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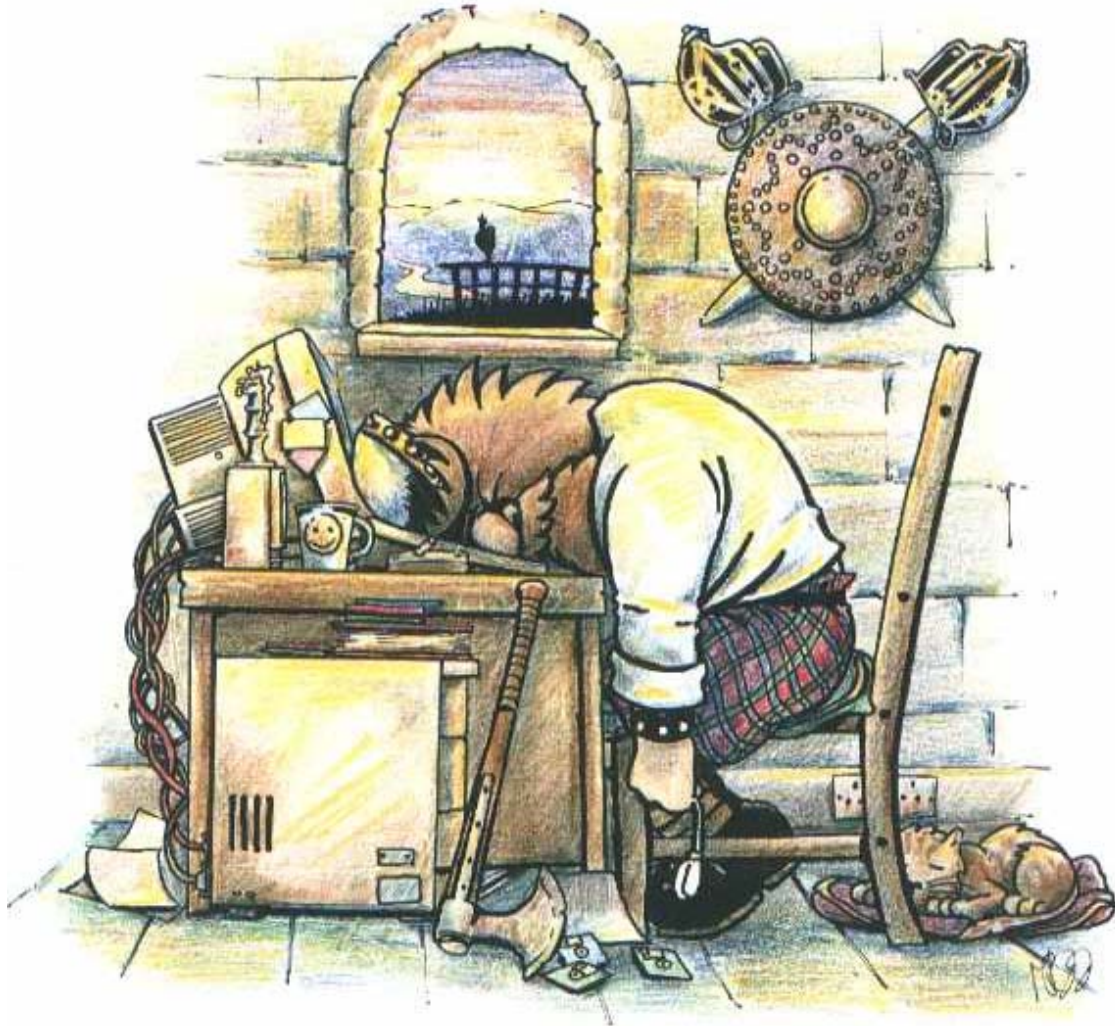
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WHATS NEW

## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for January 1st, 2021



For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:  
<https://electricscotland.com/scotnews.htm>

### Electric Scotland News

Wishing you all a Happy New year and hope this will be a much better year and that you get your vaccine.

I would also mention that early in 2021 I will be doing a major upgrade to our Community. For quite a while now no new members have been allowed into the service and it seems we have been hacked in that weird full page adverts have been appearing. I know quite a few of you enjoyed the arcade games but as they are mainly flash games they now won't play from January 1st. So this means I can now take advantage of the latest release of the software which has massively enhanced security features. They now also display YouTube videos by default meaning I no longer need to use third party software to display them.

And so on Monday 3rd I'll be contacting the software company to get a quote for doing the upgrade meaning that all existing users and messages will be preserved as we upgrade to their latest release.

