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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for July 19th, 2019

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:

<https://electricscotland.com/scotnews.htm>

Electric Scotland News

1.3 billion tonnes

Annual amount of food lost or thrown away globally - about 30% of total production

That is a figure that was featured in the CapX news and just goes to show how this is a terrible waste of food. We all must do much better!!!

Looking forward to hearing that Boris Johnson is our new Prime Minister next week and hope one of his first tasks is to stop the Brexit Bashing Corporation, otherwise know as the BBC from doing their fake news reports.

You can view a video introduction to this newsletter at:

https://youtu.be/EOcawRpu_zk

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

Note that this is a selection and more can be read in our [ScotNews](#) feed on our index page where we list news from the past 1-2 weeks. I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines. I might also add that in newspapers such as the Guardian, Scotsman, Courier, etc. 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.

The US land forever leased to England

Every May, the US Coast Guard and the Royal Navy hold a ceremony on a sliver of North Carolina land where four English World War Two soldiers are buried.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20190711-the-us-land-forever-leased-to-england>

Scottish wind power output at record high

Wind power output in Scotland hit a record high during the first six months of 2019, according to figures from Weather Energy. It has calculated the energy produced by turbines could power every home in Scotland and part of the north of England.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-48981626>

Brexit Britain has a big role to play in promoting free trade and reform of international aid

Markets such as Asia are developing fast. Africa, while currently offering little excitement as a destination for Western global traders, will grow at a rate that we risk overlooking, passing up an opportunity to secure ourselves opportunities.

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/brexit-britain-has-a-big-role-to-play-in-promoting-free-trade-and-reform-of-international-aid/>

To Survive in a Wetter World, Raise Ducks, Not Chickens
Farmers in Bangladesh are adapting to climate change, and it's having an impact in faraway places including on restaurant menus.

Read more at:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2019/07/bangladesh-climate-change-floods-ducks/593581/>

Scotland has highest drug death rate in EU

The figure is 27% higher than the previous year, and the highest since records began in 1996.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-48938509>

Is minimum alcohol pricing killing drug addicts?

We have dramatically changed the price of low cost alcohol in Scotland (it is now higher than the UK's shown on the table) and just two years later we are seeing an escalating rise in drug related deaths.

Read more at:

http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read_full=13959

The Resurrection of Scottish Foreign Policy

Its revival comes after more than 300 years of dormancy.. A truly excellent summary of Scotland's trading history. I got permission to post a pdf file of the article which I have done but decided to provide you with the link to the article.

Read more at:

<https://geopoliticalfutures.com/the-resurrection-of-scottish-foreign-policy/>

Is 'because of Brexit' the new 'despite Brexit'?

Unemployment is at record lows. Wages are rising at the fastest rate in a decade. The gender gap is evaporating, creating a more equal society. Which country is that?

Read more at:

<https://blogs.spectator.co.uk/2019/07/is-because-of-brexit-the-new-despite-brexit/>

MoD in £10m bid to develop world's first hypersonic jets

The Ministry of Defence is to take out a £10 million contract to develop hypersonic propulsion systems that could potentially see the UK's current fighters travel at twice their top speeds.

Read more at:

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17777353.mod-10m-bid-develop-world-39-s-first-hypersonic-jets/>

Way cleared for Bercow to face formal bullying enquiry

MPs last night paved the way for John Bercow to finally face an official probe over serious bullying allegations made against him by former staff.

Read more at:

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/9529925/john-bercow-bullying-allegation-investigation/>

Scottish income tax £941m short of forecast

Under a new risk-sharing mechanism, the Scottish government will get an extra £737m to make up for the shortfall.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-49032245>

Stunning decorated Neolithic stone discovered in Orkney

The decorated stone was found on Monday, followed by further discoveries of smaller carved stones during the rest of the week.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-49030379>

The moon now a proving ground for Mars

The United States is embarking on another mission to the moon, but unlike the Apollo program that put humans on its surface 50 years ago, NASA is gearing up for a long term presence that the agency says will eventually enable humans to reach Mars.

