



ELECTRICCANADIAN.COM
AGRICULTURE & WILDLIFE
ARTICLES
BETH'S FAMILY TREE
BOOKS
BUSINESS
CHILDREN'S STORIES
CLANS & FAMILIES

CULTURE & LANGUAGE
DONNA'S PAGE
ELECTRICSCOTLAND.NET
FAMOUS SCOTS
FAMILY TREE
FORUMS
FOOD & DRINK
GAMES

GAZETTEER
GENEALOGY
HISTORIC PLACES
HISTORY
HUMOR
JOHN'S PAGE
KIDS
LIFESTYLE
MUSIC

NEWSLETTER
PICTURES
POETRY
POSTCARDS
RELIGION
ROBERT BURNS
SCOTS IRISH
SCOTS REGIMENTS
SERVICES

SHOPPING
SONGS
SPORT
SCOTS DIASPORA
TARTANS
TRAVEL
TRIVIA
VIDEOS
WHAT'S NEW

HELP TERMS OF USE CONTACT US

Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for November 29th, 2024

Electric Scotland News

Decided it was overdue that I added a new video to the index page of our site and so have taken down the Highlands and Islands video although it's still on our Nature page. In it's place I have placed a two part video on Scotland which sets the scene to what the site is all about. So I hope you'll enjoy watching these two videos.

MyHeritage

MyHeritage DNA kit at the lowest price ever – \$29 (instead of \$89) when you click this [link](#): which runs through to December 8th.

Also... you might wish to check out their Live Memory app for animating still pictures at:

<https://www.myheritage.com/livememory/>

I note the UK and Canada have major issues when it comes to their armed forces or lack of them. Added a link in our News section to a quite major article on "The dismal state of British defence".

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...

How the ZX Spectrum became a 1980s icon

The ZX Spectrum was a 1980s icon which played a starring role in the revolution that brought computers into the UK's homes for the first time.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cpvzp80jv07o>

Conrad Black: Donald Trump's return will put the world back in order

Most of the current problems in international relations are the result of the weakness of the principal superpower in the last three years

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/yzaXw>

Scottish hospitality facing up to 70% higher business rates than in England
UKHospitality Scotland has urged the Scottish Government to grant hospitality businesses at least 40% in business rates relief.

Read more at:

<https://news.stv.tv/scotland/scottish-hospitality-facing-up-to-70-higher-business-rates-than-england>

Scotland's Budget Report Preview 3: The evolution of the Scottish Government's 2024-25 net financial

2024-25 has been a financial year of tribulations in terms of the Scottish Government's ability to adhere to its legally binding requirement to balance its resource budget. When we presented our 2023 Budget Report, we highlighted the challenges that were likely to come in the year ahead. As a result of these challenges, the 2024-25 Budget included some increases in tax, as well as cuts to a number of programmes.

Read more at:

<https://fraserofallander.org/scotlands-budget-report-preview-3-the-evolution-of-scottish-governments-2024-25-net-financial-position/>

Triumph over legal cases seals Trump's comeback

With special counsel Jack Smith's move on Wednesday to drop the 2020 election interference prosecution against Donald Trump, one of the last remaining legal threats against the president-elect has turned to ash and blown away in the wind.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c39nmy17em2o>

Swinney urges Scots to check eligibility for free winter flu and Covid jabs
The First Minister said Scotland's hospitals are already under pressure as flu season approaches.

Read more at:

<https://news.stv.tv/north/first-minister-john-swinney-urges-people-to-book-free-winter-vaccinations-to-relieve-nhs-winter-pressure>

Religion is here to stay

A new spirit of confidence and fearlessness characterises those who continue to believe

Read more at:

<https://thecritic.co.uk/religion-is-here-to-stay/>

Welcome to the bitcoin boom

It is now almost 15 years since bitcoin was released to the world. Since then, it has grown and grown. Like most things online, bitcoin has divided people. Its admirers and detractors argue with as much vitriol as the political Left and Right. But the admirers have won: if bitcoin was going to die, it would be dead by now.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/bitcoin-is-thriving-is-this-the-future-of-money/>

10 U.S States Going Broke in 2025

In 2025, some U.S. states are facing serious financial challenges, with budgets stretched thin and debt piling

up. This video explores 10 states that are on the brink of economic trouble, highlighting issues like declining revenues, rising costs, and other factors contributing to their financial struggles. From government mismanagement to struggling industries, learn why these states might be heading toward fiscal instability and what it could mean for residents, businesses, and the overall economy.

