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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for October 23, 2026

Electric Scotland News

Confirm Known Relationships with DNA Matches on MyHeritage

We're pleased to introduce a highly requested new feature on MyHeritage: you can now confirm your known relationships with DNA Matches. If you already know that a DNA Match is your first cousin, for example, you can record that relationship on MyHeritage so it appears instead of the estimated relationship.

Read more at:

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2026/10/new-confirm-known-relationships-with-dna-matches-on-myheritage/>

Terrible Rioting in France, Italy and Albania this week. That along with the wars in the Middle East and the continued war between Russia and Ukraine it looks like we are approaching a new world war.

I noted also the comments in the press about the number of European countries now announcing new preparations for a possible future war for which see the news article below on **Top UK General WARNS of WORLD WAR 3 - Oct 18.**

Continued with My Canadian Experience

This week I covered the Alberta referendum, Ukraine's devastating retaliatory strike; attacks on Yandex data centers plunged Russia into chaos, India-Canada Trade Mission: 30+ Deals Signed, \$70 Billion Trade Target By 2030, Food availability and affordability in Canada, Prime Minister Carney and Premier Ford launch new action plan to protect workers from tariffs and strengthen Ontario industries, Mark Carney speaking in Turkey, and other news.

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers and other media

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...

Andy Burnham shows why he's the most popular leader in Scotland with a positive speech that will unsettle SNP

A Prime Minister with a positive message for Scotland clashes with the SNP's endless claims that Westminster

must be viewed as the enemy, says Chris McCall

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/2dL3w#selection-1775.0-1775.155>

Conrad Black: A Christian uprising is here to save the West

Pope Leo XIV's visit to France was a revelation

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/j5RED>

Top UK General WARNS of WORLD WAR 3 - Oct 18

MeidasTouch host Ben Meiselas discusses British Army chief General Sir Roly Walker's stark warning that Britain must prepare for war and the sacrifices that could require. Meiselas examines the implications for a potential World War III, how the UK and Europe are preparing for a wider conflict, and how Donald Trump is dismantling the international security architecture as global threats intensify.

Watch this at:

https://youtu.be/oNi1_U_HD5Q?si=WdYll_yS_pSGUv_u

Andrew Neil Explains The French Protests In 9 Minutes

Andrew Neil explains the French protests, and the ramifications for the country's leadership.

Watch this at:

https://youtu.be/_E2Zq8t8dD0?si=QTrwf7juu_mJ-vCK

Italy Unrest: Clashes In Milan And Bologna Lead To Detentions

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni condemns violence during nationwide protests over inflation, wages and public services, as clashes in Milan, Bologna and Turin prompt police intervention and detentions.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/MGmv4rtGfH8?si=B6E1ojaZzUtiVtKB>

What's Happening in Albania? Why the Country Is Protesting

In this video, I explain in English the reasons behind the protests in Tirana—from poor university conditions and corruption to healthcare struggles and the frustration that has pushed many Albanians to leave the country. As an Albanian, I want to help you understand the lives and concerns behind the images you're seeing.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/GdOfmimSefc?si=4quFL5IX7dFz7xAm>

James Cosmo brings soldier's words to life in Royal Regiment of Scotland film

The 78-year-old, best known for his roles in Braveheart, Trainspotting and HBO series Game Of Thrones, will recite a poem written by serving soldier, Corporal Fraser Hall, from Alloa.

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/scottish-news/james-cosmo-brings-soldiers-words-to-life-in-royal-regiment-of-scotland-film-9294766>

Threat posed by Russia 'a double-edged sword for Scotland'

Dr Marc DeVore said Scotland is more exposed, but could benefit from extra defence spending

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/threat-posed-by-russia-a-double-edged-sword-for-scotland-9294765>

Ancient cattle herd practice brought back to life on highland estate

Herd managers will ride out on horseback to check the cattle where vehicles cannot access.

Read this at:

<https://archive.is/BsK19>

Electric Canadian

ONTARIO: The Most Beautiful Places in Ontario You'll Ever See

4K Travel Documentary.

You can watch this at:

https://youtu.be/Nj9Co56Wq2Q?si=edcRtPCSdKMk3Ui_

Valour Remembered Canadians in Korea

Written by Patricia Giesler, Veterans Affairs Canada (1998) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/Valour-Remembered-Canadians-in-Korea.pdf>

The Band of Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry

By permission of Lt.-Col. M. R. Ten Broeke, M.C., Commanding Officer (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/ThePrincessPats.pdf>

The Patricias: the proud history of a fighting regiment

By David Jay Bercuson (2001) can be borrowed on the Internet Archive

You can get to this at:

<https://archive.org/details/patriciasproudh0000berc>

John Henry Lefroy

In Search of the Magnetic North, A Soldier-Surveyor's Letters from the North-West 1843-1844, edited by George F. G. Stanley (1955) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/soldier-surveyor.pdf>

