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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for January 13th, 2023

## Electric Scotland News

I find I'm spending more time watching videos these days and discovering some really interesting material.

For example I found one - "RBS - The Bank That Almost Broke Britain" which I've added to the foot of our Banking page at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/banking/index.htm>

I was also looking at an art documentary series done by the BBC called Fake or Fortune and discovered the artist David Martin, a famous Scottish Portrait painter, which I've included here as our Story for this week.

The only problem with doing this is that too many of these videos are taken down for one reason or another which is a real bummer. Despite this I will be doing more video work during 2023 as I do find that although the link can go down often the video can still be found under another link if you use the search function.

And so if you find a video on the site that no longer is available use the title to do a search on YouTube and there is every chance you'll find it. And if you could also email me with the information I'd be very happy to edit the page to fix the link.

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland and world news stories that can affect Scotland and as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines it becomes a good resource. 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.

The fear of job loss due to artificial intelligence is unfounded

According to the World Economic Forum Future of Jobs report (2020), AI will replace 85 million jobs by 2025. On the flip side, the same report states that AI will create 97 million jobs by the same year. Hence, while AI will continue to change the way we work, it may not cause massive unemployment but instead create more jobs than it replaces.

Read more at:

<https://www.skeptic.org.uk/2023/01/the-fear-of-job-loss-due-to-artificial-intelligence-is-unfounded>

Covid infections soar to highest level since July

Covid-19 infection rates are at their highest since last July with one in 25 estimated to have the infection, according to new figures. Meanwhile, hospitalisations for flu in Scotland reached the highest level in five years over Christmas.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-64188177>

Controversial Scottish gender certificate ruling falls at the border - as transgender people set to still need UK document to be recognised elsewhere

The UK government may remove Scotland from a list of countries whose gender certificates are automatically recognised, forcing transgender people to apply for a UK version

Read more at:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11613419/Transgender-people-Scottish-gender-certificate-need-UK-document-recognised-elsewhere.html>

Majority of Scots losing faith in SNP record on key public services, poll finds  
A poll by Survation found many voters were unhappy with Holyrood's handling of key areas like the economy and the NHS

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/majority-scots-losing-faith-snp-28903379>

Canada finalizes deal to buy 88 F-35 fighter jets by 2032  
Total program costs are expected to be around \$70 billion

Read more at:

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/canada-finalizes-deal-to-buy-88-f-35-fighter-jets-by-2032>

Historic video of Scotland from 1901 shows life in Glasgow in beautiful colour  
A video showing Jamaica Street in Glasgow in colour back in 1901 has been shared which viewers have called very cool and an amazing film archive.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland-now/video-scotland-1901-shows-life-28916799>

Scottish taxation? Now could be the time many Scots begin to walk away  
THERE IS an important insight in economics called what is unseen a shorthand description of a treatise offered by Frederic Bastiat about the effects of political actions through time

Read more at:

<https://thinkscotland.org/2023/01/scottish-taxation-now-could-be-the-time-many-scots-begin-to-walk-away/>

Surging number of couples divorcing but cost of living crisis means many having to remain in same home  
Family lawyers in Scotland say they have already heard from a rising number of people signalling a surging number of marital splits in 2023 if, that is, couples can afford it.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/d-day-looms-for-warring-couples-if-they-can-afford-it/>

Falling on Hard Times  
By Charlie Ellis

Read more at:

<https://www.scottishreview.net/CharlieEllis642a.html>

Canada's 1,300km Atlantic rail route  
The Ocean line is often seen as a budget-conscious way to travel between Nova Scotia and Quebec. But for those in the know, it offers a nod to the luxurious train travel of yesteryear

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20230111-canadas-1300km-atlantic-rail-route>

Electric Canadian

Treading the Winepress  
A novel by Ralph Connor

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/treadingwinepres0000conn.pdf>

Notes on the Road

By a Canadian "Guerilla" alias Commercial Traveller (1868) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/gurella.pdf>

Memoir of Mayne Reid

Added this to his book The Young Voyageurs.

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/voyageurs.htm>

The Eskimo of Stupart Bay

By R. F. Stuart (pdf)

You can read this article at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/inuit/eskimoofstupartbay.pdf>

A Voyage with the Voyageurs

From Appletons' Journal (pdf)

You can read this article at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/voyageurs09.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 8th day of January 2023

By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can view this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26294-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-8th-day-of-january-2023>

## Electric Scotland

Beth's Video Talks

January 11th, 2023 - A Child's War living on Orkney 3 of 5

You can view this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Martin, Hugh - Minister

Added a wee biography of this person and also a few other Martin's that I found in a publication.

