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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for December 20th, 2024

Electric Scotland News

Woman who abandoned nine-year-old boy in woods avoids prison

Ashley McGovern, 31, drove the boy to Brock Wood, near Dunbar in East Lothian, on the evening of September 9, 2022.

Drugs are at the root of so many problems in our society and just wondered what you think of this decision?

<https://news.stv.tv/east-central/woman-who-abandoned-nine-year-old-boy-in-woods-avoids-prison>

Tom Mulcair on Liberal Party woes

Watch this at: <https://youtu.be/qagwinMDnnM?si=qEraWPn0C3TwJkFT>

Here in Canada we're looking forward to getting a Conservative government in 2025 and this video provides a flavor of why we think this is so

Confess to being quite excited on the new Trump presidency and looking forward to seeing how things develop and especially on how they tackle government expenditure.

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...

Who in Britain isn't working?

While the recent 'Get Britain Working' white paper rightly highlighted the need to reduce the numbers of working-age Britons who are economically inactive, its proposals fail on one issue in particular. We need to adopt a targeted approach that is honest about which social groups aren't working.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/its-time-to-be-honest-about-who-in-britain-isnt-working>

Conrad Black: Assad's fall is Israel's triumph

It looks like Syria can avoid becoming another Afghanistan or Cambodia thanks to the Jewish State

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/6ODHA>

Chrystia Freeland RESIGNS as Deputy PM and Finance Minister

In a surprise announcement, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland announced her resignation from Justin Trudeau's cabinet, taking aim at "costly political gimmicks" on the eve of the government's fall economic update.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/UYNjFdJagvl?si=sLboDwAwypwHgm9x>

Scotland's schools were once the envy of the world but the SNP has allowed them to decline

In his regular column for the Record, Scottish Labour leader Anas Sarwar questions John Swinney's legacy from his time in charge of Scotland's education system.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/scotlands-schools-were-once-envy-34317890>

Why Reform UK is making an impact in Scotland

By Ewen Stewart in Think Scotland

Read more at:

<https://thinkscotland.org/2024/12/why-reform-uk-is-making-an-impact-in-scotland/>

Daniel Hannan: The CPTPP paves the way for an American trade deal, and Labour should seize the chance

On Sunday, the United Kingdom became the first new country to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), bringing membership to 12.

Read more at:

<https://conservativehome.com/2024/12/18/daniel-hannan-the-cptpp-paves-the-way-for-an-american-trade-deal-and-labour-should-seize-the-chance/>

Scots flooding across border to snap up cut price alcohol

Soaring alcohol prices in Scotland are driving shoppers online and over the border into England in search of bargains.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/scotland-england-alcohol-prices/>

Why car makers must ditch touch screen satnav

Motorists are being so distracted by modern touch screen satnav that they can take their eyes off the road for 16 seconds while driving with potentially fatal consequences, new research has found.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/a-split-second-from-disaster-why-car-makers-must-ditch-touch-screen-satnav/>

Emergency hospital admissions for flu increase by 82% as cases almost double

All indicators of the virus reported a sharp rise compared to previous years, Public Health Scotland has said.

Read more at:

<https://news.stv.tv/scotland/emergency-hospital-admissions-for-flu-increase-by-82-as-cases-almost-double>

Electric Canadian

Leaves from a Lifetime

Being a brief history of the Gartshore Family in Scotland; of the Gartshore and Moir Families, as pioneers, in early days in Ontario; and of the life and reminiscences to date of William Moir Gartshore, edited by Margaret Wade (1929) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/leavesfromlifeti00wade.pdf>

New Gaelic Speakers in Nova Scotia and Scotland

Heritage, Motivation and Identity by Suart S. Dunsmore (2024) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/9781474491648.pdf>

Pioneering in the Prarie West

A Sketch of the Parry Sound Colonies that Settled near Edmonton, N. W. T., in the Early Nineties By W. C. Pollard (Third edition) (1926) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/pioneeringintheprariwest.pdf>

Pioneering

By "Gilcraft" (1943) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/Pioneering.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 15th day of December 2024 - Joy

By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26570-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-15th-day-of-december-2024-joy>

Sir Alexander Campbell

Lawyer, politician, educator, businessman, and office holder (pdf)

You can read about him at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/campbell_sir_alexander.pdf

The Beaver Magazine

Added Volume 3 No. 8 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/TheBeaverMay1923.pdf>

Electric Scotland

The Black Watch

Added a 1 hour talk about the famous Scottish regiment from the Scottish American History Forum featuring Dr. Derek Patrick.

You can watch this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/scotreg/bwatch/index.htm>

The East India Company

Added a compilation of information and books about them which you can get to at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/india/eastindiaco.htm>

Ross, Sutherland and the Scottish Wars of Independence (1296-1357)

A lecture by Iain A. MacInnes (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricScotland.com/history/articles/Ross_Sutherland_and_the_Scottish_Wars_of.pdf

Home Life and Reminiscences of Alexander Campbell

By his wife, Selina Huntington Bakewell Campbell (1882) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/america/homelifereminisc00camp.pdf>

Miscellany of The Scottish History Society

Added the Fifth Volume which contains Fraser Charters, Bagimond's Roll for Teviotdale Archdeaconry, Lauderdale Correspondence, Letters of Alexander Monro, Jacobite Papers at Avignon, Marchmont Correspondence relating to the '45, Two fragments of Autobiography of Earl Marishal Keith

You can read this volume at:

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

Notes on the Origins and Pedigree of the Clan Donnachaidh / Robertson Chiefs version 4

By and © Adrian C Grant 14th December 2024

You can read his work at:

https://electricScotland.com/webclans/ntor/Notes_on_the_Origins_and_Pedigree_of_the.pdf

Pioneering

Added this story to the foot of our Abraham Lincoln page (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/america/pioneering00dall.pdf>

Memoirs of Elder Thomas Campbell

With a brief memoir of Mrs. Jane Campbell by Alexander Campbell of Bethany, Virginia (1861) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/america/memoirsofelderth0000alex.pdf>

Alexander Campbell

Leader of the great reformation of the nineteenth century by Thomas W. Grafton with an introduction by Herbert L. Willett (1897) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/alexcampbell00graf.pdf>

James Keir Hardie

Founder of the British Labour Party. Did a major update of his page with many books and other articles about him including some of his publications.