Canadian Grocer

Only Weekly Grocery Paper Published in Canada. July 5, 1918 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/magazines/cangrocerjulysept1918toro.pdf>

A Brief Sketch of the Life and Services of Retired Chief Factor R. Macfarlane

1852 - 1913 (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/RoderickRossMacFarlane.pdf>

The Six-Nations Indians in Canada

By J. B. Mackenzie (1896) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/sixnationsindian00mackrich.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning the 18th of October 2026 Feasting

By The Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/94AH0zhh5d8?si=3h64PPG6bLUyNpyZ>

The Beaver Magazine

Added No. 3 Outfit 274 December 1943 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/thebeaverdecember1943.pdf>

Electric Scotland

The History of the Lives of the most noted Highway-Men, Foot-Pads, House-Breakers, Shop-Lifts and Cheats

Of both sexes, in and about London, and other places of Great Britain, for above fifty years last past by Capt. Alexander Smith (1714) (pdf)

You can read this book, and mind due to the publication date, this is where the letter f is used for the letter s, at:

<https://electricScotland.com/lifestyle/the-history-of-the-lives.pdf>

Scottish Rite News Bulletin

January 1952 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

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

The Conquest Of A Continent, Or The Expansion Of Races In America

By Madison Grant, with an introduction by Prof. Henry Fairfield Osborn (1932) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

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

NOTICES OF ANCIENT GAELIC POEMS AND HISTORICAL FRAGMENTS IN A MS. VOLUME (written in the years 1512 to 1529) CALLED "THE DEAN OF LISMORE'S BOOK," IN THE ADVOCATES' LIBRARY.

By the Rev. THOMAS M'LAUCHLAN, Edinburgh. (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/literat/noticesofancient00macl.pdf>

Homely Hints from the Fireside

By the author of 'Little things', New Edition, by Henrietta Wilson (1860) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/lifestyle/HomelyHints.pdf>

Lives of the Scottish Reformers

by Thomas M'Crie (1846) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

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

Scotland's Asset Management, FinTech & Digital Innovation Strengths Showcased

Never has there been a more urgent need for an ethical financial operation in these troubled economic times. One endowed with a sustainable and socially-minded offering. In a digital nutshell a green and carbon-light cryptocurrency that doesn't cost the Earth. An article by Bill Magee.

You can read this article at:

<https://electricscotland.com/magee/article0061.htm>

Celtic Gleanings

Or, Notices of the history and literature of the Scottish Gael: in four lectures by Thomas Maclauchlan (1857) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/literat/celticgleanings.pdf>

Story

Montgomery's Highlanders

Acting upon the liberal plan he had devised, Lord Catham (then Mr Pitt), in the year 1757 recommended to his Majesty George II to employ the Highlanders in his service, as the best means of attaching them to his person. The king approved of the plan of the minister, and letter of service were immediately issued for raising several Highland regiments. This call to arms was responded to by the clans, and "battalions on battalions" to borrow the words of an anonymous author, "were raised in the remotest part of the Highlands, among those who a few years before were devoted to, and too long had followed the fate or the race of Stuarts. Fraser, Macdonalds, Camerons, Macleans, Macphersons, and others of disaffected names and clans, were enrolled; their chiefs or connections obtained commissions; the lower class, always ready to follow, with eagerness endeavored who should be first listed".

The regiment was called Montgomerie's Highlanders, from the name of its colonel, the Hon. Archibald Montgomerie, son of the Earl of Eglinton, to whom, when major, letters of service were issued for recruiting it. Being popular among the Highlanders, Major Montgomerie soon raised the requisite body of men, who were formed into a regiment of thirteen companies of 105 rank and file each; making in all 1460 effective men, including 65 sergeants, and 30 pipers and drummers.

The colonel's commission was dated the 4th of January 1757. The commissions of the other officers were dated each a day later than his senior in the same rank.

The regiment embarked at Greenock for Halifax, and on the commencement of hostilities in 1758 was attached to the corps under Brigadier-general Forbes in the expedition against Fort du Quesne, one of the three great enterprises undertaken that year against the French possessions in North America. Although the point of attack was not so formidable, nor the number of the enemy so great, as in the cases of Ticonderoga and Crown Point; yet the great extent of country which the troops had to traverse covered with woods, morasses, and mountains, made the expedition as difficult as the other two. The army of General Forbes was 6238 men strong.

The brigadier reached Raystown, about 90 miles from the Fort, in September, having apparently stayed some

time in Philadelphia.

Having sent Colonel Boquet forward to Loyal Henning, 40 miles nearer with 2000 men, this officer rashly dispatched Major Grant of Montgomery's with 400 Highlanders and 500 provincials to reconnoiter. When near the garrison Major Grant imprudently advanced with pipes playing and drums beating, as if entering a friendly town. The enemy instantly marched out, and a warm contest took place. Major Grant ordered his men to throw off their coats and advance sword in hand. The enemy fled on the first charge, and spread themselves among the woods; but being afterwards joined by a body of Indians, they rallied and surrounded the detachment on all sides. Protected by a thick foliage, they opened a destructive fire upon the British. Major Grant then endeavored to force his way into the wood, but was taken in the attempt, on seeing which his troops dispersed. Only 150 of the Highlanders returned to Loyal Henning.