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/video/2019/07/18/the-moon-now-a-proving-ground-for-mars?videoid=576067412&videoChannel=75>

Electric Canadian

The Canadian Horticulturist
Volume 35 (1912) can be read at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/agriculture/Horticulturist.htm>

Canadian Magazines

If you go to our Magazine page you'll see that as I add a new magazine I always add it to that page and where there are multiple copies available I provide a link to the Internet Archive where you can then download other issues. So do check out that page at <https://www.electriccanadian.com/magazines/index.htm>

I try to find the first issue of each magazine and make a habit of making it available from the site but due to storage requirements I am now providing a link to other issues.

This week I've brought you the following magazines...

Canadian Chemical Journal

Volume 1 (1917) can be read at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/magazines/canadianchemical1917.pdf>

The Canadian Field Naturalist

Volume 1 (1887) can be read at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/magazines/canadianfieldnat01.pdf>

The Canadian Entomologist

Volume 1 (1869) can be read at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/magazines/canadianentomologist01.pdf>

Wentworth Historical Society

Added volume 6 which you can read at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/wentworth.htm>

Heroines of Canadian History

By W. S. Herrington (1910) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/heroinesofcanada.pdf>

Electric Scotland

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Hi Everyone.

As I write, Hurricane Barry is going ashore at New Orleans. I grew up when hurricanes came through Jacksonville, Florida, quite often and am terrified of them. After the storms, we used to drive to the beach and see "where the houses used to be." I pray that all will be safe where this hurricane goes.

Here is Section B for August, 2019.

I think there are many interesting articles enclosed.

I was particularly moved by the article about Mary Queen of Scots which has a photograph of her death mask. She looked absolutely nothing like her portraits...and was so very young appearing and beautiful. History was not always kind was it?

The other story that I found very emotional was the "Site Seeing" story of Bill Millin, the D-Day Piper. I think you will be moved as well.

It is raining at our house which we always need.

Don't forget to notify me when you change your email address, please. Just send your new address to bethscribble@aol.com.

Today is a big day at our house. It is the day Harry and Bicket get their three month flea stuff on their necks. It works wonderfully and neither one of them is hard to "doctor."

Aye,
beth

You can read this issue at: <https://electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Rough Recollections of Military Service and Society
By Lieut.-Colonel Balcarres D. Wardlaw Ramsay in two volumes (1882)

I am told that a preface is advisable. I go back forty years for its subject. In the summer of 1841, when quartered at Brighton, I was asked by a celebrated portrait-painter, an old Royal Academician, to sit for my likeness. The result was not pleasing to my family, and the picture was not bought. In the following summer, 1842, it was exhibited in the Royal Academy by the R.A., who being one of the oldest Fellows, if not the oldest, had a right to the place of honour for his pictures. The consequence was, that the portrait of my unfortunate self was the first work of art that fell upon the gaze of the bewildered public as they ascended the steps of the old building in Trafalgar Square.

Unhappily for my peace of mind, the illustrious 'Punch,' which commenced its literary career at the same time that I commenced my military one, reviewed the productions of the Academy this year. Not having a copy of the second volume of 'Punch' by me to refer to, I am unable to quote the exact words used, but they were something to the following effect:—

"Who is this in the place of honour? We turn to the catalogue, and find that it is the portrait of Colonel Balcarres Dalrymple Wardlaw Ramsay, Royal Scots Greys; and we ask, what has this young Comet with four unpronounceable names done? What has the public done that his likeness should be placed there? Merely, we suppose, that they may behold or exclaim, 'There are plenty of this class to be seen walking up and down Regent Street, between the hours of 4 and 7 p.m.'"

After the lapse of forty years it may again be asked by my illustrious monitor 'Punch,' what has this Colonel done? What has the public done that these memoirs should be thrust upon it?

