seems most people will survive the virus as only around 2% of people die and most of them are older with current health issues.

As most countries are now closing schools I would encourage readers to make use of our Kids section as there are many useful resources such as games, stories, and other educational resources available.

Most people I have spoken to seem to have enough food for 4 weeks apart from bread. Perhaps not a bad idea to keep a loaf or two in your freezer or enough flour to make your own. I have found out that it can be hard to keep 4 weeks of stock of prescription medicines but you should be able to keep at least 2 weeks and you need to talk to your pharmacy to ensure you always have at least 2 weeks although I believe 4 weeks is optimum.

So check the advice in your country as things keep changing and advice also is ongoing as more is understood about this virus.

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 world news stories that can affect Scotland and all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines. I might also add that in a number of newspapers 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 which I do myself from time to time.

Canadian PM Trudeau's wife tests positive for coronavirus

Sophie Grégoire Trudeau, wife of Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, has tested positive for coronavirus, a statement from the prime minister's office says.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51860702>

Black swans and oil shakes why the maths for Scotland seceding just got worse  
THE SNP MAY HAVE its troubles in the courtroom but that is not the party's only problem.

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkbusiness/articles.html?read\\_full=14102](http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkbusiness/articles.html?read_full=14102)

Canada faces danger from China and Russia, intelligence chief warns

Mr McGuinty's comments come as a report on Russian interference drawn up by the UK's equivalent body - the Intelligence and Security Committee - has not been published despite being completed a year ago.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51877023>

What can a new party bring to Scotland and to Britain?

THERE ARE TWO natural roles of political parties in democracies. To form governments and to form oppositions.

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read\\_full=14106](http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read_full=14106)

Canadian travellers should return home while they still can

Recommendation comes before Ottawa unveils list of airports accepting international flights

Read more at:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canadian-travellers-abroad-should-return-home-champagne-says-1.5498252>

Kind Canadians start caremongering trend

Just a few days ago, the word caremongering did not exist. Yet just three days later what started as a way to help vulnerable people in Toronto has turned into a movement spreading fast across Canada.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51915723>

Rampant Biden crushes Sanders in hat-trick

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden has steamrolled rival Bernie Sanders in primary elections in Florida, Illinois and Arizona.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51939611>

Coronavirus and the Scottish economy

By the Fraser of Allander Institute

Read more at:

<http://sceptical.scot/2020/03/coronavirus-and-the-scottish-economy/>

Salmond trial: the prosecution closes its case

The world may have come to a virtual standstill as populations wait for the coronavirus to wash over them, but Scotland's courtroom melodrama prevailed on Tuesday as Alex Salmond took the stand in Edinburgh.

Read more at:

<https://www.scottishreview.net/MauriceSmith516a.html>

Canadians are pretty good in a crisis

Canada now has over 400 confirmed cases of Covid-19. The vast majority of them brought into the country by travellers.

Read more at:

<https://www.scottishreview.net/MichaelElcock516a.html>

US-Canada border to close amid virus crisis

US President Donald Trump and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau have agreed to close the US-Canada border to all non-essential travel in an attempt to curb the spread of coronavirus

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51949243>

Scottish exams cancelled for first time in history

Exams for Scottish school pupils will not take place this year, the education secretary has announced.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-51958208>

Baking buns, building dens & dancing

Coronavirus? What Coronavirus!

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkculture/articles.html?read\\_full=14111](http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkculture/articles.html?read_full=14111)

Chancellor Sunak's Enemy is not just Covid-19

He is widely seen as the man of the hour.

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read\\_full=14110](http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read_full=14110)

## Electric Canadian

My Canadian Experience

Losing my sight and how Canadian support helped.

You can read this at: [https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada\\_add3.htm](https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add3.htm)

Trails in the Woods

Unit 5 third reader (pdf)

A publication for children which you can read at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/children/trailsinwoods.pdf>

The Student

A newspaper for Ukrainian Youth which you can view at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/student.htm>

Quebec's Immigration Island

Added an historical article about Quebec's Immigration Island where I already have a page with lots of pictures that I took some years ago. I added this account to the end of the picture collection at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/quebec/pictures06.htm>

## Electric Scotland

Home Preacher

Added Service 23 by Dr. Morgan which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/homepreacher/week23.htm>

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Howdy to Everyone! In spite of it being Friday, the 13th, I hope you're having a good day and taking care of you and yours. Please be careful.

Here is April 2020 BNFT - *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree*. I was reading Richard Eastman's latest newsletter and it has an article on DNA - and whether it will be legally yours or not. Mmmm. Interesting. In this issue, there's a comprehensive article about DNA and its' perils. I hope you find it interesting.

Here's an update on friend, Alastair. The news is wonderful! He is back working on [electricscotland.com](http://electricscotland.com) and can SEE! It was a long and hard road for him, and he was unfailingly patient and kind and in good humor! He was very limited for almost two months! Hurrah, Alastair!

The American-Scottish Foundation has just written that the New York Tartan Day Parade, set for April 4th, has had to be cancelled this year. The escalating situation around COVID-19 and the banning of gatherings over 500 persons by the State of New York, and New York City, left no other choice.

Friends, we will all get through this.

You can read this section at: <https://electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Good Words for Every Day in the Year

Added the May to December entries which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/homepreacher/dayintheyear.htm>

Durie Family

Added The Durie Archive and Captain George Durie (1640-1703) to our Durie page at:

<https://electricscotland.com/webclans/dtog/durrie.html>

Architectural Trail Through Fife (pdf)

Found this interesting publication which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/council/ArchitecturalTrailThroughFife.pdf>

Ecclesiastical Records of Fife

Selections from the minutes of the Synod of Fife 1611 to 1687 (1837) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricscotland.com/council/EcclesiasticalRecordsoftheSynodofFife02.pdf>

Kellie Castle

Several families were associated with this castle including Oliphant and you can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/castles/KellieCastle.pdf>

History of the Scottish Regiments of the British Army

By Arch. K. Murray (1862) (pdf)

You can read this book at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/historyofscottishregimentsinthebritisharmy.pdf>

## The Story

Here is an entry from Good Words for every day in the year

March 20

"And He saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then He arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm."—Matt. viii. 26.

There is a grand simplicity in this narrative. As we read it, we seem to feel Him near and mighty to save; we are humbled at our own "little faith;" and we are taught that He who could thus still the winds and the sea, can also make a "great calm" in our hearts, and silence the storms within our unruly spirits. "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked;" but when the Lord, by His great power, changes the sinner's heart, and turns him from the error of his ways, though there may be at first "little faith," and a sore strife within, yet if He once speaks the word, and reveals Himself in His power and in His love, there is a "great calm," beyond all that the heart had ever hoped to find. "Lord, increase our faith:" let this be our constant prayer. As faith grows, peace will grow, not perhaps the peace that is undisturbed by conflict, but that far deeper and holier peace, which even in the midst of storms spreads around the soul His own "great calm."

"Fierce passions discompose the mind,  
As tempests vex the sea;  
But calm repose and peace we find,  
When, Lord, we turn to Thee."

And that's it for this week and hope you all have a great weekend and mind and keep your distance.

Alastair