Watch this video at:

<https://youtu.be/oB46yY96W9s?si=2BcSa3yFbvgSL3QU>

China DUMPED \$113 Billion in U.S. Debt... What's Going On?

Japan and China have sold off \$113 billion worth of US Treasury securities in the third quarter, marking a significant shift in global financial patterns. Japan's record-breaking \$61.9 billion sell-off and China's \$51.3 billion reduction came just before Trump's victory. This massive sale reflects growing concerns about US economic policies, potential inflation risks, and changing global investment strategies. Despite the substantial sell-off, both countries remain major holders of US debt, with Japan owning \$1.02 trillion and China holding \$731 billion in Treasury securities.

Watch this video at:

<https://youtu.be/wYXaordpdRE?si=GBFoFsSDMgTVnBHs>

Scottish Girl Breaks Mile Record Easily

Let us be clear Laura Muir set a new British Record that had stood for 38 years not a new World Record. The title could be misleading. Her time is the third fastest indoor ever.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/xnFz8sFIIZU?si=JtJX3AVLex4TgkHo>

Scottish Champion VS 100 Japanese Runners In Half Marathon Race

No one in that field should be surprised. Hawkins is the real deal. He is a fearless racer! If you've ever seen him race cross country against the Africans, you will know this. I love this guy!

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/vOVuGTg3fJg?si=ymSraPe05nrMPNDq>

Prince William Visits London Underground, Then SPOTS 5-Year-Old Girl

Prince William made an unexpected move during a rare, unannounced visit to the London Underground. With no security or media entourage, he blended into the busy crowd, looking to experience life as a regular Londoner. But when he spotted a lost 5-year-old girl named Emily, he did something that would leave everyone in awe. Watch as the Prince steps into action in a way no one expected, offering help in a tense moment, all while maintaining his royal composure. What happened next will surprise you! Don't miss this incredible, heartwarming story that shows a side of Prince William few have seen.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/a4ILpRkxh18?si=CbGWI5oo6GGAIZy9>

Ontario's 2025 Winter Forecast: Strong Potential For Big Snow Events

The Weather Network meteorologist Nadine Powell has Ontario's 2024/2025 Winter Forecast.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/K7adje3JSEU?si=M-Mkkl3xpsVkJZbs>

Scottish Highland whisky distillery tour crowned best in the world'

A Scottish whisky distillery has won a top prize at the World Travel Awards, winning the coveted World's Leading Whisky Distillery Tour trophy at the global awards.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland-now/scottish-highland-whisky-distillery-tour-34199108>

Homeless crisis is stain on Scotland as numbers dramatically escalate
It barely seems possible but the number of homeless people in Scotland continues to escalate wildly.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/homeless-crisis-stain-scotland-numbers-34202005>

The dismal state of British defence
The UK's defence strategy is a combination of hope and vibes

Read more at:

<https://chalmermagne.substack.com/p/itll-be-alright-on-the-night>

Electric Canadian

Newfoundland in 1842

By Sir Richard Henry Bonnycastle, KNY., Lt-Colonel in the Corps of Royal Engineers in two volumes (1842)

You can read these volumes at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/newfoundland/newfoundland1842.htm>

The Western Farmer's New and Universal Hand-Book
Or, A plain, practical, and comprehensive detail of Agricultural economy, in all its departments, throughout the United States and the Canadas (1856) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/agriculture/westernfarmersne00chic.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - The 24th day of November 2024 Time to look ahead
By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26562-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-24th-day-of-november-2024-time-to-look-ahead>

