



Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for August 15th, 2025

Electric Scotland News

Hi Alastair

I hope this finds you well. I'm reaching out because we're looking to grow the MyHeritage Wiki contributor community, and I think your members could be a great fit.

The MyHeritage Wiki contributor community is a curated group of passionate family history enthusiasts who are helping shape a valuable online resource for genealogists around the world. We're currently seeking volunteers who'd like to share their knowledge, contribute articles, and become part of the movement to make genealogy more accessible for everyone, everywhere. Contributors enjoy a variety of perks, including:

MyHeritage subscriptions

Personalized gifts

A dedicated contributor page showcasing their articles, biography, and personal/professional links (including social media profiles)

If you believe your members would be interested, we would be very grateful if you could share this opportunity with your community. You can direct anyone interested to fill out this short form at: <https://tinyurl.com/yp3v7597>

Thank you for helping us spread the word, and for everything you do to support and grow the global genealogy community.

Being proactive these days in publishing My Canadian Experience posts I am learning a lot more than I thought on the potential of Canada as a real power in the world from our Agriculture & Fisheries, our Energy & Mineral wealth and our manufacturing capabilities. I am convinced that the last 10 years under the Liberal party saw a real decline in Canada and of course our current Prime Minister was involved in this. I have still to see him approve a pipe line so I am still concerned about what he will do or not do.

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...

FDA approves breakthrough eye drops that fix near vision without glasses

The first aceclidine-based eye drop to improve near vision in adults with presbyopia, which affects more than 100 million adults in the US alone, has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and will be available within three months.

Read more at:

<https://newatlas.com/aging/age-related-near-sighted-drops-vizz/>

The man who saved England's schools

Tories are often asked, 'After 14 years in power, what did you actually achieve?' The reforms to England's schools is an obvious success. While various secretaries of state came and went, Nick Gibb served as schools minister for a number of years. In a new book, he lays out how he and others revolutionised English education.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/education-reform-is-something-the-conservatives-can-celebrate>

Scottish public spending deficit grows as oil revenue drops

The latest annual Government Expenditure and Revenue Scotland (Gers) report looks at taxes raised from people and businesses in Scotland and government spending for and on behalf of Scotland. It found the difference in 2024-25 was £26.5bn, which was up from £21.4bn in the previous financial year.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c754qyzqpz2o>

JD Vance lands in Scotland for next leg of UK holiday

Vance has also described himself as a "Scots-Irish hillbilly at heart" in the past, with his ancestors having moved to the Appalachian region in the US more than three centuries ago.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cyvn6r682lmo>

Conrad Black: I put in a good word for Canada with Trump. If only Carney could do the same

It is not impossible to deal with Donald Trump. Canadians are waiting to see if our leader wishes to make love or war

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/Whl3O>

In praise of grouse shooting

Why the glorious 12th should be the ultimate celebration of British conservation success

Read more at:

<https://thecritic.co.uk/in-praise-of-grouse-shooting/>

Scottish schoolgirl named on Time's first Girls of the Year list

A Scottish schoolgirl who designed a solar-powered backpack with an electric blanket inside to help homeless people has been named on the first-ever Time magazine Girls of the Year list.

Read more at:

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/25389031.scottish-schoolgirl-named-times-first-girls-year-list/>

Auntie at the precipice

The BBC faces a perfect storm of looming threats

Read more at:

<https://thecritic.co.uk/auntie-at-the-precipice/>

How Europe failed us

How we reached the Brexit we have

Read more at:

<https://thecritic.co.uk/how-europe-failed-us/>

The U.S. Military's DIRTY SECRET: It Depends on China
World Affairs In Context

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/2tbFbEoehh4?si=xJrfjBe4-uJHN6yD>

Could YOU live on our remote off-grid Scottish sheep farm in 2026?

How do you round up a flock of hundreds of sheep off the farthest low tide where they eat seaweed? How do you sustain a meaningful life in the remote off grid farm in Scotland? Could you take over and create a whole new life for your family? If you're interested in taking over our farm or coming to live here, check out my mum's website where there are more details: www.isleofauskerry.com

Watch this video at:

https://youtu.be/ch_LFhX9jm4?si=fN9m5sg7bJEplw3Q

Electric Canadian

My Canadian Experience

My August 2025 entry is work in progress and updated daily.

You can read this and watch all the videos at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add24.htm

I do note the quandary that Canada is facing with tariffs being imposed by the USA and China. The latest agricultural tariffs on Canadian agriculture by China is being imposed due to Canada's tariffs on Chinese Electric Vehicles. However the cost of this exceeds the costs on Steel, Aluminum and Vehicles in Canada which means we either need to ditch this, which was mostly supporting the USA, or we need to spend a lot of money supporting our workers. I added three videos on this which I hope will explain this better.

Massey Ferguson

Wiki article about this company (pdf)

You can read this at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/Massey_Ferguson.pdf

Union of Presbyterians in Canada

By Rev. Robert Campbell, M. A., Montreal, Prize Essay (1871) (pdf)

YOu can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/Religion/onunionofpresbyt01camp.pdf>

Memoirs of Ralph Vansittart

By Edward Robert Cameron, M.A., LL.D., K.C. (1924) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/memoirsofralphva01came.pdf>

Journal of the Particular Transactions during the Siege of Quebec

At Anchor opposite the Island of Orleans July 26th 1759 By an officer of Fraser's Regt. Republished by Permission of the Editor of Notes and Queries (1901) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/quebec/siegequebec00frasrich.pdf>

Scottish Canadians

A pdf of the Wikipedia page about the Scottish Canadians

You can read this at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/Scotland/Scottish_Canadians.pdf

