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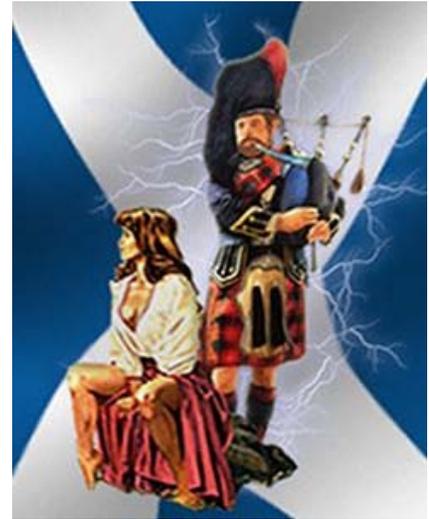
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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for July 19th, 2013

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Electric Scotland News

COSCA held their Grandfather Mountain Scottish Clan Caucus 2013 last week and you can read what went on and some of the discussions and papers at

<http://www.cosca.net/grandfather-mountain-scottish-clan-caucus-july-11-2013/>

As I'm writing this I'm also watching the Open Golf Championship at Muirfield and wow are they having some great weather and I've been told it is likely to continue to the weekend.

And talking of Golf the Scottish American Foundation are organising the annual John Muir Golf Tournament - scheduled for Friday, September 13th. Visit:

<http://www.americanscottishfoundation.com/events/JohnMuirGolf12.html> for more information.

More videos this week and have to say I'm enjoying watching them but don't always have the time to watch a whole series. One of the series I added this week is the Edwardian farm but only managed to watch the first episode so far. There are in fact 12 episodes in the set.

I've made a contact with a Scottish food historian and she is going to look at how she might contribute to the site so I'll be looking forward to seeing what she will provide.

Electric Canadian

Big John Wallace

By Archie P. McKishnie (1922)

This is a complete book in 8 chapters which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/wallace/index.htm>

The Flag in the Wind

This weeks edition was compiled by Jim Lynch. Some good wee snippets in this edition.

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

Electric Scotland

The Scottish Historical Review

We have now started on Volume 9 and added this week April 1912 issue. You can get to this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/review/volume09.htm>

In this issue there is a good article about "The Monuments of Caithness" with a number of pictures and illustrations. Another article on Kirk Elders...

Knox goes on to detail the duties of the position.

'The elders being elected must be admonished of their office, which is to assist the minister in all public affairs of the Church, to sit in judging and deceiving causes, in giving of admonition to the licentious liver, in having of respect to the manners and conversation of all men within their charge, for by the gravity of the seniors ought the light and unbridled life of the licentious to be corrected and bridled, yea the seniors ought to take heed to the life, manners, diligence and study of their ministers.' Such was the formidable task set to his elders by Knox.

One other article is on "Superstition in Scotland of To-day". Probably few of those who year by year visit the northern counties of Scotland have any notion of the fairy lore and superstitions which, notwithstanding our modern wholesale education, are still cherished and believed in by the natives. The isolation of the crofter communities and the mystic temperament of the Celt are probably the chief contributory causes for these survivals elsewhere relegated to the limbo of forgotten things, and as every year, with the spread of education from one source or another, they will become less vigorous, it seems desirable to place on record the following instances which have come under observation within recent years.

You can read the previous issues at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/review/>

Songs Of Scotland, Prior To Burns

This book is by Robert Chambers who is famous for collecting old Scottish Songs.

Added this week are...

Auld Lang Syne

O Waly, Waly
Blink Over The Burns, Sweet Betty

You can get to this book at the foot of the page at:
http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/chambers_robert.htm

The Annals of Scottish Natural History
Have now added Volume 18 1909 issue.

You can get to this at http://www.electricscotland.com/nature/natural_history.htm

Tasmina's Column
Got in her column for 16th July which you can read at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/lifestyle/tasmina/130716.htm>

Her other columns can be read at <http://www.electricscotland.com/lifestyle/tasmina/>

Thomas Dykes
(1850, Dundonald, Ayrshire - 1916, London, England) Journalist and Author

This week we added to his book "All Round Sport with Fish, Fur and Feather"...

A Day after Wood Pigeon
The Netherlands Cup Race at Cowes

You can read these at http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/dykes_thomas.htm

Enigma Machine
This is where we are publishing this set of puzzles created by Doug Ross which can now be found in Doctor's Surgeries, Old Folks Homes, etc.