A Race Against the Clock Through a Killer Blizzard

One of Canada's most extreme railroads snakes over 1000 Km's across the frozen tundra. The Ontario Northland Railroad is vital network for industry and remote communities but, in one of the harshest environments on earth it takes a hardcore team and a fleet of mega machines to keep this critical life line running. Added this video to the foot our our page at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/steelndx.htm>

Sketch of the Civil Engineering of North America

By David Stevenson, Civil Engineer (1838)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/industrial/civilengineering.htm>

The Beaver Magazine
Added Volume 3 No. 5 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/TheBeaverFebruary1923.pdf>

Electric Scotland

The Oldest Story

Doings of our Ancestors in India 10,000 years ago, Translated from Pre-Vedic Sanskrit by W. A. MacDonald (1908) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/india/oldeststorydoin00macdgoog.pdf>

Scottish History Society

About the society and also added the first two volumes of the Miscellany of The Scottish History Society (Third Series).

You can learn about them and read their publications at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/shs/index.htm>

A Summer in Scotland

By Jacob Abbott, an American teacher (1876) (pdf)

Having spent a month or two during the last summer in rambling among the Highlands of Scotland, I have written the following account of my adventures for the amusement of my pupils, and of such other readers as may honor these pages with a perusal. The narrative is strictly a personal one. The work does not pretend to give a geographical, historical, or statistical account of Scotland, but only a simple narration of the adventures of a traveler rambling in a romantic country in search of recreation and enjoyment alone. In writing the account, I have attempted nothing more than to reproduce for the reader a picture of the scenes, such as they were, which presented themselves to my attention. The book, therefore, claims no higher province than that of offering a rational source of entertainment to the reader in leisure hours.

Abbott's Institution, New York, Jan., 1848.

Fascinating book which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/travel/summerinScotland.html>

The History of Scotland

Added a 2 part video to our index page which together makes up an hours viewing which I believe is a great introduction to Scotland up to the 2020's.

You can view these on our home page at:

<https://electricScotland.com/index.html>

Calum I. Maclean's Fieldwork Diaries in Arisaig, Morar, and Moidart, 1954
Parts one to nine (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/men/fileldworkdiaries2.pdf>

Why Not Scotland? - The Rewilding Nation documentary

Join Flo, a young Scot from Glasgow, on an intensely personal journey, as she seeks out examples of nature recovery around Europe. Added this video to around the middle of our Nature page at:

<https://electricScotland.com/nature/index.htm>

Fairweather

Added a page for this name at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/nation/fairweather.htm>

The History of the Gregg Family in America (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/ryegate/greggfamilyinamerica.pdf>

Scottish Society for Northern Studies

The Scottish Society for Northern Studies explores the historical interrelationships between the Scandinavian, Celtic, and Scottish worlds through public events and scholarly research.

You can learn more about them at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/ssns.htm>

Memoirs Touching the Revolution in Scotland

MDCLXXXVIII — MDCXC by Colin Lindsay, Earl of Balcarres presented to King James II. at St. Germain, MDCXC (1841) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/memoirstouchingr00balcrich.pdf>

Scottish Restaurants

We're getting closer to Christmas! in Edinburgh today and decided to take a trip down The Dome which showcases some of the most stunning Christmas decorations in the UK.

Added this video to the foot of our page at:

<https://electricScotland.com/food/scottishrestaurants.htm>

Its 2064, and the average temperatures are 6.8 above normal, and rising

A sci-fi account of how humans might deal with worst case climate change by John M McIntyre (pdf)

You can read this short book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/books/scifi/climatechange.pdf>

Scots' Trogenix brings new hope of beating cancer

Trogenix, a leading Scottish biotech specialist, has administered a dose of welcome relief to a highly-uncertain digital era led by generative artificial intelligence. In doing so the AI software researcher is attracting a growing list of interested parties, including the US National Brain Tumor Society.