The New Galt Cook Book

A Book of tried and tested recipes Compiled by Margaret Taylor and Frances McNaught (1898) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/newgaltcookbookb00tayl.pdf>

Memoir of The Rev. John Bayne, D.D., of Galt

By Rev. G. Smellie, Fergus (1871) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/Religion/memoirofrevjohnb00smel.pdf>

In Deep of the Snow

By Charles G. D. Roberts, Illustrated by Denman Fink (1907) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/indeepofsnow00robe.pdf>

The Great Dominion

Studies of Canada by George R. Parkin, M.A. (1895) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/greatdominionstu00park_0.pdf

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 10th day of August 2025 - Regrets

By The Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26644-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-10th-day-of-august-2025-regrets>

Hours with Men and Books

By William Mathews, LL.D., Author of "Getting on in the World," etc. A collection of essays by William Mathews,

first published in 1877. The book explores various literary topics and provides insightful commentary on figures like Shakespeare, Milton, and Goethe, as well as themes such as the art of reading and the role of literature in education. It is known for its clear and concise writing style, making it accessible to both general readers and scholars. (pdf)

You can read this book at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/hourswithmenbook00math_2.pdf

Canadian War Cuts & Clippings

Added Supplement Volume From Sept 26th 1918 and also a volume for 1950-7

You can read this at:

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

In Commemoration of the Second Contingent going to the Front from Military District No. 10 Canada 1915

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/second-contingent.htm>

The Beaver Magazine

Added No. 4 Outfit 259 March 1929 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/TheBeaverMarch1929.pdf>

Electric Scotland

Standing Orders of the Seventy-Ninth Highlanders

With references to all general orders issues from the Horse Guards (1835) (pdf)

You can read this at:

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

A Soldier's Saga

The Autobiography of General Sir Aylmer Haldane, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O. (1948) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/scotreg/SoldiersSaga.pdf>

An Illustrated History of The State of Iowa

A Complete Civil, Political and Military History of the State, from its first exploration down to 1875 by Prof. Charles R. Tuttle, Author of "History of Wisconsin," "History of Indiana," "History of Michigan," "History of Border Wars," "Centennial History of the Northwest," etc., etc., assisted by Daniel S. Durrie, A. M., For twenty years Librarian of the Wisconsin State Historical Society (1876) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/america/illustratedhisto00intutt.pdf>

The Sixth Gordons in France and Flanders

(with the 7th and 51st Divisions) by Captain D. MacKenzie, M.A., M.C., Schoolmaster at Cullen (1922) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/SixthGordonsFranceFlandersTF.pdf>

The Seventy-Ninth Highlanders

New York Volunteers in the War of Rebellion 1861-1865 by William Todd (of Company B) (1886) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/seventyninthhigh00toddrich.pdf>

Historical Records of the 72d Highlanders

Now 1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders 1777-1886 by W. Guinness, Colonel, (1886) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/HistRecords72dHighlanders.pdf>

The Seaforth Highlanders

By Lauchlan MacLean Watt (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/SeaforthHighlandersWatt.pdf>

How Scots Invention & Innovation Created Lens Through Which We All View Our Modern World

The US POTUS' fake claim that the States 'invented everything' reminds me of the Nebraskan school exchange when a Scot was asked if they had television in Scotland? The reply: 'We invented it.' by Bill Magee.

You can read this article at:

<https://electricscotland.com/magee/article0035.htm>

Ringan Gilhaize

Or, The Covenanters by John Galt, edited with an introduction by Sir George Douglas, Bart. (1899) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/books/pdf/Ringan-Gilhaize.pdf>

Doric/Scots body pairts

Found an interesting graphic showing these which I've added to our Scots Language page.

You can view this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/culture/features/scots/index.htm>

The Renowned History of the Seven Champions of Christendom

By Richard Johnson (1862) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/RenownedHistory7ChampionsChristendom.pdf>

Scalan

Added further information about this Catholic Seminary

You can get to this at

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

Records of British Colonies and Enterprise Beyond Sea

From Original and Authentic Sources by S. Bannister, M.A., formerly Attorney-General of New South Wales.

Notice to the re-publication of the Introduction (1852) (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricscotland.com/independence/sip/Records_of_British_Colonies_and_Enterpri.pdf

Scottish Society of Louisville

Got in their August 2025 newsletter which you can read at:

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

Illustrations of British History, Biography, and Manners

In the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary, Elizabeth, and James I, exhibited in a series of original papers, selected from the manuscripts of the noble families of Howard, Talbot, and Cecil, containing, among a variety of interesting pieces, a great Part of the Correspondence of Elizabeth, and her ministers, with George, the sixth Earl of Shrewsbury, during the fifteen years in which Mary Queen of Scots remained in his custody by Edmund Lodge, Esq. Pursuivant of Arms, and F.S.A. in three volumes (1791)

You can read these volumes at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/illustrations.htm>

Story

I came across this audio story on YouTube and decided to feature it as the story for this week.

There are actually lots of these stories on YouTube so if you do like this one then there are many more to listen to.

They came barefoot and trembling, twelve Cherokee children with nothing but hunger in their eyes and hope in their hearts. "We're starving, sir," one whispered. The rancher—giant in size, silent in sorrow—had lived alone for years. But that day, everything changed. "Then you're all mine now," Big Sam MacKenzie said... and the world witnessed a miracle of love, family, and quiet redemption.

https://youtu.be/NqqJtQJYHT4?si=X32OZWP_CWGH0QtT

I might add that you might like to read the book...

John Ross and the Cherokee Indians By Rachel Caroline Eaton (1914) at:

<https://www.electricscotland.com/history/johnross/index.htm>

to learn more about this tribe and their Scottish connection.

END.

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

Alastair