Added Enigma Machine 23 puzzle which you can get to at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/enigma/enigma023.htm>

The other puzzles we've already published can be found at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/enigma/index.htm>

Songs from John Henderson
John has sent us in another three songs, which can be found at the foot of his page at
<http://www.electricscotland.com/poetry/doggerels.htm>

Scottish Fairy and Folk Tales
Selected and Edited with an Introduction by Sir George Douglas, Bart.

Added several more chapters....

Nursery Stories
Stories of Animals
Fairy Tales Facts
The Brownie, The Bogle, They Kelpy, Mermen, Demons
Witchcraft

You can read these at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/fairy>

Aberdour and Inchcolm
Being historical notices of the Parish and Monastery in twelve lectures by Rev. William Ross LL.D. (1885) A new book we're starting.

Here is the Preface....

The Lectures which compose this volume were written, chiefly as a relaxation from professional work, and delivered to the inhabitants of Aberdour more than twenty years ago. Designed for popular audiences, they are written in a simple, spoken style. They do not offer to the confirmed antiquary the minute details and constant reference to authorities which his habit of mind demands ; and to very grave

people the little pleasantries which occur may appear trifling. But such readers will be good enough to bear in mind the audiences to whom the Lectures were originally adapted, and they may find that what lightened the task of listening to historical details has also made the reading of them more easy.

As regards the subjects with which the volume deals, it may be said, first of all, that this is the only attempt to give anything like a full account of the Monastery of Inchcolme, drawn mainly from its charters. To those who live in the neighbourhood of the ruins of the Abbey, whether on the Fife coast or the Midlothian shore of the Firth, the want of information regarding the old Religious House must often have been felt. But great difficulties have lain in the way of providing this. The original Chartulary of the Abbey seems to be irrecoverably lost ; and few can be expected to wade through the Macfarlane transcript of it in the Advocates Library. The author had a copy of this MS. made, and through the kindness of the Hon. John Stuart, afterwards Earl of Moray, he got admission to the charter-room at Donibristle, which brought other valuable papers connected with the Monastery under his notice. He has also been at pains to consult every authority within his reach that was thought likely to give information on the subject. The most of these authorities, if not all, are named in the body of the Lectures, and it will be a matter of regret if any of them are omitted. To the author it seems most desirable that the information contained in the printed Chartularies, and even those still in manuscript, should be brought within the reach of the ordinary reading public. He has attempted to do this in the case of the MS. Chartulary of Inchcolme, but could wish that he had been more successful. He has endeavoured to reproduce the living past, in its broader and more important lines of thought and action, and has not forgotten that mere lumber, however ancient, is lumber still.

As regards the historical notices connected with Aberdour, the author can only hope that his old friends, the inhabitants of the village and parish, will derive some pleasure from the reading of this volume, and that his researches will do something to call attention to a beautiful and interesting health resort, in which many of his happiest years were spent.

It may seem strange to some, that, in spite of many requests to give these Lectures to the public, so many years should have been allowed to elapse between their delivery and their publication. But occupied as the writer has been with busy pastoral work, in a health resort still more frequented than Aberdour, it has only been of late, when failing health has made an assistant necessary, that he has found leisure to prepare this volume for the press. This delay has, however, enabled him to add a number of facts, which make his account of the Monastery and the parish still more complete.

The author has only further to add that, amidst such a multiplicity of statements, stretching over so many years, it will not be thought wonderful if, in spite of all his care, some errors have crept into his book, and some important facts have been left unnoticed. And as regards the moralisings which are found in the Lectures, it has been his aim in all he has written, not only to exhibit the great natural beauty and the rich historical interest of the neighbourhood with which he has been dealing, but also to advance the cause of morality and religion.

Bridge of Allan, May 1885.

You can read this book at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/aberdour/index.htm>

Scottish Plain Bread

Found a recipe for Scottish Plain Bread although I also got a report on why it is so hard to find a recipe...

I often get requests for the recipe for Scottish Plain Bread. The reason there are no recipes is that this is professional baker's batch bread. ie it's made in a very large baking tray which holds upwards of 20-30 balls of dough. As they rise upwards their sides meet and so do not form a crust. The only crusts being on the top and bottom. Impossible to make in a domestic oven.

