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Agriculture & Wildlife	Donna's Page	Genealogy	Kids	Religion	Sport	USA
Articles	ElectricScotland.net	Haggis	Lifestyle	Robert Burns	Tartans	Canada
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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for May 25th 2012

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Electric Scotland News

This week I've been emailing various Scottish organisations around the world to make use of our newsletter by sending me in news of what they are doing. I've even suggested that they could adopt the newsletter as their own by downloading it each week to send to their members. I'm also telling them about our community and calendar which again they can make use of. I'm really doing this in a spirit of co-operation so we'll see what comes out of it.

I also note that we are very near to having the official launch of the Referendum debate in Scotland and fully intend to profile that on the site.

As to our Electric Scotland Community there are always interesting stories being added on a variety of topics and you can contribute to them by being a member (which is free) and letting us have your thoughts about them. For example there are some interesting up to date topics such as "Today's youth not fit to be employed, says car firm Arnold Clark". It would thus be interesting to hear your thoughts on this debate both from young and old perspectives. You can read this article at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/2936-Today%E2%80%99s-youth-not-fit-to-be-employed-says-car-firm-Arnold-Clark>

This article seems to me to be aimed at Western culture. In fact there have been quite a few articles in the world to do with this subject. In Canada I note a change in the Unemployment situation where the Government is now looking to be more active in getting people back to work and especially the long-term unemployed.

As this week saw the end of two books next week I'll be starting on two new books. The two new books will be:

Mediaeval Scotland

Chapters on Agriculture, Manufacturers, Factories, Taxation, Revenue, Trade, Commerce, Weights and Measures by R. W. Cochran-Patrick (1892) and

History of the Parish of Banchory-Devenick

By John A. Henderson (1890)

You'll note of late I have been focusing on Places in Scotland. This is in part due to genealogy as when people find relations in Scotland they often want to know more about the area and so these books can provide some very interesting information. I am making a point of trying to find videos of the area on YouTube and where I find them am adding them to the index page of the book.

And on a technical note our community software folk have announced a new point release of their software so we plan to upgrade to



this at the weekend. We are also hoping that this will address the Facebook issue we've been having trouble with. Steve has also told me he's two thirds of the way through the coding of the comment system we want to install so hopefully we're getting nearer to getting that installed on the site.

ABOUT THE STORIES

Some of the stories in here are just parts of a larger story so do check out the site for the full versions. You can always find the link in our "What's New" section in our site menu and at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/whatsnew.htm> and also <http://www.electriccanadian.com/whatsnew.htm>

We try not to point to a pdf file and instead send you to page where the pdf can be downloaded.

Electric Canadian

Ten Thousand Miles Through Canada

The Natural Resources, Commercial Industries, Fish and Game, Sports and Pastimes of the Great Dominion by Joseph Adams.

I have been adding a new chapter of this book most days and we are now up to Chapter XIII.

You can read these at <http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/10000/index.htm>

Northern Gateway and energy infrastructure in the 21st Century

A Talk given at the Canadian Club in Toronto in May 2012. I found this very interesting indeed and it amazes me just how many billions Canada could make with this Gateway. They make the point that right now the US takes all of Canada's oil and thus it makes sense for Canada to build new markets and especially in Asia. You can read about this at

http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/oilgas/northern_gateway.htm

Montreal: One Square Mile of Canada

This is a program by the BBC about Montreal. It is an external link and can be viewed at

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-radio-and-tv-18105651>

The Flag in the Wind

This issue was Compiled by Gary Knox.

You can read this issue at <http://www.scotsindependent.org>

The Bards of Bon Accord 1375 - 1860

By William Walker

Added the chapter on "The Ogilviad"

You can read this at <http://www.electricscotland.com/poetry/bonaccord/index.htm>

Culross and Tulliallan

or Perthshire on Forth, its History and Antiquities with elucidation on Scottish Life and Character from the Burgh and Kirk-Session Records of that District by David Beveridge (1885) in two volumes.

We have now completed this book and the concluding chapters can be read at

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/culross/index.htm>

A History of the Border Counties

Roxburgh, Selkirk, Peebles by Sir George Douglas Bart.

Have now completed this book and there is an excellent list of books about this area should you wish to do further research yourself.

You can read the rest of these chapters and the others at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/borders/counties.htm>

A History of the County of Renfrew from the Earliest Times

By William M. Metcalfe, D.D. (1905)

We're now up to Chapter VI which is about William Wallace and here is how it starts...

Sir William Wallace was born in the barony of Renfrew, at Elderslie, about two miles to the west of Paisley, where some remains of the Wallaces' house, it is said, still exist. He was descended from Richard Wallace, who built Riccarton, near Kilmarnock, upon land probably given to him by the first Steward, and appears as one of the witnesses to the charter by which Walter conveyed to the Abbey of Paisley its first endowments. Adam, his grandson, had two sons, Adam and Malcolm. The elder succeeded to the lands of Riccarton, while the younger obtained the lands of Elderslie in the barony of Renfrew. Malcolm married Margaret, daughter of Sir Reginald Craufurd, sheriff of Ayr, by whom he had three sons, Andrew, William, and John. The second was the Patriot.