In this unfortunate affair 231 soldiers of the regiment were killed and wounded. The names of the officers killed on this occasion have already been mentioned; the following were wounded: viz Captain Hugh Mackenzie; Lieutenants Alexander Macdonald, junior, Archibald Robertson, Henry Monro; and Ensigns John Macdonald and Alexander Grant. The enemy did not venture to oppose the main body, but retired from Fort du Quesne on its approach, leaving their ammunition, stores, and provisions untouched. General Forbes took possession of the Fort on the 24th of November, and, in honor of Mr Pitt, gave it the name of Pittsburgh.

The regiment passed the winter of 1758 in Pittsburgh, and in May following they joined part of the army under General Amherst in his proceedings at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and the Lakes.

In consequence of the renewed cruelties committed by the Cherokees, in the spring of 1760, the commander-in-chief detached Colonel Montgomery with 700 Highlanders of his own regiment, 400 of the Royals, and a body of provincials, to chastise these savages. The colonel arrived in the neighborhood of the Indian town Little Keowee in the middle of June, having, on his route, detached the light companies of Royals and Highlanders to destroy the place. This service was performed with the loss of a few men killed and two officers of the Royals wounded. Finding, on reaching Estatoe, that the enemy had fled, Colonel Montgomery retired to Fort Prince George. The Cherokees still proving refractory, he paid a second visit to the middle settlement, where he met with some resistance. He had 2 officers and 20 men killed, and 26 officers and 68 men wounded. Of these, the Highlanders had 1 sergeant and 6 privates killed, and Captain Sutherland, Lieutenants Macmaster and Mackinnon, and Assistant-surgeon Monro, and 1 sergeant, 1 piper, and 24 rank and file wounded. The detachment took Fort Loudon, a small fort on the confines of Virginia, which was defended by 200 men.

The next service in which Montgomery's Highlanders were employed was in an expedition against Dominique, consisting of a small land force, which included six companies of Montgomery's Highlanders and four ships of war, under Colonel Lord Rollo and Commodore Sir James Douglas. The transports from New York were scattered in a gale of wind, when a small transport, with a company of the Highlanders on board, being attacked by a French privateer, was beaten off by the Highlanders, with the loss of Lieutenant Maclean and 6 men killed, and Captain Robertson and 11 men wounded. The expedition arrived off Dominique on the 6th of June 1761. The troops immediately landed, and marched with little opposition to the town of Roseeau. Lord Rollo without delay attacked the entrenchments, and, though the enemy kept up a galling fire, they were driven, in succession, from all their works by the grenadiers, light infantry, and Highlanders. This service was executed with such vigour and rapidity that few of the British suffered. The governor and his staff being made prisoners, surrendered the island without further opposition.

In the following year Montgomery's Highlanders joined the expeditions against Martinique and the Havannah, of which an account will be found in the narrative of the service of the 42d regiment. In the enterprise against Martinique, 1 sergeant, and 26 rank and file, were wounded. Montgomery's Highlanders suffered still less in the conquest of the Havannah, Lieutenant Macvicar and 2 privates only having been killed, and 6 privates wounded. Lieutenants Grant and Macnab and 6 privates died of the fever. After this last enterprise Montgomery's Highlanders returned to New York, where they landed in the end of October.

Before the return of the six companies to New York, the two companies that had been sent against the Indians in the autumn of 1761, had embarked with a small force, under Colonel Amherst, destined to retake St John's, Newfoundland, which was occupied by a French force. The British force, which consisted of the flank companies of the Royals, a detachment of the 45th, two companies of Fraser's and Montgomery's Highlanders, and a small party of provincials, landed on the 12th of September, seven miles to the northward of St. John's. A mortar battery having been completed on the 17th, and ready to open on the garrison, the French commander surrendered by capitulation to an inferior force. Of Montgomery's Highlanders, Captain Mackenzie and 4 privates were killed and 2 privates wounded.

After this service the two companies joined the regiment at New York, where they passed the ensuing winter. In the summer of 1763 a detachment accompanied the expedition sent to the relief of Fort Pitt under Colonel Bouquet, the details of which have been already given in the account of the 42d regiment. In this enterprise 1 drummer and 5 privates of Montgomery's Highlanders were killed, and Lieutenant Donald Campbell, and Volunteers John Peebles, 3 sergeants and 7 privates were wounded.

After the termination of hostilities an offer was made to the officers and men either to settle in America or return to their own country. Those who remained obtained a grant of land in proportion to their rank. On the breaking out of the American war a number of these, as well as officers and men of the 78th regiment, joined the royal standard in 1775, and formed a corps along with the Highland Emigrants in the 84th regiment.

END.

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

Alastair