The recipe I found can be viewed at <http://www.electricscotland.com/food/recipes/plainbread.htm>

Cook and Housewife's Manual

Sir Walter Scott welcomed the publication in 1826 of the first Scottish cookery book to feature native culinary traditions: The Cook and Housewife's Manual by Mistress Margaret (Meg) Dods. These distinctive food traditions, he argued, should not be allowed to fall into oblivion in our day. This is a pdf book which you can download at the foot of the page at <http://www.electricscotland.com/food>

John Moore

Found another biography of John Moore along with an index of his works. We are also starting to serialise one of his books and will add that over the next 10 weeks.

You can read about him and read the first pages of his book at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/moore_john.htm

Charles MacIntosh

Corrected a genealogical error on Charles Macintosh and added some genealogy scans to back it up. You can read this at http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/macintosh_charles.htm

Doric Language

I found a couple of interesting book in the Doric language so added these to the site. I also found a YouTube video series which teaches you Doric words and have embeded the first part on this page.

You can get to this at <http://www.electricscotland.com/culture/features/scots/doric.htm>

Sir Jock Stein and other Scottish Football Legends

Have started to make use of YouTube to post up some information on Scottish Football and some great managers and players.

The thing about YouTube is that it allows me to feature material that in book form is normally copyright.

You can get to these videos at http://www.electricscotland.com/history/sport/football/jock_stein.htm

Famous Scots

A wee video showing some of the famous Scots of yesterday and today. You can view this at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/significant_scots.htm

William Wallace

Added a video documentary on him to his page at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/wallace.htm>

George Wishart

A video biography of George Wishart who was a great influence on John Knox. You can view this at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/wishart_george1.htm

John Knox

Added a video chat about John Knox to his biography page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/knox/>

History of Banking

This is a video of the history of Banking which traces how it developed which includes information on William Paterson the Scottish founder of the Bank of England. You can view this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/banking>

James Watt

Added a wee video about James Watt to his page at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/men/james_watt.htm

John Muir

Found a 50 minute video about John Muir, the father of the National Parks, along with another video by the BBC about Yellowstone.

You can view these at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/muir/>

We also have an autobiography of his early years and copies of the various books he wrote which you can to on this page.

Fighting Scots in the Frontier Army

A talk given by Chris Dixon of the University of Strathclyde. You can view this talk at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/scotsus.htm>

Scotland and US Founding Fathers

An interesting wee video from the National Library of Scotland which you can view at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/scotlandus.htm>

Andrew Carnegie

Added a video of his life which you can view at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/andrew_carnegie.htm

Victorian Pharmacy

Victorian Pharmacy is a historical documentary TV series in four parts, first shown on BBC Two in July 2010. It was made for the BBC by independent production company Lion Television. You can watch this at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/medical/vicorian_pharmacy.htm

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Have we always eaten them?

As I was doing some research on Scottish food I came across this series of 3 videos which I thought I'd share with you at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/food/bld.htm>

The Edwardian Farm

Edwardian Farm is an historical documentary TV series in twelve parts, first shown on BBC Two from November 2010 to January 2011. It depicts a group of historians trying to run a farm like it was done during the Edwardian era.

I have to confess I love these types of documentary programs and you can view these episodes at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/agriculture/edwardian_farm.htm

Frontier House

A six part video series about modern American families trying to live as the Pioneers did back in 1883. This type of series does provide you with an idea of the challenges the pioneers went through to settle the North American continent which you can view at:

http://www.electricscotland.com/history/pioneering_videos.htm

Clan Leslie Society International

Got in a copy of their July 2013 newsletter which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslieint/>

National Conference of State Legislatures at the Scottish Parliament.

This is the first time they've met outside the US. I did get a good photograph of them and an agenda on what they were doing. Did try and contact them to see if I could get copies of the papers that were presented but so far no luck. Should any of you have contacts with any of the participants you might mention to them that I'd love to get some information on the event.

You can read about this event at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/nclsl.htm>

And finally...

Kindness

My friend Jim says he was sitting at home watching the telly when he heard his wife, in the kitchen, ask: "What would you like for dinner my sweetheart? Chicken, tuna or lamb?"

Cheered by that, he shouted back: "Lamb would be great."

But his wife replied: "You're having soup. I was talking to the cat."

Accentuation ...Och!

AN ENGLISH TOURIST at the Gateway Centre at Loch Lomond Shores in Balloch this week asked Peter at the information desk if they had any pipers.

Always helpful, Peter asked whether he meant the occasional busker who sometimes appeared at the visitor centre, or the range of piping CDs and DVDs they stocked.

"Pipers," repeated the tourist who then added for clarification: "News pipers!"

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

Alastair