You can get to all this at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/other/hardy_keir.htm

Sir Robert Stodart Lorimer

Architect

You can learn about him at:

<https://electricscotland.com/webclans/families/lorimer-sir-robert-stodart.pdf>

Lives of the massacred MacDonallds of Glen Coe

By Michael Given on December 14, 2024 (pdf)

You can read this article at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/glencoe/LivesofthemasacredMacDonaldsofGlenCoe-ScepticalScot.pdf>

Wigtownshire Charters

Edited by R. C. Reid, LL.D. (1960) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/gazetteer/wigtownshirecharters.pdf>

What is my Tartan?

Or, The Clan of Scotland, with their Septs and Descendents by Frank Adam, FSAScot (1896) (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricscotland.com/tartans/what_is_my_tartan.pdf

Annals of the Persecution in Scotland from the Restoration to the Revolution

By James Aikman, Esq., Author of the History of Scotland, second American edition in two volumes (1844)

You can read these volumes at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/AnnalsofthePersecutioninScotland.htm>

Russian place-names of 'hidden' or 'indirect' Scottish origin

The case of Hamilton – Khomutov by Alexander Pavlenko and Galina Pavlenko (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/russia/Pavlenko-Russian-place-names-of-hidden-or-indirect-Scottish-origin.pdf>

The Caledonian Connection

Biographical list publication which includes 400 Scots in Russia and around 60 Russians in Scotland. Added a

pdf file to this page at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/russia/caladonian_collection.htm

The Cookery Book of Lady Clark of Tillypronie
Arranged and edited by Catherine Frances Frere (1909)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/food/tillypronie.htm>

How to export to and import from CPTPP countries

As we're now a member of this trade group I thought I'd create a page to provide some useful information.

You can visit this page at:

<https://electricscotland.com/business/cptpp.htm>

Story



DR. WILLIAM MACKENZIE MORISON, J.P.

Dr. William MacKenzie Morison, J.P.

The subject of our sketch this month is Dr. William Mackenzie Morison of Annfield Plain, County Durham, whose striking Gaelic speech at the Lewis and Harris Gathering in November last is still the subject of admiring

remark in Highland circles in Glasgow. The speech was most happily conceived, and was characterised by unusually pure and expressive diction, poetic fancy, and unmistakeable sincerity of feeling. It discovered to the delighted audience, as was said at the time, a new Gaelic orator.

Dr. Morison was born in Stornoway about forty years ago, and is the son of Mr. Roderick Morison, shipmaster, of that town. His parents still survive, hale and active, a cheerful, happy pair, liked and respected by all who know them. Paternally, he is descended from the Morisons of Ness, the hereditary Judges of the Island, while on his mother's side he traces his descent from the Mackenzies of Gairloch. Mackenzie of "The Beauties" was a near relative of the family.

After finishing his education at the Free Church School, he entered upon his apprenticeship with the local chemist, Mr. Alexander MacPherson, a man deservedly held in the highest respect by the entire community. At the conclusion of his apprenticeship he proceeded to Edinburgh, where, after a short time spent in the drug trade, he entered upon the study of medicine, and qualified as a medical practitioner in 1893. He was a distinguished student, and a prize-winner and meddlist in several of his classes.

On the completion of his studies he received an appointment in London, where he spent one-and-a-half years before removing to and settling down in Annfield Plain, where he has since remained. Notwithstanding the claims of a large practice, he finds time for much public work. He is a member of the Board of Guardians, and had the honour last year of being appointed a Magistrate for the County. For the important judicial duties of the bench he should, as a descendant of the old Lewis Judges, have an hereditary aptitude. A keen Radical, he has been for many years president of the local Liberal Association, and is virtually permanent chairman for all the most important political meetings in the constituency. He was for some time president of the North West Durham Caledonian Society, an active and useful association which organises an annual Scottish concert that has come to be regarded as the musical event of the season. He is a ready and effective public speaker, and his services are in constant demand as a lecturer on literary and historical subjects.

Of the many Lewismen who have crossed the Minch to seek their fortune in the South, it is safe to say that there are few, if any, whose love for their native island, its people and language, is more ardent and steadfast. He is a Lewisman to the core; he is proud of his native island, and his fellow islanders are proud of him. He is a life member of many years standing of the Lewis and Harris Association, and is warmly interested in its work.

One of the griefs of his life is that there are no Gaelic-speaking Gaels living near him with whom he can converse in the language to which he is so deeply attached, but by dint of constant reading and writing he has not only preserved, but has vastly extended his knowledge of the dear old tongue. Dr. Morison is a splendid specimen of the best type of Highlander— unassuming, kindly, tolerant and generous — and he wears his honours and accomplishments with a charming and refreshing modesty. "Saoghal fada dha."

END

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

Alastair