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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for May 24th, 2024

Electric Scotland News

Did a count of the files I have on the server which include .txt, .html, .htm, and .pdf which at 20/04/24 was 128,621 which total some 370 GB of data. The owner of my hosting company said he had never seen such a large collection of information on his servers.

This is why I am trying to find out why my indexing is so small seeing that the robot only reports some 57,000 files. Unfortunately the owner is down with Covid so it will be some time before he completes the investigation.

See the UK has announced elections for 4th July so we can expect a new Labour government after that date which is the exact opposite of other countries which are leaning to the Conservative side of politics.

Nigel Farage has announced he will not be standing in the General Election after revealing that he'd received a "very firm job offer" from Donald Trump. You can read more about this at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1902613/Nigel-farage-donald-trump-job-offer>

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 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.

Here is what caught my eye this week...

It's time to embrace Ozempic

A new study out this week claims that rising work absenteeism is being driven by obesity. While there are reasons to doubt the report, it hasn't stopped the nanny statisticians demanding more regulation on fatty foods. Calls for interventionism are wide of the mark. A more sensible move would be to embrace the wonder drug Ozempic.

Read more at:

<https://www.cityam.com/lets-the-honest-ozempic-not-taxes-or-regulation-can-solve-obesity/>

Restoring Scotland's extinct oyster reefs

Thirty thousand rare oysters are being reintroduced to the Firth of Forth having been wiped out by overfishing and pollution.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-69024283>

In pictures: Eight-day 249-mile Highland race begins

The Cape Wrath Ultra - a 249-mile (400km) running race - has started in the north-west Highlands. The event challenges entrants to complete a backpacking route within eight days. Most people finish it in about 20 days.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cv22dx04z73o>

Prisoner of war's notebook discovered in Canada returned to RAF Lossiemouth

Great War aviator Lieutenant Frank Vivien Durkin's notes from his time in captivity were found in an attic in Victoria, British Columbia.

Read more at:

<https://news.stv.tv/north/prisoner-of-wars-notebook-dating-back-100-years-discovered-in-canada-returned-to-raf-lossiemouth>

The OECD needs to stop talking Britain down

UK GDP figures have been in the headlines again recently, with initial estimates pointing to unexpectedly firm economic growth of 0.6% in Q1 2024 twice the rate recorded in the Eurozone. While this is indeed good news, we should be asking ourselves why the OECD has consistently underestimated our growth prospects.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/the-oecd-needs-to-stop-talking-britain-down/>

Antisemitism is rife at our universities

Since the October 7 terror attack, there has been a fivefold increase in antisemitic incidents at Russell Group universities. Despite strong statements from the Government on tackling this, the world's oldest hatred is still rife at our universities. It's time to start naming and shaming institutions that fail to root it out.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/our-universities-are-failing-to-tackle-student-antisemitism>

Most Scots have no religion - census

In the 2022 census, 51.1% of respondents said they had no religion, up from 36.7% in 2011.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czddp0j488qo>

General Election timetable: All the key dates before July 4 and what happens next

While the General Election is undecided, Britons can gain an early glimpse of how the race will play out.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1902381/general-election-timetable-key-dates-july-4>

Gaelic schools thrive while native language declines

The number of people using Gaelic has increased across Scotland despite a decline in the language's heartland, according to the latest census data.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c722dewd93vo>

Daily cannabis use overtakes drinking in US first

The number of Americans who smoke cannabis on a daily or near-daily basis now exceeds those who drink alcohol as often, a study has found. The research, published in the journal *Addiction*, is based on data collected by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health over four decades.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c9xxd8w57kjo>

UK inflation cools to 2.3%, lowest level in nearly three years

It marks the lowest level since July 2021 when inflation was recorded at 2% the Bank of England's target level.

Read more at:

<https://news.stv.tv/world/uk-inflation-cools-to-2-3-lowest-level-in-nearly-three-years>

Electric Canadian

A York Pioneer's Recollections

Of a Visit to "The Emerald Isle," and his native town after an absence of forty years (1876) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/irish/emeraldisle.pdf>

Royal Military College of Canada

Added the June 1935 review which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/royalmilitarycollege.htm>

Robert Gillespie Reid

Railwayman and Businessman

You can read about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/robert-gillespie-reid.htm>

Canadian Schoolhouse in the Red

The First National Study of School Facilities. A Canadian national study provides provincial data on the country's publicly funded school facilities including school building age, student achievement and school condition, fiscal condition, maintenance, and energy usage. (1993) (pdf)

You can read this at:

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

Algonquian Indian Names of Places in Northern Canada

By J. B. Tyrrell, M.A., F.R.S.C. (1915) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/algonquinindiant00younuoft.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 19th day of May 2024 - Pentecost

By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26493-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-19th-day-of-may-2024-pentecost>

Gordon Lightfoot

The wonderfully archived 1979 broadcast as ripped from an NTSC format DVD which has the unavoidable characteristic red toned colouring of the original VHS tape recording.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/music/gordon-lightfoot.htm>

The Canadian Annual Review of Public Affairs
Added the 1927-28 edition

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/annual/index.htm>

Electric Scotland

The Dramatic writers of Scotland
By Ralston Inglis (1868) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/dramaticwriters00inglrich.pdf>