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/other/hugh-martin.htm>

On Pauperism as produced by wealth

By J. LL. Davies from an article in Good Words (1872) (pdf)

You can read this article at:

<https://electricscotland.com/lifestyle/pauperism.pdf>

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Got in the February 2023 issue.

Beth has decided to do just one issue a month instead of the two so here is the February 2023 issue.

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Scottish Highland Christmas

I know Christmas is over but thought I'd add this video to our Christmas page as it might give you some ideas for a Christmas holiday to come.

And I might add that you should check out Unique Cottages if you are looking for self catering accommodation in Scotland for 2023 and you can visit their web site at: <https://www.unique-cottages.co.uk/>

This Christmas video can be viewed at:

<https://electricscotland.com/index98.htm>

Reminiscences of Eighty Years

By John Urie (1908) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/lifestyle/reminiscencesofe00urie.pdf>

Scotch wit and humor

Classified under appropriate subject headings, with, in many cases, a reference to a table of authors by Walter Henry Howe (1898) (pdf)

I decided to add the pdf version so you can download the whole book if you wish and you can get to this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/humour/scotchwithumorcl00howeuoft.pdf>

Scottish Society of Indianapolis

Got in their January 2023 newsletter and you can read this at:

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

Trawlermen: Hunting the Catch - BBC Documentary

Another YouTube video which I added towards the foot of our Shipbuilders of Aberdeen page

You can watch this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/aberdeen/aberdeenshipbuilding.htm>

22 Great Things To SEE & DO in Stirling, Scotland

A YouTube video which I added to the foot of our Stirlingshire page and you can get to this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/stirlingshire/index.htm>

Why not Scotland?

14 July 2022 by Kevin Hague (pdf)

You can read this article at:

<https://electricscotland.com/independence/WhyNotScotland.pdf>

# Story

## BBC Fake or Fortune

One of my favourite episodes. Absolutely stunning portrait of Dido Elizabeth Belle and Lady Elizabeth Murray. David Martin was an extraordinary painter. This is such an unusual portrait ... Dido looking so intelligent, with a wicked sense of humour ... and the kindness on Lady Elizabeth's face ... one can feel WHO these two were. To have caught these young women with such depth and a faithfulness to their characters is astonishing.

Here is a little about him and you can view the video at:

<https://youtu.be/04rn3qHeBNA>

MARTIN, DAVID (1737-1798), painter and engraver, born in 1737, was son of the parish schoolmaster at Anstruther in Fife. His brother, the Rev. Samuel Martin, D.D., was minister of the parish of Moniaive, co. Fife. He became a pupil of Allan Ramsay the portrait-painter [q. v.], and when quite young accompanied Ramsay to Rome. On his return he became a student at the academy in St. Martin's Lane, where he gained some premiums for drawings from the life. On leaving Ramsay Martin practised both as engraver and portrait-painter. He obtained considerable success in the latter line, and on returning to Scotland in 1775 was appointed principal painter to the Prince of Wales for Scotland. Martin was a member of the Incorporated Society of Artists, and from 1773 to 1775 was the society's treasurer. He contributed portraits or engravings to their exhibitions from 1765 to 1777, and also exhibited portraits at the Free Society of Artists in 1767. On returning to London Martin resided for some years in Dean Street, Soho, and married a lady with some property. On her death, however, he returned to Edinburgh, where he died in 1798; he left no family.

As an engraver Martin produced some good engravings in mezzotint, including portraits of David Hume and Jean Jacques Rousseau, both after Allan Ramsay, L. F. Roubiliac after A. Carpentiers, Rembrandt after himself, and Lady Frances Manners from one of his own paintings. In line he engraved portraits of William Pulteney, earl of Bath, after A. Ramsay, and William Murray, earl of Mansfield, after one of his own portraits: also two landscapes with cattle after A. Cuyp, another after Gaspar Poussin, and six views of scenery near Sheffield. As a painter Martin worked in the style of Ramsay. Some of his portraits were engraved, including those of Benjamin Franklin (aged 60), Henry, earl Bathurst, James Bruce of Kinnaird, Rev. Thomas Henry (now in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery), Dr. Cullen, Dr. Alexander Carlyle [q. v.] (in the possession of Thomas Scott, esq. of Edinburgh, and others.

Martin painted his own portrait for Ramsay; a replica of this is now in the Scottish National Gallery at Edinburgh, and another is in the possession of Thomas Scott, esq. He is said to have given instruction to Sir Henry Raeburn [q. v.], and to have persuaded him to give up miniature-painting for oil-painting.

[Edwards's Anecd. of Painters; Redgrave's Diet, of Artists; Chaloner Smith's Brit. Mezzotinto Portraits; Cat. of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery; Catalogues of the Society of Artists; information from Thomas Scott, esq.]

END

Weekend is almost here and hope it's a good one for you.

Alastair