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.

Germany's Chancellor Hits the Wall

Germany managed the first coronavirus wave better than most. But this fall, the country hasn't done nearly as well, with case numbers and deaths spiking upward. Did Angela Merkel drop the ball?

Read more at:

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/angela-merkel-in-the-corona-crisis-germany-s-chancellor-hits-the-wall-a-48674d4e-ef28-4cfe-8f7a-65a5b14025a9>

Germany and Europe could run out of Vaccine

The EU and Berlin have insisted there will be sufficient vaccine available, but delays in signing purchasing contracts mean that the elixir will arrive late and there might not be enough. The EU even declined an option that would have allowed for the purchase of hundreds of millions of extra doses.

Read more at:

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/the-planning-disaster-germany-and-europe-could-fall-short-on-vaccine-supplies-a-3db4702d-ae23-4e85-85b7-20145a898abd?>

World's most loyal employee dies aged 98 after joining Edinburgh law firm as teenager  
John Burns had worked at the TC Young Wilson Terris, in Edinburgh, since he was 14-years-old.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/loyal-employee-edinburgh-law-firm-23227328>

Extreme E: Lewis Hamilton and electric car racing

Lewis Hamilton isn't just the world's most successful Formula One driver ever, he's also a key backer of a new off-road electric vehicle racing series called Extreme E.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/science-environment-55414712>

Lawyers for Britain

View on the Brexit agreement

Read more at:

<https://lawyersforbritain.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/ERG-Legal-Advisory-Committee-Opinion-on-EU-UK-Trade-and-Cooperation-Agreement.pdf>

China Covid-19

How state media and censorship took on coronavirus

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-55355401>

Oxford vaccine APPROVED

Covid fightback as first batch released for 100 million rollout

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1377920/coronavirus-vaccine-Oxford-University-AstraZeneca-vaccines-covid-19-tier-5-latest>

Brexit is DONE

MPs seal UK's historic fate as Boris's Bill passes by huge 448 majority

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1378016/Brexit-deal-vote-result-latest-Boris-Johnson-deal-EU-trade-deal-approved-MPs->

## [House-of-Comm](#)

The record-breaking jet which still haunts a country

A decade after the end of World War Two, Canada built a jet which pushed technology to its limits. But its demise showed why smaller nations found it difficult to compete in the Jet Age.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200615-the-record-breaking-jet-which-still-haunts-a-country>

A Syne of the times

Experts on why Robert Burns's Hogmanay anthem of loss and reunion resonates now more than ever

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/271220-auld-lang-syne-a-syne-of-the-timesfrom-the-song/>

Iran plane crash: Victims families to get \$150,000

Iran is to give \$150,000 to the families of each of the 176 people who died when its Revolutionary Guards shot down a passenger jet last January.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-55488800>

## Electric Canadian

Stories from Indian Wigwams and Northern Camp-Fires

By Egerton Ryerson Young, author of "By Canoe and Dog-Train", "Oowikapun", etc. (1893) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/Stories-from-Indian-wigwams.pdf>

The Emigrant Churchman in Canada

By A Pioneer of the Wilderness by A. W. H. Rose, Edited by the Rev. Henry Christmas in two volumes (1849) (pdf)

Vol 1 <http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/canadainpicture01.pdf>

Vol 2 <http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/canadainpicture02.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday morning - 27th December 2020

By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5621-Thoughts-on-a-Sunday-morning-27th-December-2020>

## Electric Scotland

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Merry Christmas everyone. I found myself with a little time before it is time to start our Christmas dinner, so thought I might as well send this to you. I hope everyone is having a wonderful day whether you have to email, use your fancy phone to see them, call on the telephone or even use Zoom - to be in touch with your good friends and loved ones.

It's just us at home and Tom is working too. We did turn on our Christmas tree which we leave up, but unlit, all year. We plan to take cups of eggnog and sit and look at the tree awhile tonight, which, to us, sounds like fun!

This issue of BNFT has some interesting articles and even a page of queries for those of you who work on genealogy. I hope, as always that you enjoy BNFT.

I think this is the coldest day of winter for us this year. It was 20 degrees when I went out to feed critters this morning. (Yes, you feed whether it is hot or cold, wet or dry. No matter what Mother Nature does, if you have animals to feed, you go and do it. Piper was bugling Christmas greetings to the world when I was outside. She was so loud, you might have heard her.)