The Celtic Monthly
A magazine for Highlanders. Edited by John MacKay, volume 16 (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/celtic/celticmonthlyam16.pdf>

Designed to Care
Renewing the National Health Service in Scotland presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Scotland by Command of Her Majesty December 1997 (pdf)

You can read this report at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/medical/designedtocare.pdf>

Scotland launching groundbreaking mandatory AI Register
Scottish public and private organisations are being warned that hyped-up advanced artificial intelligence (genAI) marketing campaigns hurtling in their direction at cyberspeed can easily nudge, off-kilter, their digital compass. by Bill Magee

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/magee/article0010.htm>

The Watson Family
A traditional music family in North Carolina

You can watch and read about them at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/watsonfamily.htm>

Highland Music Trust

A Scottish charity established for the preservation of Scottish National and Traditional Music.

You can learn about them at:

<https://electricscotland.com/music/highlandmusictrust.htm>

The Caledonian Magazine

Edited by George Bronson Rea. Added the 1912 edition which highlights lots of articles on Scottish Home Rule.

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/caledonianmag.htm>

Gilbert

Lord Bishop of Sarum. He was descended from the Honourable Family of the Burnets of Leyes, in the North of Scotland (1715) (pdf)

You can read about him at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/a-character-of-the-right_burnet-thomas-sir_1715_1.pdf

The Scottish Society of Louisville

Added their May 2024 newsletter which you can read at:

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

Caledonian Magazine or Aberdeen Repository

Volumes 2 & 3 (1789) (pdf)

You can read these volumes at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/aberdeen/caledonianmagazvol2-3.pdf>

Story

THE HONOURABLE LORD GUTHRIE

Of the many distinguished men who have been Sheriffs of Ross and Cromarty, and Sutherland, none took a more worthy view of the dignity and the responsibilities of the office than Sheriff C. J. Guthrie. Happy in the circumstances of his appointment—for he owed it to a government to which politically he was opposed—he distinguished his tenure of the post by his keen interest in all that affected the welfare of his Sherifffdom. He was not the mere judge from outside who considers that his duty is done by the bare discharge of his legal and administrative functions.

Reviving the old practice under which the Scots Sheriff resided for a portion of the year within his territory, he became conversant with its customs and traditions, and was the personal friend of peer and crofter. Thus identifying himself with the interests of his Sherifffdom, he supplied the only thing which was lacking at the date of his appointment to make him an ideal Sheriff.

The Celtic thus honours itself in presenting to its readers a permanent memorial of one of the best Sheriffs the Highlands ever had. In the Scottish annals he may live as Lord Guthrie, the judge of the Court of Session; in the Highlands he will be remembered as the Sheriff who understood Highlanders as one of ourselves, who respected our ways, and paid homage to our traditions.

Charles John Guthrie was born in Edinburgh in 1849. To have as his father, Dr. Thomas Guthrie, the genial, pawky, big-hearted, impulsive, eloquent apostle of Christian commonsense, was to start the world with a big

handicap over his contemporaries. That inheritance carried with it something from James Guthrie, the Martyr, “the short man that could not bow,” as well as traits of Angus farmer forebears. Through his mother came to him the clerical and covenanting traditions of the Chalmers, the Burns, and the Trail families—families which wrote their names on the history of a wider area than their native Aberdeenshire or Angus.

An alumnus of the Royal High School and the University of Edinburgh, he studied law in London as well, and men and manners in the course of a tour on the North American Continent. On his call to the Scottish bar in 1875, his abilities secured him immediate employment, and twenty years of busy junior practice led to twelve more of arduous work as a Senior Counsel. No pleader more readily secured the ear of the bench, and his appointment in January 1907 to succeed Lord Kyllachy, was hailed with universal satisfaction. His success as a Sheriff is being repeated in the Supreme Court. Popular with the bar and trusted by litigants, he has proved himself an accession of strength to the judicial establishment of our country.

Shrewd, level-headed, well versed in legal principles and precedents, and the soundest of advisers, he is also a man of wide tastes and large sympathies. A philanthropist, a temperance reformer, an antiquarian, a lover of art and music, a traveller in many lands,—no wonder that he is the most fascinating of companions.

His father taught him to follow the advice of Izaak Walton—“All that Are lovers of virtue . . . be quiet and go a-Angling”; and under the shadow of the Aberdeenshire hills not a few trout have fallen victims to the “Moderator” or the “High Commissioner”—flies of the Doctor’s own making. In later days the Golspie trout discovered that the arm of the Sheriff had not lost its cunning. But Golspie has better reason to remember him for the practical interest he took in its educational establishments,—not least in the Golspie Technical School, a scheme which appealed to him strongly. One of his gifts to it will appeal to all Highlanders—he presented it with a set of bagpipes.

It would be impossible to tell over everything he did for his Sheriffdom—some things known to the world, many things known only to a few. He took by the hand Sir Hector Macdonald’s young son, believing that one of the best tributes to the father’s memory was to ensure an honourable career to the son. Lord Guthrie has hosts of well-wishers, but none heartier than in his old Sheriffdom.

You can read more about him in the book...

Lord Guthrie

A Memoir by Sheriff Robert Low Orr, K.C. (1923) (pdf) at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/nation/lordguthriememio0000orrr.pdf>

END

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

Alastair