The date of his birth is uncertain ; but may probably be set down at about the year 1270. He is said to have been educated by his uncle, who was priest of Dunipace, and afterwards at Dundee, but it is quite as likely that he attended the neighbouring monastery of Paisley, and received his education there. The whole of his early years, however, are involved in obscurity, and the accounts given by Fordun and the Minstrel are not always to be trusted. Both of them wrote considerably later, and often mistake legends for facts. The chronology of the latter is in several important particulars obviously wrong.

The first historical fact we have in connection with Wallace is the riot at Lanark, in May, 1297. Wallace had then arrived at man's estate. According to one account, he had been married a year. His wife, it is said, was Marion, daughter of Hugh Bradfute of Lamington, an orphan. Though urged by Hazelrigg, the sheriff of the county, to marry his son, she had preferred Wallace, and had been united to him privately. On account of this, Hazelrigg and Sir Robert Thorn, an English knight, it is said, observing him leave the church one Sunday morning, insulted him ; whereupon a riot broke out, and Hazelrigg was slain. That is the Minstrel's account. Wyntoun says nothing about Wallace's wife, and gives an entirely different account of the affair.

You can read more of this chapter at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/renfrew/chapter06.htm>

The other chapters can be read at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/renfrew/index.htm>

Northern Notes and Queries

We've managed to find other issues of this publication and so now continue the series by adding the June 1890 edition.

June 1890 Edition

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This can be viewed at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/northern/index.htm>

Robert Burns Lives!

Edited by Frank Shaw

I met Dr. Carol Baraniuk while attending the annual Robert Burns International Conference at the University of Glasgow in 2010. While at a post-conference dinner for the symposium speakers, we were able to talk a wee bit about family, friends and Burns. I learned that Dr. Baraniuk is the aunt of Jennifer Orr who recently published *The Correspondence of Samuel Thomson (1766-1816)* which has many references to Burns. (See Chapter 138 in the index to *Robert Burns Lives!* for a review of this magical book.) I met Jennifer several years ago at the University of South Carolina while attending one of Ross Roy and Patrick Scott's outstanding conferences. This is the first time I have had the pleasure of publishing articles by family members, an aunt and a niece in this case, and it is a joy to do so.

Carol Baraniuk was a school teacher for many years and had the pleasure of teaching her niece Jennifer when the latter was preparing for university. Carol moved into university academic life when appointed to a position at Stranmilis University College in Belfast. She was awarded a PhD by the University of Glasgow for her thesis on the Ulster-Scots poet James Orr. She has been widely published on the Ulster-Scots poetic tradition and has delivered conference papers in Ireland, Scotland, Europe and the United States. Carol has a particular interest in the relationship between Robert Burns and the Ulster poets who wrote in the Scots tradition. She is currently a researcher with the Ulster-Scots Poetry Project at the University of Ulster and a member of the Ministerial Advisory Group for Ulster-Scots. Carol recently visited British Columbia and the Yukon, following in the footsteps of her grandfather and great-grandfather, both of whom spent time in Canada as young men – her great-grandfather helped lay the Canadian Pacific Railroad. We are all glad he found his way back to Ireland, otherwise we would not be writing this story. I think you will enjoy this connection of Burns and Ireland as we continue to celebrate the fact that Robert Burns Lives! after all these years. (FRS: 5.23.12)

Rehabilitating the Radical: Robert Burns in the Belfast Press in the Period of the Irish Act of Union

You can read this article at http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/frank/burns_lives140.htm

More of his articles can be read at <http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/frank/burns.htm>

Some information on the Grant Societies

Thanks to Christopher Pratt for sending this account to us which can be read at http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/dtog/grant_societies.html

The Book of the Farm

This is a multi-volume publication on how to run a farm in Victorian Britain. I found this when I watched the BBC series "Victorian Farm" where they said they used this book to help them make the series. At this time frame agriculture was making real progress and many new inventions were coming out to help farmers.

I managed to find the first 3 volume set and a later 4th edition which came out in six volumes some years later so have made both available on the site. In the series they commented that there were no books about how the farmer's wife ran the home but they did find a recipe book which matched with the time period and was popular at the time. So I also got a copy of that book and made this available also.

You can see all this at <http://www.electricscotland.com/agriculture/farm.htm>

And finally...

- Try, Try Again

A friend of mine was browsing in a well-known bookshop and came across a very attractive print of a Murrayfield crowd wildly cheering a Scottish try. It was situated in a section called Rare Prints. Enough said !

- Get This!

Two Highland women who didn't like each other one day found themselves travelling home together from Stornoway to village of Back on a busy bus with only two seats remaining. These were in the rear but luckily they faced away from each other and so – here it comes – the two women from Back sat back-to-back at the back of the Back bus as the Back bus went back to Back.

And that's all for now and hope you all have a great weekend.

Alastair