An article by Bill Magee which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/magee/article0020.htm>

Log Book 24 of the USS Essex

January 1, 1888 - June 30, 1888. The Day to Day operations of Shipbuilder Donald McKay's Last Ship (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/america/logbookofessex.pdf>

Robert Stevenson

Added a video about the Stevensons to his page as I noted the one that was there is no longer available.

You can watch this at:

https://electricScotland.com/history/other/stevenson_robert.htm

Lighthouses

By David Stevenson, Civil Engineer (1865) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/other/lighthouses01stevgoog.pdf>

Story

WILLIAM HENRY GREGG, SEN., St. Louis, U.S.A.

Someone has said that it is only when a Scotsman leaves his native land, and settles in some far-distant clime, that he first appreciates at its true value his Scottish nationality, and develops a passion for its language, dress, music and literature. The hundreds of Caledonian Societies, under a variety of names, which flourish in the United States, afford abundant evidence that the statement is not lacking in truth. That the Scot in America is proud of his name and descent is well illustrated in the case of the subject of our sketch this month, Mr. Wm. H. Gregg, of St. Louis, Mo. His ancestor, Captain James Gregg, went from Ayr, to near Londonderry, Ireland, in 1690, and along with other fifteen families, emigrated in 1718 to New Hampshire, America, where they founded the town of New Londonderry, which was at first called Nutfield. Captain Gregg commanded a body of Militia, who fought several engagements with the Indians.

Major Samuel Gregg, great-grandfather of Mr. W. H. Gregg, served in the British Colonial Army during part of the French War, took part in the Cape Breton Expedition, and was present at the siege and surrender of Lewiston, and was major of the New Hampshire Militia during the Revolutionary War. His brother, William Gregg, was colonel of a U.S. regiment in the American Revolution, and held an important command under General Stark at the battle of Bennington.

Five generations of Mr. Gregg's ancestors married ladies of Scottish descent, his father, Mr. John Gregg, who settled in Palmyra, Wayne County, N.Y., about 1822, being the first to marry outside the Scots circle, his wife being Miss Anne Wilcox of Palmyra. He was engaged in the iron business, and in 1846 came to St. Louis, where he died shortly afterwards.

His son (in whose career we are at present more specially interested) at 15 years of age entered the employment of his uncle, Mr. M. N. Burchard, and after filling several situations, became, in 1854, partner in the firm of Warne & Merritt. Two years later he was admitted a member of the firm of Cuddy, Merritt & Co., who did a very large rolling-mill and iron-furnace construction business. In 1867 Mr. Gregg assisted in organising the Southern White Lead Coy., of which he was president, and which proved a most successful enterprise, its business connections extending to every State in the Union, as well as Canada and Mexico. In 1889 the stockholders sold their interest to the National Lead Coy. In November, 1889, he retired from the organisation, and although he still owns considerable stock in various concerns, he takes no active part in business.

Mr. Gregg usually spends his summers at St. Louis or Renetanguishene, Canada, and the winters in Florida, where, on board his yacht "Orion," he devotes much of his time to his favourite sport, angling, and has written a very interesting and handsome volume on the fishes peculiar to this famous angling resort.

Mr. Gregg was married on November 21, 1855, to Miss Orian Thompson, and has two sons and three daughters. The sons, Mr. Norris B. Gregg, and Mr. Wm. H. Gregg, Jun., are respectively president and vice-president of the Mound City Paint and Colour Coy. His daughter, Miss Clara J., is married to Mr. Charles M. Hays, the well-known president and general manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Coy.

For the past ten years Mr. Gregg has been engaged upon a most exhaustive and authoritative work on the "History of the Family of Gregg," which disturbs considerably many accepted theories in early Scottish history. This great work is expected to be published in a few months. To avoid any chance of misquotation in the many references which he makes, the author has had engraved about 250 facsimiles^ taken from old and rare works. In this and many other respects it will be a unique contribution to Scottish history, and all the more remarkable when it is remembered that the author's family have been exiles from Scotland for over two centuries,

END

Weekend is almost here and hope it's a good one for you and wishing our American friends a Happy Thanksgiving and hope Black Friday gets you what you want at a price you can afford!!!

Alastair