To the first part of the question I can only say,—Alas! nothing, save to have lived forty years longer than the Comet, to have seen many persons and divers countries, to have kept his eyes and ears open, and above all, to have diligently studied 'Punch' weekly during those forty years. To the second part of the question—Well, perhaps the public is not so well-behaved now as it was in 1842, and a slight punishment in the way of another biography may not be amiss. At all events, relying upon the incontrovertible fact that biographies and cookery-books always command a ready sale, I inflict this slight chastisement on the public, who will be pleased to remember it is given in a loving and fatherly spirit; and as to the illustrious 'Punch,' I consider that the fact of my having studied him weekly ever since, will atone for the involuntary indiscretion stigmatised by him forty years ago, and lead to a modicum of praise being bestowed by him on my present intrusion upon the Public.

Palazzo Odescalchi, Rome, May 1882

This can be read at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/rough.htm>

The Scotchman in America
Addresses, Songs, Etc. at Scottish Gatherings; Religious Poems and occasional verses by John Proudfoot (1873) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/poetry/scotchmaninamerica.pdf>

The Scot in America and the Ulster Scot
Being the substance of addresses before the Edinburgh Philosophical institution 1st November 1911, and the Presbyterian Historical Society, Belfast on 28th March 1912 by Whitelaw Reid (1912) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/america/scotinamerica.pdf>

God's Frontiersmen: The Scots-Irish Epic
This is a 4 part mini series which is no longer available but has been scanned in from an old VHS tape. You can view this at: <https://electricscotland.com/history/ulster/>

Scotland before 1700
From Contemporary Documents edited by P. Hume Brown (1893) (pdf). A mine of curious sociological and general information about the country and its inhabitants. A really excellent read at <https://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/scotlandbefor1700.pdf>

Life of Ralph Erskine

Added a book about him to our Erskine page along with a link to his seven volumes of work and you can get to this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/webclans/families/erskines.htm>

Clan Stirling

Added some new information to our Stirling of Fairburn to the foot of the page. Also added a graphic showing the Inter-relationships of the various Stirling cadet branches and how they are related to the Stirlings of Cadder.

You can get to this at: <https://electricScotland.com/webclans/stoz/stirling3.htm>

The Gold Thread and Wee Davie

Children's stories by the Late Rev. Norman MacLeod which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/kids/stories/goldthread.pdf>

The Brexiteer

Issue 1 of this new newspaper from the Brexit Party which can be read at:

https://electricScotland.com/independence/sip/Brexiteer_Issue_1.pdf

The Story

In the average Canadian household, one in four produce items gets thrown in the garbage. That's like throwing away \$600 a year! By sharpening your food storage skills, you'll save both food and money.

Fruits and vegetables are still breathing even after they've been pulled out of the earth or off the tree or vine. In general, warmth speeds up respiration and cold slows it down—that's why refrigeration makes some foods last longer.

1. Take produce out of plastic bags. Airtight wrappings suffocate fresh produce and speed up the decay process.
2. Don't wash produce until you're ready to eat it. Moisture encourages decomposition and mould growth.
3. Don't rip off fruit stems. Once living cells are broken, microorganisms start to grow. Keep produce whole as long as possible.
4. Eat the most perishable items first—raspberries last a few days; potatoes can hang around for about a month.
5. Speed up the ripening process by putting the item (a peach, for example) in a paper bag with a banana.

Reorganize your crisper

Some produce is cold-sensitive, so refrigeration accelerates spoilage. Once a cold-sensitive gas-emitter (e.g. banana or avocado) is ripe, it can be refrigerated, but only for a little while.

Refrigerate

Drawer 1

Apples, Cantaloupes, Honeydews, Apricots, Figs

Drawer 2

Bananas (ripe), Cucumbers, Peas, Broccoli, Eggplants, Peppers, Brussel sprouts, Kiwis, Summer squash, Cabbages, Leafy greens, Sweet potatoes, Carrots, Parsley, Watermelons, Cauliflower

Bowl on the counter

Avocados, Peaches, Plums, Bananas (unripe), Pears, Tomatoes, Nectarines

Keep in the cupboard

Garlic, Potatoes, Winter squash, Onions

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

Alastair