My challenge for today is to make an Ina Garten (The Barefoot Contessa) roast chicken. She said on one of her programs the other

day "that every woman should know how to make a delicious roast chicken." I realized that I did not know how to do that - although I have made roast chickens forever. After an herb purchasing foray into the grocery store, I now do have all the makin's. I hope it turns out nicely.

Please have a blessed Christmas and fill it with as much joy as you can conjure up.  
Aye, beth

Give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way. Cherokee saying

Beth Gay Freeman, CRMC, LOK, FSA Scot

See Section 1 at: <https://electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

The Erskines

By A. R. MacEwen (1900) (pd)

You can read about them at: <https://electricscotland.com/webclans/families/erskines.pdf>

Scottish Banner

Got in the January 2021 issue which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/scottishbanner/index.htm>

The Blackwood Group

By Sir George Douglas (1897) (pdf)

Read about them at: <https://electricscotland.com/books/pdf/blackwoodgroup.pdf>

The Academic Gregories

By Agnes Grainger Stewart (1901) (pdf)

You can read about them at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/nation/academicgregories.pdf>

The Queen's Christmas Message

<http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5620-The-Queen-s-Christmas-message-for-2020>

## Story

The Rise and Progress of Whisky-Drinking in Scotland

By Duncan M'Laren

The Act usually known in Scotland as the Forbes M'Kenzie Act, 16 and 17 Victoria, cap. 67, came into operation May 21st, 1854. The bill, about which so much has been said, as bearing on the cause of sobriety and good order in Scotland, was introduced into the House of Commons by the gentleman whose name it bears; but having vacated his seat before the measure had made much progress, it was watched over, and carried through, mainly by Mr Cumming Bruce. In the House of Lords it was under the charge of Lord Kinnaird, and, as I once stated at a public meeting in Edinburgh, his lordship also did a great deal privately, by his personal exertions, to promote its passing through the House of Commons; and he may thus be said to have been the chief author of the Act. Its short title is 6 Public-Houses (Scotland) Act.'

I need not state to the people of Scotland that the leading provisions of the Act are two in number—(1,) That there shall be no selling of intoxicating drinks on Sundays, except to bona fide travellers, and (2,) That there shall be no selling of such drinks during any day of the week after eleven o'clock at night. These two provisions are so manifestly just in themselves, and so conducive to the welfare of society, that I am happy to say they have commended themselves to the great body of the people of this country.

There is, however, an active and influential section of the community who have always been opposed to these provisions, and who have been using all the means in their power to get the Act modified or repealed; and they have endeavoured to procure the appointment of a Parliamentary Committee to inquire into the working of the Act, with a view to accomplish their object in this indirect way. The ostensible movers in this cause are a committee of Glasgow publicans and spirit dealers, but they are privately receiving the sympathy and support of influential distillers, and other persons who do not publicly come forward to advocate their cause. They are also supported in their efforts by a portion of the public press, and by a small number of Scotch members of Parliament.

Being always more anxious to know what opponents have to say against any cause of which I have formed a decidedly favourable



opinion, than to know what friends say in its favour, I have read and heard much against the ' Public-Houses Act;' and if I understand the objections of its opponents aright, they may be classed under these heads :—

They say that, both as regards the requirements for shutting up public-houses during the entire Sunday (as compared with the former law, which required them to be shut only during the hours of divine service), and as regards restricting the business hours on week-days to 11 o'clock at night, they are novelties in the legislation of Scotland, of a Puritanical character, and interfering with the liberty of the subject; that they are unjust to the persons engaged in the spirit trade; that they have proved injurious in their operation as regards all classes; and in particular, that in place of diminishing drunkenness, they have increased it—causing an enormous increase in the consumption of whisky, amounting to nearly two millions of gallons annually. These allegations have often been made, and those last mentioned were embodied in an official memorial recently prepared by the Glasgow Committee, and presented by them to Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, with a view to induce him, on the part of the late Government, to appoint a Parliamentary Committee of inquiry.

END.

You can read more about this in a 50 page book and also watch an excellent hour long video about whisky...

#### On The Whisky Trail

"On The Whisky Trail" takes you on a journey of discovery of Scotch whisky - the "water of life" and it's various types from the well-known blended whiskies, right through to the sophisticated Highland single-malts that represent the very best of the whisky industry. With visits to distilleries including the internationally acclaimed "Glenfiddich" brand & the lesser know "Glenfarclas" treasure, there's something here to suit every level of taste! at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/articles/whisky.htm>

And that's it for this week and year and hope you all have a great weekend and I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Happy New Year and that you get the vaccine as soon as possible so we can return to near normal in 2021. Stay safe!

Alastair